

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING NOAH WEBSTER STUDENT GOVERNMENT

HON. ANDY BIGGS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. BIGGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of five students from the Noah Webster Charter School in Mesa, Arizona. Madisin Bauer, Brody Kelly, Lucus Martin, Kelly Conboy, and Logan Carter were elected by their peers to lead the Wildcat's student government in the 2019–2020 school year. To qualify for the election, each student was recognized by their teachers for outstanding leadership skills and exceptional moral character.

Over the next year, I have no doubt that these young leaders will excel in service to their school and one another. I look forward to hearing about their experiences as they plan town hall-style meetings, run pep assemblies, and organize community projects.

These students' willingness to serve gives me hope for our future. Our country needs people of all ages with hearts of servants to represent and lead Americans who need a voice. I am honored to have such talent and leadership in my district.

RECOGNIZING PETER VARGAS

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Peter Vargas for his twenty years of dedicated service to the City of Allen, Texas.

Mr. Vargas earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History and Education from the University of North Colorado in 1972, and a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Colorado, Denver, in 1978. Following his graduation, Paul began his career in municipal management in the City of Arvada where he swiftly rose from serving as an Administrative Assistant to Assistant to the City Manager. He would later hold the position of Assistant City Manager for the City of Englewood, Colorado, and eventually be selected as the City Manager in Laredo, Texas.

Mr. Vargas would later serve as the Executive Director of the City of Dallas' Trinity River Corridor Project, prior to joining the City of Allen in 1999 as City Manager. As Allen's long-time City Manager, Peter has worked tirelessly to improve the City's financial stability, raise the bond rating, and improve and increase the City's capital infrastructure program. Such efforts to create a high-quality, sustainable community have led to Allen's national recognition as a "Community of the Year" and "20 Best Places to Live in America." Peter is also known for championing the

development of regional economic development programs with area governments in our fast-growing region.

Peter is often lauded throughout North Texas for his efforts to build sustaining relationships with partners in both the public and private sectors. His unique ability to work in tandem with Allen's citizens and City employees to ensure that expectations are exceeded has earned him the respect of his colleagues and all those in the community.

While the list of professional associations and accolades for Mr. Peter Vargas is impressive, perhaps his proudest achievement is serving as husband to Cheryl Dyer Vargas, and the father to his daughter, Jenna.

The Allen community and all those who have had the honor of working with Peter over the years have been witness to the tremendous growth and success of the region due in part to his vision. Today, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Peter for his dedicated and tireless efforts to make Allen a great place to live, work, and raise a family. We wish Peter well as he begins this next chapter in his life.

ESCAPE ACT OF 2019

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I reintroduce the "Enhancing the Strength and Capacity of America's Primary Evacuation routes (ESCAPE) Act," with Congressman WILLIAM R. KEATING (D-MA). I want to thank Congressman KEATING for his leadership as the sponsor last Congress and partnering with me this year.

This bicameral bill would establish a new U.S. Department of Transportation grant program for roadway, bridges, and other transportation projects that strengthen and protect routes essential for mass evacuations caused by natural disasters and other emergency events. With increasingly frequent and severe disasters across the country due to climate change, Congress must provide dedicated funding for resilient evacuation routes.

In 2017, nearly 200,000 Californians were forced to evacuate when they learned that Oroville Dam, the tallest dam in the nation, was on the verge of failing. Thousands of drivers funneled onto a narrow two-lane highway, spending hours in bumper-to-bumper traffic to reach safety along the Sacramento Valley's major north-to-south evacuation route.

Last year, Paradise, California, just north of my district was reduced to rubble by the devastating Camp Fire. As the flames engulfed the single-lane road that served as the city's primary evacuation route, residents were forced to abandon their vehicles and escape on foot—some to their death. The lack of adequate evacuation routes in our nation—par-

ticularly for small rural communities—is costing lives every year. Our bicameral legislation would provide dedicated federal funding for evacuation routes that save lives in times of crisis.

I hope that any infrastructure package passed this Congress will include our "ESCAPE Act." I plan on making this a major priority in my work as a senior member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to join Congressman KEATING and me in cosponsoring this critical legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CLAY HIGGINS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, during these votes, I was with the President in Louisiana. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 203; YEA on Roll Call No. 204; NAY on Roll Call No. 205; NAY on Roll Call No. 206; NAY on Roll Call No. 207; NAY on Roll Call No. 208; and YEA on Roll Call No. 209.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HONORARY CONSULATE OF LATVIA IN MASSACHUSETTS

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the official opening of the Honorary Consulate of Latvia in Norwell, Massachusetts.

The United States and the Republic of Latvia share an important bilateral relationship that has only grown stronger with time. The ties that our two nations have fostered over the years remain meaningful, whether it be through security assistance and cooperation, trade agreements, or our shared membership in critical international organizations such as the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, United Nations, and World Trade Organization.

In today's ever-changing international climate, it is crucial to applaud and encourage new opportunities for cooperation, dialogue, and friendship with treasured allies. The opening of this new Honorary Consulate is such an opportunity, and I am thrilled that my district can have a place in this progress. I would like to extend particular commendation to Uldis K. Sipols, Honorary Consul of the Republic of Latvia in Massachusetts. As a longtime resident of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and a seasoned professional in the business world, I know that he will bring much needed enthusiasm and experience to his new diplomatic role, and I wish him the best.

• 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.

Madam Speaker, it brings me great pleasure to recognize the opening of this important consular office and to call attention yet again to the invaluable relationship between the United States and the Republic of Latvia.

**MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBE
RESERVATION REAFFIRMATION
ACT**

SPEECH OF

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Congressional Budget Office communication regarding H.R. 312.

U.S. CONGRESS,
CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE,
Washington, DC, May 16, 2019.

Hon. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA,
*Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: The Congressional Budget Office has prepared the enclosed cost estimate for H.R. 312, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Reservation Reaffirmation Act.

If you wish further details on this estimate, we will be pleased to provide them. The CBO staff contact is Jon Sperl.

Sincerely,

MARK P. HADLEY,
(For Keith Hall, Director).

Enclosure.

H.R. 312, MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBE RESERVATION REAFFIRMATION ACT—MAY 15, 2019

[By fiscal year, millions of dollars]

	2019	2019– 2024	2019– 2029
Direct Spending (Outlays)	0	0	0
Revenues	0	0	0
Deficit Effect	0	0	0
Spending Subject to Appropriation (Outlays)	0	*	n.e.

Pay-as-you-go procedures apply? No

Increases on-budget deficits in any of the four consecutive 10-year periods beginning in 2030? No

Mandate Effects

Contains intergovernmental mandate? Yes, Under Threshold

Contains private-sector mandate? Yes, Under Threshold

n.e. = not estimated; * = between zero and \$500,000.

H.R. 312 would ratify and reaffirm the status of land taken into trust in 2015 by the Department of the Interior (DOI) for the benefit of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe in Massachusetts. The act also would prohibit any lawsuits, including pending lawsuits, related to that land.

DOI is currently holding the land in trust pending ongoing legal review of the acquisition. Using information from DOI, CBO estimates that implementing the act would have no significant effect on the costs of managing the land.

