

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF A JOINT RESOLUTION RELATING TO A NATIONAL EMERGENCY DECLARED BY THE PRESIDENT ON FEBRUARY 15, 2019

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Madam Speaker, to be clear, my introduction of this resolution of disapproval should in no way be interpreted as an indication that the President's declaration of an emergency, or his invocation of specific statutory powers pursuant to that declaration, is even lawful in the first place.

The Constitution provides Congress with the power of the purse and expressly prohibits the President from spending funds that Congress has not appropriated. Here, Congress has not authorized or appropriated funding to build a wall on the southern border. Indeed, Congress has repeatedly chosen not to do so in response to the President's multiple requests for such funding since becoming President.

While my resolution disapproves and terminates the President's emergency declaration, the record should be clear that I do not believe the President's declaration, or his invocation of specific statutory powers pursuant to that declaration, was lawful to begin with.

HONORING PASTOR PIERCE'S SIXTH ANNIVERSARY AT MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH OF GREENSBORO

HON. MARK WALKER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. WALKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bishop Bryan J. Pierce's sixth anniversary as the Senior Pastor and Chief Executive Officer of Mount Zion Baptist Church of Greensboro. Beginning to preach at the age of six and ordained by nineteen, Bishop Pierce is a man after God's own heart. It was in June of 2011 that Bishop Pierce became the Chief Administrative Officer at Mount Zion and worked diligently until his elevation to Senior Pastor on January 1, 2013. He strongly believes that he who serves the city, wins the city, which is expressed through a Church-wide campaign called No Greater Love, where members of Mount Zion come together to serve the Greensboro community. Also serving as 1st Assistant to 2nd Presiding Bishop, Bishop Pierce is a noted songwriter, arranger and producer. He successfully released his first solo debut album, which reached No. 3 on Billboard's Top Gospel Albums Chart by capturing an amazing sound that has facilitated openings for the Glory of God to be mani-

fest in the lives of His people. With 20 years of Senior Pastoral Leadership, we honor another anniversary of service and the faithful future he is sure to bring our community.

HONORING THE WORK OF ARMAND DERFNER

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the important contributions of Armand Derfner to the advancement of civil rights in the United States.

In 1940, on his second birthday, Armand Derfner and his Jewish parents fled Nazi Germany to America. Derfner graduated from Princeton University in 1960. He would go on to receive Princeton's Koren Prize in History and a Woodrow Wilson Foundation Fellowship directly following his graduation. Derfner attended Yale Law School, where he was the Note & Comment Editor of the Yale Law Journal and was Order of the Coif.

Following his graduation from Yale Law School, Derfner clerked for Chief Judge David L. Bazelon on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit. Derfner then became an associate at Covington & Burling.

After practicing law in the District of Columbia, Derfner moved to Jim Crow Mississippi to practice as a civil rights lawyer. His passion for social and political justice led to his being stalked. His dog was even poisoned, and he and his wife were shot at multiple times.

While in Mississippi, Derfner acted as a civil rights attorney for the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party. In 1968, Derfner represented voters in Greenwood, Mississippi, on the first day that the Voting Rights Act became effective. At just 29 years old, Derfner argued and won his first Supreme Court case. From the 1960s through the 1990s, Derfner played a vital role in civil rights cases, taking many of them to the Supreme Court. Derfner argued before the Supreme Court five times and won every case. These Supreme Court arguments helped shape the Voting Rights Act and its amendments.

Derfner also contributed to the passage of the Civil Rights Attorneys Fees Awards Act in 1976 and the Equal Access to Justice Act of 1980. It was Derfner's work that led to the freeing of the Charleston Five, a protest group that was falsely accused of inciting violence. In the 1980s, while still attached to civil rights work in Mississippi, Derfner worked closely on civil rights issues with Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy and simultaneously taught at American University.

