

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF DR.
DAVID A. HAMBURG

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and enduring legacy of a giant of humanitarianism and a leader of conscience, who made lasting, life-saving contributions to the cause of eradicating violent conflict and eliminating human suffering: Dr. David Alan Hamburg.

Trained as a physician and psychiatrist, Dr. Hamburg led a career of incredible scope and immense impact, beginning with sweeping contributions made to the field of medicine from distinguished posts at hospitals, universities, research laboratories, and scientific and public policy organizations. "Ounce of prevention, ton of cure" was his favorite motto, and would guide him through all his work, from disease prevention to conflict resolution.

Dr. Hamburg followed his pioneering scholarship on disease prevention with studies of human behavior, specializing in the evolution of human violence. As a recognized authority on the study of aggression, stress and conflict, he revolutionized the worlds' conception of civil conflict and warfare, led by his deep faith in the need to "mobilize human ingenuity" for peace. Much of his game-changing research was conducted alongside his beloved wife, the trailblazing and renowned Dr. Beatrix Hamburg.

At the helm of the prestigious Carnegie Corporation for fifteen years, Dr. Hamburg would use his belief in the power of prevention to create prosperity, as he launched initiatives for the advancement of civilization of a startling scale, from early childhood education to youth health to conflict resolution. He was a powerful and early force for the study of terrorism, violence and genocide, warning that for too long, scholars had treated these global priorities as "almost a nonsubject."

His leadership was critical in conflict prevention and mitigation efforts, including through initiatives such as the Carnegie Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict, co-chaired with former Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance, which studied ethnic and regional conflicts in Africa and the Balkans, and which was cited as one of the United Nation's "major reference points" for peace efforts by Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon.

He was a respected voice among our colleagues in the Congress on nuclear non-proliferation, which is a pillar of America's national security. His work to develop and pass the vital Nunn-Lugar Amendment has helped keep America and our allies strong and safe. I had the privilege of learning from Dr. Hamburg when we served on the Board of the Leakey Foundation for the Study of Human Origins. Once again he would demonstrate his leadership when he courageously obtained the release of the Stanford students who were kid-

napped while doing primate research at Gombe National Park, Tanzania.

Dr. Hamburg often said that he "grew up in the shadow of the Holocaust," and was motivated in his work by his grandfather's experience fleeing anti-Semitic pogroms in Latvia and later bringing an estimated 50 relatives to America to escape the Nazi regime. This "firsthand knowledge [on] how brutal people could be" would be a powerful beacon for him, as he sought to bring resolution, cooperation and healing to the world. His enduring contributions to turn that painful legacy into a more peaceful future for others will be a lasting blessing for all.

May it be a comfort to Dr. Hamburg's children, Eric and Margaret, his three grandchildren, David, Rachel and Evan, and all their loved ones that David has been reunited with the love of his life, Betty. May it also be a comfort that so many grieve with them and pray for them during this sad time.

IN RECOGNITION OF VA-10 UNITED
STATES AIR FORCE ENLISTEES

HON. JENNIFER WEXTON

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 27 high school seniors from Virginia's 10th Congressional District who plan to enlist in the United States Air Force after graduation. These students have excelled over the course of their high school careers and I congratulate them on their graduation and their future plans.

I commend these student leaders for their courageous decision to pursue a path to serve their country as a member of the United States Air Force. I rise to recognize the following students: Dewan Abdullah, Ishmael Bobbitt, Mia Broady, Ivanna Jenkins, Michael Jones, Alexine Koiwood, Kirsten Ladestron, Stefanie Marroquin, Jeremy Michaels, Kendal Riley, Kamaryn Sablan, Adam Sibal, Ian Allison, Shawn Bourne, Daniel Castano, Nicholas Featherston, Douglas Flenniken, Benjamin Hayams, Guillermo Lozano, Jayden Nowicki, Tim Rickard, Elijah Robinson, Sean Stewart, Amanda Vacher, John Zuniga-Castaneda, Corbin Tucker, and Dallas Tucker.

The students were recognized at a ceremony conducted in Sterling, Virginia on May 16, 2019, by the Northern Virginia chapter of Our Community Salutes and the Blue Star Mothers of Northern Virginia.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing and applauding these students and their families on their pursuits and wish them the best as they set forth to begin the process of learning to defend our great nation and remember that we owe those who serve a debt of gratitude.

HONORING THE SPANISH COMMUNITY CENTER ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Spanish Community Center's 50th anniversary.

The Spanish Community Center in Joliet, Illinois has long been a valued part of our community. Over 50 years ago, amid the Civil Rights movement, the Hernandez, Adler, and Maher families began providing valuable services to the growing local migrant communities. This local organization became the Spanish Community Center in 1969. Since then, this cherished institution has offered valuable social services to residents of Joliet and the surrounding area. While the Spanish Community Center began as a response to the needs of Joliet's Latino communities, it now proudly offers assistance to all who need it.

I would like to thank the Spanish Community Center for its commitment to the citizens of Illinois and for its contribution to the Joliet community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LIZZIE FLETCHER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mrs. FLETCHER. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday May 7, my flight was delayed due to the severe storms that hit Houston. I missed the vote series which occurred that evening.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 185; and YEA on Roll Call No. 186.

HONORING GARDEN GROVE'S
FALLEN FIVE

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Garden Grove's Fallen Five: Sergeant Myron L. Trapp, Officer Andy Reese, Officer Donald F. Reed, Officer Michael Rainford, and Master Officer Howard Dallies, Jr.—the officers Garden Grove has lost in the line of duty.

On October 6, 1959, Sergeant Myron L. Trapp was responding to a call involving a man who was angry about the noise from road work on his street. Trapp was trying to talk the man out of his house when a fellow officer approached the front door. The man fired his rifle through the door. He missed the first officer but struck and killed Trapp.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Officer Andy Reese, a reserve officer, was directing traffic during the Strawberry Festival on May 30, 1970 when an impatient driver sped past slow-moving traffic and hit Reese, killing him.

On June 7, 1980, Officer Donald Reed and three fellow officers entered a bar to serve a man with an arrest warrant. Reed was escorting him out the back door when the man drew and fired a semi-automatic handgun. Reed was struck in the chest and killed.

Officer Michael Rainford was conducting a routine traffic stop on a Garden Grove Freeway on-ramp while on patrol on November 7, 1980. He was killed by a drunk driver.

Master Officer Howard Dallies, Jr. pulled over a motorcyclist on March 9, 1993. As Dallies approached the motorcycle, the driver fired six shots at the officer, hitting him four times. He was rushed to the hospital, where he died from his wounds.

For the past three decades, the city of Garden Grove has honored the Fallen Five with a memorial service that brings together family, friends, and colleagues of the fallen officers, as well as community organizations and the public, to pay tribute to the lives and sacrifices of these men. This year, the theme of the Call to Duty Police Memorial is 'The Thin Blue Line,' a symbol of law enforcement solidarity.

These five brave men donned the uniform and badge for the Garden Grove Police Department and they all sacrificed their lives to keep their community safe. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these officers for their service.

IN RECOGNITION OF VA-10 UNITED STATES ARMY ENLISTEES

HON. JENNIFER WEXTON

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 24 high school seniors from Virginia's 10th Congressional District who plan to enlist in the United States Army after graduation. These students have excelled over the course of their high school careers and I congratulate them on their graduation and their future plans.

I commend these student leaders for their courageous decision to pursue a path to serve their country as a member of the United States Army. I rise to recognize the following students: Fabien Bellagamaba, Justin Cooper, Damon Ferrell, Alicia Grogman, Christian Johnston, Michael Jones, Mike Jones, Braden Kelley, Kirsten LaDestro, Airis Serrano Lara, Nicholas Liebl, Daniel Morfin, Isabella Odonnell, Jahkai Robinson, Aresa Rouse, Thomas Samborski, Jordyn Henry Sanders, Douglas Schouville, Jacob Smith, Rody Torres, Naph Tali Victor, Antonio Walbey, Branson Ward, and Tyshaun Wise.

