

11th Victim Compensation Fund Act. Our Committee would not be as active or successful without her incredible work.

None of these accomplishments happen by chance. They are the result of hard work and years of building relationships on the Hill, in the administration, and in New York. She understands how this institution works—and how it should work—and she knows how to do the necessary work to turn a simple bill into an organizing tool for a movement. She has a unique ability to build relationships and work with others to get a job done. That is what makes her so effective in creating lasting change.

And I am not the only one to hold that view. Judiciary Committee Ranking Member DOUG COLLINS has said, Lisette “has given a great deal of service to this House and to me and to my staff personally. She will be missed, on both sides of this aisle, because she understands completely what this House should be about and that is actually service and actually getting legislation done.”

But Lisette is more than just a staffer to me. To me, she is like family. She has given our office more than her hard work, she has given us her great sense of humor and ready laugh, her kind support, and her willingness to share her life with us. She tells stories with great passion about her beloved Nationals and Caps, her trips to Spring Training or to the Minnesota State Fair, her love of all things Star Wars, Star Trek, and Disney, and her love of Bravo TV and good books. She has brought all that joy and life with her to work each day in addition to being an incredibly hard working, capable, and brilliant staffer.

I know I will miss Lisette greatly, but I am happy she has found a new position working on issues she is passionate about. And I am pleased she will continue to pursue those passions both in and out of the office every day. I wish her luck and joy in all her future endeavors.

And so, it is only fitting to say as a final farewell, “Lisette, may the Force be with you.”

RETIREMENT OF POLK COUNTY
MANAGER JIM FREEMAN

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, Jim Freeman, who has served as the County Manager of Polk County, Florida since 2010 will retire on July 31.

Jim is a true public servant who began his career with Polk County in 1989 as Director of Information Technology. From 1997 to 2003, he served as Administrative Services Director, becoming Deputy County Manager in November 2003.

His previous experience includes eight years with the Gwinnett County, Georgia, Board of Commissioners and four years with the Georgia Mountains Regional Development Commission in Gainesville, Georgia.

A native of the Atlanta, Georgia metropolitan area, he holds an AS in Business Data Processing from Gainesville College, in Georgia, and a BA in Business Administration from Saint Leo University in Florida.

Jim is a Certified Public Manager and a member of the Florida City and County Man-

agement Association, the International City and County Management Association, and a graduate of Leadership Polk, Class II, and has served on the Board of Directors of Polk Vision and the Advisory Board of Polk County Career Academies.

Jim has lived in Winter Haven since 1989 and is married to Gena Freeman. Between the two of them, they have seven children and 11 grandchildren; and are members of the Calvary Baptist Church in Winter Haven.

We worked together to bring critical funding back to Polk County for Hurricane Irma relief, to combat citrus greening, to bring higher paying jobs, and to protect our environment.

I have truly appreciated the time I have spent working with him. I congratulate Jim on a tremendous career and wish him much happiness in his well-deserved retirement.

TRIBUTE TO YOUNG STAFF MEMBERS FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE 18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF TEXAS AND THE UNITED STATES

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as Members of Congress we know well, perhaps better than most, how blessed our nation is to have in reserve such exceptional young men and women who will go on to become leaders in their local communities, states, and the nation in the areas of business, education, law, government, philanthropy, the arts and culture, and the military.

We know this because we see them and benefit from their contributions every day. Many of them work for us in our offices as junior staff members, congressional fellows, or interns and they do amazing work for and on behalf of the constituents we are privileged to represent.

Madam Speaker, I believe there is no higher calling than the call to serve a cause larger than ourselves. That is why I ran for public office. I was inspired to serve by President Kennedy who said, “Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country,” and by the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who said:

Everybody can be great because anybody can serve. . . . You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

By this measure, there are several other great young men and women who served as volunteers this year in my offices. They may toil in obscurity but their contributions to the constituents we serve are deeply appreciated. That is why today I rise to pay tribute to 17 extraordinary young persons for their service to my constituents in the 18th Congressional District of Texas and to the American people. They are:

Hadeel Abdallah, University of Oxford;
Lakeisha Barnes, Indiana University;
Mia Arrington, Villanova University;
Dalia Batuuka, Pennsylvania State University;
Julia Chun, Clark University;
Katherine Holder, Texas Tech University;
Lillian Keller, Swarthmore College;

Elizabeth Lé, Howard University;
Keva Luke, Georgetown University;
Michael Pender, United States Naval Academy;

Nia Prince, Rice University;
Hargun Sodhi, University of Houston;
Rafael Martinez, Texas Tech University;
Lily Rathbun, The Madeira School;
Keenan Parker, The Madeira School;
Jacky Lee, The Madeira School; and
Kayla Rothstein, The Madeira School.

Madam Speaker, the energy, intelligence, and idealism these wonderful young people brought to my office and those interning in the offices of my colleagues help keep our democracy vibrant. The insights, skills, and knowledge of the governmental process they gain from their experiences will last a lifetime and prove invaluable to them as they go about making their mark in this world.

Because of persons like them the future of our country is bright, and its best days lie ahead. I wish them all well.

Madam Speaker, I am grateful that such thoughtful committed young men and women can be found working in my office, those of my colleagues, and in every community in America. Their good works will keep America great, good, and forever young.

SUPPORTING H.R. 736

HON. HARLEY ROUDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following letters from Chairman CUMMINGS and Chairperson LOFGREN in support of H.R. 736.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND REFORM,
Washington, DC, July 17, 2019.

Hon. ZOE LOFGREN,
Chairperson, Committee on House Administration, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR MADAM CHAIRPERSON: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 736, the Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act. As you know, the bill was referred primarily to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, with an additional referral to the Committee on House Administration.

I thank you for allowing the Committee on the House Administration to be discharged from further consideration of the bill to expedite floor consideration. This discharge in no way affects your jurisdiction over the subject matter of the bill, and it will not serve as precedent for future referrals. In addition, should a conference on the bill be necessary, I would support your request to have the Committee on House Administration represented on the conference committee.

I would be pleased to include this letter and any response in the bill report filed by the Committee on Oversight and Reform, as well as in the Congressional Record during floor consideration, to memorialize our understanding.

Sincerely,

ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS,
Chairman.