In 2002, Derfner was awarded the Trial Lawyer of the Year Award by the Trial Lawyers for Public Justice. In 2009, the American

Bar Association named Derfner's firm, Derfner & Altman, Public Interest Lawyers of the Year. He is an honorary lifetime trustee on the Board of Trustees for the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Derfner has just been named the recipient of the 2019 Commitment to Justice Award from the Center for Heirs' Property Preservation.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Armand Derfner for his dedication to civil rights and for his significant contributions to recognizing equal justice under the law.

HONORING MR. BRIAN HURLEY FOR BEING SELECTED AS A FINALIST FOR THE GOLDEN APPLE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Brian Hurley of Reavis High School for being selected as a finalist for the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. Through his devotion to his students, Mr. Hurley prepares and empowers them for a better future—a mission deserving of this prestigious recognition.

The Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching was created in 1985 by Martin and Patricia Koldyke. The Koldykes felt that teachers were not receiving adequate recognition for the work they do in their classrooms and their communities. This year, 32 finalists from across the State of Illinois were selected from a record-setting number of over 550 high school teacher nominations across 71 counties. The Golden Apple Foundation's mission is to develop and support aspiring teachers to be successful in schools-of-need in Illinois.

Mr. Hurley works hard to interact with students in and out of the classroom. As a teacher of science, he strives to engage with his students through creative research prompts, out-of-the-box thinking, and projects the students find engaging. He states that his strategy is based on constructivist theory, a concept where students build their own interpretation of the world through individualized learning experiences and hands on work. To do so, he employs his own diverse professional background to teach physics, drawing from his numerous real-life scenarios to explain the complex topics.

As a finalist, Mr. Hurley is being recognized for his energy, enthusiasm, and mastery of the classroom. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Brian Hurley. He is well deserving of this praise and I am proud to represent such a talented educator.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

REMEMBERING REV. MARY
CLIMONS LACEY

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER
OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life of Rev. Mary Climons Lacey, a pillar of our community who passed away this month at the age of 80.

Rev. Lacey made an indelible mark on our communities by tirelessly serving those at the margins. Across Lake County, children in need, the homeless, and inmates and their families directly benefited from her generosity and boundless energy.

Mary broke multiple barriers throughout her life. She was born to humble beginnings, as one of ten children in rural Mississippi. At age 21 she moved to Florida to further her education, where she met her late husband William, and eventually settled in his hometown of Waukegan. She found work as a contractor at Naval Station Great Lakes as well as handmaking elegant hats.

Never one to rest, she continued to study and was ordained a pastor, became a foster parent, and earned a certificate in social work.

In Waukegan, her memory lives on as the namesake of Mary's Mission, a homeless shelter she founded that has provided shelter to hundreds of individuals in times of need, and has helped them develop the job training and skills they need to get back on their feet and live independently.

Mary was also a fierce advocate for children, bringing joy to young residents during the holidays. Mary teamed up with the Waukegan police department to start a toy giveaway program for children who might not receive a gift during the holidays. I had the privilege to join several of her annual Christmas parades from Mary's Mission to the Lake County jail, where she handed out turkeys and toys.

Her perseverance in helping vulnerable people, touched and improved the lives of countless Illinoisans. She truly lived her faith every day, and she will be sorely missed. I extend my heartfelt condolences to her many family and friends who are mourning her passing.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.J.
RES. 31, FURTHER CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS FOR DEPART-
MENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY,
2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 14, 2019

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support for this government spending bill negotiated by the bipartisan Conference Committee. Although the bill is not what I would have drafted, and I recognize that we still have much work to do in the area of humane immigration reform, we simply cannot have another painful, costly, and unnecessary shutdown. The members of our Coast Guard, TSA, and other federal agencies are still recovering from the most recent shutdown.

They deserve certainty, and they need to know that they can continue working and that they will be paid on time. The President must also act responsibly and fulfill his duty to federal workers and those who rely on government services by signing this legislation.

