

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF WILLIAM J.
NOONAN'S RETIREMENT

HON. MARK E. AMODEI

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. AMODEI. Madam Speaker, on July 31st, an era will end. After a long and successful career in government and the gaming industry—the last 18 years of which he spent at Boyd Gaming—William J. Noonan will retire. Bill's long career—truly an American success story—has midwestern roots. A graduate of Missouri State before receiving his master's in public administration from the University of Kansas, Bill spent years managing cities all across this country. From Springfield, Missouri, to small towns in Florida, and eventually to Las Vegas in the 1990s, Bill's positive energy and inspiring leadership guided cities large and small through some of the toughest and most exciting of economic times.

When Bill first landed in Las Vegas in 1990, it was a city of just under a million people. Gaming was not widely legalized throughout the country, but was about to be . . . and Bill sensed a boom coming. He worked with city leaders to prepare for what was to come and would soon take his skills into the private sector for a number of companies who needed to understand the key relationship that exists between the gaming industry and the communities in which they operate. Bill was exactly the right person for the job.

Since those humble beginnings of his youth, Bill has actually run a casino, dined with US presidents, overseen corporate philanthropies that have donated millions to communities and worthwhile causes, successfully recruited a professional football team to Las Vegas, and helped a city gather itself together after the horrific events of October 1 in his role as chairman of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce.

For his leadership to community and country, Bill's been recognized numerous times—by his industry as the Gaming Professional of the Year; by his alma mater as an outstanding alumnus; and by his state by serving on a number of prestigious boards. But if you know Bill, you know he really only cares about the appreciation of those with whom he works and the recognition of his lifelong love Sylvia and their beautiful family . . . with whom he now gets to spend a lot more time.

I wish my friend well. I thank him for his contributions, and I congratulate him on his retirement.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE CITY OF ORAN

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the city of Oran in Scott

County, MO on its 150th anniversary. The city of Oran, founded on July 16, 1869, was originally dubbed "St. Cloud" for the French town outside of Paris. The city was known to locals as "The Land of the Watermelon."

After some debate in the community and the opening of a new post office in 1882, the city officially decided on the name Oran. Captain Ward L. Smith, a retired sailor, selected the name Oran in honor of the second most important city in Algeria, which he had visited during his time in the Navy. Oran is a North African word for lion and is historically associated with the Berber legend of "the Mountain of Lions."

Traditions are a staple in Oran. Over the years, the city has hosted fall festivals, town celebrations, and picnics. Its most famous tradition is the Fourth of July picnic, which dates to 1908. Since its inception, the picnic has been celebrated annually except for a three-year break during World War II. The picnic features a multitude of activities for families and a firework show. The celebrations attract people from all walks of life each year.

Today, the city maintains its familiar farm town character, even with a growing population of over 1,300 residents. It is a charming community with a noteworthy history in the agricultural development of the Bootheel and of family values. It is my great pleasure to celebrate Oran today on the occasion of its sesquicentennial birthday before the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MIDLAND
SHERIFF GARY PAINTER

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. CONAWAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Midland Sheriff Gary Painter, who was taken from us far too soon. Sheriff Gary Painter served Midland County with unconditional dedication for 34 years, and will be remembered by West Texans as a patriot of integrity and valor.

Sheriff Painter is a native Texan, growing up a farming community north of Lubbock where his family planted cotton and grains. After graduating from Plainview High School, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and dutifully served his nation through two tours of duty in Vietnam. His unrelenting dedication to our country earned him the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal, the Vietnam Service Ribbon with 6 devices, the Presidential Unit Commendation, and the Vietnam Cross of Gallantry. He was honorably discharged from the United States Marine Corps with the rank of Sergeant on August 31, 1970.

Upon his return to Texas, he began his career in law enforcement, working for the Texas Department of Public Safety, Culberson County's Sheriff's Office, Presidio County's Sheriff's

Office, and the Midland Police Department before joining the Midland County Sheriff's Office in 1982.

Throughout his nine terms as Sheriff of Midland County, Gary dedicated himself to improving the office. He utilized the latest technologies, helping law enforcement work faster, smarter, and better. He also notably organized the first multi-jurisdictional narcotics task force in West Texas, keeping our community safer.

Sheriff Painter has left behind a huge pair of boots to fill. His legacy as a courageous, selfless, public servant will be remembered and honored by all those he inspired over his decades of service. Gary has left behind his wife, Patsy, five children, seven grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. God Bless his family and loved ones during this difficult time of loss. Suzanne and I will continue to pray as our community mourns.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBU-
TIONS OF JUDY SCHNEIDER ON
THE OCCASION OF HER RETIRE-
MENT

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished and enormously popular constituent, Judy Schneider, who is well-known and beloved to the Members of this body. After nearly 43 years of devoted service to the American people, she is retiring her post as a Specialist on the Congress at the Congressional Research Service (CRS).

Ms. Schneider began her career as a Congressional Staffer on the Temporary Select Committee to Study the Senate Committee System, the House Commission on Administrative Review, and the Senate Ethics Committee. Shortly thereafter she joined CRS as a Congressional Procedures Analyst and then became Specialist on the Congress. An admired and respected senior-level expert on the history, procedures, rules and culture of Congress, she employed her sharp intellect, prodigious curiosity and seasoned experience to the benefit of us all.

Over the course of her career, Ms. Schneider dedicated herself to the always urgent mission of congressional reform. She contributed to the Joint Committee on the Organization of Congress in 1991, navigated the creation of the Department of Homeland Security after 9/11, and provided logistical support to Members and staff during five separate changes of party control in the House.

Never content keeping her vast procedural knowledge to herself, Ms. Schneider developed new orientation programs for incoming Senate Chairs, co-authored the Congressional Deskbook guide to Congress, and advised Members through hearings, markups, and committee assignment bids. She also co-founded a program to train thousands of congressional staffers and conducted professional

• 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.

trainings at the Brookings Institution. Her mentorship and scholarship have informed a generation of congressional employees and I feel reassured knowing that her institutional influence will continue long past the date of her retirement.

Unsurprisingly given the scope and depth of her achievements, Ms. Schneider has been decorated with many recognitions. She received a Meritorious Service Award and a Congressional Staff Leadership Award from the Stennis Center, as well as several awards from the Congressional Management Foundation and the Women in Government Relations (WGR) society. WGR even created a fellowship in her name to honor her service to “the thousands of women she has mentored, developed, and trained.”

After spending her career shaping Congress into a more effective, procedurally efficient place, Ms. Schneider now heads to Sea Isle City, New Jersey, for an extremely well-deserved retirement. I thank her for her career and service, and I have been immensely proud to call her my friend and constituent and will always consider her so. She has our best wishes.

HONORING CHANDLER PARK CONSERVANCY'S MARSHLAND PROJECT

HON. RASHIDA TLAI

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. TLAI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chandler Park Conservancy as they break ground on a marshland conservation project in Detroit, Michigan.

Michigan is well known for its beautiful lakes and rivers that are home to diverse wildlife. But these areas are at risk of being lost as more areas become developed, especially in cities like Detroit. Chandler Park Conservancy is taking steps to preserve those areas and make spaces habitable for wild plants and animals to flourish again.

Beyond restoring natural beauty to the area, the project will provide the added benefit of diverting storm water from the city's already overburdened sewer system; it will create sustainable rain gardens and house an outdoor classroom where students can learn more about conserving and protecting our natural resources.

Please join me in tribute to the Chandler Park Conservancy in honor of its marshland conservation project.

HONORING COLONEL TODD W. LYONS

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colonel Todd W. Lyons for his thirty years of honorable service to our country and congratulate him on his retirement from the United States Marine Corps.

Col. Lyons was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps

in 1989. He graduated with honors from the Field Artillery Basic and Advanced Courses, and in 1994 he returned to serve as a Fire Support Instructor. After his subsequent assignment, he was selected to attend the Naval Postgraduate School where he earned a master's degree in National Security Affairs. Col. Lyons was selected for duty as a Marine Attaché in 2000, studying Arabic at the Foreign Service Institute in Washington, DC. Col. Lyons then served as an Attaché in Qatar, Israel, and Oman, where he led strategic planning teams to further national security objectives.

After his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel in 2005, Col. Lyons was selected to attend the Israeli National Defense College where he graduated with honors. In 2008, Col. Lyons deployed to Iraq as an Engagements Officer where he was a key figure in coordinating allies to secure the transfer of Anbar Province back to Iraqi control. In 2014 he returned to the Defense Attaché Service and served as the Chief of Operations until 2016, where he directed operations in crisis regions throughout the world.

Col. Lyons is currently the Senior Marine Representative at the Naval Postgraduate School, where he teaches Innovation Leadership and is widely respected as a professor and mentor of our next generation of military leaders. In his role as the Associate Dean of Research, Col. Lyons employs an interdisciplinary approach by connecting academic researchers with military practitioners.

Col. Lyons' personal decorations emphasize his efforts and unwavering dedication to serving our country. They include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Navy and Marine Corps Meritorious Service Medal with gold star, and the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold stars. Col. Lyons has received two Department of State Superior Honor Awards for his esteemed work as an Attaché, one for his work in Israel during the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza in 2005 and another for his work in Oman between 2011 and 2014.

Col. Lyons' distinguished career of military service is nothing short of an inspiration, and his legacy of teaching and leadership will undoubtedly live on through our future generations of service members. He embodies dedication and service, and the central coast of California has benefitted greatly from his presence. I wholeheartedly wish Col. Lyons, his wife Kristiana and their three daughters, Grace, Eleanor and Jordan the best during his retirement. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in thanking Colonel Todd W. Lyons for his honorable service to our nation and congratulating him on his well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF DR. KELLY SCOTT SEGARS, SR.

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Dr. Kelly Scott Segars, Sr., who passed away on Tuesday, July 23rd at the age of 89.

Dr. Segars, a resident of Iuka, Mississippi, served his community, state, and nation as a

physician, banker, pilot, farmer, entrepreneur and humanitarian. He was born on March 11, 1930, in Red Bay, Alabama to Dock and Ora S. Segars. He was an honor graduate of Red Bay High School and the Auburn University School of Pharmacy. Upon completion of his studies at Auburn, he married his high school sweetheart, Martha Ann Thompson. He joined the U.S. Army as a Second Lieutenant and was promoted to the rank of First Lieutenant while serving in Korea from 1953 to 1955. He received many recognitions for his service including the American Defense Medal, Korean Service Medal, United Nations Medal and Army Commendation Medal.

Following his military service, he pursued his interest in medicine and graduated from the University of Mississippi School of Medicine in 1959. In 1982, he established The Segars Clinic, and it quickly became known as the State's most innovative and technically advanced medical facilities in North Mississippi. In 1962, Dr. Segars chartered the First National Bank of Iuka. Today, First American National Bank operates nine branches in six counties.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife of almost 67 years, Martha Thompson Segars; his sons—Scott Segars and Mark Segars of Iuka, MS; and his daughter Leigh Ann Segars of Pensacola, Florida as well as five grandchildren.

Dr. Segars' life was one of service, love for his family, and community. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered.

HONORING AVIATION MACHINIST'S MATE 1ST CLASS GORDON KINNEY ON HIS 105TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Aviation Machinist's Mate 1st Class Gordon Kinney of Chicago, Illinois, who is celebrating his 105th birthday today. Mr. Kinney is a veteran who bravely served our nation in the United States Navy during World War II.

Mr. Kinney was deployed to Japan during his three-year tour of duty in World War II, where he served as a Navy Aircraft Crew Chief aboard a PBM Mariner aircraft nicknamed *ABLE*. PBM Mariner flight crews played a vital role throughout the war, acting as patrol bombers as well as performing high priority search and rescue missions for downed pilots and aircrews. The crew complement consisted of three pilots, two navigators, and four crew. Mr. Kinney was drawn to aviation at a young age and knew he wanted to fly from the time he was only five years old.

Mr. Kinney and each of his three brothers answered the call of duty and fought to defend our country during World War II. He and his brothers were inspired by their family's long tradition of service to our country, dating back to their father and grandfather.

For Mr. Kinney's heroism and extraordinary achievement during his military service, he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross as well as the Air Medal. These decorations exemplify Mr. Kinney's dedication to the Navy's core values of honor, courage, and commitment, as well as his country.