The students were recognized at a ceremony conducted in Sterling, Virginia on May 16, 2019, by the Northern Virginia chapter of Our Community Salutes and the Blue Star Mothers of Northern Virginia.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing and applauding these students and their families on their pursuits and wish them the best as they set forth to begin the process of learning to defend our

great nation and remember that we owe those who serve a debt of gratitude.

IN RECOGNITION OF NELSON CHAPEL AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, it is my honor and pleasure to extend my sincere congratulations to the congregation of Nelson Chapel African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church in Bainbridge, Georgia as the church's membership and leadership celebrate a remarkable 150 years. The congregation will celebrate this very significant anniversary on Sunday, May 19, 2019, at the church located at 640 Hall Street.

Tracing its roots back to the post-Civil War era, the church was founded in 1869 when a group of slaves set off from their landowners' church and boldly founded their own place of worship. The original church was located on Academy Street and was operated under the leadership of Rev. A. Monroe. During Rev. Monroe's tenure as pastor, the church grew not only in size and in faith, but also in membership, having included several founding members who were instrumental to the development of the church.

Since its founding, Nelson Chapel AME Church has endured several additions and renovations, all of which help tell the story of the church. In 1902, the church relocated to its current location on Hall Street to a property donated by the late Mr. Adam Nelson. The foundation of the church was laid under the esteemed leadership of the late Rev. N.L. Holmes and the building was constructed during the pastorate of the late Rev. George Smith. In the 1970s, under the tutelage of Rev. C. E. Shepherd, the congregation was motivated to construct a child development center to educate preschoolers about Christian principles and academic excellence. The center, which consisted of a fellowship hall, full kitchen, and a baptismal pool, was named for the late Dr. J.H. Griffin, M.D. and was managed for many years as the Dr. J.H. Griffin Educational Complex. In addition to the construction of the church and child development center, a parsonage was built at 818 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard for the comfort and living of the pastoral family.

This ardent community of believers has extended its circle to include more and more members as the years have gone by, though it has never lost its essential character. Today, the spirit and faith of its people are manifested through the current sanctuary, which includes an organ, carpeting, pulpit furniture, a modern sound system, the Carillon Tower Chimes, a paved parking lot, office space, and many other structural improvements. That same faith and spirit extend beyond the church doors, in the presence of members who give fully of themselves wherever they go.

Throughout the years, a number of pastors, deacons, and clerks have contributed to its legacy, which boasts more than 300 members, eight choirs, a 70-member Young People's Division (YPD), and many ministries to support

the surrounding community and congregation. Because of their dedicated efforts, Nelson Chapel AME Church is the lead church in the Thomasville/Bainbridge District of the South Georgia Annual Conference, Sixth Episcopal District of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

The story of Nelson Chapel AME Church, which recounts a long history of a group of believers coming together through the good and difficult times to praise and worship the Lord, is truly an inspiring one of the dedication and perseverance of a faithful congregation of people who put all their love and trust in God.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in paying tribute to Nelson Chapel AME Church in Bainbridge, Georgia for its congregation's enduring commitment to each other and to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. May their actions continue to inspire the community in courage, in dedication, and in faith.

HONORING THE MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 130TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to join the congregation of the Macedonia Baptist Church of Ansonia, Connecticut in extending my heartfelt congratulations on the celebration of their 130th Anniversary. Throughout its history, the Church and its congregation have demonstrated a unique commitment to serve the community and ensure that the most vulnerable of our citizens could find comfort and resources in their time of need.

In 1889, with the help of local businessman Franklin Farrel, a group of local African-American residents banded together to organize and incorporate a mission which would soon become the Macedonia Baptist Church. In addition to helping the group organize and incorporate the mission, the Farrel family donated a beautiful stained glass window, which remains even today, as well as the bell for the belfry. Over the course of the last one hundred thirty years, the Macedonia Baptist Church has strengthened the bonds of faith and friendship and has become an iconic fixture in the community.

From its first Pastor, the Reverend Edward Johnson, who traveled from Yonkers and was so beloved that parishioners of all ages would meet him at the train station to escort him to church, to the Reverend Julian Taylor who served the ministry for more than four decades; and from the Reverend V. Loma St. Clair who expanded the reach of the Macedonia Baptist Church across the community, to today's leadership of Pastor Alfred Lee Smith, Jr., the spiritual guidance that has led the congregation over time has not only provided parishioners with nourishment of the soul but encouraged them to make a difference in the community as well.

The Macedonia Baptist Church has not only been a center for religious worship, but a vehicle through which their members could give

back to the community. Our churches play a vital role in our communities—providing people with a place to turn to for comfort when they are most in need. The Macedonia Baptist Church gives its members a place to find their spiritual center and to solidify and support their values. For one hundred thirty years, the Macedonia Baptist Church has been a fixture in our community. Through their ministry and outreach efforts, they have left an indelible mark on our community and continue to make a difference in the lives of others. I am proud to stand today and extend my very best wishes to them as they mark this milestone in their history. Happy 130th Anniversary.

HONORING COPPER HILLS HIGH
SCHOOL TEACHERS STRICKEN BY
CANCER

HON. BEN McADAMS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. McADAMS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor two courageous teachers at a West Jordan, Utah high school and the students and faculty members who rallied around them when they were stricken by cancer.

Cancer is an insidious disease that doesn't discriminate. It occurs in Utahns of all ages, incomes, professions and ethnic backgrounds. But students and faculty at Copper Hills High School in West Jordan have shown us how a community stands up to this disease.

Recently, Megan Butler, a physical education teacher at the school, along with 17 other faculty members, students and community members, all shaved their heads—as part of a “Brave to Shave” event. It was part of the school's effort to raise money for children's cancer research. But the hair itself went towards making a wig for Megan Butler, who was diagnosed with breast cancer. The Copper Hills Grizzlies raised more than \$4,000.

Not only was the school dealing with Butler's illness, students also lost a beloved English teacher—Michelle Szetela—to the disease. She was diagnosed with Stage four adrenal cancer on March 11th and died just six days later. Tyler Carson, vice president of the school's National Honor society chapter, shaved his head in Szetela's honor.

All the participants said that events like this empower them in the fight against a remorseless opponent. Their hair will grow back and someday, the money they contributed to cancer research will help produce a cure.

Thank you to these heroic teachers, Megan Butler and Michelle Szetela, for their courage, strength and community leadership.

IN RECOGNITION OF VA-10 UNITED
STATES MARINE CORPS ENLIST-
EES

HON. JENNIFER WEXTON

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 16 high school seniors from Virginia's 10th Congressional District who plan to enlist in the United States Marine Corps

after graduation. These students have excelled over the course of their high school careers and I congratulate them on their graduation and their future plans.

I commend these student leaders for their courageous decision to pursue a path to serve their country as a member of the United States Marine Corps. I rise to recognize the following students: Parsa Bakhshandeh, Shamar Britton, Jessica Dally, Jamaal Ellsworth, Andre France, Dylan Gilfedder, Aiden Hall, Jason Hernandez, Riley Klug, Peter Komara, Jessica Molnar, Christopher Nesseltree, Erick Orellana Hernandez, Matthew Rivera, Olga Romanenko, and Kyle Winn.

The students were recognized at a ceremony conducted in Sterling, Virginia on May 16, 2019, by the Northern Virginia chapter of Our Community Salutes and the Blue Star Mothers of Northern Virginia.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing and applauding these students and their families on their pursuits and wish them the best as they set forth to begin the process of learning to defend our great nation and remember that we owe those who serve a debt of gratitude.

SUPPORTING THE DISASTER
SUPPLEMENTAL BILL

HON. JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Miss GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN of Puerto Rico. Madam Speaker, it is urgent to pass a Disaster Supplemental Bill.

Citizens across our nation—from California to the Carolinas, from Florida to the Northern Marianas and Puerto Rico, are counting on us to pass a bill that address the urgent needs caused by natural disasters.

The more that passage is delayed, the longer our communities will have to wait, because just passing the appropriation is the beginning of a drawn-out process.

I know my constituents are waiting, for the 600 million dollars for the Nutritional Assistance Program that I have long been advocating, which will cover a gap in funding under the supplemental appropriations made in the immediate aftermath of Hurricanes Irma and Maria. As of last month, these residents who have not fully recovered are already seeing a decrease in benefits because we have yet to pass a disaster bill.

