

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE SECOND ANNUAL IOWA SAFE SCHOOLS PRIDE CAMP

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the second annual Pride Camp held by Iowa Safe Schools. As the largest LGBTQ summer camp in the nation, Pride Camp is a crucial experience for LGBTQ youth in the state of Iowa to take advantage of opportunities to be creative, learn, grow, network, and most importantly have fun.

During Pride Month and throughout the year, I am proud to express my unwavering support of our LGBTQ community. Too many young people in the LGBTQ community still experience discrimination daily, and Pride Camp offers a safe and supportive environment to connect with peers and build lasting bonds. From arts to policy to STEM, camp activities give campers daily opportunities to challenge themselves and build valuable skills.

Pride Camp is an invaluable experience for LGBTQ youth who may otherwise not have the same interactions at school or in their community. By working with fellow campers, counselors and staff, Pride Camp participants can work together to build change and leadership for tomorrow. We still have a long way to go to fulfill our promise of equality, opportunity and justice for all, and it is important we foster this generation of change makers.

I am pleased to acknowledge and congratulate Iowa Safe Schools on its second annual Pride Camp, and I wish all attendees a week full of learning and fun.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN LEGION POST 5 IN DOWNTOWN COLORADO SPRINGS

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize American Legion Post 5 in downtown Colorado Springs on their 100th Anniversary.

Since its founding, Post 5 has been a consistent advocate for our incredible military community in Colorado Springs. Post 5 helped the "Pikes Peak or Bust" Rodeo become a huge success. Their group led a campaign to elevate Medal of Honor recipient Floyd K. Lindstrom's memory which led to a VA outpatient clinic being named after him.

American Legion Post 5 is a steadfast advocate for veterans and their families. The group hosts memorial services, supports homeless and impoverished veterans by sponsoring food and toy drives, and is a place for the veterans community to join together in fellowship to dis-

cuss important issues pertaining to their lives. As we celebrate our veterans' service to our great nation, we must thank this inspiring organization for their tremendously important service to our veterans in Colorado's 5th Congressional District. Please join me in wishing American Legion Post 5 a happy centennial anniversary.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EQUAL DEFERMENT OPPORTUNITY ACT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to announce the introduction of the Equal Deferment Opportunity Act and to impress upon my colleagues the importance of all servicewomen having equal protections after childbirth. Current law permits a 12-month deferment from deployment after an active duty servicemember gives birth—thereby ensuring that, before putting their lives on the line to defend America, servicewomen are physically recovered during postpartum.

These same protections, however, do not apply to servicewomen in the Reserves or National Guard; my bill would fix this by expanding the 12-month postpartum deployment deferment to all servicewomen.

Across all branches of the military, women serve with honor and distinction. Their service ensures our nation is safe from hostile actors that seek to do harm to us. Retaining talent is a critical issue and Congress must ensure the Defense Department is permitting all members of the military have equal access to benefits that allow for critical healthcare needs. As such, this fix is desperately needed.

I also applaud Chairman SMITH, Ranking Member THORNBERRY, and my House colleagues on the passage of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020. This bill represents a clear vision of a national security strategy that keeps our nation safe, and advances programs and policies that prioritize the wellbeing of our servicemembers and their families. I was especially pleased to see the adoption of my three amendments that include:

Permanent Authorization of the Suicide Prevention and Resilience Program: The Suicide Prevention and Resilience Program provides members of the Reserves and National Guard and their families with training in suicide prevention, resilience, and community healing.

Equal Deferment After Childbirth: This provision extends existing allowances for active duty servicewomen to defer deployment after childbirth to all members of the armed services, including the Reserves and National Guard.

Lead Service Lines Report: This requires the DOD to submit a report on the number of military installations that may have water lines made out of lead, and whether DOD has es-

tablished an awareness campaign to inform servicemembers and their families about them.

I look forward to seeing these amendments enacted into law. Above all else, we must ensure our servicemembers and their families are fully valued.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 2019

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2500) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2020 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of Amendment No. 47 to H.R. 2500, the National Defense Authorization Act of 2020, an amendment I offered with my good friend from Nebraska, Mr. Fortenberry.

The Fortenberry-Eshoo amendment declares that the safe return of religious and ethnic minorities in Iraq to their ancestral homelands, and the restoration of fundamental human rights to these communities, remains a priority for the United States.

Iraq is home to some of the oldest Christian communities in the world, yet less than 200,000 Christians remain in Iraq, down from 1.4 million in 2002.

Christians and other religious and ethnic minorities suffered horrific oppression and violence beginning with the U.S. invasion of Iraq in 2003 and again at the hands of ISIS beginning in 2014.

In March 2016, Congress, under the leadership of Mr. Fortenberry and myself, declared this brutal and system persecution constituted genocide, one of only three times in history that Congress has made such a declaration.

Despite efforts by Congress to help religious and ethnic minorities return to their homelands in Iraq, harassment and threats from armed militia groups continue to jeopardize their safety and long term security.

Congress cannot stand by and watch as one of the oldest Christian communities in the world is wiped out. As the daughter of parents who fled religious persecution in the Middle East, this is personal to me.

I'm pleased Amendment No. 147 was included in En Bloc 5 to H.R. 2500, which will help ensure Congress does not give up on these vulnerable populations who continue to face persecution and oppression in Iraq.

• 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, on July 12, 2019, I was unable to attend votes because I was attending to official business. Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 462; YEA on Roll Call No. 463; YEA on Roll Call No. 464; YEA on Roll Call No. 465; YEA on Roll Call No. 466; YEA on Roll Call No. 467; YEA on Roll Call No. 468; YEA on Roll Call No. 469; YEA on Roll Call No. 470; and YEA on Roll Call No. 471.