By prohibiting pending and future lawsuits, H.R. 312 would end rights of action related to the land held in trust for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe of Massachusetts that are available to public and private entities under current law. That prohibition imposes both an intergovernmental and private-sector

mandate as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA). The cost of the mandates would be the forgone value of compensation and settlements associated with such legal actions if they would have been successful under current law. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the City of Taunton, and the Town of Mashpee have each entered into agreements with the tribe related to the use of the land. In light of those agreements as well as the land's reported value, CBO expects that under current law it is unlikely that any entity would bring an action resulting in compensation that would exceed the annual thresholds established in UMRA. In 2019 those thresholds totaled \$82 million for intergovernmental mandates and \$164 million for private-sector mandates, adjusted annually for inflation.

The CBO staff contacts for this estimate are Jon Sperl (for federal costs) and Rachel Austin (for mandates). The estimate was reviewed by H. Samuel Papenfuss, Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis.

**REMEMBERING ELLEN VAN
EDWARDS**

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in remembering the life of Ellen Odellas Van Edwards, a native Washingtonian and my former classmate at Dunbar High School.

On May 11, 2019, Ellen Odellas Van Edwards passed away in the arms of her daughter L. Robin V. Smith, while listening to praise and worship music. Throughout Van Edwards' life, she brought joy to the District of Columbia community as a wife, mother and grandmother; a dedicated employee at the Department of Commerce; and later as "Hajji the Magic Clown".

Van Edwards was born in Washington, D.C. and attended Dunbar High School. We graduated together in 1955, the year before the school was desegregated. After graduating from Dunbar, Van Edwards attended the Atlantic Business College and earned her bachelor's degree in Business. She went on to work at the Department of Commerce for 42 years in the Office of the Secretary and the U.S. Patent office, where she was an administrative assistant and the first African American woman to work for the U.S. Board of Patent Appeals. She also worked in the International Affairs division.

Van Edwards lost her husband in 1974 and raised her two daughters, L. Robin V. Smith and Adriene Jordan, alone. Bringing light to a time of sadness, she became "Hajji the Magic Clown." She completed clown class at Montgomery College and magic class at Catholic University. She shared her talent with children around Washington, D.C. and used her clowning abilities to win Ms. Senior District of Columbia.

On June 29, 2003, at the age of 66, Van Edwards was crowned the 21st Ms. Senior District of Columbia. She proudly represented D.C.'s other senior citizens for one year, encouraging them to live active lives. She was said to have won the crown by exemplifying

"the dignity, maturity and inner beauty of senior Americans."

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in remembering the life of Ellen Van Edwards.

**IN RECOGNITION OF THE GRANDVIEW
BULLDOGS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Grandview High School men's varsity basketball team and their 2019 state championship. This victory has earned the team the honor of being the Missouri Class 4 State Champions for the second consecutive year. This remarkable achievement is a result of strong leadership and dedication from both players and coaches.

This is a significant achievement for Coach Reggie Morris, who was recognized this spring for his outstanding coaching with the Paul Lambert Coach of the Year Award for the second consecutive year. In 2018, Morris led his team to the school's first ever State Championship. Following that victory, many of the team's best players graduated and went on to play at the collegiate level. A mere twelve months later, Morris was able to rebuild his squad and return to Springfield to claim another State Championship.

The new team was headlined by senior point guard DeAndre Sorrells who set the school record for 3-point baskets. With the leadership of Morris and Sorrells, the team cultivated an atmosphere of trust and hard work, establishing a tight-knit team chemistry both on and off the court. Their championship victory in Springfield as the penultimate reward for such a remarkable team and a fitting end to a season that saw them win twenty straight games.

The many accolades of Grandview's basketball team are a testament to the program that they have built. In addition to winning the State Championship, the Bulldogs were the only team from Missouri recognized on the Super 25 Regional Rankings list. Furthermore, Coach Reggie Morris was named the 2019 Class 4 Coach of the Year, and DeAndre Sorrells was recognized as Hy-Vee's 41 Five-Star Athlete of the Week.

The Grandview community rallied around the Bulldogs during the season as they progressed game after game towards their incredible victory in the State Championship. Now, the players look forward to enjoying fruitful careers in various athletic and academic fields after their graduation, and I encourage each of them to continue challenging themselves on and off the court as they move forward in life.

Madam Speaker, please join with Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in celebrating the remarkable accomplishments of the Grandview Bulldogs. It is my pleasure to congratulate each of the players and coaches that helped this superb team claim their title, and I am exceedingly proud to represent such exemplary student-athletes like those of the Grandview High School basketball team.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted against this legislation. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 217.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I missed votes Tuesday, May 14, through Friday, May 17. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call Vote Number 203 (Passage of H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 204 (Passage of H.R. 2379): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 205 (Ordering the Previous Question): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 206 (Passage of H. Res. 377): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 207 (Passage of H.R. 312, the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe Reservation Reaffirmation Act): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 208 (Passage of H.R. 375): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 209 (Passage of H.R. 1892, the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 210 (Passage of H. AMDT. 221 to H.R. 987 offered by Rep. DAVID MCKINLEY): "no"; Roll Call Vote Number 211 (Passage of H. AMDT. 225 to H.R. 987 offered by Rep. JOSH HARDER): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 212 (Passage of H. AMDT. 240 to H.R. 987 offered by Rep. JENNIFER WEXTON): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 213 (Adoption of Motion to Recommit to H.R. 987): "no"; Roll Call Vote Number 214 (Passage of H.R. 987, the Marketing and Outreach Restoration to Empower Health Education Act of 2019 or MORE Health Education Act): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 215 (Approval of the Journal): "yes"; Roll Call Vote Number 216 (Adoption of Motion to Recommit to H.R. 5): "no"; and Roll Call Vote Number 217 (H.R. 5, the Equality Act): "yes".

MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBE
RESERVATION REAFFIRMATION
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following article from The Washington Post regarding consideration of H.R. 312.

[From the Washington Post, May 13, 2019]

A RIDDLE IN NEW ENGLAND: A CASINO, 321 ACRES OF INDIAN TRIBAL LAND AND A PRESIDENTIAL TWEET

(By Marc Fisher)

Between a boast about bringing jobs to Ohio and a statement of sympathy for vic-

tims of a school shooting in Colorado, President Trump last week found time to tweet about an obscure House bill that would assure a Massachusetts Indian tribe control of 321 acres of land it wants to use for a gambling casino.

The president was against the bill, he wrote, because it was "unfair and doesn't treat Native Americans equally!"

Presidents don't usually get involved in local tiffs over a planned 900-room casino hotel. And even though this president has a four-decade-long record of slamming American Indian casinos as scams that pose unfair competition to other gambling enterprises, notably his own, Trump's decision to weigh in on a measure that had strong bipartisan support seemed unusual for a chief executive who doesn't like to be bothered with the little stuff.

But a closer look at House Bill 312 and the favor it would do for the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe reveals a sprawling network of Trump-related interests, from the National Enquirer to a Rhode Island casino company—a small but strikingly intricate example of the ways this president's business dealings, personal bonds and political alliances can complicate and color the ordinary doings of government.