They are also waiting, like those in many states and territories, for funds Congress already appropriated.

For example, after 20 months later, of some 42.3 Billion allocated to Puerto Rico, less than half has been obligated, and only 12.6 has been outlaid.

This funding is still being reviewed with great scrutiny by FEMA, by HUD, by the OMB Office of Regulatory Affairs.

The funds that have been disbursed are being used to pay for work already done or have strict definitions as to what these funds can be used for.

Conditions and requirements that slow the flow of funds has resulted in companies and nonprofits that did work and provided services are still waiting to get paid.

So I welcome the language included in the Disaster Supplemental passed by the House, that provides a firm deadline for OMB to publish the Federal Register guidance for use of funds so things can start moving.

I am also encouraged by the provision that extends the 100 percent federal cost share, which is essential for communities whose assets and sources of revenue were affected; and the language that FEMA “shall”, rather than just “may”, help rebuild to better standards. These provisions benefit all affected jurisdictions.

One thing we must still address is the definition of “critical services” eligible for Stafford Act support, which today does not include important elements such as first responders, nonemergency major medical services, solid waste and stormwater management, and emergency supply transportation.

That is why I presented H.R. 2242, which I proposed as an amendment to H.R. 2157 but was not made in order, to expand the definition of “critical services” for eligibility for FEMA disaster Public Assistance.

By allowing these important elements as critical services, we can ensure that communities will not need to deal with such a burden after having their own resources destroyed or exhausted in the initial response.

For example, not being able to get supplies out of the port to where they were needed, and loss of access to major medical services, worsened the impact on the population in Puerto Rico.

My proposal would amend the Stafford Act to include emergency supply transportation, nonemergency medical, first response and security services, and solid waste and stormwater management among the critical services for which Section 428 may be applied. I urge that my proposal receive the needed consideration.

Madam Speaker, it is up to Congress to continue the support for the recovery of all communities affected by these disasters. Let us do that.

CONGRATULATING LAKELAND
COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I want to send my congratulations to the men and women of Lakeland Community Hospital in my hometown of Haleyville, Alabama as it marks 50 years of serving the people of Winston and Marion counties and the surrounding area.

Lakeland Community Hospital first opened its doors to patients on Monday, May 19, 1969. Known as Burdick-West Hospital for many years, it was originally owned by Winston County and governed by a nine-member hospital board. The original name came from Mr. Fred Burdick, then Chairman of the Winston County Commission during the establishment of the hospital, and from Haleyville businesswoman, Ms. Ila West, who donated the property to the county on which the hospital sits. The hospital was a two-story structure, with 32 beds served by 5 doctors. Later, a third floor was added to the hospital to accommodate more patients. Mr. Tillman Hill was the

first hospital administrator and the hospital thrived for many years under his direction.

Five decades after it opened, Lakeland Community Hospital is truly living up to its name, as it is owned and operated by the community. Now a 49-bed facility, under the administration of Martha McCormick, the hospital is committed to providing high-quality medical care in a friendly environment.

Lakeland's medical staff includes 8 skilled physicians representing a wide range of medical specialties. The hospital is also equipped with some of the most advanced medical technology available today and provides services such as CT scans, nuclear medicine, digital mammography, senior care and medical detoxification. These tools help their doctors properly diagnose and treat a wide variety of illnesses with greater effectiveness than ever before.

Lakeland Community Hospital is the only hospital in Winston County, Alabama. Like many other rural hospitals, it recently faced the threat of closure. However, due to the hard work of the leaders such as Haleyville Mayor Ken Sunseri, the Haleyville City Council, the Winston County Commission and citizens of Winston County, the Haleyville Winston County Hospital Authority was created, and it has partnered with Java Medical to keep the hospital open and serving those in the area who need medical care.

I want to send my congratulations to the administration and the leadership and staff of Lakeland Community Hospital for their 50 years of service to the citizens of the entire area. I'm confident that in the years to come, Lakeland Community Hospital will be there to provide high quality healthcare that is needed to Winston, Marion and surrounding counties.

IN RECOGNITION OF VA-10 UNITED STATES NAVY ENLISTEES

HON. JENNIFER WEXTON

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 14 high school seniors from Virginia's 10th Congressional District who plan to enlist in the United States Navy after graduation. These students have excelled over the course of their high school careers and I congratulate them on their graduation and their future plans.

I commend these student leaders for their courageous decision to pursue a path to serve their country as a member of the United States Navy. I rise to recognize the following students: Luis Bolivar, Judith George, Caleb German, Keldon Jones, Hanna Lund, Adeodye Olabisi, Joicelyn Robinson, Kyle Rustick, Douglas Schouville, Dane Singer, Ashley Villars, Martin Stellato, Aubrie Thompson, and Muhammad Yasin.

The students were recognized at a ceremony conducted in Sterling, Virginia on May 16, 2019, by the Northern Virginia chapter of Our Community Salutes and the Blue Star Mothers of Northern Virginia.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing and applauding these students and their families on their pursuits and wish them the best as they set forth to begin the process of learning to defend our

great nation and remember that we owe those who serve a debt of gratitude.

HONORING EDGAR G. GRIFFIN

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Edgar G. Griffin, who passed away in April at the age of 94. Mr. Griffin was a World War II veteran, proud member of the Knights of Columbus, and a longtime resident of California's 27th Congressional District.

Mr. Griffin was born in Leon Guanajato, Mexico on December 7, 1924 and emigrated to Los Angeles as a teenager with his mother after the death of his father. Although he held American citizenship through his father, Mr. Griffin joined the Army to secure his mother's residency. A paratrooper in the 101st airborne division of the Army, Mr. Griffin survived the Normandy landing on D-Day in 1944. He was awarded a Presidential Unit Citation for his service, as well as a Purple Heart and numerous other medals. At the time of his passing, Mr. Griffin was the only surviving Mexican-American veteran of the landing at Normandy.

After the war, Mr. Griffin returned to California, where he met his wife Mimi and they raised their nine children together. After first settling in the City of Commerce while Mr. Griffin worked in their Aircraft Assembly Radar Section of Hughes Aircraft, the family eventually moved to Monterey Park. There, he worked as a sound and lighting engineer for the Century Plaza Hotel, until he retired at the age of 68. He was also an active member of the Knights of Columbus, elected Grand Night four times.

Mr. Griffin was due to return to Normandy next month for the 75th anniversary of the D-Day invasion. He would have been nearly a century old and one of very few surviving veterans of the battle that heralded the end of World War II. While his passing deprived him of that distinction, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the memory of a true American hero.

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ CHANCELLOR GEORGE BLUMENTHAL

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the retiring Chancellor of University of California, Santa Cruz (UCSC), George Blumenthal, for his 47 years of service to our community on the central coast of California. His leadership has touched the lives of many, and I am honored to acknowledge this legacy.

Chancellor Blumenthal's record in education has shown him to be a distinguished professor, researcher, and leader to all on the UCSC campus. He first joined the Astronomy and Astrophysics Department at UCSC in 1972 and was appointed as Chancellor of the university in 2007. Committed to expanding

his involvement in public service, Chancellor Blumenthal has also served on multiple governing boards in California, including the California Association for Research in Astronomy, the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, the Silicon Valley Leadership Group, and the Monterey Bay Economic Partnership.

Throughout his academic career, Chancellor Blumenthal's work has led to numerous groundbreaking studies and discoveries in our understanding of galaxies and the interactions of celestial bodies. His work has transformed knowledge of concepts once seen only as science fiction, including the function and behavior of dark matter and how it plays a role in the shaping of the universe. His contributions cannot be overstated.

A natural leader, Chancellor Blumenthal has garnered praise from his associates, coworkers, and students. This past year, Santa Cruz Mayor, Martine Watkins, declared May 9th to be "George Blumenthal Day" in the city of Santa Cruz as an annual recognition of his scholarly and governing efforts. Chancellor Blumenthal's decades of service make him more than worthy of such an honor. As he celebrates his retirement, I am proud to commend Chancellor Blumenthal on his invaluable work as an academic leader for the past four decades. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Central Coast, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Chancellor Blumenthal for his contribution to our community and wishing him a long and healthy retirement.

