

Taylor Yi)—Generations Inspiring Gifts of Love from Open Hearts

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2019 Best of Reston honorees for their tremendous contributions. I thank Cornerstones and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce for continuing this wonderful tradition, and I express my sincere gratitude to these individuals, businesses, and organizations for lending their time and energy to the betterment of our community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COAST
GUARD YOUTH STEM PROGRAMS
EXPANSION ACT

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce an important bill, the Coast Guard Youth STEM Programs Expansion Act. This bill will allow the Coast Guard expanded authority to partner with the Department of Education and the Department of Defense to improve Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education for America's elementary and secondary school students and their teachers.

Now more than ever the innovation capacity of the United States—our prosperity and security—depends on an effective and inclusive STEM education ecosystem and workforce. Given the Coast Guard's mission of coastal defense and maritime law enforcement, daily activity relies significantly on STEM skills. The ability to work with the Department of Education and Department of Defense on youth STEM programs will increase exposure and engagement to the adventures and intriguing opportunities of the Coast Guard's mission.

Specifically, the Coast Guard Youth STEM Programs Expansion Act will allow the Coast Guard to coordinate with the Department of Education to establish programs to improve STEM knowledge and skills for elementary and secondary school students and faculty. It will allow the Coast Guard to cooperate and coordinate with the Department of Defense, particularly through the very successful DOD STARBASE Program. It will also allow the Coast Guard to expand beyond traditional STEM skills to focus on expertise particularly important to their own mission, including limnology, marine science, and oceanography.

Basic STEM concepts are best learned at an early age—in elementary and secondary school—and are the essential prerequisites for career technical training, advanced college-level and graduate study, and success in workplaces. With the range of federal agencies partnered to coordinate federal STEM initiatives, the Coast Guard too has a vested interest in advancing this important mission.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and its goal of expanding the Coast Guard's efforts to engage and expose American youth to vital STEM education and workforce skills.

DHS OVERSEAS PERSONNEL
ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 10, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 2590, the "DHS Overseas Personnel Enhancement Act of 2019."

H.R. 2590 is a continuation of an existing program that requires an overseas personal enhancement plan to be provided by the Department of Homeland Security.

Current law mandates that the Department of Homeland Security have a three-year strategic plan for overseas deployment of DHS personnel (P.L. 114–328 (authored by Chairman THOMPSON)).

The requirements currently state that DHS must provide Congress with a briefing regarding all DHS personnel with primary duties taking place overseas.

H.R. 2590 will build on the existing Federal DHS mandate by strengthening congressional oversight.

The resolution requires DHS to submit a plan to enhance the effectiveness of the overseas deployment of DHS personnel 90 days after their initial briefing.

The DHS plan will be required to include proposals on how to improve efforts to develop foreign partnership capacity and further the United States' counterterrorism mission.

The plan will also consider possible redeployment in response to evolving threats.

The DHS plan will result in enhanced collaboration and improved communication between DHS personnel at home and abroad.

A version of this bill passed the House 415–0 in the 115th Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2590.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VERA
RUBIN SURVEY TELESCOPE DESIGNATION ACT

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, today I am joined by my Science Committee colleague, Representative GONZÁLEZ COLÓN, in introducing the Vera Rubin Survey Telescope Designation Act.

Dr. Vera Cooper Rubin was a renowned astronomer and a staunch advocate for women in science. She was also a trailblazer. Born in 1928, Dr. Rubin's interest in astronomy was ignited early. As a young girl, she would rather stay up and watch the stars through her bedroom window than go to sleep.

After graduating from Vassar College in 1948 as the only woman astronomer in her class, Dr. Rubin hoped to pursue her doctoral studies at Princeton. However, the Princeton astrophysics graduate program did not admit women at the time and declined to send her a course catalog.

Dr. Rubin persisted and earned her master's degree at Cornell and her Ph.D. at Georgetown University before joining the Carnegie In-

stitution's Department of Terrestrial Magnetism.

As her career progressed, Dr. Rubin continued to face barriers because of her gender. For instance, after becoming the first woman to be officially permitted to observe at the prestigious Palomar Observatory in 1965, she discovered that the building had no women's restroom. Undeterred, Dr. Rubin created her own women's restroom by pasting a skirt cut-out over the stick figure of a man on the observatory bathroom.

While Dr. Rubin was breaking down barriers, she was also revolutionizing our understanding of the universe. In 1970, Dr. Rubin and her collaborator Dr. Kent Ford published some of the best evidence of the existence of dark matter. This groundbreaking work changed the conventional view of the universe from one dominated by light-emitting matter to one dominated by dark matter.

Dr. Rubin went on to become the second woman astronomer elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 1981. She received the National Medal of Science from President Clinton in 1993, and she received many other honors and awards throughout her career.

Motivated by her own battle to garner respect as a woman in a male-dominated field, Dr. Rubin worked tirelessly to encourage girls interested in astronomy to pursue their dreams. She advocated for more women members of the National Academy of Sciences and for more women on review panels and academic search committees. She also advocated for more opportunities for girls in science. In her address to the University of California, Berkeley class of 1996, Dr. Rubin said "science is competitive, aggressive, demanding. It is also imaginative, inspiring, uplifting. You can do it, too," urging the students to "devise your own paths".

Dr. Rubin has a well-deserved place in history. This bill will honor her legacy by designating the Large Synoptic Survey Telescope (LSST), jointly funded by the National Science Foundation and the Department of Energy and set to begin operations in 2023, as the Vera Rubin Survey Telescope. The LSST was designed, in part, to probe the nature of dark matter. As a tribute to the woman whose pioneering work made this pursuit possible, this bill would ensure that it bears her name.

I urge my colleagues to join us and help us move this legislation forward into law.

HONORING ALAN D. MONROE

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Alan D. Monroe, a leader, a trailblazer, and an intellectual.

Alan D. Monroe grew up in Sherman, Texas. After graduating from Sherman High School in 1965, he attended Austin College where he graduated with Honors earning a Bachelor of Arts in English in 1969. In 1970, he obtained a Master of Arts at New York University. He continued his education at the University of Texas School of Law, graduating in 1975 with his juris doctor. Alan went on to practice law in many courts across Texas, including the United States Court of Appeals for