

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL TECHNICAL INSTITUTE FOR THE DEAF

### HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 28, 2019*

Mr. MORELLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the National Technical Institute for the Deaf on celebrating 50 years of providing an outstanding education for deaf and hard-of-hearing students. The National Technical Institute for the Deaf, or NTID, is one of the nine colleges at Rochester Institute of Technology in Rochester, New York. With almost 9,000 alumni and a 94 percent average employment rate over the past five years for its deaf and hard-of-hearing graduates, NTID continues to open doors and break down barriers for people who are deaf or hard-of-hearing.

For decades, the deaf community advocated for a technical university, and in 1965, that dream became a reality. After legislation was introduced in April that year, the National Technical Institute of the Deaf was established by Congress via Public Law 89-36 and signed by President Lyndon Baines Johnson on June 8, 1965. Three years later, in September 1968, 70 deaf young men and women arrived at the Rochester Institute of Technology, or RIT, campus to become the charter class of NTID students.

And here we are, 50 years after that charter class was facing the completion of its first year of academic instruction, and NTID is still excelling at its primary mission. “. . . to provide deaf and hard-of-hearing students with outstanding state-of-the-art technical and professional education programs, complemented by a strong arts and sciences curriculum, to prepare them to live and work in the mainstream of a rapidly changing global community and enhance their lifelong learning.”

We know NTID has succeeded because NTID students persist and graduate at rates favorable to national rates for two- and four-year colleges and because they are, on average, employed at higher rates and earn more over their lifetimes than deaf peers who do not attend NTID.

Over the past 50 years, NTID has also surpassed expectations for its secondary mission, by establishing one of the country's oldest and most prestigious American Sign Language interpreter training programs, improving the education of deaf children and youth by preparing future educators, and conducting research and outreach that benefit deaf people worldwide.

Serving as the U.S. Representative for Monroe County is a source of great pride for me, a pride that comes from knowing the role that Rochester has played and continues to play in changing the world for the better. NTID has helped make Rochester the diverse, innovative and determined community it is today. We are so fortunate to have this national treasure

as part of RIT and part of Rochester. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating NTID on 50 years of excellence

### TRIBUTE TO ZYGMUND KOWALESKI

### HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 28, 2019*

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, today I'd like to congratulate Zygmund Kowaleski on the occasion of his 99th birthday on April 7th, and thank him for his service to the United States Navy and to the United States of America.

Mr. Kowaleski enlisted as a gunner on a twin-engine PBM flying boat in October of 1941, just two months before the ambush at Pearl Harbor would launch the U.S. into World War II. As a part of Torpedo Squadron Eight present at the Battle of Midway, he and his fellow crew members earned commendations for bravery in engagements at Guadalcanal, Midway, and the British Solomon Islands.

Attempting to fly a mail route off the coast of the Fiji Islands, Mr. Kowaleski's plane stalled on takeoff and crashed into the Pacific Ocean. He was forced to free himself from the downed plane and paddle from the wreckage, fearful the ship's 500-pound depth charges would detonate.

Madam Speaker, even after receiving combat honors twice for his heroics, Mr. Kowaleski once again piloted a U.S. Navy plane, instead hunting German submarines in the North Atlantic Ocean.

Mr. Kowaleski moved out to Alaska in 1967 after fulfilling his Naval service, continuing to fly as an FAA Airway Systems Inspection Pilot. But whether he was piloting a torpedo bomber or a twin-engine Cessna, he always conducted himself with valor and should be considered among Alaska's finest Naval Aviators for his service.

An aviator needs quick decision-making and a cool head to fly a plane in combat. Many of us will not know the kind of mental toughness required to see a mission to its conclusion, even under the most dire flight conditions.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Zygmund Kowaleski, who now at the age of 99, will have spent nearly one quarter of his life's work in service to his country having flown missions from Dutch Harbor to the Panama Canal. There are few people that can claim to have sacrificed as much under our flag, and he is owed the thanks and gratitude of all of us here in Washington and in Alaska.

RECOGNIZING POLICE CHIEF TROY MCGEE OF HELENA

### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 28, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Troy McGee of Helena for his four decades of public service in the Helena Police Department, including nearly 23 years as chief of police.

Growing up in the community he would serve, Troy graduated from Helena High School in 1971 and Carroll College in 1975.

Troy began his career with the Helena Police Department in 1975 and worked his way through the ranks. After nearly 20 years in the department, Troy was promoted to police chief in August 1996.

Throughout his career, Troy was dedicated to law enforcement safety and training in Montana. He has contributed his time, experience, and perspective to several organizations, including the Montana Attorney General's Law Enforcement Advisory Council, the Montana Peace Officers Standards and Training Council, and the Montana Law Enforcement Academy Advisory Board. He also has advocated for law enforcement with the Montana Chiefs of Police Association and the Montana Police Officers Protective Association.

As Helena's chief of police, Troy created stronger relationships between his department and the community. He also bolstered the city's relationship with other law enforcement agencies. His commitment to coordination and partnership led the city's police department to work with the Lewis and Clark County Sheriff's Department to form a joint SWAT team.

Troy has dedicated his life to the well-being of his community and law enforcement officers throughout our state. On behalf of the people of Montana, thank you for your service, Chief McGee.

Madam Speaker, for his decades of outstanding service and for his dedication to public safety, law enforcement, and his community, I recognize Troy McGee for his spirit of Montana.

HONORING THE HONORABLE DR. AMELIA ROSS-HAMMOND FOR HER CAREER AND SERVICE TO THE HAMPTON ROADS COMMUNITY

### HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 28, 2019*

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Honorable Dr. Amelia Ross-Hammond for her tremendous career and service in the Hampton Roads area.

Honorable Dr. Ross-Hammond recently retired from Norfolk State University where she

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