Mr. Kinney's sacrifice and dedication to our country are an inspiration to us all. He is a man who defended our country at a time of tremendous need. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring his service, bravery, and dedication to his family and community.

ASTORIA REGATTA

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Astoria Regatta, the City of Astoria, and Clatsop County on the 125th celebration of the Regatta. This is a joyous milestone for one of the oldest festivals west of the Rocky Mountains and an important moment to pause and reflect on the significance of the Regatta to our region.

Since the Astoria Regatta's founding in 1894, it has celebrated our connection to the mighty Columbia River and our heritage as a seafaring and fishing community. The first festival, which evolved out of the custom of boat racing on the river, included a parade of 22 decorated yachts and the presence of the *U.S. Monitor Monterey*. Early Regattas featured a four-and-a-half mile swim across the river, and the popular Salmon Derby. Since then, the Regatta has grown with the additions of the Regatta Court, the Grand Land Parade, the Seaman's Memorial, the rose planting ceremony, and many other special community traditions.

Today, the Astoria Regatta embodies the best aspects of our region. Through the Royal Court, the Regatta helps develop the leadership skills of young women. The Regatta is also an opportunity to praise the dedication of community leaders who serve as Regatta Dignitaries: the Admiral, Admiral's Aide, and the Grand Marshals. And through the Seaman's Memorial, the Regatta allows us to remember and memorialize those we have lost on the river and the ocean.

Although World War I and World War II interrupted the celebration of the Astoria Regatta, the community always found a way to restore it. In fact, many of our long-standing community institutions have ties to the Regatta: in 1933, the newly-founded Astoria Yacht Club helped bring the Regatta back after the First World War, and the Clatsop County Fair began in 1905 as an agricultural exhibit of the Regatta. Past Regattas marked the Lewis and Clark Sesquicentennial Celebration in 1955, the opening of the Astoria-Megler Bridge in 1966, the U.S. Bicentennial in 1976, and the Bicentennial of Astoria in 2011.

We can only imagine what E.J. Smith, editor of *The Daily Morning Astorian*, and Frank M. Gunn, secretary of the Astoria Football Club, would think about the 125th anniversary of the tradition they started in 1894. Like us, surely they would be proud of the community that Astoria has become, the growth and vitality of this region, and the continuation of this grand tradition.

SUPPORT FOR H.R. 748

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman NEAL for his leadership managing this bill on the floor. As Chair of the Ways and Means Committee, his advocacy is a powerful message to the House to pass the Middle Class Health Benefits Tax Repeal Act. I also want to thank Ranking Member BRADY and Rep. MIKE KELLY for their bipartisan efforts in support of this bill, defying the polarized politics that far too often dominates the health care debate.

Madam Speaker, this bill today comes with the support of a more than 650 health care stakeholders who, over the last ten years, have joined together to repeal the 40 percent excise tax on higher premium health plans scheduled to go into effect in 2022.

This tax was a late add on to the Affordable Care Act and has been rattling around in the federal tax code ever since, never having actually collected a penny of revenue, but nonetheless casting an statutory shadow over 180 million Americans' health plans—we know in real life from HR administrators and employee representatives it has added pressure to shift coverage into higher deductible health plans. As the Commonwealth Fund recently reported, the numbers of Americans who are underinsured as the result of high deductibles has grown by over 50 percent since 2005. Kaiser Family Foundation just reported that 31 percent of employer health plans will get hit by the tax in 2022, and that number will grow sharply soon after. Passage of this bill will stop that trend from worsening, lift the shadow that overhangs employer-sponsored plans, and give millions of teachers, factory workers, small businesses, firefighters and the like, relief.

As the bill's lead sponsor, I want to foot stomp the fact that repeal of the tax does not touch the architecture of the ACA's patient protections. Repeal is completely severable from the other 440 sections of the law and leaves intact essential health benefits, and the elimination of preexisting conditions exclusions and lifetime caps to name a few. Given that those patient protections have been in full operation for the last ten years, while this "zombie tax" has been in a coma during that time, it is abundantly clear that the tax is disconnected from the rest of the law. Lastly, I want to underscore the CBO determination that passage will not result in any increase in the number of uninsured.

There is one other concern that observers have raised, namely the impact on the national debt. Again, JCT has given a mixed report. The good news is that repeal this year 2019 will result in no budget impact in 2020 and 2021. In the following two years they estimate a loss of 21 billion in tax revenue. In the out years their projections grow exponentially, based on a theory of "wage effect" cause by the "thinning" of health plans' value and a corresponding increase in wages. To say that the "wage effect" theory is debatable is an understatement, and employee groups such as Wage Works, the AFL-CIO, police and firefighter groups ferociously deny the validity of the "wage effect" based on their real life experience at the collective bargaining table.

The only remaining question a reasonable observer might ask is why has repeal taken so long? Given the initial 5-year delay in the tax's effective date in 2010, based on Speaker Nancy Pelosi's opposition and the two subsequent delays until 2022, it is true that the warning flags were up on this tax early and Congress should have acted sooner. In the Congresses that followed 2010 ACA enactment, there was ample opportunity to get this done. In the 114th Congress an identical surgical repeal bill had 188 bipartisan cosponsors. In the 115th Congress a surgical bill had 304 bipartisan cosponsors. Despite that broad based support, neither Speaker John Boehner nor Paul Ryan ever called those bills up for a vote. I know because I was the lead Democratic sponsor on every one of those measures.

Madam Speaker, with 370 House cosponsors, I am hopeful an overwhelming tally tonight will send a laser-like message to the Senate to adopt this bill as soon as possible, as is.

RECOGNIZING LILA MILLER AND ELIZABETH SAUNDERS FOR THEIR SUCCESS IN THE 2019 USROWING NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Lila Miller and Elizabeth Saunders for their success in the 2019 USRowing National Championships. Through their perseverance and determination, Lila and Elizabeth have distinguished themselves as athletes and representatives of their community and Michigan's First District.

Although Lila is blind, she has learned to row over the past several years as a member of the Lake Leelanau Rowing Club. Together, she and Elizabeth have developed a passion for the sport—and rowing together at the USRowing National Championships, they brought home gold medals for the club. With rowers varying in age from 12 to the mid-80's, the Lake Leelanau Rowing Club is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization dedicated to promoting access to rowing for Michiganders of all ages and experience levels. They host national sculling clinics, rowing camps, and year-round programs for local youth and adults, including for those with visual impairments. These programs are held on the grounds and lakefront at Fountain Point Resort, Michigan's oldest waterfront resort and a National Historic Site. Fountain Point and Lake Leelanau offer the ideal location for cultivating a love of rowing, offering 17 miles of pristine water for rowers like Lila and Elizabeth to practice the sport.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate Lila Miller and Elizabeth Saunders for their success in the 2019 USRowing National Championships. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such exceptional individuals. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Elizabeth and Lila all the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING CHP OFFICER ROGER
GORE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and sacrifice of California Highway Patrol Officer Roger Davis Gore. On April 5, 1970, Officer Gore was one of four CHP officers tragically gunned down in a police shooting near Interstate 5. In remembrance of his sacrifice, a section of State Highway 99 in Merced is being dedicated to him and his colleague, Officer Walter Frago.

Born on February 17, 1947 to Max Gore and Bertha M. Staley, Officer Gore was the second born in his family of three in the Merced County town of Snelling, California. He graduated from Merced High School and later attended Merced College before becoming a CHP officer in 1967. Together, he and his wife Valerie were the parents of one daughter, Elyce.

On April 5, 1970, Officers Frago and Gore were the first to respond to a suspect who had been reported brandishing a weapon. Upon pulling over a vehicle with two men, a gun fight ensued leaving Officers Frago and Gore, as well as Officers George Aleyn and James Pence dead. This tragedy is one still remembered by the law enforcement community and Merced County residents as Officers Frago and Gore were both born and raised in Merced.

In honor of Officer Gore's commitment to duty and sacrifice, the section of Highway 99 between Mission Avenue and Campus Parkway is being dedicated as the CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway. This location is fitting, as Campus Parkway will eventually connect Highway 99 to the University of California, Merced campus. This section of highway being dedicated will continue to ensure our local community and future generations remember and honor the sacrifice of these two young officers, each of whom lost their lives at 23-years-old on that tragic day.

The CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway symbolizes the sacrifice these two gentlemen gave for all citizens to help continue building a better future for our community and country. Furthermore, it will help bridge Merced County's past to its present and remind community members of the dedication to duty exhibited by these two fine officers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the duty and sacrifice of CHP Officer Roger Gore. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor him as the CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway is dedicated. I wish his family, the California Highway Patrol, and the Merced law enforcement community the best as this section of Highway 99 is dedicated in his honor.

IN HONOR OF THE BICENTENNIAL
OF TAPPAN CHAIRS

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tappan Chairs of Sandwich as

they celebrate their bicentennial. First opened in 1819 by Abraham Tappan, Tappan Chairs has become a pillar in the Sandwich community.

This business stayed in the Tappan family for over a hundred years through the work of the founder's son, Daniel, and grandsons, Walter and Winthrop. Although it has changed owners since those early days, the style and durability of Tappan Chairs has remained, and they are still produced on the same vintage equipment that they were crafted on so many generations ago.

The success and longevity of Tappan Chairs is a testament to the enduring work ethic of its owners, who for generation after generation, stepped in to take its mantle. On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I congratulate everyone at Tappan Chairs on an exciting anniversary. I hope that they are able to celebrate this impressive milestone and wish them the best of luck in their next 200 years of business! I thank them for all that they do to make the Granite State such a wonderful place to work, live, and play.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ALLOWING
BODY CAMERAS IN JOINT TASK
FORCES ACT OF 2019

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, Representative DONALD S. BEYER, Jr. and I introduce the Allowing Body Cameras in Joint Task Forces Act of 2019. This bill would prohibit the federal government from refusing to work with local police departments that require their officers to wear body cameras. Our bill would apply to all federal agencies.

Under current policy, though it appears to be unwritten, the Department of Justice has been refusing to participate in task forces with local police departments that have body camera requirements.

The Justice Department has determined that 47 percent of police departments in the country have body cameras. It is beyond reason to prevent these numerous police agencies from participating in federal task forces if their officers wear body cameras. The federal government should be encouraging the use of officer body cameras instead of discouraging their use. This bill only applies to uniformed officers, which means federal officials could refuse to participate in task forces if body cameras are used during undercover operations.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

HUMANITARIAN STANDARDS FOR
INDIVIDUALS IN CUSTOMS AND
BORDER PROTECTION CUSTODY
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 3239) to require U.S. Customs and Border Protection to perform an initial health screening on detainees, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3239, the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Custody Act.

Having visited federal immigration detention facilities along the U.S.-Mexico border, I have seen firsthand the alarming conditions imposed on many immigrant refugees by the Trump administration. There is no question that we have a humanitarian crisis on our border. It is also clear that the immigrant detention system operated by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) needs significant reform and passing H.R. 3239 is the first step in the process of improving this distressing situation.

H.R. 3239 would finally establish a basic standard of care for immigrants in CBP custody, including clearly defining the requirements for sanitation, nutrition, and hygiene in CBP detention facilities. The legislation would also ensure health screenings by medical professionals for every immigrant in CBP custody. I would note that this legislation was written with the input of CBP Officers who both understand the scope of the humanitarian crisis and the changes that need to be made in order to ensure that immigrants in CBP custody get the necessary medical care they may require.

With regards to the Republican Motion to Recommit on H.R. 3239, I am unable to support it because Congress still requires answers from CBP officials on why Members of Congress and immigrants were targeted in a derogatory Facebook group run by current and former CBP employees. However, I would like to strongly state that I will always stand in support of our federal employees who follow their oath of office. Many employees at CBP put their safety at risk on a daily basis, conduct themselves with integrity, and they should be supported.

Mr. Chair, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3239.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MR. J.
FRANK FILGO

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to Mr. J. Frank Filgo, on the occasion of his retirement as President and Chief Executive Officer for the Alabama Trucking Association after more than 24 years of service. Mr. Filgo made a tremendous impact on the Alabama Trucking Association, leading it with honor and character while advocating for the trucking industry's needs in Alabama's political arena.

Mr. Filgo graduated from Mississippi State University with a Bachelor of Science in Social Studies Teacher Education and is a graduate of the National Institute of Organization Management at the University of Delaware. He received his Certified Association Executive designation in 1988 and served as Chairman of the Alabama Society of Association Executives. Throughout his career, he has been active in several state pro-business coalitions, including serving on the Board of Directors of the Business Council of Alabama (BCA).