RECOGNIZING BOB DOROUGH

HON. SUSAN WILD

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. WILD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bob Dorough, a constituent of mine from Mt. Bethel, Pennsylvania.

Bob's music is universally known: generations of children have learned about the work that happens in this Chamber—along with their earliest lessons in math and science—from Schoolhouse Rock, which he scored.

Schoolhouse Rock is just one aspect of Bob's legacy—his legendary seven-decade career as a jazz singer led him to play with many of the greatest musicians in American history, including Miles Davis and Charlie Parker. These performances etched his recordings into our country's soundtrack forever.

A few weeks ago, Bob was posthumously honored at the Kennedy Center as a recipient of the 2019 Jazz Master Award—our nation's highest recognition for jazz musicians.

Through his family, friends, and each new generation that continues to discover the warmth of his voice and the uniquely American music that he loved, Bob's spirit will endure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following roll call

votes. Had I been present for them, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call 203, H.R. 299, Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act—YEA; Roll Call 204, H.R. 2379, To reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program—YEA; Roll Call 205, Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 377—NAY; Roll Call 206, H. Res. 377—NAY; Roll Call 207, H.R. 312, Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Reservation Reaffirmation Act—YEA; Roll Call 208, H.R. 375, To amend the Act of June 18, 1934, to reaffirm the authority of the Secretary of the Interior to take land into trust for Indian Tribes, and for other purposes.—YEA; and Roll Call 209, H.R. 1892, Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act—YEA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I regretably missed votes on Wednesday, May 15, 2019. I had intended to vote “yes” on Roll Call vote 207, “yes” on vote 208 and “yes” on vote 209.

HONORING CHEF ESTEVAN JIMENEZ

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chef Estevan Jimenez for his exemplary community service on the central coast of California. Chef Jimenez’s important work with at-risk youth at Ranch Cielo has had a lasting impact on the community and continues to inspire young people to pursue careers in the culinary arts. Recently awarded the 2019 Chef of the Year by the American Culinary Federation’s Monterey Bay Chapter, Chef Jimenez exemplifies the very best of the Central Coast.

Chef Jimenez attended the California School of Culinary Arts’ Le Cordon Bleu program. He moved to Monterey shortly after graduating to work as a chef for Bon Appétit Management, handling the restaurants and events for the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Always exuding professionalism and expertise, Chef Jimenez was promoted in 2007 and eventually moved on to the position of executive sous chef at the Ventana Inn in Big Sur. He then returned to the Monterey Peninsula to work for Aqua Terra Culinary and eventually Rancho Cielo’s Drummond Culinary Academy. Over the years, Chef Jimenez has blazed a fiery trail in the culinary industry and has always promoted excellence and encouragement.

As executive chef of the Drummond Culinary Academy, Mr. Jimenez oversees all of the culinary education programs and acts as a mentor to underserved and disconnected youth to provide a path for a brighter future. Chef Jimenez has also volunteered his time for a variety of fundraising causes throughout Monterey County including the United Way,

Salinas Rotary, Kinship Center, ASPCA, Meals on Wheels, Artichoke Festival, and Community Christmas Dinner of Monterey. Utilizing his culinary talents, Chef Jimenez has mentored and prepared our community throughout his career.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the incredible community service of the American Culinary Federation’s Monterey Bay Chapter 2019 Chef of the Year, Chef Estevan Jimenez, for his tremendous contributions to California’s 20th Congressional District. I ask my distinguished colleagues to join in me in thanking him for all that he has done for our community on the Central Coast and congratulating him on this prestigious award.

RECOGNIZING LAWRENCE GREAVES FOR HIS SERVICE AS SILVERDALE PORT COMMISSIONER

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to celebrate the career of my constituent, Mr. Lawrence Greaves. Following nearly two decades of service as a Silverdale Port Commissioner, Mr. Greaves recently retired from the commission, leaving behind an impactful legacy in our region and in his hometown of Silverdale, Washington.

Mr. Greaves’ family roots were first planted in Silverdale when his great-grandfather, Charles Greaves, purchased land in what is recognized today as downtown Silverdale. Mr. Greaves was born and raised in Silverdale, where his parents, Lawrence and Ellen Greaves, owned a farm and local business. After graduating from Central Kitsap High School, he attended the University of Washington where he earned his bachelor’s degree in mechanical engineering. Mr. Greaves then began working for the Shell Oil Company, which moved his career to Anacortes, Washington, and then to Wood River and Chicago, Illinois.

Eventually, Mr. Greaves found his way back to Silverdale, where he tested torpedoes at the Naval Undersea Warfare Center Division in Keyport. Following his retirement, Mr. Greaves began his service as a Commissioner at the Port of Silverdale, where he spent the next 20 years overseeing port facilities, as well as making marked improvements upon the expansion, improvement, and programming of the Port of Silverdale.

His dedication to the community and to the Port of Silverdale will long be recognized, and I am especially grateful for his continued service to our region. Congratulations, Mr. Greaves.

TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF SRI LANKA’S CIVIL WAR

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the

end of Sri Lanka’s thirty-year long civil war. This Remembrance Day is observed to remember and mark the sacrifices made by all those who died, irrespective of their ethnicity, in the civil war.

Sadly, the hope that the end of this brutal war would usher peace in the country, and that Sri Lanka’s many communities would be reconciled with each other, has not been realized. The Sri Lankan government won the war, but it has not yet won peace. The tragic Easter Sunday bombings in April and tensions between different communities thereafter are a reminder of the divisions that still exist in the country.

The current Sri Lankan government came to power in 2015 with the overwhelming support of the Tamil and Muslim communities. These communities were encouraged by this government’s promise to act on allegations of war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the civil war, as outlined in the September 2015 report by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights. In response to this report, Sri Lanka and the United States cosponsored UN Human Rights Commission Resolution 30/1, “Promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka,” in 2015.

Unfortunately, the Sri Lankan government has not fulfilled the commitments it made in that resolution, which, if implemented, would have promoted justice, peace, and reconciliation in the country. This year, at the Human Rights Council, Sri Lanka’s government once again committed itself to reconciliation by cosponsoring Resolution 40/1, again titled “promoting reconciliation, accountability and human rights in Sri Lanka.”

I urge the Sri Lankan government to work towards implementing the provisions of the resolutions that it has cosponsored. This will help heal the deep wounds that divide various communities in Sri Lanka. It can also help Sri Lanka keep its important commitments to the international community.

HONORING CORNERSTONE SERVICES ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize 50 years of outstanding work by Comerstone Services in Will County, Illinois.

On March 20, 1969 a group of community members, parents and civic leaders launched the Will County Sheltered Workshop to create employment opportunities for adults with disabilities. Later renamed Comerstone Services, the organization greatly expanded their services as the demand for assistance grew.

Since the 1990s, Comerstone has extended its reach across Will and Kankakee Counties as they focus on moving individuals in need of special assistance out of larger facilities and into smaller neighborhood group homes. In 2018, the program provided a record 187 new jobs for individuals with disabilities, delivering over \$1.5 million in wages. Today, Comerstone provides services to over 1,200 people per day.

I would like to thank Comerstone Services for its commitment to the citizens of Illinois

and for its contribution to the communities of Will and Kankakee Counties.

TRIBUTE TO ELLEN TAUSCHER

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the lifelong contributions made by Ellen Tauscher, who led the charge in every aspect of her life, from politics to world diplomacy and from Wall Street to motherhood.

She was a woman with strong convictions, a steel backbone, and an unshakable moral compass. As a Democratic centrist she didn't let party politics rule every decision and bucked a lot of trends.

Ellen never met an obstacle she couldn't overcome. Frustrated as a working mother struggling with lack of access to quality childcare, she wrote a book to help other moms and put her money and her time where her mouth was by founding a service to screen prospective child-care providers and donating hundreds of thousands of dollars to California and Texas schools.

She broke new ground as one of the first women to hold a seat on the New York Stock Exchange. At age 25, she was the youngest woman there ever. Ellen also was an officer on the American Stock Exchange and worked as an investment banker and bond trader for 14 years before she became one of the driving forces behind Sen. DIANNE FEINSTEIN's successful 1992 bid for the U.S. Senate.