On the surface, the matter is a simple dispute over who wants a casino and who doesn't. The Mashpee Tribe seeks to build a casino in southeastern Massachusetts. If the federal government decreed the land to be the tribe's sovereign property, the casino would be exempt from many taxes.

But some residents of the town where the casino would be built sued over the project, and after the tribe broke ground, a federal judge sided with the residents, ruling that, because of the history of that parcel of land, the feds didn't have the authority to guarantee it to the tribe.

So far, no Trump connection. But the tribe's site is about 18 miles from Rhode Island, and that state's politicians aren't keen to have a new competitor go up against their two casinos, both of which are run by Twin River Worldwide Holdings, a public company with strong Trump ties.

Twin River's president, George Papanier, was a finance executive at the Trump Plaza casino hotel in Atlantic City earlier in his career, and Twin River's chief marketing officer, Phil Juliano, also lists experience at a Trump casino on his résumé.

For decades, Trump, whose Atlantic City casinos were his first big venture outside New York—they became some of his biggest failures when they suffered bankruptcies in the early 1990s—has spoken of casinos built by Indian tribes as fraudulent ventures: "the biggest scandal ever," he said.

In 1993, concerned about competition from the Foxwoods Resort Casino in Connecticut, Trump urged a House committee on native affairs to investigate whether members of the tribe that operates that resort were really Native Americans.

"They don't look like Indians to me," Trump said. In an earlier interview, he opined that "I might have more Indian blood than a lot of the so-called Indians that are trying to open up the reservations" to gambling.

In 2000, when New York state considered expanding Indian casinos in the Catskill Mountains north of New York City, Trump, working through his longtime ally Roger Stone, funded a group that paid for TV and print ads accusing prominent members of the Mohawk Indian tribe of having mob connections and criminal records. Trump and Stone failed to report their spending on the ads as lobbying, as the state required, and state regulators imposed their largest-ever civil penalty, \$250,000, on Trump, who was forced to issue a public apology.

But Trump has not always opposed Indian casinos. In 1997, he cut a deal with another Connecticut tribe, the Paucattuck Indians, who agreed to pay him a management fee in exchange for his efforts to win the tribe the federal recognition it needed to open a casino.

In the Mashpee case, Twin River, the operator of the two Rhode Island casinos, has hired Matthew Schlapp, chairman of the American Conservative Union and a vocal Trump supporter, to lobby for it on the land issue. Schlapp's wife, Mercedes, is director of strategic communications at the White House.

Matthew Schlapp said last week that his wife played "no role in my advocacy" and that he lobbied against the casino because it was a "terrible idea."

The lobbyist apparently focused Trump's attention on the casino bill by connecting it to Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-Mass.), who is seeking her party's presidential nomination and has been for years a favorite target of Trump's because of her since-retracted claim to be Native American. But there is no Senate version of the House bill, which the House is scheduled to vote on this week, and Warren has made no statement on the casino project.

Twin River has paid Schlapp's company, Cove Strategies, \$30,000 this year, according to federal records. Another lobbyist, Black Diamond Strategies, also got \$30,000 from the casino firm to work on the Mashpee case, records show. One of Black Diamond's lobbyists working for Twin River, Doug Davenport, was a delegate strategist for Trump's 2016 campaign and formerly worked for ex-Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort's lobbying company, where he handled public affairs for clients including Trump.

As a candidate, Trump repeatedly promised to "drain the swamp," describing Washington as a den of elite thieves—politicians, lawyers, lobbyists, domineering corporations—whose interlocking interests were more powerful than any political party or ideological allegiance.

But as president, Trump has embraced the very structures he railed against in the 2016 campaign, for example picking more than 350 former lobbyists to serve in his administration, most in agencies that they used to lobby.

Spokesmen for the White House and Twin River did not respond to requests for comment.

The intersections between Trump and entities involved with Twin River can be complex.

Among Twin River's major investors is a \$4 billion New Jersey-based hedge fund called Chatham Asset Management and its founder, Anthony Melchiorre, according to SEC records. Chatham also owned about 80 percent of American Media Inc., the publisher of the National Enquirer, the supermarket tabloid that took payments from Trump's longtime lawyer and fixer, Michael Cohen, to make certain that no stories were published about two women's allegations that they had affairs with Trump.

A spokesman for Chatham declined to speak on the record about Twin River's involvement in the Mashpee Indian matter, but Chatham and Twin River have been embroiled in a lawsuit in Delaware, where Chatham accused top executives at the casino company of self-dealing and "placing their personal financial interests above those of Twin River's stockholders." Twin River has denied the allegations.

David Pecker, American Media's chief executive and a longtime ally of Trump's, has said that Chatham saved his company from financial collapse. Pecker last fall signed an agreement to cooperate with federal prosecutors in New York who were investigating the

payments made to Trump's accusers. As part of the agreement, Pecker and the Enquirer's chief content officer, Dylan Howard, admitted to paying the women to "influence the election."

According to the company's website, AMI's four-person board of directors consists of Pecker, two Chatham executives and a former chief financial officer of Trump Entertainment Resorts, David R. Hughes.

American Media agreed last month to sell the Enquirer to the chief executive of Hudson News, a chain of airport newsstands, for \$100 million. The sale was prompted by Melchiorre's unhappiness with the Enquirer's actions on Trump's behalf, including the so-called "catch and kill" gambit in which the tabloid bought the two accusers' stories and then published nothing about them, and the Enquirer's exposé an extramarital affair conducted by Amazon billionaire Jeff Bezos, who also owns The Washington Post.

American Media's board and Melchiorre "didn't want to deal with hassles like this anymore," according to an individual familiar with the board's deliberations who spoke on the condition of anonymity to discuss private talks.

That individual said Trump "has been somewhat estranged from Pecker" since the Enquirer executive began talking to federal prosecutors.

HONORING MICHELLE VANCE

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Michelle Vance, who will be leaving as District Manager of the Tehachapi Valley Recreation and Park District after more than 10 years of service to the community of Tehachapi, California, which I represent.

Michelle earned her Bachelor of Science at California State University, Bakersfield, in Public Policy Administration. After obtaining her degree, Michelle worked as the Executive Director of Main Street Tehachapi, a business advocacy group focused on creating a friendlier environment for Tehachapi's businesses, while recruiting new businesses to open up in the city. She then served as a Field Representative for the 2nd Supervisorial District for the County of Kern, where she acted as a liaison between the people of Tehachapi and the County Board of Supervisors. Her next job, Economic Development Coordinator for the City of Tehachapi, combined her experiences working for the County and the nonprofit world. During her time in Tehachapi, Michelle helped bring new businesses into the region and focused on revitalizing the downtown core, as well as the Greater Tehachapi Area. And most recently as Direct Manager, spearheaded the Tehachapi Gran Fondo, a hundred-mile bike ride through the mountains of Tehachapi, something our community is very proud of.