**RETIREMENT OF HELENA BERGER,
A CHAMPION OF AMERICANS
WITH DISABILITIES**
HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to mark the twenty-ninth anniversary next week of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) being signed into law by President George H.W. Bush on July 26, 1990. This transformative and trailblazing piece of legislation, which was supported by both Democrats and Republicans, serves as a lasting reminder that Congress can bring so much opportunity for our people when we join together for the greater good. The ADA calls us to continue to act on behalf of millions of Americans with disabilities to ensure that their hopes, dreams, and aspirations are as valid and attainable as those of every other American. It remains a powerful expression of Congress's determination that disability rights are civil rights.

On July 23, advocates for those with disabilities are also pausing to celebrate and recognize the many contributions of Helena Berger, President & CEO of the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD), who will be retiring this August after thirty years of service and leadership in the disability rights movement. Ms. Berger held several leadership positions with AAPD prior to becoming President & CEO, including Executive Director, Chief Operating Officer, and Executive Vice President. Under Ms. Berger's leadership, AAPD has significantly increased its reach and impact across the country, including through the expansion of AAPD's renowned Summer Internship Program, which cultivates the next generation of leaders in the disability rights movement.

I join in thanking Ms. Berger for her years of service to AAPD and the broader disability rights community, for her tireless efforts to fight for representation and economic opportunities for Americans with disabilities, and for ensuring that AAPD can continue to advocate on their behalf for years to come. I hope all of my colleagues who value and celebrate what the ADA represents will join me in paying tribute to Ms. Berger for her leadership and wishing her all the best in her retirement.

**SUPPORTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE
AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR
FISCAL YEAR 2020**
HON. GILBERT RAY CISNEROS, JR.

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. CISNEROS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude that the House has approved H.R. 2500, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year FY) 2020. The bill contains many much-needed and valuable provisions and I am proud to have had the opportunity to work with Chairman Smith as well as Democratic and Republican members of the Armed Services Committee to secure them. I urge these provisions to be maintained through the conference process.

H.R. 2500 is a boon for transition assistance that servicemembers rely upon when they leave the military. I am proud to have secured bipartisan language to assist active-duty reservists and national guardsmen, veterans, their dependents, and Gold Star families apply for and secure jobs in the civilian workforce. Specifically, the provision would help states across the nation expand or establish a pilot program to provide job placement assistance and related employment services to those servicemembers, veterans, and their families. As a veteran myself, I understand firsthand the challenges servicemembers, and their families, face when they enter the civilian workforce, and I am proud to have been able to secure provisions to assist these heroes as they transition to civilian life. Similarly, I am proud to have fought for and secured language calling on the Department of Defense to provide separating servicemembers with a comprehensive and individualized statement of benefits listing the benefits to which each servicemember is entitled and directing them to modernize the DD214 form that will facilitate better connectivity with veterans that have separated from the military. Additionally, at my request, H.R. 2500 requires the Department of Defense to review recent Transition Assistance Program reforms and provide a progress report on implementation to date. I look forward to receiving this report so that Congress may determine how to best improve upon the program and ensure our servicemembers are receiving the guidance and services they need to succeed when they transition to civilian life. Finally, I am pleased that H.R. 2500 includes language from my bill, H.R. 2944, the TALENT Act, which directs the Department of Defense to create a two-way exchange program between the Department's acquisition workforce and the private sector. The program will enable Department personnel, including military officers, to gain private sector experience and bring best practices they have learned back to the Department. Such a program brings benefits to the Department and to the individuals who may seek civilian employment after they conclude their military service.

Another area of importance I worked to address in H.R. 2500 is improving access to and outcomes in military health. I am proud to have secured language in the bill to extend and expand an ongoing pilot program jointly run with the U.S. Air Force and Department of Veterans Affairs under the Transition Assistance Program that educates transitioning serv-

icewomen about women's health care at the VA and encourages female servicemembers to participate. Furthermore, I worked with the Armed Services Committee to include language in the bill to direct the Department of Defense to create a comprehensive policy for mental health care across several key elements: pain management, opioid addiction, suicide prevention, and post-traumatic stress disorder. I would also like to note that I worked with colleagues to respond to the disturbing reports of hazardous and unhealthy privatized military housing at installations across the nation. H.R. 2500 includes language to ensure safe privatized military housing through the creation of a tenant's bill of rights, prohibition on the use of non-disclosure agreements in connection with entering into, continuing, or terminating a lease for a housing unit, establishment of a dispute resolution process, and creation of an electronic work order system. Finally, I am also happy to state that my colleagues and I were also able to secure language in H.R. 2500 encouraging the Department of Defense to accelerate research and development into technology or equipment solutions to eliminate the need for open air burn pits and establish long-term solutions for toxic waste disposal.

As a Latino and former officer in the Navy, I am proud to have worked to secure language in H.R. 2500 that will improve diversity and inclusion in the Department of Defense. I know firsthand the benefits a diverse leadership can have on the force. Moreover, I believe a diverse military force reflects our values as a democratic society and provides the United States with a strategic advantage. To that end, I secured language in the bill to direct the Department of Defense to develop a new strategic plan for diversity and inclusion and worked with my colleagues to secure provisions to improve research capacity at Historic Black Colleges and Universities. Additionally, I was happy to support language during the Committee markup of H.R. 2500, under the leadership of Representative Jackie Speier, to require gender integration of Marine Corps basic training at Parris Island and San Diego. The Marine Corps is the only remaining military service that does not integrate basic training and it is time the Corps caught up to the other services in this regard. Finally, this bill includes an amendment—offered by myself and several colleagues and adopted on the House floor—to require that qualifications for eligibility to serve in an armed force account only for the ability of an individual to meet gender-neutral occupational standards and not include any criteria relating to the race, color, national origin, religion, or sex (including gender identity or sexual orientation) of an individual. We cannot stand for bans on individuals, including transgender individuals, serving in the armed forces purely because of who they are.