In 1996, Ellen ran against Congressman William P. Baker, the Republican incumbent, in a heavily conservative district in the East Bay. She won the race, and the votes of many Republican women, with her common-sense campaign in favor of access to abortion, increased spending on education, gun-control legislation, and focus on fiscal responsibility.

She served 13 years in Congress, including her work in the House Armed Services Committee, formerly known as the National Security Committee, and as chairwoman of the Strategic Forces Subcommittee.

Ellen's interest in arms control and nuclear weapons was a key asset during her tenure as a diplomat in the Obama Administration. She was integral to the negotiation of the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty of 2010, which brought American and Russian nuclear arsenals to their lowest levels in nearly 60 years. As Hillary Clinton said, "She made American and the world safer through her work on arms control . . ."

And she did all of this with a beautifully infectious smile that lit up any room she entered.

My heart goes out to Ellen's daughter, Katharine, and her other family members who lost her far too soon. I can only hope that they are able to take some comfort in knowing Ellen's legacy to make the world a better, safer place will live on.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DUCK BOAT SAFETY ACT, TO IMPLEMENT SAFETY REGULATIONS RELATED TO AMPHIBIOUS PASSENGER VESSELS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to reintroduce the Duck Boat Safety bill, to implement safety regulations for amphibious passenger vessels. These safety recommendations were made by federal agencies to address known problems associated with duck boats that have resulted in far too many injuries and fatalities.

I became aware of these problems when my constituents, the Coleman family, were involved in a horrible duck boat accident on July 19, 2018 in Branson, Missouri. Tia Coleman was one of only two survivors in her family of 11, losing her husband Glenn and her children Reece (nine years old), Evan (seven years old), and Arya (one year old). Tia's 13-year-old nephew, Donovan Coleman, was the other surviving family member, losing his mother Angela, his younger brother Maxwell (two years old), his uncles Ervin (76 years old) and Butch (70 years old), and his aunt Belinda (69 years old). Boarding a duck boat on Table Rock Lake started out as a fun outing for this family, but it turned into an unspeakable tragedy when the boat capsized and sank. Seventeen of the 31 passengers on board were killed.

Investigations by state and federal authorities are still underway, and lawsuits are pending over the specifics of this incident. But there is a long record of problems associated with duck boat operations that should be addressed now. Since 1999, more than 40 people have died in duck boat accidents, the vast majority of them from drowning when the vessel sinks. In 2002, the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued recommendations to improve the safety of the vessels in cases of flooding or sinking, but little has been done to implement those measures. We know from these past incidents that more can be done to make these vessels safe. Congress does not need to wait to act.

While we wait to learn more about the specific circumstances and causes that led to the tragedy on Table Rock Lake, this legislation would implement the NTSB's past recommendations to improve the ability of duck boats (officially referred to as "amphibious passenger vessels") to stay afloat in a flooding or sinking situation.

Specifically, this bill would direct the Coast Guard to issue regulations within one year of enactment to require operators of amphibious passenger vessels to retrofit their vessels to provide reserve buoyancy. Vessel operators would have no longer than two years to comply with the requirements.

While vessel operators work to comply with the reserve buoyancy requirements, this bill directs them to implement interim measures to improve vessel safety, including:

a. Removing canopies from vessels for waterborne operations, or replacing canopies with structures that do not restrict escape in the event of flooding or sinking;

b. If canopies are removed, requiring that all passengers wear a personal flotation device while the vessel is on the water;

c. Permanently closing all unnecessary access plugs and reducing through-hull penetrations to the minimum number and size necessary;

d. Installing independently-powered electric bilge pumps;

e. Installing no fewer than four independently-powered bilge alarms;

f. Mandating inspection of vessels in water after each through-hull penetration;

g. Verifying watertight integrity of vessels in the water at the outset of each waterborne departure; and

h. Otherwise complying with existing Coast Guard regulations related to the inspection, configuration, and operation of such vessels.

Those vessels that do not meet the one-year deadline to implement interim safety measures, as well as those that do not meet the two-year deadline to install reserve buoyancy systems, would be prohibited from operating on U.S. waterways until they are compliant.

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill to make common-sense corrections to the persistent safety problems facing duck boats so that no other family must face the kind of tragedy experienced by my constituents on Table Rock Lake. I urge the House to support this bill.

INFRASTRUCTURE WEEK

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for the 7th annual Infrastructure Week, which runs May 13 through 20. America's businesses, workers, citizens, and elected leaders from all levels of government are all united around one message: America's future will be shaped by the infrastructure choices we make today.

In the 116th Congress, my fellow Transportation and Infrastructure Committee colleagues and I are working across the aisle to achieve key objectives for the people, including creating and sustaining family-wage jobs, improving the daily lives of Americans, preserving and protecting our environment, building sustainable and resilient communities, and ensuring U.S. economic competitiveness.

Specifically, in my home state of Texas, we have worked to establish milestones such as laying the groundwork for the Texas Central high-speed passenger rail line, which will connect the fourth and fifth largest economies in the country in less than 90 minutes. In Dallas, there are currently over \$2 billion dollars in active highway projects and an additional \$1.5 billion in design-build projects. In Congressional District 30 alone, there are \$1 billion dollars' worth of projects under construction. Other investments include a new 26-mile regional transit passenger rail line, an airport runway realignment project, and expansions of one of the largest inland ports as well as major interstates and highways. These efforts have contributed to a \$70-billion-dollar economic impact and nearly 67,000 jobs.

While we are focused on the need for sustainable infrastructure, we must also highlight

the need for diversity and inclusion as well. We must recognize the importance of having individuals with various backgrounds at the table, creating innovative solutions to address new transportation needs that truly help all communities. Programs such as the U.S. Department of Transportation's Women & Girls in Transportation Initiative (WITI) or the Small Business Administration's 8(a) Business Development Program are great opportunities to foster an inclusive environment that encourages, supports, and celebrates our similarities and differences.

Above all, Infrastructure Week highlights the apparent need for investment. Our nation's infrastructure is crumbling, and we can't wait another day to act. At this critical juncture, it is imperative that Congress moves with expediency in addressing these pressing issues, as it is essential to the quality of life of our citizens and the vitality of our economy.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. AL LAWSON, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2019

The House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2157) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Madam Chair, I rise to express my support for H.R. 2157, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2019. This \$17.2 billion package is essential to providing critical relief to communities that were hit by natural disasters in 2018 and 2019, including my Congressional District, Florida's Fifth.

More than seven months has passed since Hurricane Michael made landfall in Florida and citizens are still reeling from the historic Category 5 storm. Our community has a long way to go on the road to recovery, including our timber industry and forests.

My support for this disaster supplemental package comes in part because of an understanding that the language within Title I of this bill grants the Secretary of Agriculture the discretion to provide assistance to producers who suffered timber loss due to Hurricanes Michael and Florence.

In the 11 counties in Florida hit by Hurricane Michael, more than 16,000 forest land owners reported damage to their timber. The storm destroyed more than 72 million tons of timber, totaling over \$1.3 billion in economic loss.

Forest lands are essential to North Florida's economy and ecology, and we must do everything to ensure we get it back on track. I look forward to working with my colleagues in both Chambers of Congress, as well as with the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, to ensure that North Florida's forestlands are supported as we recover from Hurricane Michael.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF
THE TRUXTUN COMMUNITY IN
PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a historic neighborhood in the Hampton Roads region of Virginia. The Historic Truxtun Community in Portsmouth, Virginia will celebrate its centennial on May 18, 2019. To mark the occasion, I would like to take a moment to highlight the history of this neighborhood and recognize its contributions to our community.

The community of Truxtun was named after Thomas Truxtun, a Revolutionary War sailor who was known for successfully capturing British ships during the Revolutionary War. He went on to captain the USS *Constellation* and the USS *President*. There have been six United States Navy ships named in his honor.

The Truxtun community sits on 43 acres of land within walking distance of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth, Virginia. It was constructed in 1918 as a project of the U.S. Housing Corporation to address the housing shortage for shipbuilders employed at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. At the time, the United States had just entered World War I and the newly developed Naval Operating Base was gearing up to assist with the war effort.

