

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE PERMIAN BASIN HONOR FLIGHT

#### HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 8, 2019*

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 87 Veterans from West Texas who will be visiting Washington, D.C. this week, sponsored by the Permian Basin Honor Flight. On behalf of a grateful state and nation, we welcome these heroes to the nation's capital.

The Veterans on this Honor Flight are: Benjamin Acosta, Clinton Adams, Lawrence Adams, George Alexander, Wanliss Armstrong, Edward Atwood, James Basse, Robert Bennett, Thomas Bright, Sidney Bryan, Michael Chaney, Clarence Chapman, Mary Cheek, Richard Cotte, Troy Crosby, William Decker, Jr., David Dilbeck, Truett Eaton, Raymond Flores, Paul Flynn, Jr., Richard Gallo-way, Jackie Green, Larry Griffith, Gilberto Guzman, Stephen Harrison, John Hufford, Donald Hunt, Daniel Jacques, Enrique Jaramillo, Jr., Raymond Jenkins, Darrell Johnson, Melvin Johnson, Henry Kalawe, Jr., Stanley Klett, Arthur Laengrich, Larry Laengrich, Robert Lathrop, Horace Lloyd, Daryl Locker, Guadalupe Madrid, Alonzo Martinez, Haskell Mayo, Jr., Mickey McCown, Curtis McFarland, Jr., James McKinzie, Jr., Earl Moize, Thomas Molder III, Travis Monday, Eugene Morgan, Stanley Mulsow, Curtis Nicholson, Warren Oakley, Joe Padilla, Lupe Padilla, Solon Page, Armando Perales, Marion Pride, Johnnye Proctor, David Reeves, Lloyd Ritchey, Donald Rogers, Doyle Schwartz, Robert Schoff, Jr., Don Seales, Wesley Seales, Tommy Seward, Joan Shannon, Joseph Smith III, Robert Sorem, Perry Stevens, Marion Stone, Bobby Stringer, Alfonso Telck, Bobby Trammell, Edward Twood, Gumecindo Urias, Antonio Urias, Santiago Urias, Jr., Steve Wagner, Alvin Wankowski, Douglas Wankowski, Kenneth Warrington, Gary Watkins, Ben Webb, Danny Whitaker, Kenneth Winford, and Tony Yzaguirre.

Madam Speaker, I am humbled to have the opportunity to meet these brave men and women who exemplify the best of our country. Their sacrifice and commitment to duty to our nation can never be fully repaid, and I hope that they will be able to reflect on the gratitude and respect that Americans have for them as they visit our nation's monuments in Washington, D.C., the gratitude and respect we have for them will truly be reflected.

Colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and their families for their exemplary dedication and service to this great nation. I would also like to extend a special thank you to the local communities, all of the volunteers, and Mr. John West and Mrs. Teresa Galloway for their extensive work in organizing this Honor Flight. This trip would not have been possible without all the financial and emotional support of the people who have

put in so much hard work and personal time to make sure this trip could be possible.

### REMEMBERING LAURENCE M. BLOCH

#### HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 8, 2019*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember an important mentor, advisor and my quasi-brother/father, Laurence M. Bloch, whom the world knew as "Larry."

Larry, a Memphis native and longtime real estate investor and contributor to humanitarian causes, passed away on February 23 in Santa Monica, California, at the age of 87. A font of sage advice, Larry was constantly there for me and for many others who loved him for the caring individual he was. After graduating from Christian Brothers High School in 1949, Larry went to the University of Michigan, serving as a cheerleader for the Wolverines and traveling by train with the team to the 1951 Rose Bowl in which Michigan beat the California Golden Bears 14 to 6.

Larry graduated with a degree in economics in 1953 then served two years in the U.S. Army before returning to Memphis and the real estate investment business. He remained an avid Michigan fan his whole life and used to tape every game. Known for his disheveled salt-and-pepper hair and socks-less and tie-less style, and for riding his bicycle like Albert Einstein, he also drove around town in a Lincoln Continental with coach doors. He celebrated healthy eating habits as a prophet of whole grains and fiber.

An investor with a keen eye for good deals in Memphis' downtown, he had the good sense to own the property kitty-corner from The Peabody on Union Avenue that was torn down to create AutoZone Park. A patron of the arts, he also supported the Memphis Crisis Center, Meals on Wheels and the Church Health Center among his charitable causes. As a cat lover, another of his charitable causes was The House of Mews, where he was for a while the top cat. A charming story teller, he provided useful advice and helped many people solve their problems.

I was fortunate to have had him as a good friend and will miss him greatly. I want to extend my condolences to his daughter Cheryl and to his grandsons Nick and Alex. Larry Bloch led an exemplary life.

### HONORING ROBERT H. TWISS, PH.D.

#### HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 8, 2019*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 85th birthday of Dr.

Robert H. Twiss and a lifetime of work promoting and progressing environmental stewardship in Marin County and the entire Bay Area.

Born in Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Twiss and his family moved to Washington, then Oregon, and finally settled in San Jose, California, when Dr. Twiss was in the second grade. After attending Willow Glen High School, Dr. Twiss graduated from San Jose State University in 1955, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Conservation. During this period, he proudly played the banjo for a band in San Francisco. He then honorably served in the Michigan Air National Guard and the United States Air Force as a tactical fighter pilot. He later earned both his Master's and Ph.D. from the University of Michigan, School of Natural Resources.

After completing his education, Dr. Twiss opened his own consulting company, which is still active today. In this capacity, he has consulted on projects for California's Attorney General, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Water Resources, and many other important agencies and environmental organizations.

Dr. Twiss was Professor of Environmental Planning at The University of California, Berkeley from 1968 to 1994. In this role, Dr. Twiss taught new generations of environmentalists all aspects of the work including planning, research, and consulting. He was also involved in graduate-level instruction on ecological planning and environmental law and served in a variety of leadership roles including as Chair of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Environmental Planning, and Chair of the Faculty of the College of Environmental Design. He also directed the Ph.D. program in Environmental Planning.

Among his many contributions to research on environmental planning, Dr. Twiss was Faculty Principal Investigator for the Research Program in Environmental Planning and Geographic Systems at the University of California, which developed tools and programs to allow open access to geographic information on land use, natural resources, and became the world's first web-based geographic information system in 1993. Dr. Twiss, always wanting to share his knowledge and information with others, received the patent for his system and put it in the public domain for others to use and benefit from.

Dr. Twiss enjoys spending time with his loving wife and partner Amy Skewes-Cox and their son Carson, along with his children Gregory and Gail from a previous marriage. He loves spending his time outside in nature hiking, sailing, and flying his own small plane. He is also known as an avid banjo and ukulele player, much to the delight of his friends and family.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Twiss' leadership and vision has helped make remarkable strides towards maintaining and growing environmentally sustainable practices that will benefit the region and all who work to improve the environment for generations to come. Therefore,

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