I also worked to ensure H.R. 2500 includes provisions to address sexual assault in the military. I was troubled to learn of the findings in 2018 Department of Defense annual report on sexual assault in the military. According to the report, 20,500 service members—13,000 women and 7,500 men—across the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force and the National Guard experienced “contact or penetrative sexual assault” while serving in the military in 2018—an increase from 14,900 in 2016. That is simply unacceptable. I am proud to have

secured language in H.R. 2500 that extends the Defense Advisory Committee on Investigation, Prosecution, and Defense of Sexual Assault (DAC-IPAD) for an additional 5 years and expands its mandate to cover restorative justice models and interpretation of the Rules for Courts-Martial 1001(c) that affect sexual assault survivors. I also fought for and passed a provision to direct the Department of Defense to provide a report on how the Department can establish a clear standard for victims and victims' counsel to have access to all non-privileged court filings and related materials derived directly from and pertaining directly to the victim such that victims' rights can be enforced. Additionally, I am proud to have sought language to address the issue of protective orders—the FY 2020 NDAA now requires unit commanders to notify civilian authorities of the issuance of a military protective order against a member of the Armed Forces and would require unit commanders to notify a receiving unit of the issuance of a military protective order in the event a member is transferred to another unit. And I am happy to have helped secure language to create the new Defense Advisory Committee for the Prevention of Sexual Misconduct and I cosponsored an adopted amendment that prohibits the Department of Defense from contracting with companies that do not have a sexual harassment policy that penalizes instances of sexual harassment.

Another key challenge H.R. 2500 tackles is climate change. I am grateful that language I requested to have the Department of Defense explore the possibility of maintaining plug-in hybrid and electric government vehicle fleet on defense installations and building a microgrid infrastructure to support them was included in the bill. The Department of Defense must do its part to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and this language moves the Department in that direction. I am also pleased that the bill includes provisions to require all proposals for military construction projects to consider long-term changes in environmental conditions, mandate the Department of Defense to report on progress towards meeting the goal of 25 percent renewable energy for military facilities by 2025, and direct the Secretary of Defense to develop a climate vulnerability and risk assessment tool.

Puerto Rico recently felt the impact of climate change's most severe forces in Hurricane Maria, and I am proud to have cosponsored language led by Representative Nydia Velázquez that was included in H.R. 2500 that will support Puerto Rico's recovery by increasing the value of Puerto Rican subcontractors in the federal government's contracting goal. Increasing the value of Puerto Rican subcontractors will incentivize the contracting and subcontracting of Puerto Rican businesses—supporting the Puerto Rican economy and business as it recovers from Hurricane Maria.

H.R. 2500 also includes language to help shape a foreign policy that is consistent with American values. I was happy to work with my colleagues to increase oversight and transparency of civilian casualties resulting from strikes outside areas of active hostilities and direct the Department of Defense to work with a federally funded research and development center to conduct an independent assessment of processes and procedures related to civilian casualties. Additionally, I was proud to cosponsor adopted amendments that tackled priority foreign policy challenges that our nation

faces. These amendments reasserted congressional authority to authorize the use of force, including vis-à-vis Iran, and called for an end of war declaration and peace agreement that will formally and responsibly end the Korean war.

I would also like to note that the FY 2020 NDAA includes important education related provisions. I am grateful to see the amendment I cosponsored with several of my colleagues to enable the Secretary of Defense to make grants to Department of Defense schools or those with Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps programs to support world language study was included in the bill. I am also proud to have secured language in the bill to direct the Secretary of Defense to explore how the Department may carry out a program under which the Secretary makes grants, on a competitive basis, to eligible entities to carry out STEM educational events for military communities across the United States.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, H.R. 2500 is a strong defense bill that supports our troops, protects our nation, and reflects American values. I was proud to vote in favor of this bill and encourage my colleagues in the House and Senate to maintain these important provisions through the conference process.

COMMEMORATING THE ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF NORTH HARMONY

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of the Town of North Harmony.

The original town of Harmony was the largest town in Chautauqua County, comprised of approximately eighty-six square miles. In order to ensure the efficient administration of the town's affairs, the County saw fit to create a new town. On December 19, 1918, the Chautauqua County Board of Supervisors passed an act to establish the Town of North Harmony. The Town became official on January 1, 2019, dividing the original town of Harmony in two.

Whether they are lifelong residents or new in town, the citizens of North Harmony love their town. When asked for their favorite memories of the town, they provided a variety of answers. Some recalled fun times spent on Lake Chautauqua, while others recounted community celebrations like Asheville Days. For some, growing up in North Harmony brought back fond memories spent with family and tractor rides with a grandparent.

One hundred years as a community and a town is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate the Town of North Harmony for withstanding the tests of time and look forward to many more years of North Harmony providing a community for our friends and neighbors.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to celebrate the Town of North Harmony's one hundredth anniversary.

SUPPORT OF H.R. 2500, THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. DeFAZIO. Madam Speaker, last Friday I voted in support of H.R. 2500, the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020.

While I have consistently opposed this legislation in previous years and still have concerns about a number of provisions included in this year's legislation—including yet another spending increase to an already bloated Pentagon budget—this legislation also contains numerous policy priorities that I strongly support and which have not been included in recent Republican-led NDAs.