Michelle always fought for the people of Tehachapi and will be remembered throughout the community as someone who stood up for their economic interests and helped make our community the thriving, robust, and vibrant place it is today. Michelle will be remembered in Tehachapi for her tireless work ethic, her can-do attitude, and her fervent belief in the

community she called home. As Michelle starts a new chapter in her life, I want to thank her for her service on behalf of the 23rd District of California, and wish her well in all future endeavors.

GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TB, AND MALARIA

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mrs. ROBY. Madam Speaker, as a member of the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, I rise regarding today's full Appropriations Committee action on the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Fiscal Year 2020 funding bill.

This bill provides vital resources and programs supporting American and global interests around the world. As you know, the United States is a leader in global health, and it is important that we remain engaged and not become complacent, especially as life-threatening diseases begin to advance and mutate.

The State and Foreign Operations Appropriations bill funds several health-related foreign policies that provide assistance, along with our partners, to eradicate deadly and preventable diseases worldwide.

The Global Fund is one of these critical programs funded in this bill. As one of the world's most effective health organizations, it has delivered real results combatting deadly diseases, saving over 27 million lives since its conception. The Global Fund partnership invests billions of dollars annually to support programs fighting AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria around the world.

Madam Speaker, unfortunately, due to policies unrelated to the Global Fund, I was unable to support this funding bill in its entirety during last week's Committee consideration. However, I would like to express the importance of the United States' participation in this partnership, and the clear signal to the rest of the world that the United States will continue to lead with its commitment to the Global Fund.

I remain committed to working with my colleagues to find an agreement with the Senate and the Administration on the overall Fiscal Year 2020 funding level. Without an agreement, the Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations process will continue to have a difficult path towards funding the government.

Madam Speaker, I call on my colleagues from both sides of the aisle and both sides of the Capitol to come together and work towards a common goal of getting to an agreement for the overall funding amount for Fiscal Year 2020.

POLICE WEEK/OPERATION SMACK DRAGON

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, our local law enforcement stand in the gap between our families and danger.

Every day, they choose to put the safety of our communities above their own.

This National Law Enforcement Week, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the many police officers in my district and across our country who protect our families.

In Tulsa, just this week, local police caught and arrested 24 individuals in connection to a drug trafficking cartel from Mexico. Operation Smack Dragon made 73 indictments against 29 individuals, seized 3 kilograms of heroin, and \$150,000 in drug money.

Several of the arrested individuals were in the country illegally.

Along with the community of Tulsa, I am so thankful for the officers who put themselves in danger to keep our people safe.

It is perhaps more dangerous to be a police officer today than at any other period in history and congressional inaction on key issues has resulted in increased burdens on the police force.

I stand with our law enforcement officers today and every day.

MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBE RESERVATION REAFFIRMATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following article from The Washington Examiner regarding consideration of H.R. 312.

[From the Washington Examiner, May 13, 2019]

HOUSE DEMOCRATS RESCHEDULE VOTES ON TRIBAL BILLS PULLED AFTER TRUMP TWEET
(By Naomi Lim)

House Democrats have rescheduled votes on two Native American tribal bills this week after they were yanked from the floor at the last minute following pressure from President Trump.

Democratic leadership has set a vote for Wednesday on H.R. 312, legislation co-sponsored by Rep. William Keating, D-Mass., maintaining the status of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe reservation in the Bay State.

A second proposal, H.R. 375, introduced by Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., would reaffirm Interior Secretary David Bernhardt's authority to take land into trust on behalf of Indian tribes. That measure is also due to be considered Wednesday, but under a streamlined process requiring two-thirds support in the House. As such, it needs the backing of House Republicans.

"Both of the bills pulled from the floor of the House, H.R. 375 and H.R. 312, are important to Indian Country," Cole told the Washington Examiner in a statement on Monday. "I support both of the bills and look forward to working with my Republican and Democratic colleagues to pass them on the floor. I believe we will be successful in doing so."

But GOP lawmakers like Western Caucus Chairman Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., have said they will not help the legislation pass the chamber. A spokeswoman for Gosar told the Washington Examiner on Monday her boss, who sits on the House Natural Resources Committee with Cole, was "strongly opposed" to the proposals and would vote against them "in their current form."

“Gosar has been leading the charge against these bills since they were first brought up in Natural Resources Committee. He offered two amendments to both bills in committee—both failed,” the spokeswoman said.

H.R. 312 and H.R. 375 were originally scheduled for votes on May 8, but were yanked after Trump tweeted that they would be “unfair” to Native Americans.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe wants to build a \$1 billion casino on its land, but the deal has been delayed by the Interior Department and Rhode Island lawmakers worried the development will undercut profits generated by its own casino industry.

The opposition has resulted in the Massachusetts congressional delegation, including Democratic 2020 presidential candidate Sen. Elizabeth Warren, to push for the measure so the tribe can have full control of the reservation. Matt Schlapp, American Conservative Union chairman and husband of White House communications director Mercedes Schlapp, additionally runs a firm that lobbied against the casino.

“Republicans shouldn’t vote for H.R. 312, a special interest casino Bill, backed by Elizabeth (Pocahontas) Warren,” Trump tweeted last Wednesday. “It is unfair and doesn’t treat Native Americans equally!”

Schlapp did not immediately respond to request for comment.

Madison Martin, Texas Connections Academy; Jordan Simmons, Greenhill School*; Conley Walters, U.S. Air Force Academy; Jace Waters, Allen High School.

U.S. Naval Academy: Joseph Carter, Plano East High School; Alexander Kramer, U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School; Morgan Krepp, Mercersburg Academy; Aidan Waits, U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School; Jaylen Walker, U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School.

U.S. Military Academy: Jonah Barton, U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School; Melic Belong, U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School; Elijah Boyd, U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School; Logan Brown, U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School; Caleb Doyle, McKinney Christian Academy; Eric Han, U.S. Military Academy Preparatory School; Makenna Kelty, McKinney Boyd High School; Samuel Kim, Frisco High School; Jalen Morgan, Plano West Senior High School; Christopher Sowinski, Allen High School; Parker Stevens, Allen High School; Austin Widner, Liberty High School.

U.S. Merchant Marine Academy: Mitchell Boone, McKinney Christian Academy; Jonathan Greer, Allen High School; Paul Han, Independence High School.

*Denotes acceptance to one of the academy preparatory schools.

HONORING THE 2019 UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMY-BOUND STUDENTS

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to come before my colleagues today to recognize those young men and women from Texas’ Third Congressional District who have accepted an appointment to one of our prestigious United States Service Academies.

The United States Services Academies have a long-standing tradition of offering its students the highest caliber education and officer military training in the world. Each of the individuals recognized today began their journey of service by applying through their Member of Congress or qualified source via a highly competitive process. However, only a select few are found to meet the necessary standards set forth by the Academies.

These outstanding students have proven they are the gold standard by demonstrating their excellence in academics, athletics, and commitment to their community both inside and outside of the classroom. I am confident these young men and women will achieve great success while further developing the qualities of leadership, honor, and self-sacrifice as they prepare to lead our Nation’s Armed Forces.

As one who has worn the uniform, I thank these young patriots for their courage and commitment to our Nation. It is my privilege to congratulate these leaders as they embark on a new mission of service to America.

