

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

GET ADDITIVES OUT ACT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Get Additives Out Act. This legislation would require a GAO report on the physical and behavioral health risks of food additives on children.

As a mom of two boys, I am committed to ensuring more transparency in the foods that we eat. The effects of food additives, both in food products and in the packaging that touches food products, are dramatically understudied, particularly the impact on children as they enter critical stages of development.

I urge my colleagues to join me in calling for more accountability on the foods that we consume and that we feed to our children. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Get Additives Out Act.

RECOGNIZING CHRIS MCGUIGAN OF PLAINS

HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chris McGuigan of Plains whose work with the Sanders County Fair and Rodeo has attracted the world's top professional competitors.

After years of volunteering at the fair, Chris began serving on the Sanders County Fair Board in 2001 and became its chairman a decade later. In 2017, Chris was appointed fair manager, a position from which he recently stepped down. Over the years, he estimates he has volunteered at least 1,000 hours to help make the fair and rodeo a success.

A retired Sanders County sheriff's deputy with 25 years of service, Chris helped lead many improvements to the fairgrounds, including upgrading the livestock facilities, improving the rodeo surface, constructing a 4-H horse arena and crow's nest, and making the arena ADA accessible.

The vision and accomplishments of the Sanders County Fair Board under Chris's leadership have brought the fair and rodeo wide acclaim for its excellence. In fact, the Women's Professional Rodeo Association seven times recognized the rodeo arena surface as having the best footing in the region.

"Hands down, the Sanders County Rodeo is one of the top-notch rodeos in Montana, and Chris has been the right-hand man there for years," said Lori Franzen, co-owner of Powder River Rodeo, which produces the rodeo in Plains as well as 90 professional rodeo events across the country. "Last year in the bull riding event alone, 10 of the top 15 cowboys in the professional circuit were competing in Plains."

Madam Speaker, for his more than two decades of service and outstanding dedication to improving the Sanders County Fair and Rodeo, I recognize Chris McGuigan for his spirit of Montana.

THIRTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION ACT OF 1989

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, thirty years ago today, on April 10, 1989, one of the most critically important federal ethics laws in our history, the Whistleblower Protection Act (WPA), was enacted. As we mark the anniversary of the WPA, I would like to give special recognition to this federal statute that has empowered Congressional oversight and assisted our work over the years.

The WPA protects whistleblowers who work for the federal government from retaliation for reporting activity constituting a violation of law, rules, or regulations, or mismanagement, fraud, waste, and abuse, or substantial danger to public health and safety. A federal agency violates the WPA if it takes or threatens to take a retaliatory personnel action against an employee who makes a protected disclosure.

On this 30th anniversary of the WPA, we honor the contributions of the brave men and women who report wrongdoing despite great risks to their careers and personal lives as a result of retaliation.

Without the WPA, very few whistleblowers would be willing to come forward. Congress relies on the WPA to fulfill its Constitutional duty to provide checks and balances on the Executive Branch—the very root of our democracy. This past February, my Committee issued an interim staff report raising serious concerns about White House efforts to rush the transfer of highly sensitive U.S. nuclear technology to Saudi Arabia in potential violation of the Atomic Energy Act and without Congressional review as required by law. The Committee's investigation was based on information that we received from multiple whistleblowers.

We also rely on the WPA to help safeguard our national security. Recently, a whistleblower working inside the White House Security Office was interviewed by the Committee about the dysfunctions in the White House that presented dangers to national security. This whistleblower "informed the Committee that during the Trump Administration, she and other career officials adjudicated denials of dozens of applications for security clearances that were later overturned." She explained the reason she came forward, stating: "I would not be doing a service to myself, my country, or my children if I sat back knowing that the issues that we have could impact national security."

My Committee would not have been able to conduct these oversight investigations without these whistleblowers, and these whistleblowers would not have come forward if they did not have the protections of the WPA.

We have made significant progress in protecting public servants who shine a light on corruption in the federal government, but we are not satisfied with the status quo. Congress must continue to ensure that agencies are following the existing law and also identify ways to improve the law to better serve the needs of our country.

HONORING DAN HAIFLEY

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Dan Haifley for his decades of service to the Santa Cruz community as the Executive Director of O'Neill Sea Odyssey, and to congratulate him on his retirement. Mr. Haifley has been at the helm of O'Neill Sea Odyssey, a cornerstone of the Santa Cruz community and maritime education, since 1999. Through his years of dedication to environmental education and our environment, Mr. Haifley made an immeasurable impact on our community on the central coast of California.

During his tenure of twenty years with O'Neill Sea Odyssey, the organization grew into a pillar of the Santa Cruz community as it offered free oceanography and ecology programs for grade school children, often from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Mr. Haifley also championed the integration of oceanography into formal educational institutions, making the subject matter accessible to youth of diverse backgrounds.

Under Mr. Haifley's direction, over one hundred thousand children had the opportunity to receive hands on marine biology, ecology, and navigation lessons aboard Team O'Neill's 'Catamaran' yacht. Mr. Haifley's leadership was intrinsic to the extraordinary performance of O'Neill Sea Odyssey, which has received numerous awards and recognition on multiple occasions for outstanding environmental leadership and education.

Mr. Haifley's conservation efforts did not begin with O'Neill, but rather span throughout his career. He was also the executive director of Save Our Shores, where he played a vital role in the creation of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. In addition, he led a successful campaign against offshore oil drilling throughout California and actively writes columns about the importance of our oceans.

Mr. Dan Haifley exemplifies what it means to be a conscientious and engaged citizen of the Central Coast. Mr. Haifley influenced generations of citizens to cherish and preserve the environment and through them he leaves a legacy of respect and admiration for our planet. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to

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