First, this legislation grants our men and women in uniform a well-deserved pay raise of 3.1 percent—the largest pay raise for our troops since the last Democratic House majority in 2010. Those who serve in uniform continue to make extraordinary sacrifices for our country and the very least we can do is grant them a pay raise.

I am pleased that this legislation also includes numerous provisions that require the Department of Defense (DoD) to address the existential threat of climate change, including updating military construction standards to promote energy and climate resilience. It also requires DoD to report on its progress towards meeting the goal of 25 percent renewable energy for military facilities by 2025.

Additionally, I am pleased that this legislation prevents the president from diverting defense funding to pay for an unnecessary border wall, prohibits funding for the deployment of dangerous low-yield nuclear weapons, nullifies President Trump's discriminatory military transgender ban, and helps protect our veterans from being taken advantage of by predatory, for-profit colleges. Moreover, it ends the unfair Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP)/Indemnity Compensation (DIC) offset—which currently reduces spouse survivor benefits by an average of \$1,250 per month. I am also strongly supportive of the inclusion of twelve weeks of paid family and medical leave for all federal employees.

This legislation also includes several provisions to strengthen our national security, including requiring the DoD to enhance our election security, countering Russian aggression and election interference, enhancing security cooperation with our allies in Europe and Asia, and protecting against the increasing risk of cyber attacks.

I have always advocated for strengthening Congress's constitutional authority to declare war and limiting the president's authority to engage in armed conflict without the consent of Congress. That's why I voted in support of amendments to prevent the president from using unauthorized force against Iran, to prohibit U.S. support to and participation in the Saudi-led coalition's military operations in Yemen, and to repeal the long-outdated 2002 authorization for the use of military force (AUMF) in Iraq. I am proud that these amendments passed with bipartisan support.

This year I have once again introduced legislation to amend the War Powers Resolution

of 1973 and reassert Congress's constitutional war powers. I have also consistently supported legislation to repeal the 2001 AUMF, which the Pentagon uses to continue to justify the 18 years our troops have been fighting in the Middle East. President Trump has sent troops to Syria, Yemen, and elsewhere without seeking a new AUMF, which in my view is a violation of the War Powers Resolution.

Furthermore, I am pleased that this legislation accelerates closure of the Guantanamo Bay detention facility by prohibiting new detainees and allowing transfer of detainees to secure facilities in the United States. This unnecessary facility costs almost \$450 million each year to house 40 prisoners and has been used as a top recruiting tool by terrorists. The prison at Guantanamo Bay has been a black eye for the United States, eroding relationships with our allies, undermining U.S. missions abroad, and putting U.S. citizens and our troops at risk of retaliation.

However, I believe this legislation could have made responsible cuts to our defense budget without jeopardizing the safety of our troops or undermining our national security. For years, Congress has continued to increase the Pentagon's budget despite overwhelming evidence of its waste and abuse of taxpayer money. This year's legislation—with its outrageous top line defense budget of \$733 billion—is yet another example of Congress's habit of increasing the defense budget every year.

I have long supported a financial audit of the Pentagon. Unlike every other federal agency, the DoD has yet to pass a financial audit. In November 2018, the Pentagon spectacularly failed its first full audit, which highlighted numerous examples of waste and abuse. While I am pleased that this year's NDAA requires an annual audit of the DoD in order to help identify waste, it is ridiculous to provide the Pentagon a massive spending increase—as this bill does—when the Pentagon cannot even account for how it spends taxpayer money.

In particular, I have always opposed the DoD's Overseas Contingency Operation (OCO) account, a fiscally irresponsible fund that is not counted in the budget, recklessly adds to our mounting debt, and has no congressional oversight. OCO is a Pentagon slush fund that gives a blank check to fund endless wars that Congress hasn't authorized. That's why I co-led an amendment to cut OCO funding in the bill by approximately 25 percent. I am disappointed that this amendment failed to pass.

The bottom line is that fiscal responsibility and accountability at the Pentagon would allow for funds to be better spent supporting the needs of our troops, meeting our obligations to veterans, and ensuring our legitimate defense needs are prioritized. I strongly encourage my Senate colleagues to keep the strong provisions included in the House NDAA and not water the bill down.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I regretably missed votes on Friday, July 12, 2019. I

had intended to vote "yes" on vote 468, "yes" on vote 469, "yes" on vote 470, "yes" on vote 471, "no" on vote 472, "yes" on vote 473, and "yes" on vote 474.

IN RECOGNITION OF VIET BAO FOUNDATION'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF WRITING ON AMERICA AWARDS

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Viet Bao Daily News and Viet Bao Foundation to recognize and celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Writing on America Awards.

Founded 27 years ago in Little Saigon, California, Viet Bao Daily News serves as one of the main Vietnamese media outlets representing the voice of the Vietnamese American community in the United States. Today, Viet Bao coverage has reached Vietnamese communities in remote areas including those in Southern California; Northern California; Seattle, Washington; Houston, Texas; Louisiana; and Portland, Oregon. The main editorial office is in the heart of Little Saigon in Westminster, California.

Viet Bao Foundation, a non-profit organization, was founded to support Viet Bao Daily News' mission, to promote Vietnamese culture, literature, language, and arts. The Writing on America Essay Contest is one of many programs that the foundation currently manages and run to support this mission.

Writing on America was established on September 1999, with the first Awards Ceremony held at the Richard Nixon Presidential Library in Yorba Linda, California on November 29, 2000. From there on, there has been a new story published every day on Viet Bao and Viet Bao Online publications.

