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# COLUMBIA RIVER IN-LIEU AND TREATY FISHING ACCESS SITES IMPROVEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 29, 2019*

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, I supported H.R. 91, the Columbia River In-Lieu and Treaty Fishing Access Sites Improvement Act, because it is important and necessary for the in-lieu fishing sites along the Columbia River to be properly maintained, safe and sanitary for tribal use. These sites, which are federally controlled, were set aside by Congress to provide fishing access to tribal fishermen whose traditional fishing grounds were displaced after the construction of dams on the Columbia River. Because these sites are federally maintained, the bill's authorization is necessary to assess the sanitation and safety in order to improve these sites tribal use. This bill, however, does not make any determination of the sites' boundaries nor should it be interpreted as doing so, but should only be taken to ensure tribes have access to traditional fishing areas on the Columbia River by the four Columbia River Treaty tribes.

## NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

**HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 2, 2019*

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, throughout the history of the United States, our national leaders have consistently turned to prayer during times of struggle, adversity, and crisis. George Washington's prayer in Valley Forge was a turning point in our war for independence; Benjamin Franklin's call for prayer broke the political gridlock during the Constitution Convention; President Franklin Roosevelt took to the airwaves, leading the nation in prayer as our troops landed at Normandy on D-Day; and George Patton's prayer for a change in weather turned the tide during the Battle of the Bulge. More recently, I witnessed firsthand the miraculous impact of prayer during the Congressional baseball shooting in June, 2017.

These are only a few of the numerous documented instances where Americans have individually and collectively turned to God in prayer, and He has consistently answered.

The National Day of Prayer was established by an Act of Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman in 1952, to recognize God's hand of divine providence in the course of our nation. Since 1988, under the leadership of President Ronald Reagan, the first Thursday of May has been set aside as the official day of observance of the National Day of Prayer.

For over two decades, the people of Bartow County, Georgia have gathered on the National Day of Prayer at the County Courthouse, to continue the heritage of seeking God's Divine guidance.

Today, May 2, 2019, in observance of the National Day of Prayer, community leaders and people from all across the county will once again join together in collective prayer for our communities, our state, and our nation. I commend the pastors, elected officials, and community leaders in Bartow County, Georgia for actively recognizing the impact prayer has on our nation.

Effective and fervent prayers are not only a core aspect of our national past, but remain a powerful tool in all aspects of public and private matters, and I encourage all people to pray for one another and our nation on this National Day of Prayer, and every day.

## IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER FELIX MARTINEZ

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 2, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lieutenant Commander Felix Martinez's retirement after 40 years of public service. I would like to personally thank him for his service and dedication to our nation.

Lieutenant Commander Martinez has spent the last 40 years working to serve his community. He began by working as a college instructor at the City Colleges of Chicago and then moved on to become a teacher and baseball coach at Nelson County Schools. We are fortunate to have someone as honorable as Lieutenant Commander Martinez educating our youth.

Lieutenant Commander Martinez spent the next 30 years of his career in Military Services with the United States Navy and United States Marine Corps. He began his work as a US Naval Officer with Associate Protocol. Lieutenant Commander Martinez then worked as a Research Liaison, Coordinator, Homeland Defense Planner, and Analyst for the US Navy. Finally, Lieutenant Commander Martinez has most recently served as the Senior Naval Science Instructor for NJROTC unit at Stafford County Schools. I wish to express my immense gratitude to Lieutenant Commander Martinez for dedicating his life to serving the United States of America.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognition of Lieutenant Commander Felix Martinez. The Commonwealth is fortunate to have someone with such valor and commitment. May God bless Lieutenant Commander Martinez and I look forward to seeing his continued success for many years to come.

## THANKING J. SPENCER FREEBAIRN FOR HIS SERVICE

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 2, 2019*

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Spencer Freebairn for his 26 years of service to the U.S. House of Representatives and the American people. In 1993, a young, fresh out of college kid from Orange County, California began his career on

Capitol Hill working for his hometown congressman, former Representative Dana Rohrabacher. He went on to continue to serve for Representative Jerry Lewis, the former Chairman and Ranking Member of the House Appropriations Committee. Then we had the fortune of making him an honorary Texan from "far west Texas"—serving first for Representative Roger Williams before joining my office.

I have had the privilege of calling Spencer a friend for nearly twenty years, and my Chief of Staff for two. While I am personally sad to see him go, Spencer's impact on this body will be felt long after he departs. Along the way, Spencer has done it all. Whether he was advocating for our men and women in uniform, securing funding to prevent wildfires, or working to protect the rights of California dairy farmers, his legislative accomplishments are second to none.

Madam Speaker, on Friday, Spencer will retire from the House and move on to his next chapter. I thank Spencer for his service, and wish him and his husband Antonio, and their two daughters Artemis and Ariana, nothing but the best in the future.

## RECOGNIZING BRIDGET MALLO OF BUTTE

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 2, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Bridget Mallo of Butte for inspiring a community to celebrate life with her courage in facing a chronic, progressive, and often fatal disease.

Bridget was diagnosed with cystic fibrosis at six months old. She and her family have consulted doctors and been in and out of hospitals for 15 years. Despite the prognosis, Bridget never uses her illness as an excuse.

Now 15 years old, Bridget recently faced a decision no teenager should have to bear.

Doctors said that forgoing a lung transplant could leave Bridget with four to six weeks to live. Proceeding with further treatment, including an organ transplant, did not guarantee a successful outcome and meant greater hardships for her loved ones.

She chose to return home to Butte to spend her remaining time with family and friends. Two of her final wishes are particularly touching. She wants to ensure her mother is supported and does not face financial insecurity. She also asked the community of Butte to come together to celebrate life.

Bridget's courage rallied the community, as individuals and businesses responded with donations to support the family. Bridget has also brought awareness to the struggles families face when a loved one is diagnosed with the incurable disease.

In late April, residents of Butte celebrated life and Bridget. Bridget's loved ones, friends, classmates, and neighbors cheered her arrival. Amid much fanfare and a police escort, there were tears of sadness and tears of joy.

Bridget has helped demonstrate the power of community. Family, friends, and neighbors have come together to support and celebrate a remarkable young woman.

Bridget's community will long remember her big heart. Because of Bridget, they will also