Truxtun stands out in United States history as the first government housing project developed for African-Americans. The neighborhood had 250 lots consisting of duplexes and five-bedroom single family homes. The homes in Truxtun had a distinguished style—exposed rafter ends, jerkinhead roofs, and central chimneys. Truxtun homes also offered indoor plumbing and electricity at a time where many people, especially African Americans, did not have access to such amenities. Despite the modern architecture and amenities in Truxtun, it was still a segregated community. Because of the Supreme Court's 1896 decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, Jim Crow segregation laws forced blacks to reside in Truxtun while whites lived in their own nearby government housing project called Cradock.

Those who relocated to Truxtun considered the community tightknit and vibrant. Rents were affordable and started at \$17.50 per month. Southern black workers were happy to abandon their agricultural lives and start fresh with higher wages and improved working conditions. Truxtun helped transformed the Hampton Roads region and the region benefitted economically, socially and culturally.

The Truxtun community was developed with a "new urbanism" style and had everything a town needed to thrive. From its own convenience store, school and church to civic leagues and sporting events, this town provided residents a place to live, play and shop within an easy commute to the shipyard. The neighborhood had four policemen, a town manager and even a townhouse to do official work. Since Truxtun was formed as an independent township within what was then Norfolk county, its locally elected town manager could levy taxes and provide public services. That is, until Portsmouth acquired the community in 1923.

100 years after its founding, Truxtun is experiencing a revival that places it as one of

Portsmouth's most prized cultural centers. In 1982, Truxtun was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was one of the first out of about 100 federally financed housing projects during World War I, and it remains a national model for communities that are looking to plan and build inclusive, pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the residents of Truxtun on their centennial celebration and for helping to make Portsmouth a great place to live and raise a family.

CELEBRATING WORLD DOG DAY
2019

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to rise today to recognize and celebrate World Dog Day 2019, which will take place on Saturday, May 18th in West Hollywood, CA. Created by my good friend, Lisa Vanderpump and the Vanderpump Dog Foundation in 2016, World Dog Day is a day focusing on the celebration of our furriest family members by recognizing the impact that dogs bring to our everyday lives. This celebration draws attention to the amazing, empathetic creatures that dogs are, while also raising awareness about global dog abuse that sadly still exists today. Our love for these animals, without the necessary activism, can't protect themselves from abuse or neglect. This event is so critically important in taking a stand against the abuse of animals and being united in the love that we hold so dear for our beloved dogs.

Sadly, dogs and other animals across our nation and around the world suffer abuse from animal fighting, to torture, inhumane research testing, and abuse in puppy mills. We must advocate for all animals who cannot defend themselves and ensure their overall well-being and safety.

In the 115th Congress, I was proud to work with Lisa, Dr. John Sessa, and the Vanderpump Dog Foundation on passing H. Res. 401, a resolution urging all nations to outlaw the dog and cat meat trade and to enforce existing laws against such trade. Their steadfast leadership and unwavering commitment to the welfare of animals is truly inspiring. Passage of H. Res. 401 was a culmination of years of hard work and dedication. From the bottom of my heart, I cannot thank them enough, along with the thousands of activists around the country and across the globe for all of their efforts. Lisa, John, and the Vanderpump Dog Foundation have never wavered in their commitment in the fight against the global dog meat trade. I am honored to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with them to champion this effort, sending a strong signal to the world that the welfare of animals must be taken seriously.

As we celebrate World Dog Day 2019, we must come together to raise awareness about global dog abuse and work to end this horrific and barbaric practice once and for all.

Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Lisa Vanderpump, Dr. John Sessa, and the Vanderpump Dog Foundation on what I am certain will be another successful World Dog Day. I look forward to our continued work on animal welfare issues for years to come.

HONORING DR. STUART DORSEY

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Stuart Dorsey, an educator, an innovator, and a leader.

Dr. Dorsey currently serves as the President of Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, Texas. He began his tenure in the summer of 2011 and will conclude his work at TLU on June 30, 2019.

Dr. Dorsey's story is one that exhibits commitment and dedication at every turn. Dr. Dorsey earned his bachelor's degree in economics from the University of South Dakota. From there, he earned both his Master and doctor of philosophy in economics from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He then served the public in the U.S. Department of Labor before joining the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance where he was the Committee's Chief Economist from 1982 to 1984.

Dr. Dorsey then began his career in academia as an associate professor of economics at West Virginia University. He went on to serve as Dean of the Faculty at Baker University in Kansas and then as Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Evansville in Indiana. Afterward, he served as the President of the University of Redlands in California until he became the President of Texas Lutheran University.

Over the past eight years, Dr. Dorsey oversaw tremendous change to the university's campus and culture. Under his leadership, the university completed a freshmen residence hall, a studio theatre, and a School of Music building. Dr. Dorsey also oversaw the completion of Bulldog Stadium, which has allowed the university to host football games and track and field events on campus for the first time in its history. Through these accomplishments, Dr. Dorsey has laid a strong foundation for the university to continue its success.

Furthermore, Dr. Dorsey expanded the university's academic influence by leading the creation of several new programs of study, including a popular undergraduate program in nursing and graduate programs in accounting, data analytics, and athletic training.

Dr. Dorsey has worked tirelessly to expand opportunities for the students and community of TLU. His unwavering devotion to his students' success is evident and furthered by his wife Michelle's equally impressive dedication to service. Through their combined efforts, the university was named a Great College to Work for seven years in a row.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Dorsey has worked endlessly to make a difference in the lives of Central Texans. His efforts have made him a pillar of the community and an example to us all. It is an honor to represent selfless, committed individuals like him. I wish him and his wife Michelle nothing but the best as they begin retirement in California.

HONORING OHIO'S LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EFFORTS TO KEEP THEM SAFE

HON. DAVID P. JOYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the brave men and women of Ohio's law enforcement. As a former prosecutor, I know all too well the danger our heroes in blue face every day to protect us and our families, and I applaud the efforts made to ensure their safety.

Just the other night, in observance of National Police Week, I was proud to vote to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program, which provides critical resources to state, local and tribal jurisdictions to purchase bulletproof body armor for law enforcement officers.

For 30 years, bullet-resistant body armor has protected law enforcement officers. According to the Bureau of Justice Assistance, in 2012 alone, protective vests were directly attributable to saving the lives of at least 33 law enforcement and corrections officers in 20 different states.

However, much of the body armor used today slows down and fatigues our officers due to overbearing weight and discomfort levels. As arms and ammunitions continue to become more powerful, we must do the necessary research to develop next generation body armor that addresses these challenges.

I am proud to say that we have organizations in Ohio, like ShotStop, that are doing just that. Due to their light weight and dynamic material, ShotStop's bullet-resistant products create a safer environment for the brave men and women in blue who put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities.

Madam Speaker, please join me in applauding ShotStop and all other organizations that are working to ensure our officers are better equipped to return home safely to their loved ones at the end of each shift. I am proud to support Ohio's law enforcement officers, not just during National Police Week, but each and every day, and commend those who are doing all they can to protect them.

INTRODUCTION OF THE AFGHAN ALLIES PROTECTION ACT OF 2019**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2019. This bipartisan legislation would authorize 4,000 Afghan Special Immigrant Visas and require the State Department to report to Congress on the obstacles to protecting Iraqi and Afghan allies as well as suggestions for improving the program.

Since 2002, the United States Government has employed thousands of Afghan and Iraqi allies to serve alongside U.S. troops, diplomats, and other government employees. As a result of their service, these allies and their families have become the targets of anti-American persecution and violence. As U.S.

Government agencies and personnel continue to rely on local partners to ensure critical mission capabilities, Afghan and Iraqi partners continue to be threatened, abducted, or assassinated for their willingness to assist the United States.

With broad bipartisan support, Congress created two Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) programs to provide pathways to safety for Iraqis and Afghans whose work with and allegiance to the U.S. Government has exposed them to direct threats, jeopardizing their safety and that of their loved ones. Although the Iraqi SIV program stopped accepting new applications in 2014, the Afghan SIV program continues protecting Afghan allies to this day.