A Writing on America Anthology, including 600 plus pages is published yearly. The US Congress, in its July 28, 2010 meeting, officially commended Viet Bao for the cultural and historical values achieved by the American Writing Program. In 2016, the Writing on America Anthology officially entered the Library of Congress for all Americans to enjoy and treasure.

The Writing on America Awards is an Essay Contest held annually, which draws several thousand participants. Started in August 1999, in paying tribute to America, Viet Bao asked their readers to share their "American Dream" stories.

Since then, writers from across the country have been sending in their stories retelling their early and hardship days in America as well as their successful stories in achieving their American dreams. The selected stories are published daily on Viet Bao, Vietbao.com website and on the annual anthology title "Writing on America".

Celebrating its 20th anniversary, the Writing on America Awards has published a total of 22 editions, including more than 14,000 pages of stories, from thousand of writers. Writing on America anthology is known as a book of "live history from thousand writers".

In addition to the official publication by Viet Bao, thousands of articles were also repeat-

edly posted on Vietnamese and foreign language websites and books, many of which were reprinted. Regardless of the number of readers, the total impressions on Viet Bao website alone is over 800 million. Some authors have a record of over 1 million impressions. Nearly 5,800 articles of thousands of writers about America are now available on Vietbao.com. The response and support from the community over the last 20 years have been tremendously significant.

Today, Viet Bao offers annual cash prizes up to \$35,000 to the essay winners, including one first prize winner worth \$10,000 in cash, and many other category prizes worth of \$35,000 in cash.

This year, when Viet Bao celebrates its 20th anniversary, the award-winning writings enter its 12th anniversary collection, becoming the longest-standing writing contest ever in the Vietnamese literature award history of the Vietnamese community abroad as well as in the country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, on July 11, 2019, I was unable to attend votes because I was out of town on official business. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 438; YEA on Roll Call No. 439; YEA on Roll Call No. 440; YEA on Roll Call No. 441; YEA on Roll Call No. 442; YEA on Roll Call No. 443; YEA on Roll Call No. 444; YEA on Roll Call No. 445; YEA on Roll Call No. 446; YEA on Roll Call No. 447; YEA on Roll Call No. 448; YEA on Roll Call No. 449; YEA on Roll Call No. 450; YEA on Roll Call No. 451; YEA on Roll Call No. 452; YEA on Roll Call No. 453; YEA on Roll Call No. 454; YEA on Roll Call No. 455; YEA on Roll Call No. 456; YEA on Roll Call No. 457; and YEA on Roll Call No. 458.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN MITCHELL

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Op-Ed in tribute to the late John Mitchell of South Windsor, Connecticut.

[From the Hartford Courant]

WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE? RUN FOR OFFICE. YES, YOU.

(By Kevin Rennie)

Local political parties will nominate their slates of candidates for November's municipal elections this month. In a few communities, there will be ferocious contests for some positions. Democratic races for mayor in some of the state's largest cities, Bridgeport, Hartford and New Haven, look competitive as the September primaries grow nearer.

Those are the exceptions.

In most towns, politics is mercifully a civic good more than it is a secular religion. Some communities continue to enjoy our New England tradition of electing members

to a wide range of local boards and commissions. That requires a lot of candidates. Another tradition, minority representation, guarantees no political party gets to elect every member of a town council, board of selectmen or board of education. Our law seeks to encourage a variety of voices in local government.

Political parties in many towns struggle to find enough candidates to fill their slates. The hyperpartisanship that mars our national politics recedes in many communities seeking citizen volunteers to manage local affairs. Plenty of parties will welcome unaffiliated voters onto their tickets for municipal elections.

If you get your news from cable television, you may properly think that much of contemporary politics is an endless series of screaming matches. Town politics does not often descend into the bear pit. Go to a meeting of your local planning and zoning commission and you will not be able to tell the Democrats from the Republicans. It's a collection of citizens trying to manage or attract development to their community. If you can spot the nuances of a traffic study or possess some ideas on how a town can manage a decline in the number of school-age children it will educate in the next decade, welcome.

As a candidate for local office, you'll be more a part of a team than a member of a fire-breathing partisan tribe. The desire to serve will be your platform. In most instances, a campaign for a town office comes with few complications. Almost everyone wins. In some towns with a nine-member board of education, for example, there are only ten candidates. Minority representation rules have been adopted to give no party more than five members. Only one of the ten candidates, assuming a full slate by each party and no third party candidates, will lose. And there are plenty of other places for that person to serve in community government.

I've saved the best reason for last. You will meet wonderful people whose friendship will endure after your service concludes. I was reminded of this gift on Monday when John Mitchell, South Windsor's beloved former mayor, died. Mitchell, 84, may have been our community's longest performer of good deeds.

Born in Manchester, he lived and worked in South Windsor for most of his adult life. He started a fuel oil business as a young man, and it thrived through the unflinching melding of enterprise, knowledge and a buoyant personality. He served on the town council for more than a decade and enjoyed two terms as mayor in the 1980s, a time of historic growth in town.

Mitchell's service to others was not limited to elective office. He remained active in the local chamber of commerce and was a stalwart in the Rotary Club for decades. He loved community events. Almost 40 years ago, he thought that since so many strawberries grew on the shrinking numbers of South Windsor farms, there ought to be a June festival, and local Republicans ought to create it. I can attest to the amount of work a strawberry festival requires. Mitchell's enthusiasm made it impossible to do anything but enjoy the challenge. The strawberry festival has long been what he envisioned: an annual June Saturday that thousands have enjoyed.