CLASS OF 2023 APPOINTMENTS

U.S. Air Force Academy: Hayden Archer, Frisco Liberty High School; Allie Dyer, Plano East Senior High School; Andrew Perkany, Plano Senior High School*; Aidan Gardiner, Wylie High School; Marcus Hill, U.S. Air Force Academy Preparatory School;

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I am not recorded for roll call vote No. 216 on Friday, May 17, 2019 because I was meeting with 8th grade Hoosiers from the Saint Bartholomew Catholic School in Columbus, Indiana. Since my first day in office, I have been squarely focused on what I was sent here to do: Represent Hoosiers of the 6th District.

As a man of faith, I am wholeheartedly opposed to H.R. 5—a bill that limits our nation’s founding principles of freedom of religion, conscience, and speech. We are a nation that allows and embraces diverse thoughts and opinions, but this bill would grant special privileges to individuals at the expense of the freedoms of others. Many women in Indiana’s 6th District depend on athletic scholarships to obtain higher education and career aspirations, and this legislation would unfairly force female athletes to compete against biological males.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on the Republican Motion to Recommit, RC No. 216. This Motion to Recommit would have amended H.R. 5 to ensure that nothing in the bill may be construed to diminish any protections under Title IX, therefore safeguarding the integrity of female sports.

RECOGNIZING BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

HON. ANTHONY G. BROWN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. BROWN of Maryland. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Building Safety Month and the men and women of the International Code Council (ICC) for their dedication to public safety and our communities.

Year round, building safety and fire prevention officials, architects, engineers, builders, tradespeople, design professionals, laborers, and others in the construction industry work to ensure the safe construction of buildings. They are dedicated members of the International Code Council, a national standards developing organization, that brings together local, state and federal officials to develop voluntary consensus codes that protect Americans in the buildings where we live, work, and play. The International Codes, the most widely adopted building safety and fire prevention codes in the nation, are used by most U.S. cities and counties, and in all 50 states, including the State of Maryland.

With natural disasters expected to increase in frequency and severity, building codes include important safeguards to protect the public from hurricanes, snowstorms, tornadoes, fires, floods, and earthquakes. In January 2019, the congressionally-established National Institute of Building Sciences (NIBS) released a study finding that adopting modern model building codes saves \$11 for every \$1 invested through earthquake, flood, and wind mitigation benefits, with a \$4 to \$1 wildfire mitigation benefit. These benefits represent avoided casualties, property damage, business interruptions, and insurance costs, and are enjoyed by all stakeholders—from developers, titleholders, and lenders, to tenants and communities.

This month is Building Safety Month, during which we should recognize the critical role our communities’ code officials in assuring us safe, efficient, and livable buildings. Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking International Code Council Board President, and my constituent from Anne Arundel County, Maryland, William R. Bryant, as well as ICC’s Chief Executive Officer Dominic Sims, the International Code Council leadership, and ICC’s Members and staff as they recognize Building Safety Month.

HONORING HANNAH KARANICK—ONE OF THE TOP 10 YOUTH VOLUNTEERS IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Hannah Karanick, 13, of Anaheim, California, who was named one of America’s top 10 youth volunteers of 2019 by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards during the program’s 24th annual national award ceremony on May 9 in Washington, D.C.

Selected from a field of more than 29,000 youth volunteers from across the country, Hannah has earned the title of National Honoree, along with a personal award of \$5,000, an engraved gold medallion, a crystal trophy for her school, and a \$5,000 grant from The Prudential Foundation for a nonprofit charitable organization of her choice.

An eighth-grader at Orangeview Junior High School, Hannah established a “closet” at her former elementary school that provides new clothing, laundry products, toiletries, quilts and school supplies to students there whose families can’t afford to buy such necessities. Her

project was sparked by a boy at her school who never had a backpack and wore the same clothes every day. "He was funny and smart, but he was often teased for his hygiene and his clothes, and I saw his eyes fill up with tears many times," said Hannah.

When the boy and several other students ended up living with Hannah's family as foster kids, "I watched their grades soar and their attitudes turn around," she said.

Since her family couldn't take every child in need into their home, Hannah had to find another way to help. After meeting with the principal of her old school and sending an opinion poll to its staff members, she decided to create a closet at the school where students could discreetly obtain basic necessities.

She asked friends and family members to help her buy supplies, and then began obtaining items from the congregation of a local church. Nearly 50 children benefited from "Hannah's Helpful Hands" closet in its first three months. "I am disappointed that I can't help more kids at this point," said Hannah, "but I am committed to expanding the program!"

Madam Speaker, Hannah Karanick has not only done important work in support of people in need—but has also shown her peers that young people can, and do, create meaningful change. I commend this young volunteer for all she's contributed to her community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY OFFICER PROTECTION ACT OF 2019

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Department of the Treasury Officer Protection Act of 2019. I appreciate the bipartisan original cosponsorship of Representative PETER KING, who introduces the bill with me today. Our bill would help ensure the safety of Treasury Department police officers by allowing those officers, including those who work at the Mint and the Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP), to carry their service weapons home with them after they are no longer on duty.

BEP officers were some of the first responders when a gunman opened fire at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in 2009. However, BEP officers also can be targets because they wear uniforms to and from work. Many officers carry personal weapons to and from work because they are not allowed to take their government firearms home, and some are forced to leave those personal firearms in their cars while they are on duty, creating a possibly dangerous situation.

Allowing BEP officers to carry their weapons home will put them in the same position as U.S. Mint officers. Although both are uniformed police officers working for the Treasury Department, under current agency rules, U.S. Mint officers are allowed to carry their service weapons home, while BEP officers are not. There is no meaningful distinction between officers for the two agencies. They should be treated equally.

Our bill would allow all uniformed officers in the Treasury Department to carry their service

weapons home to protect officers and the public and so that the Department does not have separate rules for different law enforcement agencies under its umbrella.

I ask my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING BARRY "BONES" PATTON

HON. RON ESTES

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. ESTES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the musical accomplishments of Barry "Bones" Patton.

When traveling near Winfield in south central Kansas, there are two sounds that one might hear: cattle and bluegrass.

Winfield—home of the nationally recognized Walnut Valley Festival for bluegrass and acoustic music—is where Barry Patton uses cattle rib bones to create unique music that has put him on the world stage. His exceptional talent earned him the nickname Barry "Bones" Patton.

Refining his craft since the age of 13, Patton told KAKE-TV in a 2006 interview that he'd been encouraged to "carry that tradition on of bone playing because it's really an old lost art." And that's precisely what he's done.

The art of playing bones finds its roots in ancient history, from Mesopotamia and Egypt to the Roman Empire and ancient Greece. The instrument—often associated with folk music—takes the simple remains of an animal and turns it into a complex rhythm that takes skill and practice to perfect.

The fact that Patton can play bones well in both hands makes the sound of his music even more impressive.

Representing the United States at the Fleadh by the Feale music festival in Abbeyfeale, Ireland, Barry "Bones" Patton competed in their International Bone Playing Competition and earned the title of best bone player in the world on May 6.

I want to congratulate Patton on his international recognition and ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating his bona fide success.