This bill includes many victories I am proud to support; it delivers a pay raise to federal workers to keep pace with the cost of living, invests in the Census to provide a fair and accurate count for underrepresented communities, and dedicates \$17 billion in new infrastructure funding to improve our roads, bridges, and mass transit. The legislation increases investments in small business initiatives for minority and women-owned businesses, which will create jobs. The bill also rejects the Trump Administration's attacks on the environment by denying deep cuts to programs that protect clean water, clean air, and public lands.

As with any compromise, I have serious reservations about some of the provisions in this bill—particularly regarding immigration enforcement. I appreciate that our conferees were able to prevent the wasteful inclusion of any increased funding for an ineffective border wall and include humanitarian assistance funding for migrants, but the House must continue to push for smarter, more compassionate use of resources for border security and immigration enforcement. I am concerned that this bill gives the Department of Homeland Security too much leeway to continue the unchecked targeting and detention of immigrants who pose no threat to public safety, rather than focusing enforcement efforts on high-priority criminals.

I continue to support having the appropriate personnel, equipment, facilities, and resources to address crime and trafficking on our borders, but immigration enforcement should not be militarized and operate with impunity. We can treat individuals in a humane and just manner and still prevent crime, reduce trafficking, and keep our country safe. People fleeing violence in their home countries and seeking asylum in the United States need to be protected, not threatened with more persecution. We must enact commonsense changes to improve accountability and protect the fundamental rights of immigrants—especially those legally seeking asylum. I will keep pushing for rigorous oversight of ICE and reforms to our immigration enforcement system.

This legislation is the product of good-faith negotiations between bipartisan leaders in the House and Senate. I am hopeful that this result demonstrates the futility of chaotic brinkmanship, and I hope that we can learn from this experience to resolve differences through dialogue and trust in the legislative process.

HONORING MS. ANNE M. BRENNAN

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Anne M. Brennan for her 32 years of outstanding Federal service as a civilian attorney for the Department of the Navy (DON) Office of the General Counsel (OGC).

Since she began her distinguished career with DON OGC in 1986, Ms. Brennan has held several attorney positions. Notably, she became a member of the Senior Executive Service in April 2004. In January 2008, she was selected to serve as the Deputy General Counsel, and in August 2009, she was designated Principal Deputy General Counsel. During her tenure in these latter positions as the DON's most senior career attorney, she twice served as the Acting General Counsel of the Navy—a presidentially appointed, Senate-confirmed position—from May 2009 to March 2010, and from January 2017 to February 2019.

From advising the Secretary of the Navy in the wake of the Washington Navy Yard shootings to serving as a linchpin of efforts between senior DON leadership, numerous DON stakeholders, the Department of Justice, and a United States Attorney's Office on an extremely high-profile criminal fraud case, Ms. Brennan has distinguished herself as an extraordinary attorney, who has consistently exceeded expectations by working tirelessly to provide proactive, accurate, and innovative legal advice on legally complex, politically sensitive issues implicating business, procurement, fiscal, labor, ethics, environmental, and intelligence law. Additionally, she has demonstrated an unmatched record of leadership while overseeing and coordinating the provision of legal advice by more than 750 civilian and military attorneys within DON OGC, ensuring the successful execution of the Navy and Marine Corps missions worldwide.

Throughout her illustrious career, Ms. Brennan has received various awards for her outstanding contributions to the DON, the Department of Defense (DoD), and the Nation. These include the DON Meritorious, Superior, and Distinguished Civilian Service Awards, the DoD Distinguished Civilian Service Award, the Presidential Rank Awards of Meritorious and Distinguished Executive, the William R. Molzahn Leadership Award, and other performance-related accolades.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Anne M. Brennan as she retires from Federal service.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO RE-
QUIRE THE LIBRARY OF CON-
GRESS TO INSTALL THE D.C.
SEAL IN THE MAIN READING
ROOM OF THE THOMAS JEFFER-
SON BUILDING