Mitchell was active in providing college scholarships to local students as recently as last month. We'll never know the vast number of people he lifted and encouraged with his private generosity. We helped with a few

local campaigns in the past decade, and I was reminded of his joy in the battle. His sense of humor grew sharper, and he displayed a rare wonderment at growing older.

So think about running for something. You will help your town. If you are very lucky, you will get to know someone like John Mitchell.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Madam Speaker, I was unavailable and missed Roll Call Vote 465. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call No. 465.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHNNY (SAL) GARDNER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Johnny (Sal) Gardner and his coaching career.

Starting in 1967, Coach Sal has devoted his life to his community coaching the city's youth in football, baseball and basketball.

During his years as the head football coach at Oxford, he achieved over 225 wins and had a 49-game winning streak from 1999 to 2005.

He also coached baseball for 47 years where he won or tied for the area championship four times, had numerous playoff appearances and coached over 550 athletes, including my children, during his tenure there. He won two state championships in youth baseball in 1985 and 1990.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Coach Sal for his dedication to our local youth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, due to an error, I voted "nay" on Roll Call 460 (Amash of Michigan Part B Amendment No. 50 to H.R. 2500). I intended to vote "yea".

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE ROSS PEROT AND HIS MONUMENTAL IMPACT ON OUR NATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of the Honorable Ross

Perot and his monumental impact on our nation.

Mr. Perot is well known for being a wildly-successful, self-made businessman who ran for President twice, the first time receiving a recorded-breaking 19% of the vote as an independent candidate. Today, I would like to recognize him for his unparalleled service and sacrifice on behalf of our country's military.

Mr. Perot is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy. Following his service, Mr. Perot joined International Business Machines (IBM), which led him to create the extremely successful company, Electronic Data Systems. Mr. Perot was responsible for many other breakthroughs and innovations in the industry. Mr. Perot made a point to hire former military personnel and based his management style on his military training. Mr. Perot continued to be an active advocate for our servicemembers and veterans, becoming one of the most outspoken advocates for our Prisoners of War (POWs). In fact, Mr. Perot was asked by then-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger to lead the fight on behalf of our POWs, a project he spearheaded by personally chartering two jets filled with medical supplies and the wives of POWs still in Vietnam. His efforts directly led to many POWs being released in 1973 and returned to the United States.

Over the course of his life, Mr. Perot received countless honors for his work. In 2009, he was recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs for his tireless efforts on behalf of our nation's veterans, and received honorary status in the Army and Marine Corps. Mr. Perot was also named an honorary Green Beret and is one of only fourteen honorary members of the Army's famous 75th Ranger Regiment.

Of personal note, I'm especially grateful for all Mr. Perot did for our soldiers and families at Fort Bragg, the largest military installation in the world, located in North Carolina's 8th Congressional District. Mr. Perot donated millions of dollars to the Airborne & Special Operations Museum, and has donated his time, resources and devotion to assisting projects at the U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Special Warfare Center and School at Fort Bragg.

While we mourn his passing, Mr. Perot will be remembered for his impeccable character, determination and generosity. I have a deep admiration and profound appreciation for all he accomplished and I am inspired by his example to ensure we take care of those who so bravely served our nation.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in recognizing the life of the Honorable Ross Perot.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, on July 12, 2019, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 472; "nay" on rollcall No. 473; and "yea" on rollcall No. 474.

COMMENDING HARTSELLE POLICE OFFICERS ROBERT BAKER AND ROGER SPEAKE, LIEUTENANT ROBERT FINN, AND HARTSELLE UTILITIES EMPLOYEE STEPHEN JOHNSON FOR BRAVE, LIFE-SAVING ACTIONS

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Hartselle Police Officers Robert Baker and Roger Speake, Hartselle Police Lieutenant Robert Finn, and Hartselle Utilities employee Stephen Johnson for their brave, life-saving actions on February 22, 2019.

In the early morning hours of February 22nd, Officers Baker and Speake, and Lieutenant Finn responded to a house fire. Upon their arrival at the home, they found the fire was spreading quickly and a woman with limited-mobility was trapped. Thankfully, Hartselle Utilities employee Stephen Johnson, who had been working nearby, was already on the scene. As a team, Baker, Speake, Finn, and Johnson, risking their safety, broke down a fence at the side of the house and successfully evacuated the woman from her bedroom window with only minutes to spare before the house was completely engulfed in flames.

Madam Speaker, in the face of imminent danger to their own lives, Officers Baker and Speake, Lieutenant Finn, and Mr. Johnson, acted decisively and selflessly, saving the life of our fellow community member.

I commend Officers Baker and Speake, Lieutenant Finn, and Mr. Johnson for their courageous actions in service to others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, on July 12, 2019, I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on No. 461, 462, 472, and 474. I would have voted NAY on No. 459, 460, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, and 473.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN (RET.) KENNETH GRIFFITH

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Captain (Ret.) Kenneth Griffith who passed away on July 5, 2019. A Full Military Honors graveside service will take place at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, July 20, 2019, at Crook Cemetery in Ohatchee.

Kenneth is survived by his beloved wife of 62 years, Sandra (Bowman) Griffith; three daughters, Keli Griffith, Kendra G. Hollaway, and Kerri G. Ladd; seven grandchildren and eleven great-grandchildren.

He was born in Blue Mountain on January 29, 1940, and grew up in Anniston, Alabama. After graduating from Anniston High School, he joined the U.S. Army. He began his career with the Military Police at Ft. McClellan and was stationed throughout the Southeast and in Europe. His final station was in Cu Chi, north-east of Saigon, with the 25th Infantry Division. On the ninth time he was shot down by the enemy, while defending his load of wounded casualties, the front bubble of the helicopter was shattered by gunfire, grievously wounding both himself and his co-pilot who passed out. Griffith fought on and succeeded in flying his disabled helicopter back to camp, accomplishing a controlled crash landing before succumbing to his own wounds.