MASHPEE WAMPANOAG TRIBE RESERVATION REAFFIRMATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following article from the Daily Beast regarding consideration of H.R. 312.

[From the Daily Beast, May 14, 2019]

A DARK MONEY GROUP IS RUNNING STUNNINGLY RACIST ELIZABETH WARREN ADS IN ORDER TO KILL A CASINO

A racist ad targeting Sen. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA) and an obscure bill to allow a Native American tribe to open a casino in Massachusetts is connected to a longtime conservative, dark money operative, The Daily Beast has learned.

The Coalition to Restore American Values has been running ads since November 2018

that, among other things, feature Warren in an Indian headdress and warn against her "casino plan." The group was registered to David R. Langdon, a long time culture warrior, in July 2018, according to Ohio state records.

The online ad was one of the first public salvos linking Warren to the project in an attempt to rally conservatives against legislation recognizing a Native American tribe seeking a new casino in Massachusetts. President Donald Trump himself has since declared his opposition to the legislation last week in a tweet that dubbed Warren "Pocahontas."

The Coalition to Restore American Values has been trying to tie Warren to the measure since last year. In September, it ran an ad in The Hill newspaper, declaring in block letters "Pocahontas' End Run On POTUS and the U.S. DOI", using President Trump's favorite racist nickname for the Massachusetts Senator. An accompanying website, nofauxcasino.com, features Warren in Native American garb beside a graphic depicting "The Fauxcchontas Casino."

Langdon is an Ohio-based lawyer who also serves as treasurer for the Campaign for American Principles, the political arm of the American Principles Project, a conservative advocacy outfit. And APP, it turns out, put the Coalition to Restore American Values ad on Congress's radar.

Last week, Jon Schweppe, APP's director of government affairs, reached out to Jeff Small, executive director of the Congressional Western Caucus and a senior adviser to Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ), urging the congressman to oppose legislation recognizing the Mashpee Wampanoag tribe in Massachusetts. The tribe plans to build a casino in Taunton, MA, and Schweppe explicitly invoked Warren in pressing for Gosar to oppose the measure.

"Warren's involvement is especially strange, given her past ideological opposition to casino gambling and her record of voting against gambling expansion—could this be about image rehabilitation after years of embellishing her fake Native American ancestry?" Schweppe wrote, before linking to the Coalition to Restore American Values ad.

Warren, who was a co-sponsor of the bill in the last Congress, is not actually involved in the bill at issue. In fact, the legislation doesn't even have a Senate companion. But when Gosar circulated a "Dear Colleague" letter last week urging his colleagues to oppose the bill, he too invoked Warren's supposed involvement. He also included a link to Schweppe's email.

In an email to The Daily Beast, Schweppe downplayed ties between APP and CRAV. "I'm fairly certain [Langdon] does work for dozens of groups on the conservative side of things," he wrote.

Langdon did not respond to a request for comment.

But the connections don't end there. CRAV's website was designed by the Drogin Group, a conservative digital vendor, according to the firm's website. That website also boasts a testimonial from APP executive director Terry Schilling, who touts Drogin as "a well-rounded digital media vendor that is technically savvy and can also offer website design, brand strategy and messaging." The Campaign for American Principles engaged Drogin's services as late as October 2018 for digital advertising attacking Sen. Tim Kaine (D-VA), according to Federal Election Commission records.

Schweppe did not respond when asked directly if his group has any affiliation with CRAV.

Langdon's and American Principles Project's involvement in the push against

the bill shows the degree to which the 2020 election is injecting itself into issues as seemingly obscure and regional as the recognition of a Native American tribe and its plans for a casino. Warren has been routinely criticized by Trump and others for claiming Native American heritage—though there's no evidence it secured her a post or a job.

But some opposition to the casino measure seems to be rooted in money as much as politics.

Several Trump-connected lobbying groups have been hired on behalf of Twin River Management Group, which owns a Rhode Island-based casino that would compete with Mashpee Wampanoag's casino if they get the greenlight from Congress.

One firm hired by Twin River is run by Trump adviser Matt Schlapp, who has, since January, been lobbying Congress and the White House on their behalf. Twin River has paid his firm, Cove Strategies, \$30,000 for its work so far this year.

An hour after Schlapp tweeted his opposition to the bill last Wednesday, President Trump himself tweeted his own call to kill the legislation—a move that effectively scuttled Republican support and stalled its progress on the House floor.

The legislation is expected to be up for a vote again on May 15. Without congressional action to enshrine their tribal rights, the casino deal in Taunton, Massachusetts will fall through.

Unlike Schlapp, APP doesn't appear to have a vested financial interest in the Mashpee Wampanoag issue. Its top donors over the past few years include major conservative funders such as the Mercer family, the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, Missouri roofing magnate David Humphreys, and Equinox Partners president Sean Fieler, according to financial records left unredacted on the website of Florida's secretary of state.

None of those funders appear to have an immediate interest in the construction of a new Massachusetts casino. Instead, APP's opposition appears rooted entirely in Warren's perceived involvement in the issue—and her ongoing campaign for the White House.

The legislation pulled from the House floor last week, Schweppe wrote, "amounted to a taxpayer bailout for a corrupt casino conglomerate, which wouldn't stand to benefit American families but would stand to benefit Senator Liz Warren, one of the leading Democratic candidates for President."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. DUFFY. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 16, 2019 I missed the following vote and was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 211. On Friday, May 17, 2019 I missed the following votes and was not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 215; YEA on Roll Call No. 216; and NAY on Roll Call 217.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF JJ BABBITT

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Elkhart instrument manufacturer jj Babbitt Company, Inc., and to join them in celebrating 100 years of success.

In 1919, Jesse James Babbitt produced the first of many beautifully crafted mouthpieces in his garage in northern Indiana before launching a family business that would last for generations. A century later, jj Babbitt has now grown to help musicians at every level deliver great music and dazzling performances by producing the industry's finest mouthpieces for clarinet and saxophone.

From the beginning, the company has focused on unique craftsmanship and a commitment to innovation to produce the high-quality mouthpieces they have made for 100 years. Not much has changed about the Babbitt business model or vision, and even some of the original machines from the 1930s remain at the heart of production.

Elkhart, Indiana, is the Band Instrument Capital of the World, and as a community we are grateful to have this company as a leader and pioneer to inspire future generations of instrument manufacturers to carry on the legacy. It is an honor to represent the hardworking employees of the jj Babbitt Company, who continue to play such a vital role in delivering the perfect mouthpieces for musicians.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of 2nd District Hoosiers, I want to thank everyone at jj Babbitt for an incredible 100 years, and I look forward to many more incredible years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I was absent from votes on 5/16/2019 as I was with my family at my daughter's college graduation. Had I been present, I would have voted on the following roll call votes in the manner recorded below: "yea" on Roll Call No. 210; "nay" on Roll Call No. 211; "nay" on Roll Call No. 212; "yea" on Roll Call No. 213; "nay" on Roll Call No. 214; "nay" on Roll Call No. 215; "yea" on Roll Call No. 216; and "nay" on Roll Call No. 217.