In recent years, the SIV applicant backlog has continued to grow while Congress has struggled to allot enough visas to bring our allies to safety in the United States. While the recent Fiscal Year 2019 omnibus spending bill authorized 3,500 SIVs, the backlog remains at nearly 20,000 Afghans. Worse, the processing times for existing applications has slowed dramatically, forcing many to wait for years while living in fear of being targeted. Due to these issues and others facing the program, SIV arrivals have fallen by more than half over the last fiscal year.

This legislation makes more visas available for the thousands of applicants in the pipeline and starts the process of improving the program so our allies can be brought to safety faster. The safety of these brave men and women, security of our troops, and our international standing depend on the United States be true to our word. We can't leave anyone behind.

RECOGNIZING HOWARD BRODSKY**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Howard Brodsky, who is receiving the Global Leadership Award from the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire on May 19, 2019. A Manchester native and a pioneer of the cooperative business model, Mr. Brodsky has dedicated his life to helping entrepreneurs and small business compete in the global marketplace.

As the Chairman, Co-founder, and Co-Chief Executive Officer of CCA Global Partners, Mr. Brodsky created the second largest private company in the state of New Hampshire, comprised of 13 affiliated companies with total sales of over \$10 billion. Mr. Brodsky has dedicated his career to building a model for small businesses to succeed in an unpredictable international economy. With a commitment to global cooperation and a focus on giving small businesses the tools and connections needed to compete at scale, Mr. Brodsky and his colleagues at CCA are helping foster a more equal society and economy.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate Howard Brodsky on this well-deserved award. I also thank the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire for continuing to recognize Granite Staters in their work to connect the world to New Hampshire and New Hampshire to the world. I thank Mr. Brodsky

and the World Affairs Council for all that they do to make the Granite State such a wonderful place to work, live, and foster global connections.

ACKNOWLEDGING LEADERSHIP NIAGARA'S 2019 LEADERS OF THE YEAR AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to recognize the impressive record of achievement of Leadership Niagara, the longest running leadership development organization in New York State. Headquartered in Niagara Falls, a city I proudly represent and home to one of the Wonders of the World, this binational program provides individuals of all ages the skills necessary to forge a better and more productive future for themselves, their companies and the communities of Western New York and Southern Ontario.

For more than 35 years, Leadership Niagara has served as a premier leadership resource to those who demonstrate the passion, desire and willingness to work to effect positive change in all aspects of their lives, including the companies and communities they represent.

Leadership Niagara's mission to strengthen regional leadership is reflected in their time-honored tradition of the Annual Leader of the Year Awards Ceremony. Now in its 29th year, this program delivers a powerful message that builds on the example, motivation and success of those being recognized for their transformational leadership in a variety of fields.

This year, Leadership Niagara has selected five individuals and one organization that exemplify collaboration, innovation and leadership. They include Kenneth Sass, Lifetime Achievement Award, Father James J. Maher, Leader of the Year; The Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club, Organization of the Year; Bonnie Kane Ph.D., Distinguished Alumni; Alicia Laible-Kenyon, Emerging Leader and Ethan Menges, Youth Leader. These honorees are most deserving for the strides they have made in the promotion of positive change and strong leadership regardless of title, age, education, industry or boundaries.

Kenneth Sass served a community in need with determination and kindness as the long-time president of Pinnacle Community Services, formerly Family and Children's Services of Niagara. Before retiring in December of 2018, Mr. Sass worked for Pinnacle Community Services for 25 years, the past 21 as president and CEO. It was during his tenure that he spearheaded two capital campaigns, totaling \$3.3 million, to build the agency's first new headquarters in 100 years and the Niagara Family Center, a multi-service collaboration between seven nonprofit agencies. Programs were also expanded and developed to better address serious issues including mental health, domestic violence, child abuse and chronic medical illnesses. His dedication to those he served epitomize what it means to be a compassionate leader.

Father James J. Maher's selection as Leadership Niagara's Leader of the Year is an in-

spired choice. A member of the Vincentian community, he was appointed the 26th president of Niagara University in 2013. Since becoming president, Father Maher has focused on advancing the academic reputation of the university, building an international and diverse campus community and shaping the university's commitment to the revitalization of Niagara Falls and Western New York. His deep commitment to the Vincentian mission of service is reflected in his actions and words that included his belief that "Niagara University should function as a bridge to people in everyday distress, isolation and poverty." Father Maher is that bridge.

The Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club is Leadership Niagara's organization of the year for their commitment to serving the community and creating healthy youth and families. For more than 80 years, they have focused on academic success, career and leadership development. With an annual membership of over 1400 young people, ranging from five to twenty-one years old, the Niagara Falls Boys and Girls Club lives its mission to provide appropriate and diversified programs and activities that teach skills needed to build positive lives, attitudes & behaviors. An invaluable community asset, their dedication to education, healthy living and leadership provides a model to follow for other Western New York organizations.

Bonnie Kane, Ph.D., has been a Leadership Niagara member since 2017 and is being recognized as this year's Distinguished Alumni. Since receiving her M.A. in School Psychology from the University of Buffalo and a Ph.D. in Leadership and Policy from Niagara University, this principled and purposeful dynamo has worked in the Niagara Falls City School District as a school psychologist and as co-department chair for special education. Her commitment to lifting the lives of others is evidenced by her ability to listen, learn and guide students on career paths while promoting the importance of education and mentorship. Dr. Kane is a treasured resource whose belief in the dignity and rights of all people makes our community a better place to live.

This year's Emerging Leader is Alicia Laible-Kenyon, Executive Director of Elderwood Health Plan (Niagara Advantage). Responsible for the outcomes of this managed long-term care plan, Alicia has led this effort to provide access to affordable and quality health care for individuals with chronic health issues and older adults. Her efforts enable many others to remain healthy, independent and able to reside in their own homes. Unafraid of a challenge, her commitment to ensuring a healthier community makes her a worthy recipient.

Leadership Niagara understands age is no barrier to leadership and has recognized this potential in Ethan Menges of Lockport High School as this year's Youth Leader. As a student athlete, he leads by example on and off the field. Through his years at Lockport High School, he has been an active participant in career, education and life skills development programs through internships and community events. He understands that he and his classmates must be prepared and ready to be a part of positive and constructive interaction in today's world and is a model example of what it means to be a leader.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Leadership Niagara for its significant contributions to the Western New York Community as they gather

together on May 17 to honor this year's most worthy recipients at the Leader of the Year Awards Ceremony.

HONORING UNITA ZELMA BLACKWELL

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Unita Zelma Blackwell on her great contributions to civil rights activism.

Born in Lula in 1933 into a sharecropping family, Blackwell left Mississippi as a child to attend school in West Helena, Arkansas, because black children weren't allowed to consistently attend school at that time in the Mississippi Delta. Blackwell forfeited school at the eighth grade and began sharecropping with her family.

During the early 70s, Blackwell became an important pillar in the civil rights movement in the South. She served as a project director and field secretary for the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), helping organize voter drives for African Americans across Mississippi. These efforts landed her in jail at least 70 times.

In 1967, she co-founded Mississippi Action Community Education, a community development organization which helped districts to incorporate as towns. Incorporation enabled them to set their geographical boundaries so that they could have a legal identity-an important advantage when they wanted government help in installing streetlights or electricity.

In 1976, Unita Blackwell became the first African American woman mayor in the state of Mississippi (Mayersville, MS) where she developed the city's infrastructure with an annual \$30,000 budget. She also served as an adviser to Presidents Lyndon Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton.

Blackwell's career path was very diverse: Key organizer, Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party, 1964; National President of the U.S.-China People's Friendship Association, 1977 through 1983; elected Mayor of Mayersville, 1976 through 2001; had the town incorporated, 1976; appointed by President Carter to the U.S. National Commission on the International Year of the Child, 1979; vice-chairman of the Mississippi Democratic Party, 1976 through 1980; established Mayors' Exchange Program between U.S. and China, 1984; national president of the National Conference of Black Mayors, 1990 through 1992.

Notable awards achieved by Blackwell: Southern Christian Leadership Award, 1990; Institute of Politics Fellow, John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, 1991; MacArthur Foundation Genius Grant, 1992; APA leadership award for elected official, 1994; honored with a Mississippi Freedom Trail marker, 2016.