Prior to becoming President of the Alabama Trucking Association in 1995, Mr. Filgo served as President of the Alabama Alliance of Business and Industry where he provided political research benefitting business groups. He is also a former chairman of the Region II Trucking Association Executive Council and currently serves as its secretary.

In recognition of his tireless work on behalf of Alabama's trucking industry, as well as his leadership in the state's business community, Mr. Filgo received the Alabama Trucking Association's 2015 H. Chester Webb Award for Distinguished Services and the 2017 Jo Bonner Spirit of Leadership Award as presented by the BCA.

Mr. Filgo is known in both Alabama and Washington for his impressive ability to build coalitions to improve the business climate for all Alabamians, especially those in the trucking industry. His ability to forge relationships, coordination of staff, and leadership style have brought him immense success and significant positive impact on Alabama's trucking community. With extraordinary and sincere gratitude, I thank Mr. Filgo for his dedicated service and outstanding contributions to Alabama and the Alabama trucking community. I wish Mr. Filgo all the best as he retires from the Alabama Trucking Association, and may God bless him, his wife Jackie, his daughter Marianne, his son Jack, and his entire family in the next chapter of his life.

IN HONOR OF ROY BATES

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a special man, Roy Bates, of Winchester, Kentucky. Mr. Bates, a true patriot, passed away on July 4, 2019.

Roy Bates was quite eager to serve his country and attempted unsuccessfully to enlist in the Navy and in the Army when he was not yet of legal age. In 1950, when he was 18 years old, he enlisted in the Marine Corps and went to Parris Island for training. He was assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 7th Regiment, 1st Division. He was soon sent to Korea to join his fellow Marines.

On September 1, 1951, just 3 days before his 19th birthday, Mr. Bates was on patrol when his group was ambushed. They were taking heavy fire. Crawling on his belly trying to reach cover, he heard the dreaded click of a landmine beneath him. His left leg was blown away and his right leg sustained numerous wounds. Severely wounded, he was carried off the field by two fellow Marines. One of those who carried him off was killed in action a few days later. Many years later Mr. Bates was reunited with Royce Henry, the other Marine who saved him.

Mr. Bates spent 7 years in and out of hospitals and had 32 surgeries. He received a Purple Heart as well as numerous other medals. He married his wife Betty and they had 4 children. Mr. Bates eventually returned home to Winchester where he always cherished a deep love for his country and for the Marine Corps. He was a well respected member of his community who exemplified good character and a positive attitude all of his life.

Mr. Bates and his fellow veterans are true heroes. He willingly served to protect and defend the freedoms that we enjoy today. He faced life with an unwavering faith in God and love for this country. I am humbled to honor the life of Mr. Roy Bates before the United States Congress.

DYNAMIC ARGENTINA AND CHILE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, this past weekend of the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Landing on the Moon, I was grateful to join with Chairman ALBIO SIREs of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee of the Western Hemisphere to participate in a bipartisan delegation to Argentina and Chile. Additional members were TED DEUTCH, TOM GRAVES, TED YOHO, and NORMA TORRES.

The initial purpose of the CODEL was to attend the Remembrance Ceremony commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the terrorist bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo provided a heartfelt tribute for the 85 victims viciously murdered by cowardly perpetrators traced to the terrorists of Hezbollah financed by the Iranian regime. AMIA President Ariel Eichbaum welcomed diplomats from across South America.

We also visited the memorial park at the site of the Israeli Embassy which was bombed in 1992 murdering 29 victims who were largely Argentinian citizens who were tragically simply walking in the neighborhood.

Due to the respect of Chairman SIREs, the delegation was welcomed to the office of President Mauricio Macri. It was impressive to meet with such a public servant who so clearly loves and appreciates the people he serves of Argentina.

U.S. Ambassador Eduard Prado and his wife Maria hosted our visit to the historic Ambassador's residence where we met the courageous Ambassador from Venezuela Elisa Trotta Gamus. Ambassador Gamus has been appointed by the legitimate government of Venezuela led by Interim-President Juan Guaido opposed to the dictatorship of the disgraced Nicolas Maduro who has plundered the formerly wealthy nation of Venezuela stealing from its impoverished citizens.

In Santiago, Chile, a very professional country team briefing was provided at the Embassy confirming Chile as a very dynamic democracy with extraordinary economic success as a model of free market benefits of reducing poverty. The professionalism of the military of Chile was presented as they are partnered with the Texas National Guard. Charge d'Affaires Baxter Hunt has an enthusiastic staff.

The U.S. Chile Interparliamentary Friendship Group of the Chamber of Deputies led by Chamber President Ivan Flores Garcia hosted a meeting with Chilean parliamentarians of different parties who all were clear in their appreciation and respect for America.

U.S. educated, Fulbright Scholar, President Sebastian Pinera welcomed the delegation to the Presidential Palace. More traveled than the delegation, he has visited all 50 U.S.

states. In his current term and his prior service as President, it is clear his free market success has built a modern, vibrant partner of the United States inspiring democracy in all of South America.

The talented citizens of Argentina and Chile can be proud of their achievements with Argentina having a land mass equal to the U.S., east of Mississippi River and narrow Chile at 8,000 miles—three time the length of California.

IN MEMORY OF DR. EDITH IRBY JONES

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the distinguished life and legacy of Dr. Edith Irby Jones, who passed away on July 15, 2019.

Dr. Jones was the epitome of a trailblazer. In 1948, she became the first African American student admitted to the University of Arkansas Medical School—six years before the Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. In 1959, Dr. Jones again made history as the first African American woman resident at Baylor College of Medicine. Twenty-six years later, Dr. Jones became the first female president of the National Medical Association, an organization that has represented black physicians since 1895.

For half a century, Dr. Jones committed herself to serving marginalized communities in Houston's Greater Third Ward area. She often went beyond the typical duties of a physician by making house calls and picking up patients in her van in order to expand services to the underserved in the community. Along with her work in Houston, Dr. Jones treated patients, trained physicians, and founded a clinic in Haiti. Service and dedication for the less fortunate were integral components of Dr. Jones's remarkable career, and we are truly grateful for the impact she has had on generations of aspiring African American medical professionals.

Outside of her medical practice, Dr. Jones notably worked alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as part of the "Freedom Four," a group that traveled throughout the segregated South to encourage people to join the civil rights movement.

Dr. Jones is survived by her daughter, Myra; sons, Gary and Keith; and many wonderful grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Dr. Jones and her extraordinary contributions to medicine, social justice, and the Greater Houston community. We thank her and will miss her dearly.

HONORING CHP OFFICER WALTER FRAGO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and sacrifice of California Highway Patrol Officer Walter Carroll Frago. On

April 5, 1970, Officer Frago was one of four CHP officers tragically gunned down in a police shooting near Interstate 5. In remembrance of his sacrifice, a section of State Highway 99 in Merced is being dedicated to him and his colleague, Officer Roger Gore.

Born on December 22, 1946 to Augustine L. Frago and Rose M. Piovano, Officer Frago was the third of seven children in the family. He graduated from Our Lady of Mercy High School and later Merced College. In 1965, he married Nicola B. Dunaway, together they had two daughters Amorette and Gabriell. In 1968, he began his career as a CHP officer.

On April 5, 1970, Officers Frago and Gore were the first to respond to a suspect who had been reported brandishing a weapon. Upon pulling over a vehicle with two men, a gun fight ensued leaving Officers Frago and Gore, as well as Officers George Aleyn and James Pence dead. This tragedy is one still remembered by the law enforcement community and Merced County residents as Officers Frago and Gore were both born and raised in Merced.

In honor of Officer Frago's commitment to duty and sacrifice, the section of Highway 99 between Mission Avenue and Campus Parkway is being dedicated as the CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway. This location is fitting, as Campus Parkway will eventually connect Highway 99 to the University of California, Merced campus. This section of highway being dedicated will continue to ensure our local community and future generations remember and honor the sacrifice of these two young officers, each of whom lost their lives at 23-years-old on that tragic day.

The CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway symbolizes the sacrifice these two gentlemen gave for all citizens to help continue building a better future for our community and country. Furthermore, it will help bridge Merced County's past to its present and remind community members of the dedication to duty exhibited by these two fine officers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the duty and sacrifice of CHP Officer Walter Frago. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor him as the CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway is dedicated. I wish his family, the California Highway Patrol, and the Merced law enforcement community the best as this section of Highway 99 is dedicated in his honor.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BIKESHARE TRANSIT ACT OF 2019

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, America is in the middle of a micromobility revolution, with bikeshare and scooters changing the way that people get around. First introduced in the United States in 2010, more than 100 communities now have bikeshare systems, supporting a network of more than 100,000 bikes. Since bikeshare's launch in the United States, riders have taken more than 100 million trips, with the number of trips and systems increasing each year.

My community recently celebrated the third anniversary of its BIKETOWN bikeshare

launch. Since then, Portlanders and visitors have taken nearly 900,000 trips, covering more than one million miles and removing untold numbers of automobiles from city streets. The system's success has already led to its expansion, giving more communities access to efficient, carbon-free transportation.

The increased commercial investment around bikeshare stations and networks is driving economic development across the country. Systems are opening in communities of all sizes from Los Angeles and Cleveland to Topeka and Birmingham. While some existing bikeshare programs received federal dollars to develop their systems, the lack of an established funding source has proved an impediment to many other projects. Since the term "bikeshare" is not defined in U.S. code or described by law as a form of transit, existing bikeshare systems and departments of transportation are forced to operate in a gray area, creating challenges for funding, maintaining, and administering these programs.

Today, I am reintroducing the Bikeshare Transit Act of 2019, legislation that will eliminate this gray area by defining bikeshare in statute and making bikeshare systems eligible to receive funding to enhance related public transportation service or transit facilities. The bill allows federal funding to be used for acquiring or replacing bikeshare-related equipment and constructing bikeshare facilities. Bikeshare systems will also be listed as eligible projects under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program.

The Bikeshare Transit Act will remove significant barriers facing new and existing bikeshare projects applying for federal funding while underscoring that bikeshare programs drive economic development and add value to America's transportation system.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRAVO COMPANY, NEW BATTALION'S SERVICE IN BROWN COUNTY, WISCONSIN

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work, dedication, and outstanding service of Bravo Company, NEW Battalion in helping veterans in Brown County, Wisconsin.

In 2017, the citizens of Brown County were asked to create a new program to help veterans in Northeast Wisconsin transition from active duty to civilian life. As a result, a group of hardworking veterans and citizens formed Bravo Company, NEW Battalion, a non-profit veteran-to-veteran sponsorship organization. The veteran sponsorship program increases veterans' awareness of the educational, state, and federal benefits, as well as community resources that are available to them upon returning home from active duty.

Earlier this year, the first set of veteran-to-veteran sponsors completed training, receiving education on the many veteran service organizations and resources available to veterans and their families in Northeast Wisconsin. After training, each sponsor is partnered with a recently discharged veteran to support the

veteran through the transition phase and connect him or her to support services in the area, like the County Veteran Service Office.

Since its creation, Bravo Company, NEW Battalion has already helped veterans in Northeast Wisconsin navigate and return to civilian life. I am confident the organization will continue to help many more returning veterans as its ranks grow.

The commitment to excellence, dedication and service that Elaina Koltz, Scott Katzka, Ken Corry, Dick Marbes, and Patrick Fauldes have shown is integral to the success of veterans transitioning to civilian life in Brown County. These founding board members of Bravo Company, NEW Battalion insure that veterans receive a warm welcome from active duty or deployment back home to Brown County. They truly demonstrate selfless service and are an asset to this community.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in applauding Bravo Company, NEW Battalion, its board, and its veteran volunteer sponsors for their service to discharged veterans in Northeast Wisconsin. I am proud to have such an organization in my district, one which consists of many veterans whose service continues even after they remove their uniform.

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank you as well as Chairman MALONEY, Ranking Member GRAVES, and Ranking Member GIBBS, for your leadership.

I rise in support of H.R. 3409, and applaud the inclusion of Title VIII, the Coast Guard Academy Improvement Act.

I have been honored to work closely with Chairman DEFAZIO and Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON, the Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, as well as with Congressman JOE COURTNEY, to address the troubling issues that have arisen at the Coast Guard Academy.