IN RECOGNITION OF CAPE ABILITIES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of Cape Abilities, a treasured organization that has touched countless lives through its tireless advocacy for individuals with disabilities in Massachusetts.

First founded in 1968 as Nauset Workshop, Cape Abilities has steadily grown into a pillar of the Cape Cod community. Over the past 50 years they have provided disabled individuals with high quality services and opportunities to have meaningful access to employment, housing, community support, counseling, education, and more.

Every year Cape Abilities organizes the Harbor Walk, a 2.2 mile walk along the Hyannis Harbor that brings together staff, participants, partners, and supporters to help raise funds and awareness for the important work that Cape Abilities does. This year's walk is particularly meaningful, as it will be held in celebration of the more than 50 years of service that Cape Abilities has provided since its inception. By treating the people it serves with dignity and respect, the positive impact that Cape Abilities has had in the Cape Cod community is unparalleled.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the 50th anniversary of Cape Abilities and offer my sincere gratitude for their dedication to bettering their community. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking them for their service and wishing them all the best in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Friday May 17, 2019 due to a family commitment. I took my oldest son on a college visit. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 215; YEA on Roll Call No. 216; and NAY on Roll Call No. 217.

HOUSE PASSAGE OF THE EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to note the House's passage of the Equality Act (H.R. 5), to afford nationwide protection against discrimination for LGBTQ people in employment, housing, credit, education, public service and spaces, federally funded programs and federal jury service. Equality for all Americans has long been one of my signature issues, but my work for equal treatment for the LGBTQ community has had to have an additional dimension. Republicans have often tried to use the District of Columbia's unequal status as a weapon against the LGBTQ community. Opponents of equality for the LGBTQ community have consistently targeted the District to pass their discriminatory agenda. I have fought them off at every turn, beginning with protecting D.C.'s domestic partnerships law, ahead of its time in 1992, defending the District's marriage equality and same-sex adoptions laws, and protecting D.C.'s law that prohibits religiously affiliated schools from denying LGBTQ students access to services and facilities. In addition, I recently reintroduced bills to protect LGBTQ jurors from discrimination in local D.C. courts, action only Congress

can take because of the requirements of the Home Rule Act, and to end the unique applicability of the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1993 to the District.

The Equality Act is uniquely comprehensive. Historically, when Congress has passed civil rights legislation, it typically has done so by category, whether in employment, or housing, or the rest. However, the Equality Act, encompassing all forms of typical discrimination, sends a special message. It is too late for anything except legislation that takes on discrimination against our LGBTQ community once and for all.

The Equality Act also fills a large space I have tried to fill ever since being elected to Congress. My work for the LGBTQ community has come naturally. As a lifelong fighter for equal rights, I have always seen congressional failure to address discrimination against the LGBTQ community as no different from congressional failure to bar segregation in the public schools I attended as a child in the District, or to address discrimination in voting rights and public accommodations I went to Mississippi to fight as a student in the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee. The Equality Act stands for the impossibility of parsing discrimination. The history of discrimination in the United States teaches that all bigotry is unacceptable.

REAFFIRMING AUTHORITY OF
SECRETARY OF INTERIOR TO
TAKE LAND INTO TRUST FOR INDIAN TRIBES

SPEECH OF

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 15, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following article from The Washington Examiner regarding consideration of H.R. 375.

[From The Washington Examiner, May 13, 2019]

HOUSE DEMOCRATS RESCHEDULE VOTES ON
TRIBAL BILLS PULLED AFTER TRUMP TWEET
(by Naomi Lim)

House Democrats have rescheduled votes on two Native American tribal bills this week after they were yanked from the floor at the last minute following pressure from President Trump.

Democratic leadership has set a vote for Wednesday on H.R. 312, legislation co-sponsored by Rep. William Keating, D-Mass., maintaining the status of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe reservation in the Bay State.

A second proposal, H.R. 375, introduced by Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okla., would reaffirm Interior Secretary David Bernhardt's authority to take land into trust on behalf of Indian tribes. That measure is also due to be considered Wednesday, but under a streamlined process requiring two-thirds support in the House. As such, it needs the backing of House Republicans.

"Both of the bills pulled from the floor of the House, H.R. 375 and H.R. 312, are important to Indian Country," Cole told the Washington Examiner in a statement on Monday. "I support both of the bills and look forward to working with my Republican and Democratic colleagues to pass them on the floor. I believe we will be successful in doing so."

But GOP lawmakers like Western Caucus Chairman Paul Gosar, R-Ariz., have said they will not help the legislation pass the chamber. A spokeswoman for Gosar told the Washington Examiner on Monday her boss, who sits on the House Natural Resources Committee with Cole, was "strongly opposed" to the proposals and would vote against them "in their current form."

"Gosar has been leading the charge against these bills since they were first brought up in Natural Resources Committee. He offered two amendments to both bills in committee—both failed," the spokeswoman said.

H.R. 312 and H.R. 375 were originally scheduled for votes on May 8, but were yanked after Trump tweeted that they would be "unfair" to Native Americans.

The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe wants to build a \$1 billion casino on its land, but the deal has been delayed by the Interior Department and Rhode Island lawmakers worried the development will undercut profits generated by its own casino industry.

The opposition has resulted in the Massachusetts congressional delegation, including Democratic 2020 presidential candidate Sen. Elizabeth Warren, to push for the measure so the tribe can have full control of the reservation. Matt Schlapp, American Conservative Union chairman and husband of White House communications director Mercedes Schlapp, additionally runs a firm that lobbied against the casino.

"Republicans shouldn't vote for H.R. 312, a special interest casino Bill, backed by Elizabeth (Pocahontas) Warren," Trump tweeted last Wednesday. "It is unfair and doesn't treat Native Americans equally!"

Schlapp did not immediately respond to request for comment.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL
ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOUSE
PASSAGE OF AN AMENDMENT TO
THE U.S. CONSTITUTION

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th anniversary of House passage of the 19th amendment to the United States Constitution—prohibiting the government from denying the right to vote to citizens on the basis of sex.

In the year of 1893, the first attempt to organize the Women's Suffrage Movement in the state of Texas took place in Dallas, with the formation of The Texas Equal Rights Association.

Twenty-six years later Texas became the first state in the south to ratify the 19th amendment. From raising families, to organizing political movements, to fighting over seas, our country could not thrive without the influence of so many strong and determined women.

It is with great admiration that I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering the pioneering efforts of women 100 years ago that are still shaping our nation today.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE HONORABLE JOHN JAMES CONYERS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Honorable John J. Conyers, who celebrated his 90th birthday on May 16th.

Mr. Conyers is a distinguished public servant who represented the people of Michigan in the U.S. House of Representatives for 52 years. During his tenure, he held a number of reputable positions, including Chairman of the House Oversight Committee, Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and the 44th Dean of the House of Representatives. Mr. Conyers was an effective legislator who was known among the Halls of Congress as champion of justice and judiciary issues.