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce a bill to require the Library of Congress to install the District of Columbia seal in the Main Reading Room of the Thomas Jefferson Building of the Library of Congress. The Library is one of the few buildings in the District that remains open to the public on most holidays. It provides not only D.C. residents but visitors and researchers from across the nation with access to incomparable resources. The bill requires the Library to depict the District's seal on the stained-glass windows in the Main Reading Room, where the seals of all

the states and territories that existed when the building was constructed, except for the District, are depicted. D.C.'s seal was readily available at that time and should have been included. The seals of Hawaii and Alaska are not included in the display because they were not states or territories when the building was constructed. The fact that these two states were not part of the Union at the time of the creation of the stained-glass windows argues for the inclusion of the District, which, after all, was in fact the nation's capital at the time. We are asking that the omission of D.C. be corrected immediately. This omission was brought to my attention by a District resident, Luis Landau, a former docent at the Library.

The residents of the District have always had all the obligations of American citizenship, including paying federal taxes and serving in all the nation's wars, including the War of 1812, during which the Capitol building, which then housed the Library of Congress, was burned, prompting construction of the current Library building with the state and territory seals. It is, therefore, without question that the District and its residents should receive equal treatment among the stained-glass windows that portray the history of the United States. D.C. residents deserve to have their history and American citizenship recognized.

There is existing evidence that the seal of the District should have been depicted. The Members of Congress room in the Jefferson Building, which is not open to the public, has a painted depiction of the D.C. seal, along with state seals, on its ceiling. This precedent reinforces our request to be represented among the stained-glass windows in the Main Reading Room, which is open to the public. There is no reason why the D.C. seal cannot be added with the planned restoration of the stained-glass. The right time to add the seal of the District would be during the planned restoration.

Congress already includes the District, or has corrected the omission of the District, when honoring the states. For example, the World War II Memorial includes a column representing the District, and D.C.'s Frederick Douglass statue now sits in the Capitol alongside statues from the 50 states. The National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2013 requires the armed services to display the District flag whenever the flags of the states are displayed. Legislation was also enacted to give D.C. a coin after it was omitted from legislation creating coins for the 50 states. We also successfully worked with the U.S. Postal Service to create a D.C. stamp, like the stamps for the 50 states, and worked with the National Park Service to add the D.C. flag alongside the state flags across from Union Station. It is long overdue to display the D.C. seal, along with the seals of the states, in the Main Reading Room of the Library of Congress.

I urge support of this legislation.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BETA RHO CHAPTER OF TRI KAPPA INCORPORATED

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it is my distinguished pleasure to recognize the Beta Rho Chapter of Tri Kappa Incorporated, as the organization celebrates its 100th anniversary. A century of outstanding dedication to the community through philanthropic service and support is certainly an amazing accomplishment. In honor of this momentous milestone, a 100th anniversary banquet will take place on Sunday, February 24, 2019, at Innsbrook Country Club in Merrillville, Indiana.

Tri Kappa Incorporated was organized on February 22, 1901, in Indianapolis. Throughout the state of Indiana, there are 146 chapters, 110 associate chapters, and approximately 9,000 members. The organization's mission is to promote charity, culture, and education by supporting philanthropic establishments and projects within its local communities. Each year, the members of Tri Kappa give over 300,000 hours of service to their mission and raise over \$1.5 million for college students, charities, and cultural organizations.

The Beta Rho Chapter of Tri Kappa was established in Gary, Indiana, on February 21, 1919. The organization is truly thankful and indebted to the strong women who founded the Beta Rho Chapter. The charter officers are Rose Dorman, president, Anita Bailey, vice president, Minnie Milteer, recording secretary, Esther McCauley, corresponding secretary, and Anne Gibson, treasurer. Additional founding members include Lone Hodge, Geraldine Newman, Marcelle Miller, May Hake, Genevieve Michally, Marcia Lamb, Maude Norris, Marjory Hutton, and Edna Emley. These women laid the foundation for the successful organization it is today.