As Chairman of the Coast Guard Subcommittee from 2007 through 2010, I convened a series of hearings to push the Academy to ensure that its cadet corps reflects the diversity of the nation it is being prepared to serve. And progress has been made.

However, the recent Equity Scorecard evaluation has found profoundly troubling trends at the Academy.

Specifically, the review found that, "Black/African-American cadets have been consistently less likely to graduate than the all-cadet average" and, "Of particular urgency is Black/African-American cadets' disproportionately high share of disciplinary sanctions."

Then, in December 2018, the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security issued a report finding that a Lieutenant Commander on the faculty of the Academy, "was retaliated against on the basis of her complaints, in violation of the Military Whistleblower Protection Act."

Chairman THOMPSON, Congressman COURTNEY, and I are continuing to conduct oversight

of the Academy's response to the Equity Scorecard findings, and we are investigating numerous disparities and shortcomings in how the Academy handles allegations of harassment and bullying.

However, one thing is already abundantly clear: Business as usual is simply not an option.

For that reason, in June, I was honored to join Chairman THOMPSON in introducing H.R. 3488, the Coast Guard Academy Improvement Act.

I appreciate the thoughtful revisions that have been made to that bill's text through close collaboration with the Transportation Committee and I thank Chairman DEFazio for including those revisions in the Coast Guard Authorization Act before us.

These provisions will require urgently needed assessments of and improvements in the Academy's outreach processes and institutional structures to foster expanded diversity.

I urge all Members to vote in favor of the Coast Guard Authorization Act.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN LEGION POST 39 OF NORTH SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of American Legion Post 39 of North Saint Paul, Minnesota.

Shortly after the end of World War I, 15 veterans living around the village of North Saint Paul came together to discuss a new national organization called the American Legion that was dedicated to serving veterans and their families. These veterans decided to seek a charter for a local post, which was issued on August 1, 1919, beginning a century of service and support for Minnesota veterans, their families and the greater good of the surrounding North Saint Paul community.

The newly formed American Legion Post 39 quickly found its focus serving the community by leading a Safety First Committee which worked with businesses to improve safety around crossing guards and signals at rail and street crossings. To honor and support their fellow veterans, another part of their mission was to support the Minneapolis and Hastings Veterans Homes, the Veterans Rest Camp and the Fort Snelling Rifle Squad. The post also made investments in America's future by sponsoring Boy's State, Legionville school patrol camp and providing college scholarships for local students, as well as their American Legion Baseball team the 39ers.

Spouses, daughters and granddaughters of Post 39 have always been integral to the success of its work. Post 39 Auxiliary was formally chartered in May 1926 to work alongside the post and expand its community contributions, including support of Girls' State and Webster Elementary School. The auxiliary has also assisted important entities like the Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans and the Veterans Administration Community Resource and Referral Center. The auxiliary has played a vital role in the success of the Post.

As a life member of the Post 39 Auxiliary, I know firsthand the many contributions that the post makes to our veterans, our state and our nation.

The sons and grandsons of veterans who comprise Squadron 39—Sons of the American Legion have supported among many programs the North St Paul Food Shelf, American Legion Baseball, the Silver Lake Splash and the Shop, Ship and Share program.

Just last year, Post 39 was a key supporter of the American Legion National Convention, held in Minneapolis—which marked the start of the 100th anniversary of the national organization. Through its support of the work and advocacy of the American Legion, Department of Minnesota as well as the National Organization, the North Saint Paul Post 39 epitomizes the Four Pillars of the American Legion—Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children and Youth.

Madam Speaker, as veterans, families and members of the area communities gather on August 3, 2019 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the founding of American Legion Post 39 of North Saint Paul, Minnesota please join me in honoring this major milestone and the generations of leaders and members of this veterans service organization.

RECOGNIZING MARTIN PURYEAR

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the achievements of Martin Puryear.

Martin Puryear, the eldest of seven children, was born in Washington, DC. He was raised in Southwest Washington and attended the then-segregated William Syphax Elementary School. His lifelong interest in the natural world and how things are constructed inspired a young Puryear to visit local institutions such as the National Zoo, the Museum of Science and Technology and the Museum of Natural History. The city's art museums left a profound impact on Puryear, and today some of those same museums—the National Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian American Art Museum and the Hirshhorn Museum—hold some of his most significant works in their permanent collections.

After graduating from the Catholic University of America, Puryear spent two years in Sierra Leone teaching English, French and biology as a member of the Peace Corps. He continued his studies at the Swedish Royal Academy of Art in Stockholm and received his MFA from Yale University.

Puryear's approach to object-making has been influenced by the indigenous techniques and materials of cultures he has encountered on his travels. His sculptures are painstakingly constructed from materials such as wood, metal and stone. Their elegant, abstract forms reflect his deep interest in history.

Puryear received a MacArthur Foundation award in 1989 and the National Medal of Arts from President Obama in 2011. This year, he is representing the United States at the 58th Venice Biennale. The Museum of Modern Art

in New York and the Art Institute of Chicago have organized major retrospectives, and his work has been acquired by museums across the United States, Europe and Asia.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Martin Puryear for his outstanding accomplishments as an artist and honored DC native.

COMMEMORATING THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF LECHASE CONSTRUCTION

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of LeChase Construction.

Established in 1944 by Raymond F. LeChase, LeChase Construction is a full-service construction management and general construction firm. With humble beginnings, LeChase Construction began as a small family operation to fill the local demand for construction work during World War II. Today LeChase employs more than seven hundred and fifty employees and ranks among the nation's top contractors.

LeChase prides itself of offering the capabilities of a large firm while maintaining the personalized service of a small firm. For the last twenty years, LeChase's Southern Tier operations, headquartered in Corning, New York, has provided people from the region with the expertise and high quality of service that LeChase is known for. From Chautauqua to Elmira and down to central Pennsylvania, LeChase has earned the respect of repeat clients, who account for nearly ninety percent of the region's work. Vice President Fred Thompson credits that earned respect to their track record of delivering successful projects and the hardworking, down-to-earth people of the Southern Tier.

Seventy-five years of serving the community is certainly a cause for celebration. I congratulate LeChase on this impressive milestone and look forward to their continued success in the years to come.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of LeChase Construction.

HONORING THE CAREER OF CHARLES SCOTT NEELY

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize the distinguished career of Charles Scott Neely, Principal of Cypress Bay High School in my hometown of Weston, Florida.

Scott Neely is one of Broward County's longest-serving high school principals. He was the founding principal and served at the helm of Cypress Bay, Florida's largest high school, since it opened in 2002 and shepherded thousands of students—including my three children—through some of the most formidable years of their lives.

Principal Neely built Cypress Bay into one of the highest ranked public high schools in the nation. They have an almost perfect graduation rate, 72 percent of students take at least one Advance Placement course, and 90 percent pursue studies in college or vocational schools. Beyond academics, Principal Neely and Cypress Bay High have instilled a sense of service in their students. In recent years, the student body has raised over \$250,000 for UNICEF. Scott has also fostered a learning environment that values diversity and inspires all students to succeed. Indeed, Cypress Bay reflects the beautiful diversity of my home state, with a student body that is more than 50 percent Hispanic.

Scott's devotion to his students is a reminder that we must continue to invest in our nation's teachers, children, and schools. And Principal Neely has always understood that in order to invest in our students, we need to invest in our teachers. He is truly an educator's educator. Educators will tell you that teaching is demanding. Educators work long hours and are not only expected to impart a certain knowledge, but they also instill a love of learning in their students.

I know firsthand the excellence Scott has brought to Cypress Bay each day. His patience, wisdom, and encouragement have helped shape tomorrow's leaders, ensuring America remains competitive, innovative, and prosperous.

Scott is a champion for our children and an inspiration to all those who know him, myself included. I join my fellow Cypress Bay Lighting parents, students, and alumni in wishing the "Big Kahuna" well on his retirement and in thanking him for the thoughtful and committed work he has done to enrich and safeguard our children.

IN HONOR OF THE KENTUCKY NATIONAL GUARD, 206TH ENGINEER BATTALION

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 206th Engineer Battalion of the Kentucky National Guard, which is deploying to assist the U.S. Central Command Area of Operations.

While I am sorry I cannot be with them at today's deployment ceremony, I express my profound gratitude to them for embarking on this mission to serve the United States of America. We are blessed to live in the greatest country in the world. America is truly the land of the free and the home of the brave—all because of men and women like them who have answered the call to serve. The entire Commonwealth of Kentucky is proud of them and behind them during this mission. I join everyone in Owensboro in praying for their safety, and I look forward to welcoming them home.

HONORING THE FALLEN COMBAT VETERANS FROM LAKE HAVASU CITY, ARIZONA

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of six brave men from Lake Havasu City, Arizona who made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our great country. The men and women of the United States Military place themselves in danger every day to afford us the freedoms and the way of life that we are privileged to have.

SSG. Carl Hammar, SPC. Dylan Thomas, SPC. Anthony Sausto, SPC. Patrick Tinnell, SP4 Scott Broadston and SPC. Carey "Gary" Harmon dedicated their lives to these shared ideals that make the United States a country unlike any other. While no words or actions can ever repay the valor and service of these men, we commemorate their sacrifice with my legislation, H.R. 3314, which will rename the U.S. Post Office located at 1750 McCulloch Boulevard North in Lake Havasu City, Arizona, as the "Lake Havasu City Combat Veterans Memorial Post Office Building." I thank the House Oversight and Reform Committee for passing this bill today through committee and I wholeheartedly urge this body to adopt this legislation.

Madam Speaker, I would also like to include in the RECORD the biographies of the six men that the Lake Havasu City Combat Veterans Memorial Post Office Building honors. May we never forget the legacy that they leave behind for future generations of Americans.

Carl Erik Hammar (Aug. 3, 1986–Jul. 14, 2012). Carl Hammar lived in Lake Havasu City shortly before his deployment overseas. Born in Sweden, he moved to the United States and Lake Havasu City during his senior year of high school, where SSG. Hammar married fellow student Abby Mahan in 2005. Together they had one child, and Hammar enlisted in the Army after spending a year at Mohave Community College. Hammar actually served twice in Iraq and in Afghanistan. On July 14, 2012 he died due to wounds caused by small-arms fire in Musa Kheyl district, Khost province, Afghanistan.

Dylan Thomas Reid (Sept. 3, 1986–Oct. 16, 2010) SPC. Dylan Thomas Reid, 24, of Lamar, Mo., died Oct. 16 in Amarah, Iraq, where he was stationed. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colo. Dylan was born Sept. 3, 1986, in Ironwood, Mich., to Terry and Kelli Reid. He graduated in 2005 from Desert Technology High School, Lake Havasu City. Dylan has proudly served his country since joining the United State Army in 2008. Dylan is survived by his daughter, Avery Lynn Reid, born Sept. 14, 2010, in Minnesota.

Anthony Jonathan Sausto (Dec. 10, 1985–May 10, 2007) Anthony Sausto lived in Lake Havasu City for a few months before his deployment to Iraq, but friends and family say that those few months were the happiest they had ever seen him. Born in New Jersey, SPC. Sausto moved to Lake Havasu City after getting his GED and planned to go into legal services with the military after he returned from his tour of duty. Anthony originally grew

up in Atlantic City, New Jersey but moved to Lake Havasu City in 2005 with his mother and his sister. He was the youngest of three siblings. Family members said he was a shy, quiet youth, once in an army uniform, Anthony found his calling, and his manhood. He came out of his shell, he was so outgoing and confident. He also had a compassionate side. He was a great man with a big heart who saw the brighter side of life. Anthony died on May 10, 2007 in Baghdad, Iraq from wounds suffered by small firearms.

Patrick Allan Tinnell (Mar. 25, 1981–Apr. 19, 2006) SPC. Tinnell was the first from Lake Havasu City to be killed in action during the Global War on Terror, and the impact it had on the community has been obvious and lasting. Tinnell's passing inspired the town to come together in support of his family to build the Tinnell Memorial Sports Park, a skate park with a feature designed like Tinnell's helmet. Opened in 2013, the park is now the largest multi-use skate park in Arizona and the Southwest. Patrick was originally born in Los Angeles, California but grew up in Lake Havasu City, Arizona. In between High School and Military he worked for pest control and was a BMX rider for MBK bikes. Tinnell also volunteered at Teen Break, trying to set good examples for students. As a side note, Patrick was the first person to jump over an elephant during Teen Break in 1999. He joined the army in September 2005. On April 19, 2006, Patrick Tinnell died in Siniyah, Iraq.