As the longest-serving African-American member of Congress, Mr. Conyers was a trailblazer for civil rights during his time in Congress and is credited as one of the 13 original founders of the Congressional Black Caucus. He was the first to introduce a bill calling for the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. to be recognized as a national holiday dedicated to his life and legacy.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Conyers as he celebrates this momentous achievement. I also wish him many more happy birthdays in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: "nay" on Roll Call No. 210; "yea" on Roll Call No. 211; "yea" on Roll Call No. 212; "nay" on Roll Call No. 213; "yea" on Roll Call No. 214; "yea" on Roll Call No. 215; "nay" on Roll Call No. 216; and "yea" on Roll Call No. 217.

THE HONORABLE DAMON JEROME
KEITH

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, as the representative of the 30th District of Texas, I'd like to recognize the passing of The Honorable Damon Jerome Keith, Senior Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit.

Judge Damon J. Keith, one of the nation's longest-serving federal judges, was a tireless champion of civil rights and civil liberties. Born in Detroit in 1922, Judge Keith was the grandson of enslaved people. He went on to become the sixth African American in U.S. history to serve on the federal court of appeals. During his time on the bench, he made a series of landmark decisions that changed the social and legal landscape of the country.

Judge Keith graduated from West Virginia State College in 1943 before serving in a segregated army during World War II. He would go on to receive his J.D. from Howard Law School in 1949, pass the Michigan bar exam in 1950 and earn an L.L.M. from Wayne State University School of Law in 1956.

By 1967, Judge Keith was on the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan. By 1975, he was chief judge, and in 1977 he was nominated by President Jimmy Carter to succeed Wade McCree on the federal court of appeals.

Judge Keith's legacy was cemented when he famously ruled in 1971 that President Richard Nixon's Attorney General John Mitchell had to disclose the transcripts of illegal wiretaps Mitchell had authorized without first obtaining a search warrant. Judge Keith's decision was upheld by the Court of Appeals. The Supreme Court's landmark decision in *United States v. U.S. District Court* also known as "the Keith Case," contributed in 1978 to President Jimmy Carter signing the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA).

In one of the federal judiciary's longest and most prolific careers, Judge Keith was a fountainhead of regional rulings with national implications. He attacked racial segregation in education, housing and employment; conservative efforts to limit African-American voting; and after the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, secret hearings to deport hundreds of immigrants deemed suspicious led by Attorney General John Ashcroft.

America is a better country because she had Judge Keith to help safeguard our civil liberties. I want to honor Judge Keith for his tireless commitment to providing equality and justice to all.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 21, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 22

9 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.

SR-222

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Department of the Interior.

SD-124

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine aging and disability in the 21st century, focusing on how technology can help maintain health and quality of life.

SD-562

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine legislation to address the risks associated with per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Defense

To hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2020 for the Missile Defense Agency.

SVC-217

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel Aaron Bress, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Michael S. Bogren, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Michigan, Stephanie Dawkins Davis, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, Jason K. Pulliam, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Texas, Frank William Volk, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia, and David Austin Tapp, of Kentucky, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims.

SD-226

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold closed hearings to examine the reconciliation process in Afghanistan.

SVC-217

2 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider S. 178, to condemn gross human rights violations of ethnic Turkic Muslims in Xinjiang, and calling for an end to arbitrary detention, torture, and harassment of these communities inside and outside China, S. 249, to direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy to regain observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Organization, S. 1025, to provide humanitarian relief to the Venezuelan people and Venezuelan migrants, to advance a constitutional and democratic solution to Venezuela's political crisis, to address Venezuela's economic reconstruction, to combat public corruption, narcotics trafficking, and money laundering, S. 1340, to authorize activities to combat the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, H.R. 31, to require certain additional actions in connection with the national emergency with respect to Syria, S. Res. 74, marking the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity by honoring the bravery, determination, and sacrifice of the people of Ukraine during and since the Revolution, and condemning continued Russian aggression against

Ukraine, S. Res. 81, calling for accountability and justice for the assassination of Boris Nemtsov, S. Res. 135, expressing the gratitude and appreciation of the Senate for the acts of heroism and valor by the members of the United States Armed Forces who participated in the June 6, 1944, amphibious landing at Normandy, France, and commending those individuals for leadership and bravery in an operation that helped bring an end to World War II, S. Res. 184, condemning the Easter Sunday terrorist attacks in Sri Lanka, offering sincere condolences to the victims, to their families and friends, and to the people and nation of Sri Lanka, and expressing solidarity and support for Sri Lanka, S. Res. 188, encouraging a swift transfer of power by the military to a civilian-led political authority in the Republic of the Sudan, the nomination of Jeffrey L. Eberhardt, of Wisconsin, to be Special Representative of the President for Nuclear Nonproliferation, with the rank of Ambassador, Department of State, and other pending calendar business.

S-116

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the economic impacts of the 2020 Census and business uses of Federal data.

CHOB-210

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy.

SD-106

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 123, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into a contract or other agreement with a third party to review appointees in the Veterans Health Administration who had a license terminated for cause by a State licensing board for care or services rendered at a non-Veterans Health Administration facility and to provide individuals treated by such an appointee with notice if it is determined that an episode of care or services to which they received was below the standard of care, S. 221, to amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Under Secretary of Health to report major adverse personnel actions involving certain health care employees to the National Practitioner Data Bank and to applicable State licensing boards, S. 318, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to furnish medically necessary transportation for newborn children of certain women veterans, S. 450, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to carry out a pilot program to expedite the onboarding process for new medical providers of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to reduce the duration of the hiring process for such medical providers, S. 514, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the benefits and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs to women veterans, S. 524, to establish the Department of Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee on Tribal and Indian Affairs, S. 711, to amend title 38, United States Code, to expand eligibility for mental health services from the Department of Veterans Affairs to include members of the reserve components of

the Armed Forces, S. 746, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to conduct a study on the accessibility of websites of the Department of Veterans Affairs to individuals with disabilities, S. 785, to improve mental health care provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs, S. 805, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the processing of veterans benefits by the Department of Veterans Affairs, to limit the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to recover overpayments made by the Department and other amounts owed by veterans to the United States, to improve the due process accorded veterans with respect to such recovery, S. 850, to extend the authorization of appropriations to the Department of Veterans Affairs for purposes of awarding grants to veterans service organizations for the transportation of highly rural veterans, S. 857, to amend title 38, United States Code, to increase the amount of special pension for Medal of Honor recipients, S. 980, to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of services for homeless vet-

erans, S. 1101, to ensure that only licensed health care providers furnish disability examinations under a certain Department of Veterans Affairs pilot program for use of contract physicians for disability examinations, S. 1154, to amend title 38, United States Code, to establish an advisory committee on the implementation by the Department of Veterans Affairs of an electronic health record, an original bill entitled, “Janey Ensminger Act of 2019”, and an original bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to continue to pay educational assistance or subsistence allowances to eligible persons when educational institutions are temporarily closed.

SR-418

MAY 23

9 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2020.

SR-222

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine resources needed to protect and secure the homeland.

SD-342

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy

To hold hearings to examine the Asia Reassurance Initiative Act in action, focusing on the benefits of economic diplomacy.

SD-419

MAY 24

9:30 a.m.

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To receive a briefing with the House Committee on Financial Services on trade-based money laundering.

RHOB-2360