Each year, the members and leaders of the Gary Chapter give passionately and selflessly of their time, energy, and support to numerous deserving organizations throughout the region, including the Northwest Indiana Symphony, Sojourner Truth House, Meals on Wheels, Food Bank of Northwest Indiana, South Shore Arts Northwest Indiana, and Lakeshore Public Television, to name a few. In addition, academic scholarships are given to commendable students each year. For their significant contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana and beyond, the members and leaders of the Beta Rho Chapter of Tri Kappa Incorporated are truly worthy of the highest praise.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in congratulating the Beta Rho Chapter of Tri Kappa Incorporated as the organization celebrates its 100th anniversary. The members of this outstanding organization have dedicated themselves to serving others and continue to improve the quality of life for the people of Northwest Indiana; they serve as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING MR. JEFF VAZZANA FOR BEING SELECTED AS A FINALIST FOR THE GOLDEN APPLE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Jeff Vazzana of Shepard High School for being selected as a finalist for the Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching. Through his devotion to his students, Mr. Vazzana prepares and empowers them for a better future—a mission deserving of this prestigious recognition.

The Golden Apple Award for Excellence in Teaching was created in 1985 by Martin and Patricia Koldyke. The Koldykes felt that teachers were not receiving adequate recognition for the work they do in their classrooms and their communities. This year, 32 finalists from across the State of Illinois were selected from a record-setting number of over 550 high school teacher nominations across 71 counties. The Golden Apple Foundation's mission is to develop and support aspiring teachers to be successful in schools-of-need in Illinois.

Mr. Vazzana teaches English and endeavors to help students gain new perspectives. He has worked hard to connect with students beyond the traditional academic classroom. These efforts have ranged from inviting former graduates to speak about their struggles in high school to acting as the school's Drama Director, bringing important topics to the forefront of developing adolescent minds.

As a finalist, Mr. Vazzana is being recognized for his energy, enthusiasm, and mastery of the classroom. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Vazzana. He is well deserving of this praise and I am proud to represent such a talented educator.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF NCIS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR DAVID ELSWICK

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS) Assistant Director David L. Elswick who will retire after nearly ten years of distinguished service at NCIS and nearly 40 years of dedicated service to our nation.

Mr. Elswick began his federal service in 1977 when he enlisted in the Marine Corps after graduating early from College Park High School. He went on to become a Drill Instructor in the Marine Corps where he held the important responsibility of "making Marines." Throughout his 21-years of service as a U.S. Marine, Mr. Elswick's assignments took him and his family to California, Texas, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and finally, Quantico, Virginia. Mr. Elswick's awards and decorations include: The Presidential Service Badge, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement

Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Navy Commendation Medal and the National Defense Service Medal.

Before joining NCIS, Mr. Elswick held assignments of increasing responsibility with several government agencies including the Drug Enforcement Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Library of Congress and the Department of Homeland Security. Continuing his career at NCIS, Mr. Elswick held the leadership positions of Deputy Assistant Director for Planning and Evaluation, Assistant Director of the Manpower, Planning and Support Directorate, Chief of Staff, and retiring after serving as the Assistant Director of the NCIS Administration and Logistics Directorate.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the tremendous accomplishments of David L. Elswick. Words alone cannot express our gratitude for his service. May God bless him and his family as they transition into retirement.

HONORING ROB GIORDANO

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of Sheriff Rob Giordano on the occasion of his retirement. Sheriff Giordano has served with distinction over the course of his twenty-two-year career in law enforcement and was the leader the public needed during one of our region's most destructive wildfires to date.

Born in Concord, California, Rob Giordano was working as a mechanic when he felt a calling to join law enforcement. He began his law enforcement career in 1989, serving as a police officer for the Pittsburg Police Department in Contra Costa County. Seven years later, Officer Giordano moved to Sonoma County to serve as a Deputy for the Sonoma County Sheriff's office. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2003, where he supervised the main office patrol, the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Unit, and the Violent Crimes Unit. Sergeant Giordano continued to prove himself as a leader and was promoted to Lieutenant only three years later, where he managed the Investigations Bureau and Internal Affairs Bureau, among others. Lieutenant Giordano was promoted again in 2012, this time to Captain of the Field Services Section. In 2014, after eighteen years with the department, Captain Giordano was promoted to Assistant Sheriff.