For his heroism he was awarded the third highest military honor, the Silver Star. He was also awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross with Oak Leaf Cluster after a seven-hour helicopter battle with Viet Cong guerillas. He was recommended for the Medal of Honor by his commanding officer. During his military service he also received the Air Medal with 6 Oak Leaf Clusters, Purple Heart with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, Army Aviator Badge, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with three stars, Vietnam Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal with two loops and the National Defense Medal.

After completing physical rehabilitation due to the loss of his leg in combat, Capt. Griffith officially retired and returned to his hometown. Griffith chose Jacksonville State University to continue his education where he completed a Bachelor of Science in Psychology in 1974, a Master of Public Administration in Criminal Justice in 1975 and a Master of Science in Personnel Counseling in 1976 from Jacksonville State University.

Griffith was a Master Mason and long-time member of Golden Springs Baptist Church. Told that the loss of his leg would limit his physical capabilities, he took great satisfaction in proving the doctors wrong. He went on to teach his children how to water and snow ski, playing and coaching them in several sports. Lovingly referred to as 'The Captain' or 'Cap' by everyone, he will be forever remembered as a loving and devoted man.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring his life of service.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIS JOHNSON

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Willis Johnson for his induction into the 2019 Texas Radio Hall of Fame.

Mr. Johnson spent the majority of his career as a program manager and radio talk show host for the Dallas-based KKDA-AM. He used his show to advocate on behalf of the African American community in Dallas, highlighting critical issues that disproportionately affected our community and providing a platform for underrepresented voices.

In addition to his career in radio, Mr. Johnson is the CEO of JBJ Management—a public affairs firm specializing in business to govern-

ment community engagement. He is also a recipient of the Lifetime Leadership Award from the Dallas Business Journal for his exceptional social and civic service.

Mr. Johnson will join a distinguished crowd of inductees into the Texas Radio Hall of Fame including Walter Cronkite, Verne Lundquist, and Willie Nelson, to name a few.

I am pleased to recognize the achievements of Mr. Johnson and wish him continued success. His contributions to the Dallas community are truly immeasurable.

RECOGNIZING JOHN DICUS' SERVICE TO TOPEKA

HON. STEVE WATKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. WATKINS. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize a man that embodies everything it means to be a Kansan, and a Topekan. As the Topeka Capitol-Journal recently highlighted, John Dicus has made himself a fixture in the Topeka community. While some decide to take their talents elsewhere, John decided to use his talents to better his hometown. John has taken it upon himself to lead the charge of revitalizing our downtown area, most notably a \$2.5 million dollar investment in the Evergy Plaza. John has taken action on his vision for Topeka and the city is better because of it. I know John shares the same sense of pride for his hometown as I do. Keep up the great work. He is making us all proud.

HONORING MARK B. GRIER

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, congratulations to Mark B. Grier as he retires from an outstanding 25 year career at Prudential, which I am proud to note is headquartered in the 10th District of New Jersey.

Mark is the Vice Chairman of Prudential and has overseen the Finance, Risk Management, Chief Investment, Corporate Actuarial, Global Business and Technology Solutions departments and functions. Mark joined Prudential as Chief Financial Officer in May of 1995 and was named Vice Chairman just six years later in 2002. Since that time Mark has been the company's intellectual leader when it comes to positively and constructively engaging with regulators at both the state and federal levels, and with the Congress.

I have enjoyed working with Mark over the years on an array of public policy matters that were critically important to my district, state, and our nation. I was fortunate to always have the benefit of his insight and experience when debating complex financial services policy challenges, and I appreciate his willingness to reliably serve as a resource to me and my colleagues.

Beyond his commitment to excellence in corporate governance and public policy, Mark also ensured that Prudential was always a good corporate citizen. During his tenure as Vice Chairman and member of the Board of

Directors, Prudential has maintained and expanded its commitment to the city that it has always called home with over \$1 billion donated to Newark through impact investing, grants to non-profits, and more. Mark has also been very active in education reform and chaired an organization called "Achieve", which is committed to making sure every student graduates from high school ready to succeed in the college or career of their choice.

I am confident that Mark will continue to serve as a leading voice for the industry and I look forward to seeing his contributions and success within his future endeavors. I congratulate Mark again on an extraordinary career, and wish him all the best as he begins his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I was not present to vote on July 11, 2019 and July 12, 2019 due to a family obligation.

Had I been present for roll call No. 473 on passage of H.R. 2500, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, I would have voted AYE.

Had I been present for roll call No. 474 on passage of H.R. 1327, the Never Forget the Heroes: James Zadroga, Ray Pfeifer, and Luis Alvarez Permanent Authorization of the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund Act, I would have voted YEA.

RECOGNIZING THE EXTRAORDINARY ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE LEGENDARY UNITED STATES WOMEN'S NATIONAL TEAM IN WINNING THE 2019 WORLD CUP

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as the representative of the 18th Congressional District of Texas, home of the Houston Dash, and a die-hard soccer fan, I rise to commemorate the historic performance of the United States Women's National Soccer Team in the 2019 Women's World Cup.

These women brought honor and glory to our country through their dominant performance in the tournament, defeating a gallant team from The Netherlands, 2-0, in the championship match on July 7, 2019, in Lyon, France.

During this World Cup, the United States Women's National Team set many records, including the most goals scored (26) in a single World Cup.

The United States Women's National Team also set the record for the most goals ever scored in a single match, scoring 13 against Thailand.