Scott Ray Broadston (Nov. 3, 1950–Jun. 5, 1970) Scott was born in San Diego, California and later moved to Arizona. He spent most of his life in Tucson as well as Lake Havasu City. He graduated from Tucson High School in 1968. Broadston enlisted in the Army and entered via "Regular Military." He began his tour on October 7, 1969. In Vietnam, Broadston flew a UH-1H helicopter and on the day he died, he was tasked with supporting a combat assault along a highway about 10 miles west of the town of An Nonh. He died June 5, 1970. There is a memorial park in Lake Havasu City dedicated to him called the "Lake Havasu Memorial Gardens."

Carey "Gary" Dean Harmon (Jul. 26, 1948–Apr. 26, 1968) SPC. Carey Dean Harmon became the first soldier from Lake Havasu City to be Killed in Action in Vietnam, as a result of multiple fragmentation wounds at the age of 19, on April 26, 1968. Harmon was attached to the 26th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed The Blue Spaders. He was in Vietnam for three months and his unit was in the Binh Duong province of South Vietnam at the time he was killed. It is possible that he fought against the TET Offensive. During his first month in Vietnam. Hatmon's then girlfriend, Mary Frazee-DeWees who now lives in Prescott, knew him as Gary Harmon. She said she wanted to marry Harmon, but at 16, her father did not approve.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SACRIFICE OF CPL. CHARLES S. LAWLER

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor today to acknowledge the life and sacrifice of Army Corporal Charles S. Lawler, who

died in service to his country during the Korean War in November 1950. I ask that you join with me and the people of Michigan's First District in honoring the heroic sacrifices of our service men and women as his remains are returned to his home in Michigan after nearly 70 years.

In Korea, Charles served as a member of Company M, 3rd Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division. He was reported Missing in Action on November 2nd, after his unit was attacked by enemy forces near Unsan, North Korea. His remains could not be recovered following the attack, and he was not reported as a prisoner of war. On December 31, 1953, the U.S. Army declared him as deceased. On July 27, 2018, Cpl. Lawler's remains were turned over to the United States along with many of his fellow servicemen following the summit between President Donald Trump and Kim Jong-un. The remains were given to the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, which works to identify fallen service members and return them to their families. On May 13, 2019, his remains were finally identified.

Cpl. Lawler's name is recorded on the Courts of the Missing at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific in Honolulu, along with the others who are missing from the Korean War. A rosette will be placed next to his name to indicate he has been accounted for. Charles will arrive in Traverse City later today before finally being laid to rest on July 27th. His remains will be escorted by a full Honor Guard and rifle squad, as well as by Veterans from across the country.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Corporal Charles S. Lawler for making the ultimate sacrifice in defense of his country. On behalf of Michigan's First Congressional District, I ask you to join with me in honoring an American hero as he returns home.

RECOGNIZING ROCK FALLS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH ON THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of Rock Falls United Methodist Church as they honor August 6, 2019 as "Rock Falls United Methodist Church Day" in the city. On this occasion, I extend my immense gratitude to Reverend Dr. Solomon Sudhaker, the proud leader of this congregation.

Rock Falls United Methodist Church has grown tremendously since its origins in 1869 as the first church in the City of Rock Falls. Since then, it has become an integral part of the city of Rock Falls. In the last 150 years, the church has undergone many transformations—from sharing the wisdom of several different Pastors through the years, to rising from the ashes of a 1922 fire, to the addition of the Education Wing in 1961. The church has prospered and has always remained true to its core mission and values. Rock Falls United Methodist Church has gone above and beyond to enrich our community through their commitment to education, youth and faith.

Madam Speaker, I would once again like to congratulate Rock Falls United Methodist Church on their 150th anniversary. I am proud to know that organizations, such as Rock Falls United Methodist Church, continue to flourish and strengthen our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH YEAR OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 2 OF APPLETON, WISCONSIN'S CHARTER

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Boy Scout Troop 2 of Appleton, Wisconsin as they celebrate the 100th year of the Troop's charter.

Troop 2 was chartered in 1919 and is the oldest continuous Boy Scout Troop in the Fox Valley. While four other troops were also chartered in 1919, only Troop 2 has continuously held meetings. The longest serving Scoutmaster, Harold Brown, kept the Troop active from 1925–1962 through the Great Depression, World War II, and the Korean War. Today the Troop boasts over 50 members.

Throughout the years, Troop 2 has remained committed to preparing young people to become leaders in their community. Over 120 Eagle Scouts hail from Troop 2. In addition, several Troop members have earned the Order of the Arrow, a Scout Achievement Award based on peer-recognition that places a scout in the top percentiles of Scouting.

Each year, Troop 2 dedicates countless hours to serving the community. Scouts volunteer at local nature reserves and YMCAs, and assist in trash and recycling efforts for community events such as Oktoberfest and Mile of Music. The scouts also go camping once a month and participate in weekly Troop meetings.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to rise in recognition of the 100-year celebration of Boy Scout Troop 2's charter. I would like to thank current Scoutmaster Ron Litsheim for his dedication to the success of Troop 2, and to the scouts for their service to and leadership throughout the community.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF GEOGRAPHERS RESOLUTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD the following resolution on climate change, adopted by the American Association of Geographers on April 3, 2019.

[From the American Association of Geographers, April 3, 2019]

AAG RESOLUTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE 1
(Adopted by the AAG Council)

Whereas: The American Association of Geographers (AAG) is a nonprofit scientific and educational society founded in 1904 with close to 12,000 members in 2019 who are located in the United States and nearly 100 other countries;

Whereas: The objectives of the Association are to further professional investigations in geography and to encourage the application of geographic findings in education, government, and business;

Whereas: Gilbert F. White (1911–2006) was among the most distinguished and honored American geographers of the 20th Century who stimulated efforts to foster and improve human adjustments to the risks of our endangered planet through better-informed public and private sector decision-making;

Whereas: Gilbert F. White was awarded the National Medal of Science by President Clinton in 2000 for "major contributions to the study of water systems in developing countries, global environmental change, international cooperation, nuclear winter, geography education and the mitigation of natural hazards including earthquakes, hurricanes, and drought;"

Whereas: The planet is now experiencing more frequent, more intense, and more costly disasters associated with anthropogenic climate change in the forms of prolonged drought, wildfires, intensified hurricanes, coastal and river flooding and extreme temperatures. Deglaciation of mountainous regions threatens water supplies and hydropower generation for hundreds of millions of people in Asia, Europe, western Latin America, and the Pacific Northwest. Accelerated melting of Arctic and Antarctic land ice will cause rising sea levels to inundate portions of coastal cities worldwide by mid-century;

Whereas: At the global scale, the last four years have been the hottest on record. One-fifth of all corals have died in the past three years. World carbon emissions rose 2.7 percent in 2018 despite efforts by many nations to meet the goals of the 2016 Paris Climate Agreement;

Whereas: As climate change renders vast areas of the globe uninhabitable, mass population migrations and competition for water, arable land, and living space will heighten the likelihood of armed conflict, either conventional or nuclear;

Whereas: Gilbert F. White challenged professional geographers to study and communicate the risks of our endangered planet and to help stimulate responsible policies and decisions by all sectors of human society;

Therefore be it resolved that: In the spirit of Gilbert F. White, the American Association of Geographers urges the Government of the United States to resume its leadership in combating climate change, including (but not limited to) strategies that:

1. Recognize human activities as the pre-eminent cause of accelerating climate change, as emphatically concluded by the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Fourth U.S. National Climate Assessment, among many other authoritative studies around the world;

2. Reaffirm U.S. commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement, and—in cooperation with the international community—intensify efforts to limit emissions of greenhouse gasses to control further rise in global temperatures;

3. Ratify Kigali Amendment of the Montreal Protocol to limit hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) production and consumption;

4. Encourage transition of the U.S. economy to embrace energy conservation and substitution of sustainable energy sources in place of fossil fuels;

5. Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions through incentives, taxes, regulations, public transit, carbon recapture and other means;

6. Promote continued innovation by states and local governments and the private sector to conserve energy and reduce dependence on fossil fuels (e.g. through "LEED" green building codes, reforestation and reduced deforestation, watershed management, sustainable transportation, and other means);

7. Stimulate public and private sector decision-makers to prepare for rapid-onset impacts of climate change (e.g. wildfire, electrical grid failure, fuel and water shortages, and coastal flooding) through enhanced emergency response, relief, and recovery capabilities;

8. Reaffirm that climate change policy at all levels of society from international to local must be based on sound, verifiable science as reflected in the IPCC reports, the U.S. National Climate Assessment Reports, and other authoritative studies by scientists around the world;

Be it further resolved that: The AAG will publicize this resolution to government leaders, to other scientific bodies, and to the general public through a press release and other available means. The MG should further encourage its membership to stimulate public understanding of climate change and its potential impacts (including armed conflicts) through relevant research, teaching, publications, and participation in public forums, study panels, oped columns, blog posts, and other available means.

HONORING FORMER POSTMASTER LOUIS A. JACKSON

HON. STACEY E. PLASKETT

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. PLASKETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor former Postmaster Louis A. Jackson, a native son of the Virgin Islands who dedicated 46 years of his life to the United States Postal Service and serving the American people. During his time with the Postal Service, Mr. Louis Jackson was integral in the building of new post offices, expanding delivery routes, and has served as a mentor for many.

An accomplished and venerable Postmaster, he made a significant difference to the postal system throughout the Virgin Islands and is a three-time winner of the Postal Service's prestigious National Benjamin Award. Many in the community relied on the steady hand and calm demeanor of Mr. Jackson in resolving postal and other issues in the community.

Outside of the Postal Service, Postmaster Jackson is an active member of the community. He has served as a mentor and counselor for the countless young people in the Virgin Islands and taught martial arts to over 3000 students. He also served as the Chairman of the St. Croix chapter of the American Cancer Society, Vice President of the National League of Postmasters, and much more. Postmaster Louis Jackson has lived his life enriching his community and it is my honor on behalf of the 116th Congress and everyone who has been touched by his work and kind spirit, to say thank you.

COMMEMORATING WORLD RANGER DAY

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise to observe World Ranger Day, which will be commemorated on July 31, 2019.

World Ranger Day was first designated in 2007 as a day to honor Rangers across the globe who have died in the line of duty while protecting the world's historic and natural wonders.

I am honored to represent just a few of these landmarks in my district, including Yosemite and Kings Canyon National Parks. The Rangers who patrol these parks work tirelessly to protect visitors, promote recreation, and preserve these majestic natural and cultural resources. They are the eyes, ears, and often the first responders across these lands; combatting animal poaching, vandalism, and even wildfires on the frontlines of conservation. Rangers counter these threats not just on our own public lands, but across the globe.

From Harry Yount, the father of the ranger service and the first national park ranger, to the Buffalo Soldiers who fought wildfires and poachers in Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks, rangers have long recognized the need to safeguard our most vital lands. It is our duty to uphold the legacy and example of fallen rangers and do our part to be responsible stewards of our stunning natural wonders.

As President Theodore Roosevelt observed, "We have fallen heirs to the most glorious heritage a people ever received, and each one must do his part if we wish to show that the nation is worthy of its good fortune." Our Rangers have gone above and beyond to live up to this call, and we owe them a great debt of gratitude.

FRANK RIESINGER

HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. KEVIN HERN of Oklahoma. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Frank Riesinger and the valuable contributions he makes to our community.

Mr. Riesinger served as an airman in World War II and has been the driving force behind the V-J Day celebrations here in Broken Arrow, commemorating the end of World War II on August 14th, 1945.

Mr. Riesinger recalls America's great Victory Over Japan from when he was just an 18-year-old airman home in Tulsa on furlough. He remembers standing in his dad's office downtown when he heard an uproar coming from the streets and saw Tulsans celebrating with shouts and car horns, making celebratory noise with whatever they could. This memory has inspired him to continue celebrating that triumphant day.

Thanks to Mr. Riesinger, V-J Day has been commemorated by Oklahomans for the past four years through this wonderful event. I appreciate his work to make sure that this monumental day for the U.S. and Oklahomans, is still remembered.