By August of 2017, Assistant Sheriff Giordano was promoted to Interim Sheriff when the seated sheriff stepped down for health reasons. His status as Sheriff was made official by the Board of Supervisors shortly thereafter, and he was appointed to serve the remainder of the previous Sheriff's term. Sheriff Giordano never sought the role, and in fact, he pledged to not seek election to the position following to the term's conclusion. He wanted to ensure continuity for the department and the public prior to the next election. However, Sheriff Giordano probably didn't expect was that within two months, his leadership signifi-

cantly changed the way the community engages with the Sheriff's Office.

On October 8, 2017, one of the most destructive fires in California history caused in Sonoma County. Upon receiving the news, Sheriff Giordano and his team sprung into action, not only saving lives but actively communicating with a frightened public. To many watching the events unfold from afar, Sheriff Giordano became the face of the community, holding press conferences daily while the fires were still being contained. His actions as a communicator, along with the office's increased use of social media not only helped calm a community in shock but also saved lives by sharing critical information in a timely manner. By the time the fires were contained, many called for Sheriff Giordano to forgo his initial pledge and seek election to continue on as the county's Sheriff. Sheriff Giordano remained committed to his pledge and instead focused on getting the Sheriff's Office ready for the transition to new leadership while continuing to build good will between the department and the public.

Madam Speaker, Sheriff Giordano's law enforcement career is a sterling example of leadership that prioritizes service to the public above personal gain. Over the course of his time with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Office, he has not only improved the performance of the divisions and units he has overseen, but has also greatly improved the way the community engages with law enforcement. Therefore, please join me in honoring Sheriff Giordano on the occasion of his retirement and wishing him success on his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO ROY DOUGLAS AND SHIRLEY ANN MALONSON OF HOUSTON, TEXAS ENTREPRENEURS, PHILANTHROPISTS, COMMUNITY LEADERS WHOSE LIFETIME OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT HAS ENRICHED OUR NATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Roy Douglas and Shirley Ann Malonson, two great Americans in the City of Houston and Harris County, Texas, whose entrepreneurial talents and zeal over the past three decades has raised the consciousness of Houston's African American community to the life-changing potential of the free enterprise system and created thousands of jobs in the Acres Home Community located in my congressional district and Houston Metroplex.

Acres Homes, once considered the South's largest unincorporated black community, is south of Aldine and ten miles northwest of downtown Houston in Harris County. It developed around the time of World War I, when landholders began selling off home sites in plots big enough to allow small gardens and maintain chickens or farm animals. The town derived its name from the fact that land was sold by the acre and not by the lot. The first settlers came from rural areas, attracted by the community's inexpensive land, low taxes, and the absence of city building standards. Residents dug wells and built sanitary facili-

ties, but conditions in the settlement subsequently declined. When the city of Houston approved a plan to annex the area and install water and sewer lines, Acres Homes was a 12½-square-mile, heavily wooded, and dispersed slum settlement lacking transportation and educational facilities. Although 90 percent of the residents were homeowners, the majority of the housing stock was substandard.

In 1950, Roy Malonson was afflicted with polio that left him with physical limitations, but it had no effect on his vision and drive. His late father, John Curley Malonson, Sr., challenged him by saying, "something is wrong with your leg, but there is nothing wrong with your mind, so work with what you have." At age 7, Roy Malonson was shining shoes in his father's barber shop and by age 13 had opened a woodworking shop. The woodworking company grew to become Roy's Custom Cabinets which later became the Malonson Construction Company which became Malonson Custom Homes and is now the Malonson Company, Inc., one of the largest and best African American custom homebuilders in Houston.

