

While roughly 90 percent of background checks on gun sales are completed immediately, a small amount requires additional time for operators to discern whether a purchaser is prohibited from buying a firearm. However, under current law, if a background check is not completed within three business days, the sale can proceed. This loophole allows thousands of prohibited purchasers each year—including the shooter in Charleston, South Carolina—from obtaining guns without the completion of a background check.

H.R. 1112 would keep everyday citizens safe by keeping firearms out of the hands of prohibited purchasers. It would also protect law enforcement by reducing the need for ATF agents to retrieve guns from individuals who shouldn't have been allowed to purchase them.

While there is no single measure that will completely eliminate gun violence, these bills take crucial steps towards reducing it. They also protect the rights of law abiding gun owners. I am proud to support these pieces of legislation and encourage my colleagues to do so.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2019*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Speaker, yesterday had I been present, I would have voted in strong support of S. 47, the Natural Resources Management Act. I was detained due to severe weather and cancelled flights in Oregon.

S. 47 is a compilation of approximately 100 public lands and natural resources bills. One of the main provisions would provide permanent authorization of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, which I strongly support.

Also included in this essential legislation are three provisions that I authored to protect critical salmon and steelhead habitats in southwestern Oregon and designate more than 30,000 acres of public land as Wilderness.

H.R. 994, the Chetco River Protection Act, would prohibit new mining claims on various rivers and creeks in Southwestern Oregon. The waters protected by this legislation supply clean drinking water to thousands of residents of Southwest Oregon and Northwest California and are critical salmon habitat.

H.R. 999, the Devil's Staircase Wilderness Act, would permanently protect Devil's Staircase, a remote, unspoiled area in the Coast Range. The legislation would designate approximately 30,500 acres of Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands as Wilderness. In addition, this legislation designates approximately 14.4 miles of the Wasson and Franklin Creeks, which support native Coho and Chinook salmon, trout, and steelhead runs, as Wild and Scenic Rivers.

H.R. 1056, the Frank and Jeanne Moore Wild Steelhead Special Management Area Designation Act, would designate almost 100,000 acres of public land in the Steamboat Creek Watershed in the Umpqua National Forest that is vitally important steelhead habitat. The legislation would honor Frank and Jeanne Moore's lifelong efforts to protect the North Umpqua River and its tributaries.

The lands protected in these bills are some of the most beautiful, pristine, and ecologically-diverse areas in Oregon. To leave these areas unprotected would be to subject them to pollution and mining, endanger drinking water for thousands of families, and devastate local recreation economies.

I am proud that Congress overwhelmingly passed this legislation and that President Trump is expected to sign this important legislation into law.

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#### HONORING GRANT THOMPSON

### HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2019*

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Grant Thompson, a 14 year-old in my district who found a glitch in Apple's FaceTime software that allowed iPhones to be turned into spying devices. He is a Freshman at Catalina Foothills High School whose interest in technology put him in a position to discover this critical flaw.

The flaw Grant discovered allowed a user to be eavesdropped on before they actually accepted a call. Before his discovery, I'm sure millions of Americans used the app completely unaware of this very serious security and privacy violation. But Grant, his sister, and his mom took initiative to ensure this vulnerability was addressed, and for that, we should all be grateful.

Grant is a lot like other freshmen—he spends time on Instagram, he plays Fortnite, and obviously, he enjoys FaceTiming with his friends. He is a humble young man who told me that he and his sister Lauren simply stumbled across the flaw. His mother, Michele Thompson, supported her son and reached out to Apple so that the flaw could be fixed, which Apple promptly did. Michele is rightfully proud of her son, and I am too.

Grant's future is bright. I hear he dreams of one day being involved in a STEM-related industry, and I have no doubt that with hard work and his natural technology skills his dreams will one day become a reality.

I thank Grant, Lauren, and Michele for protecting the privacy of people around the world. I also want to thank Apple for listening to the Thompson family and for rewarding Grant's work with an investment in his future. Arizona's 2nd Congressional District is excited to watch Grant grow and thrive.

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#### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BENJAMIN CAMACHO PALACIOS

### HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 27, 2019*

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Command Sergeant Major Benjamin Camacho Palacios. Mr. Palacios was a Retired U.S. Army Command Sergeant Major and will be fondly remembered for his many outstanding contributions and accomplishments throughout his military and civilian career.

A dedicated public servant, Mr. Palacios became one of the most senior noncommis-

sioned officers serving with various commands both in the U.S. and overseas. Primarily serving in leadership positions within the Armor Career Management Field, he eventually assumed duty as the United States Army Forces Command Sergeant Major on July 27, 1998. He was the Army's senior ranking enlisted Soldier in Korea when he was honored with the South Korean Order of National Security Merit Gwanbok Medal. Command Sergeant Major Palacios was the first enlisted soldier to receive the medal since the end of the Korean War. He was also the only person who served over five terms on the Department of Veteran Affairs Congressional Committee Mandated Advisory Committee for Minority Veterans (ACMV).

On Guam and the Marianas, the personal accomplishments and success of native sons and daughters are celebrated and adopted as triumphs for everyone in the community. I am deeply saddened by the passing of Command Sergeant Major Palacios and I join the people of Guam in celebrating his life and legacy. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, loved ones, and friends. Command Sergeant Major Palacios will be deeply missed, and his memory will live on in the hearts of the people of Guam.

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#### NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 26, 2019*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for the bipartisan National Resources Management Act. Congress has not enacted a public lands package of this scale since 2009, and passage of this bill will mark a major milestone for the conservation and future of America's public lands. This bill will permanently authorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund, designate over 1 million acres of wilderness, and protect over 1 million acres of land from destructive practices.

I have supported the Land and Water Conservation Fund for many years and since its creation, the Land and Water Conservation Fund has helped preserve America's outdoors heritage by supporting anglers and outdoor recreation for families in every state. Wisconsin alone has received \$211 million in LWCF funding over the past five decades, helping to protect the Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest, Ice Age National Scenic Trail, and North Country National Scenic Trail.

I am proud that the package includes the Migratory Birds of the Americas Conservation Act, which reauthorizes the Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act to help conserve migratory birds in rapid decline in Wisconsin and throughout the country. The Neotropical Migratory Bird Conservation Act provides more than \$66 million in grants to support long term conservation, research, and habitat protection of migratory birds.

As the founder and co-chair of the National Parks Caucus and longtime member of the Congressional Wildlife Refuge Caucus and Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus, I am proud to support this legislation.