Although V-J Day is not nationally recognized, the Broken Arrow City Council issued a proclamation making August 14th V-J Day Celebration Day for Oklahomans.

I am grateful for Mr. Riesinger's service to our country and community. Mr. Riesinger's impact on Oklahomans is one that will never be forgotten.

HONORING MENDOCINO COAST CLINICS

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mendocino Coast Clinics on the 25th anniversary of their founding. Since 1994, Mendocino Coast Clinics has provided quality, patient-centered affordable health care.

Originally part of Mendocino County Public Health Services, a group of volunteers came together to form the nonprofit that established Mendocino Coast Clinics on July 1, 1994. That original group became the first board of directors of the new health center, which served 2,500 patients with a staff of seven. Today, Mendocino Coast Clinics serves more than 10,000 patients and is the third-largest employer in the city of Fort Bragg.

Mendocino Coast Clinics provided behavioral health services to the medical services when its doors opened in 1994, and expanded to provide much-needed dental services in 1996. Throughout the past 25 years, Mendocino Coast Clinics has continued to fill medical services gaps in the Fort Bragg and surrounding communities, including obstetrics, pediatrics, and a confidential reproductive health care clinic for teens and young adults. Today, Mendocino Coast Clinics continues to provide these comprehensive services to the community.

Madam Speaker, Mendocino Coast Clinics has for 25 years been a tireless champion for health care in coastal Mendocino County, meeting the needs of the community's most vulnerable populations. Therefore, please join me in recognizing this valuable organization and wishing them success for many more years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF LEONARD SAUER'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the celebration of Leonard Sauer's 100th birthday.

Leonard was born on August 15, 1919. He owns and operates Village View Dairy Farm in Kellnersville, Wisconsin. Leonard considers himself a lifelong farmer, recalling the days growing up on the farm where he worked from 7 in the morning to 6 at night year-round. When he wasn't working on the farm, Leonard and his brother enjoyed watching the local baseball team.

On November 12, 1947, Leonard married his wife, Helen and they cherished 64 years of marriage together. The couple raised two sons, Gary and John. Leonard built the farmhouse the family lived in from the ground.

An active member of the community, Leonard still attends mass at St. Joseph's Catholic Church every Sunday and regularly attends meetings for the Western Fraternal Life Association, which he has been a member of for over 70 years.

Madam Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize this monumental occasion in Leonard's life. May he have a happy and healthy 100th birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH
BIRTHDAY OF WILLIE MAUDE
ATKINSON

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th birthday of Willie Maude Atkinson.

Willie Maude Atkinson was born on August 20, 1919 to Maude and Will Bates of Hobson City, Alabama. She attended the Calhoun County Training School (formerly C.E. Hanna Elementary School and currently Hobson City Hall), and has been a member of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church since 1930.

In 1942, Willie Maude married Clyde R. Atkinson. Clyde passed away in 1988. They were blessed with three children, five grandchildren, five great-grandchildren and a host of nieces and nephews. She is the oldest citizen born in Hobson City, and the oldest member of the Priscilla and Aquila Order of the Eastern Star.

In the early 1940s, Willie Maude was hired by Howard and Katherine Bentley to assist with the care of their seven children while Mr. Bentley was serving overseas during World War II. The Bentley children and grandchildren considered her a "second mother and grandmother." She remained employed by them until her retirement in the late 1990s. She also assisted the Bailey, Dewberry, Dumas and Pyles families with home care.

Willie Maude Atkinson has positively influenced many lives in her lifetime. She is a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother to her family and her "adopted" families. Her love and wisdom have been passed on for several generations.

Madam Speaker, please join me in wishing Willie Maude Atkinson a happy 100th birthday.

HONORING TUNISIAN PRESIDENT
BEJI CAID ESSEBSI

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, the United States today stands in solidarity with the noble people of Tunisia as they mourn the passing of their first democratically elected president, Beji Caid Essebsi.

The world will never forget President Essebsi's remarkable stewardship of Tunisia's democratic transition after the 2011 Arab Spring uprisings. He was the right man at the right time: a seasoned politician for more than 60 years, President Essebsi was the only Tunisian politician to hold political office in the new democracy as well as throughout dictatorships of Habib Bourguiba and Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali. A statement issued by the Tunisian government upon President Essebsi's passing rightly called him one of Tunisia's "greatest

men and one of those who contributed the most to building it."

Tunisia flowered into the model democracy borne out of the Arab Spring in part due the commitment of Tunisians like President Essebsi to realize the dream of Tunisian democracy. Despite being an ardent secularist who championed the rights of women, President Essebsi was also always ready to engage all elements of Tunisian society, including the Islamists, precisely because he believed that all Tunisians have a right to political participation.

As the Tunisian people mourn this great loss, the people of the United States stand with them, ready to lend a helping hand to overcome this next challenging chapter. We send our heartfelt condolences to President Essebsi's family and the Tunisian people. I have no doubt that the people of Tunisia will honor the legacy of President Essebsi's life through their continued awe-inspiring dedication to democracy and the rule of law.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 499.

CONGRATULATING NANCY
LACEWELL ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nancy Lacewell on her retirement. Since 1999, Nancy has served as the Director of Government and Community Affairs at the American Printing House for the Blind in Louisville, Kentucky. She has been a tremendous asset both to the American Printing House for the Blind and the United States Congress. Nancy has been a fixture on Capitol Hill for more than two decades, serving as a valuable resource for members and staff on both sides of the aisle. A tireless advocate, Nancy has educated Members of the House and Senate on the unique needs of people who are blind and visually impaired, informing us on the latest technological advances available to that population. She was instrumental in establishing and coordinating the National Prison Braille Network, a partnership with the Printing House and more than 35 U.S. prisons offering offenders an opportunity to learn braille. Through Nancy's hard work the program has been a major success, to the point where many of the textbooks for blind school students are now transcribed through the prison braille program.

Nancy received her Masters of Arts in French Language and Literature from the University of Louisville. In her retirement, I hope that she will be able to capitalize on those skills to travel to France and other destinations, as well as enjoy life with her husband Rick; her children Jeff, Corrine, and JP; loved

ones; and friends. I thank Nancy for being an advocate, an ally, and source of inspiration for me and for all who will follow in your footsteps. I wish them all the best in a much deserved retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MICKY
STEELE-BODGER

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and lasting legacy of Micky Steele-Bodger, who passed away on May 9th at the age of 93. Micky was a larger than life figure in the Rugby world for over 6 decades. He is widely revered and beloved for his immense contribution to the game and the mentorship he provided to several generations of young players and administrators.

Born on September 4, 1925 in Tamworth, England to Henry William and Kathrine nee Macdonald, Micky Steele-Bodger discovered his passion for Rugby at a young age.

He rose to prominence on the pitch while attending Cambridge University. As the captain of the team, Micky twice played in the famous "Varsity Match" between Cambridge and Oxford—a tradition dating back to 1872. In the classroom, he followed in his Father's footsteps by pursuing a veterinary degree.

Shortly after Cambridge, Micky earned himself a spot on the English national team—playing in 9 matches from 1946 to 1948. Although he had a relatively small frame and was only 5' 8", Micky's ruthless determination, versatility on the pitch, and deep knowledge of the game set him apart from many of his competitors.

Unfortunately, his promising career came to an abrupt end due to a bad knee injury when he was only 24 years old. Despite no longer being able to compete on the pitch, Micky was not prepared to walk away from the game he loved. So he promptly transitioned to the administrative and coaching side of the sport, where he went on to make his most significant and lasting impact.

In 1973, Micky was elected as President of the Rugby Football Union and in 1981 he became Chair of the International Rugby Board. Seven years later, in 1988, Micky was selected as the 6th President of Barbarian F.C., an illustrious Rugby club based in Britain. During his 31 year tenure; he molded the club into one of Rugby's marquee organizations. He was regarded as an inspiration and mentor for countless young players, instilling in them the importance of class, sportsmanship, and work ethic.

While Micky will go down in history as one of Rugby's most important and impactful figures, he will also be remembered as one of England's greatest clubmen.

As the longtime Chairman and President of the East India Club, Micky mentored generations of young men. Micky introduced us to the pleasures and gentility of club life.

I will always miss my friend, Micky. But I will also always remember him fondly every time I walk through the doors of the East India Club.

RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING TIMOTHY NELSON FOR HIS SERVICE AS PRESIDENT OF NORTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COLLEGE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Timothy J. Nelson for his service as President of Northwestern Michigan College. Through his exceptional leadership and steadfast devotion to educational excellence, Tim has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

Serving as President of NMC since 2001, Tim has led the college through a dramatic transition and growth as it worked to provide its learners and communities with the skills, experiences and values that will help them to create social and economic wealth during their lifetimes.

In 2011, President Nelson and his wife spearheaded the Global Opportunities Fund, with the goal of providing opportunities for NMC faculty, students, and staff to engage in projects with international partners, exchange knowledge with countries around the world, enhance the learning of world languages, and improve communication across different cultures. The college has also developed global partnerships with educational institutions in Brazil, China, Costa Rica, the United Kingdom, India, and others—making NMC one of the premier community colleges for providing global experiences.

Under Tim's leadership, NMC has also been committed to helping Veterans achieve their goals, succeed in college, and move onto the next chapter in their lives. Additionally, Tim has worked to include faculty, staff, students, and the local community in conversations related to the future of the college, promoting a culture of inclusivity and success.

Outside of his service as NMC President, Tim has provided valuable support and expertise as a member and leader in the Michigan Community College Association, the American Association of Community Colleges, the Munson Medical Center Board of Trustees, the Traverse City Rotary Club, the Traverse City Chamber of Commerce, and multiple other state and community organizations. Tim will retire on December 31, 2019, as the longest-serving President in the college's history. His impact on the people of Northern Michigan cannot be overstated.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate Timothy Nelson for his 18 years of service as President of Northwestern Michigan College. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated leader. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Tim all the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO AUTHOR AND POLITICAL THEORIST OF 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN CONSERVATISM, DR. RUSSELL KIRK

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Dr. Russell Kirk, a political theorist, moralist, historian, and literary critic, in honor of the historical marker being placed at his beloved home and library in Mecosta, Michigan next month.

As a resident of Mecosta County and a Michigan native, Dr. Kirk led numerous seminars on political theory, culture and virtue while teaching fellows and students for over 40 years, a tradition that his gracious wife, Annette Kirk, still values and honors today through the Russell Kirk Center. Since his passing in 1994, his home has become an educational destination for continued interest in his work by students and scholars alike.

As the author of thirty-two books covering topics from political theory to cultural criticism, Dr. Kirk is considered one of the preeminent thinkers of his time. His first published book in 1953, *The Conservative Mind: From Burke to Eliot*, is one of the most widely reviewed and discussed studies of political ideals in America. Along with his subsequent writings on the topic, Dr. Kirk shaped the modern ideas of American conservatism. As an elite scholar, Dr. Kirk shared his brilliance through his prodigious literary works and received one of our nation's highest honors when President Ronald Reagan conferred the Presidential Citizens Medal upon him in 1989.

Dr. Kirk found his true joy in addressing college audiences because he believed the key to the lasting success of conservative ideas rested on shaping the cultural and moral beliefs of the next generation. In his books, articles, speeches, and interviews, Dr. Kirk shaped the thinking of generations of conservatives around the world. His ideas have personally helped me in forming my own beliefs and it is a privilege to pay special tribute to Dr. Kirk and his legacy today.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored to recognize Dr. Russell Kirk's illustrious career and extend my appreciation for his hard work and dedication. The historical marker in front of his cherished home in Mecosta will help ensure his ideas live on for future generations.

RECOGNIZING RIDE4GABE FOR BRINGING NEEDED AWARENESS TO DUCHENNE MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, on behalf of Representatives PALMER, SEWELL, KELLY (TRENT), KUSTOFF, COHEN, CRAWFORD, HILL, WESTERMAN, WOMACK, MULLIN, HERN, LUCAS, THORNBERRY, LUJÁN, BUCK, TIPTON, and LAMBORN, I want to recognize three men who will attempt to pedal their bicycles from Bir-

mingham, Alabama to Colorado Springs, Colorado between July 28 and August 3, 2019. Ride4Gabe IV, as it is called, will take the cyclists through eight states in seven days. The group plans to pedal 300 miles the first day followed by days of 234, 198, 206, 232, 232, and 76 miles. The final leg of Ride4Gabe IV will be from Pueblo, Colorado up to 14,115 feet elevation at the summit of Pikes Peak in Colorado Springs.