Her son, Jeremiah Blackwell, Jr., informed Mississippi Today of his mother's death on Monday, May 13, 2019 at age 86.

Madam Speaker, today I honor the life of Ms. Unita Blackwell for her many contributions to education, civil rights, and the great state of Mississippi. Blackwell made a career of serving others, and her work had a direct and positive influence on the lives of thousands.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the second vote series on May 15, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 209.

OBESITY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, the Obesity epidemic is a long-standing issue in American society with two-thirds of our population being affected by excess weight. This nation is facing the consequences of limited policies and funding to resolve this public health issue. Obesity affects all populations but some groups are disproportionately impacted such as racial and ethnic minorities. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, African American women have the highest rates of being overweight or obese with about 4 out of 5 women fitting the description. Constituents in my district are also highly affected by this phenomenon. A National Health and Nutrition Examination survey revealed that in the North Lawndale community in Chicago 46.4 percent of children aged 2–12 were considered obese. This is unacceptable especially when compared to the national average of childhood obesity which is 18.5 percent. Therefore, we must examine the factors that lead to such disparities. One primary factor in my district that contributes to this issue are food deserts. The lack of access to healthy food options is due to both the lack of food retail businesses and income within these communities. Unfortunately, high-calorie foods are less expensive and more available in neighborhoods with more corner stores than supermarkets. Additionally, there is a lack of safe, accessible places to walk, bike, and play in low-income neighborhoods, leaving residents with very few options. Health policies and programs need to be promoted in every sector from schools to local businesses to grassroots organizations. Addressing this epidemic will require us to work together to garner resources to battle obesity at the federal, state, and community levels. These resources could help communities facing health disparities fund projects such as community gardens and rebuilding playgrounds to get them on a path to healthier living. It is imperative that we address the issue of obesity to ensure the health of the country.

IN RECOGNITION OF IRENE
SCHAFFER

HON. KELLY ARMSTRONG

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. ARMSTRONG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding constituent, a

friend, and a truly remarkable woman, Irene Schafer.

May 16 is Irene's 89th birthday, and I can attest that those 89 years have been spent tirelessly serving those around her. Service to her community is who Irene is.

Irene is active with many civic and leadership groups in Dickinson, including the Dickinson Area Builders Association, Badlands Board of Realtors, Dickinson Rotary Club, Chamber of Commerce, St. Joseph's Hospital Foundation's Charity Ball Committee, Dickinson State University Alumni Association's Yuletyme Committee, AAUW, United Way, Elks Lodge, District 36 GOP, as well as a member of the Post Office Consumer Advisory Committee.

Even so, Irene was not satisfied with her level of community service. In 2016, Irene founded a new group, the Power of 100 Women, to gather women four times per year to each donate \$100 to a deserving nonprofit organization.

The Power of 100 Women donated more than \$15,000 to help open Hope's Landing, a sober-living home in Dickinson for women suffering from addiction. The group donated \$10,000 to the Dickinson Backpack Program to purchase 2,000 backpacks for schoolchildren in need. Most recently, the group donated \$20,000 to Project H.E.R.O. (Helping Educators Reach Out), a non-profit organization ensuring that children are eating lunch every day. Since its founding, the organization's members have donated over \$240,000 to community-serving organizations.

Irene's mission in life is to build a great community and she is doing that every day through her community service.

My warmest greetings to Irene on her 89th birthday. Blessings to her and her family on this special occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 I was honored to attend the Memorial Service for Senator Richard Lugar at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in Indianapolis, Indiana. Senator Lugar will be remembered as one of America's greatest Senators, leaving his mark on domestic and global affairs throughout his six terms. For the above reason, I was not recorded for roll call vote 205, 206, 207, 208, and 209. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on roll call 205, 206, 207, and 208, and Yea on roll call 209.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION
HONORING RETIRED HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN
JOHN CONYERS, JR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to introduce this resolution honoring

retired Congressman John Conyers on the occasion of his 90th Birthday. Congressman Conyers was born in Highland Park, Michigan, on May 16, 1929, and grew up in the city of Detroit. Like many men of his generation, he served in the military and was stationed in Korea, during the Korean War, as an officer in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, where he was awarded combat and merit citations.

Following the completion of his military service, he earned both his B.A. (1957) and LL.B. (1958) degrees from Wayne State University and became an active member of the Michigan Bar. He had the distinction of working on the staff of Congressman John Dingell, serving as counsel to Detroit-area labor union locals and as a referee for Michigan's workmen's compensation department.

His commitment to civil rights was forged during the great movement of the 1960's, when traveling throughout the South, and was in Selma, Alabama, for the Freedom Day voter registration drive in 1963. In correspondence, the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., would later remark that Conyers presence in Selma, Alabama "had an electric effect on the voteless and beleaguered Negro citizens of this city, state and nation."

Conyers legislative career began in 1964 when he ran for an open seat in Michigan's 1st District, following the landmark 1964 Baker v. Carr decision, and defeated his opponent with 84 percent of the vote. In this race, Congressman Conyers received the only known political endorsement from Dr. King and Rosa Parks, known for her prominent role in the Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott, moved to Detroit and served on Conyers' staff between 1965 and 1988.

Congressman Conyers went on to serve 26 terms, winning re-election twenty-five times, and is the third longest-serving member of the House in history, and the sixth longest-serving member of Congress in history. He was one of the 13 members who founded the Congressional Black Caucus in 1969 and was considered the Dean of the Caucus during his tenure.

As a freshman member, Congressman Conyers won a seat on the Judiciary Committee and went on to serve as Chairman of that committee from 2007 to 2011, along with serving as the ranking Democratic member on the Committee from 1995 to 2007 and again from 2011 to 2017. During his tenure, he successfully worked to oppose initiatives that violated Constitutional values and served as a beacon of hope to those facing poverty and injustice. He was the first member to introduce legislation or hold hearings on an important series of civil rights issues, including: police misconduct; LGBTQ protections; violence against the Arab and Muslim American communities; AIDS in the African-American community; environmental racism; and restorative justice, just to name a few.

Over the course of his legislative career, Congressman Conyers was responsible for more than 100 bills, amendments, and resolutions being enacted, including 57 on which he was the overall lead sponsor, and an additional 56 that he managed or was the lead Democratic sponsor. From his position on the Judiciary Committee, he led many of our most notable legislative efforts on civil rights and civil liberties, including: the Martin Luther King Holiday Act, the Voting Rights act Reauthorizations, the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorizations, the Hate Crimes Prevention

Act, Pattern and Practice Enforcement Act, the USA Freedom Act, the Fair Sentencing Act, the “Motor Voter” Act, and the Innocence Protection Act.

For these reasons, Congressman Conyers is recognized as a champion of civil rights and civil liberties, receiving numerous honors, including the NAACP Spingarn Medal and the Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights Hubert H. Humphrey Award. Always a leader and gentleman, Congressman Conyers walked the halls of this institution for more than 50 years, leaving a lasting impact through his dedication to freedom and justice for all people.

Like so many in this body, I am proud to have been his colleague and friend. The celebration of his 90th birthday is an ideal time to reflect on his accomplishments and celebrate his distinguished legislative career. His dedica-

tion and commitment to service is an example for us all. He will always be the Chairman.

THE EQUALITY ACT

HON. SYLVIA R. GARCIA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong and steadfast support of the Equality Act.

We’ve made a lot of progress in recent years, but the reality is that many still face discrimination because of who they are and the people they love.

In Texas, the discrimination and inequality faced by the LGBTQ community is heart-

breaking and entirely un-American, but with the Equality Act we can do something about it.

The Equality Act will greatly extend civil rights for the LGBTQ community, providing consistent and explicit protections from discrimination for LGBTQ people across key areas of life including employment, housing, credit, and education.

In Texas, that means having explicit protections for LGBTQ people for the first time in our history. Updating federal law will tear down barriers to prosperity and lead to better outcomes for our family members, neighbors, and loved-ones.

This is long overdue for nearly 1 million LGBTQ Texans and is why I urge all of my colleagues to make the Equality Act the law of the land.