In the early 1990s, Roy Malonson developed new health problems, struck by what has come to be called the "Post-Polio Syndrome." Once again using mind over physical limitation, Roy Malonson overcame and adapted. He retired from his 27-year old building business, reduced his workday, and devoted more time to community service and businesses he could manage. This enabled him to devote and donate more time and financial support to the many educational and community organizations he helped establish, including the Acres Home War on Drugs, the first community war on drugs in the nation.

Roy and Shirley Malonson also founded the Acres Home Citizen Chamber of Commerce, focusing on business, community, and education; the Acres Home Community Development Corp, focusing on housing; the Acres Home Coalition Administrative School, the first charter school in Texas; and in 1994 the Acres Home Center for Business & Economic Development, a non-profit 501(c)(3) which has become recognized as a cornerstone providing leadership, as well as personal and professional development opportunities to small businesses and entrepreneurs in the community.

The Malonsons were the driving force behind Aldine Independent School District Montessori-Magnet Programs, the Lone Star Community College System Victory Center, the Acres Home Multiservice Center, and the Acres Home Police Station.

Roy and Shirley Malonson invested in and uplifted the Acres Home Community by establishing in 1992 Shirley Ann's Black Art & Collectibles Showroom, the largest Black Art & Collectibles Showroom in Texas and one of the largest in the nation. In 1996 they established African American News & Issues, the largest African American newspaper in Texas and one of the largest in the nation. And in 1998, with one mission in mind, to offer and deliver pizza in the African American community, they purchased two Domino's Pizza stores, the South Victory and Ella locations, and had controlling interest in a total of ten locations throughout Houston.

Roy and Shirley Ann Malonson continued their entrepreneurial zeal and commitment to the Acres Home community by establishing in

1998 the Malonson RS Ranch in Harris County; the RS Deer Ranch in Waller County in 2004, one of two African American Whitetail Deer Breeders in the nation; Shirley Ann's Flower Shop in 2013; the RS Deer & Cattle Ranch in Waller County; and Shirley Ann's Black Kollektibles & Flowers in 2014. Shirley Ann Malonson is now President and CEO of the Malonson Company.

Roy Douglas Malonson and Shirley Ann Malonson are the proud parents of a daughter, Melanie Nicole Malonson, and the grandparents of Tayler and Caleb.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor two legendary Texas heroes, my constituents, Roy Douglas and Shirley Ann Malonson, who have devoted their lifetimes to creating economic opportunity and development for their beloved Acres Homes community. These two great American trailblazers have made a difference in the lives of thousands of men, women, children and businesses. Their work has brought our nation closer to fulfilling its founding ideals. And it is that work that truly makes America great.

RECOGNIZING THE BETTER CHINATOWN USA LUNAR NEW YEAR PARADE 20TH YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 22, 2019

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 20th Anniversary of the Chinatown Lunar New Year Parade in New York City organized by the Better Chinatown USA. The Lunar New Year is the most important traditional event celebrated for thousands of years by Asian and Pacific Islanders in New York and around the world. This is a time to pay homage to one's ancestors, enjoy family reunions, great food and other traditions.

The Better Chinatown USA, a community volunteer-based organization, is dedicated to bringing people together and providing services that promote the culture, tradition and contributions of Chinese Americans in New

York. In the aftermath of 9/11, the parade helped launch the economic rebound of Chinatown's small business community. The event started with just 500 marchers and a local Chinatown audience but has grown to encompass more than 20,000 participants, 80 floats, lion and dragon dances, acrobats and marching bands. Today, the parade draws more than half a million spectators from the East Coast and abroad.

Better Chinatown USA has enriched the cultural fabric of my district and New York City. Festivals like these showcase the strength and diversity of our immigrant neighborhoods. That is why I am proud to represent the Manhattan and Brooklyn Chinatown communities.

Madam Speaker, as we mark the Year of the Pig, please join me in congratulating the Better Chinatown USA Lunar New Year Parade on its 20th year anniversary and for its public service to the New York community. I wish them continued success.