Gabe Griffin, a 14-year-old from Birmingham, Alabama, is the inspiration behind Ride4Gabe. After Gabe was diagnosed with Duchenne, his parents created the non-profit Hope for Gabe Foundation to raise awareness and support efforts to develop a cure for this devastating condition. Michael Staley (38) of Hoover, Alabama, and Wes Bates (24) of Nagoya, Japan, began Ride4Gabe in 2014 when they rode across Oregon, Idaho, Wyoming, Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama.

According to Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy, Duchenne is the most common fatal genetic disorder diagnosed in childhood, affecting approximately 1 in every 3,500 live male births (about 20,000 new cases each year worldwide). Because the Duchenne gene is found on the X-chromosome, it primarily affects males; however, it occurs across all races and cultures and there are cases of females with Duchenne.

Duchenne results in progressive loss of strength and is caused by a mutation in the gene that encodes for dystrophin. Because dystrophin is absent, the muscle cells are easily damaged. The progressive muscle weakness leads to serious medical problems, particularly issues relating to the heart and lungs. Individuals with Duchenne typically live into their late twenties.

Building on the success of the first Ride4Gabe event, Payne Griffin, 23, of Washington, D.C. joined Michael and Wes for Ride4Gabe II in 2016 and the group pedaled across Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, and Florida. Brian Toone, 42, of Hoover, Alabama, dubbed his effort Ride4Gabe III as he competed, in the grueling Race Across America. Brian finished 3rd place overall as he traversed California, Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Maryland in just over ten days.

The Ride4Gabe IV team will be live streaming their adventure online as they pass through Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Texas, New Mexico, and Colorado. As the riders tire and their muscles get sore, they will draw strength and inspiration from Gabe and the Duchenne community. Their hero, Gabe, would love to ride a bicycle with them but Duchenne makes doing so impossible. With our help, Duchenne patients like Gabe can continue to hope for a cure so they, too, can go on an epic bike ride or play baseball, football, or basketball with their friends.

On behalf of my colleagues representing congressional districts along the Ride4Gabe IV route, I am pleased to recognize Ride4Gabe IV. The awareness that will be raised through Ride4Gabe will lead to greater public awareness about Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. It is our hope that Gabe Griffin and every other patient who suffers from Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy will soon have access to a treatment and ultimately a cure.

CONGRATULATING PROFESSORS
BARBARA MCFARLAND AND MI-
CHAEL WHITEMAN

HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Professors Barbara McFarland and Michael Whiteman as they step down from the faculty at the Chase College of Law at Northern Kentucky University. Their tenure has brought Chase bigger ideas, brighter days, and better futures for any student lucky enough to sit in their classrooms.

One of Professor McFarland's greatest gifts is to provide every student she encounters with the resources and encouragement to achieve their best work—in law school and beyond. After 15 years at Chase, she is retiring to continue her work inspiring young minds, this time with young, at-risk children.

I took a short quiz to celebrate Professor Whiteman's retirement and I scored a 6/10, which was pretty similar to some of my scores in his class! After 17 successful years at Chase, Professor Whiteman is headed off to a law school down the road. Professor Whiteman has been described by his colleagues as one of the most genuine and kind-hearted people they have ever met, and I truly could not agree any more.

I know firsthand that Professors McFarland and Whiteman's passion for supporting a student's success can be the definitive factor between giving up and getting a degree, and I am so thankful for the impact they had on my educational and personal development. Professors McFarland and Whiteman are about to begin new journeys for themselves, but they can rest assured that their legacies will live on in the Chase Law School community. I thank them for all they have done and wish them good luck in all future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF DE-
PUTY ALLEN KRAEGER'S RETIRE-
MENT FROM THE WAUPACA
COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Deputy Allen Kraeger on celebrating his retirement from the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office. His leadership left a major impact on Wisconsin law enforcement and is an excellent example of service to the community.

Chief Deputy Kraeger is an exceptional public servant who dedicated his professional life to upholding the law. Starting as Reserve Deputy in 1972, Chief Deputy Kraeger held positions as a Corrections Officer and Patrolman before beginning full time employment as a Highway Patrolman with the Waupaca County Highway Patrol in 1978. After the merging of the Waupaca County Highway Patrol and Waupaca County Sheriff's Office in 1983, Chief Deputy Kraeger was reassigned as a Patrol Deputy with the Sheriff's Office.

Chief Deputy Kraeger served in many roles during his tenure with the Waupaca County

Sheriff's Office. He was designated as the first Rapid Intense Specific Competencies Instructor, promoted to the position of Detective Sergeant, and appointed to his current position of Chief Deputy in 1996. Through all these positions, he exemplified a steadfast commitment to providing superior service and protection to the communities of Waupaca County.

During his time as Chief Deputy, Chief Deputy Kraeger was instrumental in promoting teamwork, communication, and strategy to combat controlled substance violations. He embraced the Office's membership and participation in the Central Wisconsin Drug Task Force. He was also instrumental in the assignment of two full-time Drug Investigator positions within the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office. Chief Deputy Kraeger was also a member of several professional organizations including the Wisconsin Narcotics Officers Association, National Narcotic Officers Association Coalition, and Wisconsin Sheriff's and Deputy Sheriff's Association, to name a few.

Chief Deputy Kraeger served with diligence, selflessness, and bravery throughout his law enforcement career. Waupaca County is fortunate to have officers like Chief Deputy Kraeger who exemplify and exceed their oath to serve and protect. I am proud to represent men and women with such commitment to their communities and our country.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in thanking Chief Deputy Kraeger for his service and dedication to protecting our community. I congratulate him on an exceptional 41-year career with the Waupaca County Sheriff's Office and wish him well as he marks the conclusion of an accomplished career.

LET ALL U.S. CITIZENS TRAVEL
TO CUBA RESTORE THEIR RIGHT
TO TRAVEL—H.R. 3960

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce today H.R. 3960, the Freedom for Americans to Travel to Cuba Act of 2019, along with my colleagues, Representatives TOM EMMER (R-MN), KATHY CASTOR (D-FL), RICK CRAWFORD (R-AR), BARBARA LEE (D-CA), DARIN LAHOOD (R-IL), JOSÉ SERRANO (D-NY), GUY RESCHENTHALER (R-PA), DONALD BEYER, JR. (D-VA), and DENVER RIGGLEMAN (R-VA). I'm also proud to stand with my good friend, Senator PATRICK LEAHY, who will be introducing this bill in the Senate on Monday with 45 bipartisan cosponsors.

This bipartisan bill addresses an issue I care very deeply about—the right of American citizens—my constituents—to travel freely anywhere in the world. Freedom of movement, freedom to travel, the basic right of any U.S. citizen to choose freely where they can go in this world has always been a fundamental part of being an American.

Foreign governments might choose to deny our citizens a visa. They might restrict where Americans can go when they arrive inside a foreign country. But the U.S. government and the U.S. Congress should not be in the business of imposing restrictions on our own citizens.

Yet this is what Congress has done to U.S. citizens when it comes to only one country for the last 60 years—Cuba.

Americans can travel to China, Saudi Arabia, Vietnam, Russia, Iran and Syria—each with human rights records arguably as bad or worse than Cuba's and, it should be noted, each of these countries also support Nicholas Maduro in Venezuela. And until just recently, Americans could even travel to North Korea.

This is an anachronistic policy, left over from the Cold War and proven to be ineffective at leveraging change by the Cuban government. The only people it harms are American citizens and those in Cuba striving to create innovative economic alternatives to state-controlled enterprises.

Ironically, continued efforts to further restrict the right of Americans to travel to Cuba have had devastating consequences for Cuba's fledgling private sector—the very people the United States aims to help—which had grown to be approximately 30 percent of Cuban economy as a result of more Americans traveling to the island during the last Administration.

Madam Speaker, I believe that the American people are our very best ambassadors; that they reflect the democratic values, curiosity, and innovation that make our country so great. Congress should not be in the business of denying them their own rights.

Congress stripped away this basic right, and only Congress can restore it. It's past time for us to do so. I urge all my colleagues, on both sides of the aisle, to cosponsor this bipartisan bill and ensure its passage in the 116th Congress.

I include in the RECORD an opinion piece by Chris Sabatini entitled, *Trump Doubles Down on Failed Cuba Policy*, which was published in *The New York Times* on July 24, 2019.

[From the *New York Times*, July 24, 2019]

TRUMP DOUBLES DOWN ON FAILED CUBA
POLICY

THE CUBAN AUTOCRACY REMAINS A NAGGING REMINDER OF UNITED STATES IMPOTENCE IN ROOTING OUT COMMUNISM

(By Christopher Sabatini)

The Trump administration's effort to bring about the end of Cuba's repressive government by squeezing the island's economy promises only more suffering for Cuban citizens, who are already struggling under Fidel Castro's failed economic project.

The White House is hurting the very people—ordinary Cubans—it claims to support. Not only are their potential sources of independent income (and, with it, political independence) drying up, so is their access to food—and their hopes for the future.

For decades, the Cuban autocracy has been a nagging reminder of United States impotence in rooting out Communism. Washington's embargo on Havana was tightened by Congress in 1992 and 1996—with the unintentionally ironic titles of the Cuban Democracy Act and what's known as the Cuban Liberty Act.

This pressure has always come with tough talk from Republicans, who like to claim that the Castro government's time is up. John Bolton, the national security adviser, is the latest hawk to spew this empty rhetoric.

Yet more than 58 years of isolating Havana has shown that the strategy doesn't follow any logical theory of regime change, even if it plays well in South Florida. Isolation has only reinforced the Cuban government's effort to make its citizens economically dependent on the Communist state.

There was a brief break in America's hard-line approach when, in December 2014, President Barack Obama announced a loosening of the embargo and the normalization of relations. President Trump reversed course and rolled out many of the past, failed sanctions against Cuba, plus some new ones.

Those have included restricting Americans' travel to officially approved group trips with cultural organizations, ending the allowance for American cruise ships to dock in Cuban ports, plans to reduce to \$1,000 the amount of money that Cuban-Americans can send to Cuba every three months, and allowing United States citizens to sue foreign companies over the use of property expropriated by the Castro government (a provision suspended by Republican and Democratic administrations since it was passed in 1996).

By the White House's own admission, these policies will reduce by half the number of American tourists visiting the island. That number last year was 600,000. American tourists had been helping to support the private restaurants, shops and the approximately 20,000 Airbnb's that have sprung up in recent years.

Support for Havana from the regime in Venezuela, another target of the Trump administration, has been halted, compounding Cuba's economic troubles.

Shortly after he was inaugurated as president of Venezuela in 1999, Hugo Chávez, threw the struggling Cuban economy a lifeline, sending 100,000 barrels of oil a day, half of which the Cuban government sold on the world market for hard currency. As partial payment for the cheap oil, Cubans provided intelligence and military support to Mr. Chávez and to his successor, Nicolás Maduro, to help them consolidate their corrupt, autocratic project.

But as Venezuelan oil production plunged in recent years, and global prices fell, Cuba's life-support system dried up to between 20,000 and 50,000 barrels per day, as of April.

The Trump administration has seen the weakness of these two economies as an opportunity to push for regime change in both countries.

The first target was Mr. Maduro, hoping his fall would bring democracy to his country and thus bankrupt the Cuban regime, finally bringing it to its knees. Now, as administration officials face their failed, overhyped efforts to topple Mr. Maduro, they have changed their focus: they are blaming Cuba for Mr. Maduro's survival—rather than Mr. Maduro for the Cuban government's survival.

Cubans—and the Cuban leaders—have been through worse. American restrictions on trade and travel to Cuba are minor compared to the difficulties they faced after the collapse of the Soviet Union, during which the Cuban economy contracted by more than one third. Even then, with food, electricity and hope all in short supply, the Castro government survived.

Today, Cuba's leadership, under Raúl Castro's handpicked successor, Miguel Díaz-Canel, is once again rallying the island nation's citizens to tighten their belts, for example by promoting hutia, a local rodent, as a source of protein. And other authoritarian powers, like China and Russia, are more than willing to throw even just a bit of economic help, and lots of anti-American ideological support, which didn't exist during the post-Cold War period.

