

Above Self". I thank the members of the Cape Girardeau Rotary Club for their tireless effort and unwavering dedication to serving members of their community.

IN MEMORY OF MAYOR SHIRLEY
SPELLERBERG

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of former Mayor Shirley Cunyus Spellerberg, a dedicated Texan who committed her life to serving others.

Shirley Cunyus graduated from Waco High School in 1945 and enrolled at Baylor University to study business administration. In 1949, she married U.S. Air Force pilot Herman Spellerberg, and together they raised two sons.

The Spellerbergs were stationed in Miami, Florida during Herman's tenure as a PanAm pilot. There, Mrs. Spellerberg became an engaged member of the community, and she hosted a talk radio program called "Speak Out Miami" from 1974 to 1979 as well as co-hosted the weekly television show "To the Point" from 1977 to 1979.

In 1979, they returned to Texas, where Mrs. Spellerberg continued to be an active participant in her community. In 1983, she was elected Mayor of Corinth, a role in which she served for 16 years. In addition to her official capacities, Mayor Spellerberg served as president of the Denton Republican Women's Club, as a member of the State Republican Executive Committee and Republican Party of Texas Platform Committee, as president of Denton County Republican Assembly, and as a founding member of Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum in 1972. For her efforts, she received numerous awards for her political activities in Florida and in Texas. In 2018, she was awarded the "Yellow Rose of Texas" award.

Mayor Spellerberg was a valued North Texas leader for more than thirty years. I am grateful for her steadfast service and appreciate her many years of dedication to our region.

REINTRODUCTION OF THE WILDLIFE VETERINARIANS EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ACT OF 2019

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Wildlife Veterinarians Employment and Training Act of 2019. This bill will provide incentives for students to pursue wildlife and zoological medicine and increases the number of positions available at wildlife and zoological facilities.

Wildlife and zoo veterinarians are the primary source of essential health care and management that is required for animals in both their natural habitat and in captivity. These physicians preserve natural resources and the

lives of animals, while also protecting human health by preventing, detecting and responding to exotic and dangerous diseases.

With the intensification of globalization and climate change, along with the growing interaction among humans, livestock and wildlife, the threat posed by emerging infectious diseases to humans and wildlife continues to increase. Controlling pandemic and large-scale outbreaks of disease has become more challenging over the years, yet there has never been a time where this is a more pertinent issue.

We must take preventative measures to ensure the well-being of both animals and humans. In spite of these threats to public health, the United States faces a shortage of positions for wildlife and zoo veterinarians. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), less than one percent of AVMA members identify themselves as wildlife or zoological veterinarians.

On average, veterinarian graduates owe \$143,000 in student loans. Relatedly, salaries for wildlife and zoological professionals are relatively low compared to those who practice companion animal medicine, ranking second to the bottom for salaries paid to veterinarians as a whole. Lower salaries, combined with high educational debt and the small number of positions available, discourage students from becoming wildlife or zoo veterinarians. The number of internships, practical training programs, and formal education programs specializing in wildlife and zoological veterinary medicine are also insufficient.

My bill directly addresses the aforementioned issues, by doing the following:

Create new positions for wildlife and zoo veterinarians.

Limit the amount of educational debt for veterinary medicine students, while providing incentives to study and practice wildlife and zoo veterinary medicine through a scholarship program and a loan repayment program.

Help schools of veterinary medicine develop curricula and training programs specializing in wildlife and zoo veterinary medicine.

Develop affordable and well qualified opportunities for individuals to become wildlife and zoo veterinarians, spur job growth, and promote public health policy across the nation.

Madam Speaker, as you know, wild animals play a very critical role in our natural resources and contribute to maintaining a balanced ecosystem. The number of endangered species has only increased. Invasive non-native species and infectious disease threaten our public health. Therefore, wildlife and zoological veterinarians must be prioritized and given the resources and recognition necessary to protect both animal and human lives.

I urge my colleagues to extend a helping hand to America's veterinarians by supporting this important piece of legislation.

PATSY PFAFF

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Patsy Pfaff for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce Woman of the Year Award.

Patsy has been an active participant in the Arvada community for many years. She donates to Mother's Milk, serves on the PTA, and tutors math students at Arvada West High School. She served on the advisory board for All Out Multisport and is active in the ET Chapter of PEO, a group that provides educational opportunities for women through scholarships.

The involvement and generosity demonstrated by Patsy is exemplary of the type of positive impact that can be made on the Arvada community. Being an avid walker, she spends a lot of time on the Ralston Creek Trail, completing over 60 half marathons and is well on her way to reaching her goal of 100 half marathons.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Patsy Pfaff for winning this well-deserved recognition by the Arvada Chamber of Commerce and appreciate his ongoing contributions to our community.

CBRN INTELLIGENCE AND INFORMATION SHARING ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 1, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 1589 the "CBRN Intelligence and Information Sharing Act of 2019" which amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish chemical sharing function of the Office of Intelligence and require dissemination of information to responsible entities relating to the homeland security.

As a Senior member of the Homeland Security committee, I understand how important this bill is in order to establish safety with chemical use. This bill requires examination of terrorist capabilities with these chemicals as well as threats from global diseases.

Terrorist supporters often promote the use of dangerous chemicals online and this bill would help to counter-act that issue.

H.R. 1589 supports the analysis of all chemicals used to ensure safety as well as supporting the analysis of claims of terrorist actors which enhances prevention and protection capabilities.

H.R. 1589 would allow more specific security measures to be implemented to cater to any threats to the State or any other entities.

The Office of Intelligence and Analysis will be coordinating with other required agencies in order to provide information to the department to ensure optimum safety.

H.R. 1589 will be extremely important in order to share information that is paramount throughout the department.

I urge all my colleagues to join me in voting to pass H.R. 1589.

AUDREY E. WILLIS CELEBRATES
100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Audrey E. Willis for her 100th birthday.