This was also the largest margin of victory in World Cup history.

Jill Ellis, the coach of the United States Women's National Team, became the first Women's National Team coach to win two

World cup titles, and the first American coach to do so.

Madam Speaker, I wish to congratulate Meghan Rapinoe, Captain of the United States Women's National Team, for winning the Golden Ball Award for the best player in the tournament, and the Golden Boot Award for most goals scored in the least amount of time on the pitch.

I also congratulate team captain Alex Morgan for winning the Silver Boot Award for most goals scored in a longer period of time, and to Rose Lavelle for the Bronze Ball Award for her extraordinary contributions to the success of the American team throughout the tournament.

Madam Speaker, the glory brought to our country by this remarkable cohort of accomplished women could not have occurred had it not been for the passage in 1972 of the landmark Title IX of the Civil Rights Act, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any federally-funded educational program or activity.

Title IX has given generations of women and girls the opportunity to participate in many extracurricular programs, but it has especially opened the door for women to participate in athletics.

Title IX also extended the opportunity for women to compete at the next level, on highly-skilled and highly-competitive college teams.

Without Title IX, many women and girls would have been forced to give up their dreams after high school.

The opportunity for women's soccer players to compete at the collegiate level opened the doors for the creation of the Women's National Team.

And, as demonstrated earlier this month in the 2019 World Cup, when given the opportunity to compete, American women will succeed.

Madam Speaker, superior performance should be recognized and rewarded.

In the 2019 World Cup, the United States Women's National Team set the record for winning the most World Cups of any women's team.

The inaugural Women's World Cup occurred in 1991, and since then the United States Women's National Team has won four of the eight tournaments.

Let me repeat that: The United States Women's National Team has won half of all the World Cups in history.

During this same time period, the Men's National Team has not won a single World Cup.

Yet, even after winning the 2019 World Cup, the members of the United States Women's National team will earn \$31,000 less than the Men's team, which lost in the first knock-out round in 2014 World Cup and failed even to qualify for the 2018 World Cup.

This pay disparity is outrageous and indefensible, and led members of the United States Women's National team to challenge this pay disparity in court action, which is now pending.

Madam Speaker, at a minimum, our women's team should be paid equally for equal work, as is mandated by the Equal Pay Act and other civil rights laws.

In addition, Congress should amend the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009 to address professional athletics, where women and men compete in the same sports, but play for different teams in different leagues.

Instead, they are receiving inferior pay for superior work.

But despite all of the obstacles they faced, our national team still achieved immortality through their legendary feats in the 2019 Women's World Cup.

I thank all the members of the United States Women's National Team for inspiring the next generation of female athletes to follow their dreams and reach for the stars.

While they are doing that, it is incumbent for us in Congress to do all that is necessary to ensure that this generation of female athletes, and the next, have no barriers preventing them from manifesting the greatness which lies within them.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 15, 2019

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, I intended to vote yes on amendment number 50 by Representative JUSTIN AMASH to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 (H.R. 2500).

I should have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 460.

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, July 16, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 17

9:15 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine unprecedented migration at the United States southern border, focusing on bipartisan policy recommendations from the Homeland Security Advisory Council.

SD-342

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Economic Policy

To hold hearings to examine economic mobility, focusing on whether the American dream is in crisis.

SD-538

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine combating robocall fraud, focusing on using

telecom advances and law enforcement to stop scammers and protect seniors.

SD-562

10 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine National Aeronautics and Space Administration plans for deep space exploration, focusing on the Moon to Mars.

SH-216

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine electric battery production and waste, focusing on opportunities and challenges.

SD-406

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.

SD-236

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michelle A. Bekkering, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

SD-419

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Subcommittee on Federal Spending Oversight and Emergency Management

To hold hearings to examine the Federally incurred cost of regulatory changes and how such changes are made.

SD-342

Committee on Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 886, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to make the Reclamation Water Settlements Fund permanent, and S. 2071, to repeal certain obsolete laws relating to Indians.

SD-628

JULY 18

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Business meeting to consider pending military nominations.

SR-222

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine export control reform implementation, focusing on outside perspectives.

SD-538

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Water and Power

To hold hearings to examine opportunities to increase water storage and conservation through rehabilitation and development of water supply infrastructure, including S. 1570, to provide flexibility to allow greater aquifer recharge, S. 1932, to support water infrastructure in Reclamation States, and S. 2044, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to establish an Aging Infrastructure Account, to amend the Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978 to provide additional funds under that Act, to establish a review of flood control rule curves pilot project within the Bureau of Reclamation.

SD-366

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 1273, to amend title 17, United States Code, to establish an alternative dispute resolution program for copyright small claims, S. 1883, to improve the prohibitions on money laundering, and the nominations of Douglas Russell Cole, and Matthew Walden McFarland, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of Ohio, Robert Anthony Molloy, to be Judge for the District Court of the Virgin Islands, and Kea Whetzal Riggs, to be United States District Judge for the District of New Mexico.

SD-226

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To receive a briefing to examine truth, reconciliation, and healing toward a unified future.

RHOB-2167

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine agricultural research and 2018 Farm Bill implementation.

SR-328A

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JULY 23

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the United States' interests in the Freely Associated States.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights

To hold an oversight hearing to examine enforcement of the antitrust laws.

SD-226

JULY 24

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Rules and Administration

To hold oversight hearings to examine the Government Publishing Office, Office of the Inspector General.

SR-301

JULY 25

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the importance of energy innovation to economic growth and competitiveness.

SD-366

JULY 30

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Intellectual Property

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the United States Copyright Office.

SD-226