The Trump administration's strategy will fail, as it has in the past, and ordinary Cuban citizens will continue to bare the brunt of a misguided American policy. When will American leaders finally learn the lessons of history?

TRIBUTE TO KEVIN L. SHAFER, P.E., RECIPIENT OF THE MILWAUKEE WATER COUNCIL'S THIRD ANNUAL "WATER WARRIOR OF THE YEAR" AWARD

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. MOORE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kevin Shafer, the long serving Executive Director of the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD) and a recent recipient of the Milwaukee Water Council's third annual "Water Warrior of the Year Award," which is given to acknowledge those in the water industry who advance the importance of Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math (STEAM) education.

MMSD provides wastewater treatment recclamation and flood management, among other services, for about 1.1 million customers in 28 communities in the Greater Milwaukee Area.

The award acknowledges Kevin's dedication to growing MMSD's internship program which provides students with hands-on learning experience to inspire and educate students about future water-related careers in areas such as water quality protection, laboratory services, engineering, construction and sustainability. According to the CEO of the Water Council, "When it comes to supporting and nurturing our next generation of water professionals we always know that Kevin will say an emphatic yes when we ask him to do more."

For over 25 years, MMSD has grown its internship program which now hires 25 students every summer. For example, during the summer of 2018, MMSD worked with the Water Council to place two African-American junior engineering students from Tuskegee University to work as interns with a goal of increasing the number of African-Americans pursuing water as a career. This is just one of several efforts by MMSD to invest in and develop a diverse water workforce in the Milwaukee area.

Kevin Shafer has served as executive director of MMSD since 2002. Throughout his career at MMSD, Kevin has helped to make the utility a leader when it comes to the adoption and use of green infrastructure, has been instrumental in efforts to transform MMSD's stormwater management system, and continues to foster innovative means of protecting the District's water supply.

Prior to this position, Kevin worked in the private sector at an international engineering firm and spent six years with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Currently, Kevin is a Chair on both the United States' Water Alliance Board of Directors and the Water Council Board of Directors. Kevin was formerly President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies.

It is an honor to recognize Kevin Shafer for his dedication to the residents served by MMSD and in being an innovative water industry leader who is constantly trying to find new ways to deal with the challenges facing MMSD. I applaud the high level of professionalism and service that he has brought to MMSD and have no doubt he will continue to serve our community in the same distinguished manner as he has done throughout his career.

IN RECOGNITION OF WAHCONAH PARK'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 100th anniversary of Wahconah Park in Pittsfield, Massachusetts. Wahconah Park has been a loyal, magical home for America's favorite pastime since the 19th century, when the game of baseball was first played on its grounds in 1892. Most of the ballpark's facilities, however, including its wooden grandstand, were officially built in 1919—and they have filled with lovers of the game ever since.

Over the course of more than a century, Wahconah Park has hosted numerous Minor League Baseball teams, other professional clubs and affiliates, as well as summer collegiate teams—like the Pittsfield Suns, who currently call Wahconah home. As the Pittsfield Suns' team owner Jeff Goldklang has said, baseball is about history, and it's about memories. Wahconah Park is certainly steeped in both. It is a testament to the game Americans have loved for decades and continues to be a destination for generations of families who come to the Berkshires to watch it come to life. And beyond baseball, Wahconah Park has also played host to various high school sporting events, and alternated into a concert venue at times as well.

Once again, Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate Wahconah Park on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. The ballpark is city-owned and has been integral to the fabric of Pittsfield's community. It represents the longevity, history, and character of not only the Berkshires, but all of western Massachusetts.

RECOGNIZING JERRY SHEA, SR.

HON. CLAY HIGGINS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a pillar of Louisiana, Iberia Parish icon, Jerry Shea, Sr., who recently passed away at the age of 93.

Jerry was born in Louisiana and lived some young years in Texas. He has been a resident of New Iberia, LA, since 1942. After serving three years in the Air Force and graduating from Louisiana State University with a degree in petroleum engineering, he went to work for his father's welding company, Bayou Welding Works. Eventually Jerry and his late brother Edward "Buddy" Shea, Jr. went on to start several offshoots of Bayou, including Bayou Pipe Coating in 1971. Jerry was inducted into the National Association of Pipe Coating Applicators Hall of Fame in 1996 and retired from Bayou in 2000 after providing 55 years of leadership in the family business. In addition to his family business, he served as chairman of the board of New Iberia National Bank during the 1980s.

Despite his business success, Jerry is even more well-known for his commitment and dedication to his community. He and his wife, Harriet, have received numerous recognitions for

their community involvement, including receiving the "Distinguished Citizen Award" from the Boy Scouts Evangeline Area Council in 2001 and the 2013 Leaders in Philanthropy Award from Community Foundation of Acadiana for Iberia Parish. They also founded a scholarship at Catholic High School. Most recently, Jerry was the Grand Marshall of the local St. Patrick's Day Parade and a former King of the Krewe of Andalusia. In fact, Jerry was so active in New Iberia, people would often refer to him as the "unofficial mayor of New Iberia."

Jerry's impact on New Iberia, Louisiana, will never be forgotten and he deserves great recognition. His passing is a true loss to his family, his community and to Louisiana.

Jerry and his bride, Harriet, have six children, 21 grandchildren, and 33 great grandchildren. I join his family in mourning his passing and celebrating his life.

HONORING RECIPIENTS OF THE INAUGURAL THIRD DISTRICT YOUNG ENTREPRENEUR AWARDS

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, today I honor five individuals and businesses from Nebraska for receiving the Inaugural Third District Young Entrepreneur Awards.

Throughout the 75 counties of the Third District, entrepreneurs and innovators are working hard to grow opportunity in our state.

In May, I called for nominations as part of a new initiative to recognize the young individuals, businesses, and organizations in the Third District who strengthen their communities through fresh ideas, hard work, and entrepreneurship.

Papa Moon Vineyards of Scottsbluff began in 2007 as a grape growing hobby for the Massey family, and has since evolved into an absolute passion for grape cultivation and craft-wine production. Over the next several years, their passion evolved into a family business. Named for the moniker the youngest Massey family member gave his grandfather, winery owner Jim, it has truly become a family project. The Masseys opened their tasting room in 2018 to share their passion for viticulture and love of winemaking. They are a proud family-owned farm winery, with a focus on the cultivation and production of high quality product.

Upstream Farms of Albion, is led by brothers Matthew and Joseph Brugger. They work every day to bring new meaning to the phrase, "Farm to Table." The Bruggers co-founded Upstream with the goal of establishing better rural communities. They saw few opportunities for young people to become involved in agriculture, and wanted to create a business that would inspire young agriculturalists and entrepreneurs to pursue their passion in a rural community. To demonstrate their desire to embrace their vision, Upstream is more than just a traditional farm. Upstream strives to demonstrate diversification through action, offering services in agronomy, technical innovation, resale of market ready produce, and angus products.

Striv Inc. of Henderson, is led by Taylor Siebert. He discovered his passion for sharing

stories when he started the Heartland Beat, an online blog and newsletter, to reach out to alumni of Heartland Community School. This experience inspired Taylor to explore other avenues for schools and their alumni to create and share content. This discovery process led to the founding of Striv Inc. in 2012. Today, Striv Inc. has taught hundreds of students the necessary skills to provide high quality streaming access and coverage of school events and activities for their schools and communities. The business currently provides educational and streaming services to over 100 school districts in Nebraska. Ever the innovator, Siebert has never stopped creating. The purpose of his latest development, "Class Intercom," is to help school districts more effectively utilize social media to maximize connection, promotion, and information sharing in their communities. Taylor could have created his internet-driven business in any state in the country. He chose to come back to Nebraska, back to his hometown, and invest his talents in training tomorrow's leaders and creating a better version of the, "The Good Life."

The Medina Street Vault Coffeehouse & Bistro of Cairo is owned by Jenna Schweitzer. Through the experiences of her high school job as barista, owner Jenna Schweitzer realized her life's passion was coffee. She knew she wanted to open her own coffee shop, and to attempt to share her passion with her hometown. In 2017, thanks to Jenna's vision, hard work, and the support of her family she opened her coffee shop and bistro in a former bank building in Cairo, and strategically selected her food and drink menu to ensure she complemented, and supported other local businesses. Schweitzer feels The Vault has become an experience area residents turn to when they want a place to meet their friends, relax, and lose two or three hours in conversation. Her goal of creating a family-centered environment to share her passion with others has become a reality.

Game On of McCook is owned by Cody Dame. Thanks to a 2007 submission to the Hormel Business Plan Competition permanently changed his professional direction. Winning the business plan competition allowed him to transition from owning his own traveling videography and disc jockey service to pursuing his passion of building a community through creating a fun and experiential environment for all ages. Quickly growing from a 1,000 square foot retail space to a much larger location in the community of McCook, Cody has expanded into the communities of North Platte, Kearney, and Grand Island as well. Game On has become a successful regional retail business, committed to strengthening the communities in which they are present.

I am proud to recognize each of these award winners today, and I thank them for their many contributions to Nebraska.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE MITROVICH

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I mourn the passing of my friend, my neighbor, and San Diego icon: George Mitrovich.

I often joked that one of the reasons I ran for office was so that George could introduce me at events. He was a dynamic and articulate speaker with a velvet voice. It was always an honor to be introduced by him.

During the debate leading up to a vote on the Affordable Care Act in 2009, I held a town hall meeting with constituents to hear their thoughts. I knew interest in the meeting was very high and there would be a big crowd.

I thought to myself, who do I know who could control a large, feisty—possibly angry—group of people. Of course the answer was George. When I asked him if he wanted to take on the challenge, he said he was delighted.

More than 1,200 people attended that town hall and people were fired up. With his commanding presence, George deftly moderated the event—kept folks in line and the proceedings on course.

It is virtually impossible to travel around San Diego and not see George's impact. He was on just about every board and every commission. What an incredible amount of boundless ideas and endless energy he had. And he kept it up until his final days.

It wasn't just San Diego that benefited from his talents. George was active in causes and events in many cities around the country.

George was a writer, a public speaker, and an athlete. But mostly, he was a trusted and loyal friend.

Above all, I send condolences to his loving family.

It is safe to say that San Diego won't see the likes of George Mitrovich again.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF HILLARY A. DAVIS, WOMEN'S CONGRESSIONAL POLICY INSTITUTE 2019 CONGRESSIONAL FELLOW ON WOMEN AND PUBLIC POLICY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Hillary A. Davis, Congressional Fellow with the Women's Congressional Policy Institute on Women and Public Policy. For the past 7 months, Ms. Davis has been working as a research and writing associate.

Ms. Davis is a native of Tampa, Florida, and chose to follow in her godmother's footsteps and attend the historic Fisk University in Nashville, TN. There she majored in Political Science, and while at Fisk, Ms. Davis established herself as a servant leader by being elected to serve on the Student Government Association and as chapter president of Fisk's collegiate chapter of NAACP. Upon graduating from Fisk, she returned to Tampa and began a career as a human resource professional in the information technology industry. Ms. Davis also holds a Master of Public Administration from Southern University and A&M College in Baton Rouge, LA.

Throughout her time on the Committee, Ms. Davis has displayed a high degree of professionalism and personal commitment to providing staff valuable insight and information. In all of this, Ms. Davis has demonstrated benevolence, vitality, and enthusiasm, which has helped all of us enormously.

We thank Ms. Davis for her service to the Committee and our country and wish her the very best as she continues her outstanding professional journey.

IN RECOGNITION OF CODY
SPLITT'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II veteran and retired attorney Cody Splitt as she celebrates her 100th birthday.

Esther "Cody" Splitt was born in Wausau, Wisconsin in 1919. From a young age, Cody knew she wanted to serve her country and make an impact in her community. At the height of WWII, she joined the U.S. Navy and served in the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service. While serving, she worked on naval intelligence and was the head of personnel for WAVES.

After leaving the Navy in 1945, Cody pursued her dream of becoming a lawyer. Through the G.I. Bill, she attended the University of Wisconsin-Madison where she was one of five women in her class. She graduated in just three years with a bachelor's and law degree.

Cody met and married her husband, Harley, while attending UW-Madison. After her graduation, the couple moved to Appleton where Cody opened the second woman-owned law firm in Outagamie County. At age 66, she was elected president of the Outagamie County Bar Association, the first woman to hold that position. Cody retired from the legal profession at age 75 and joined the Outagamie County Board of Supervisors. She won subsequent bids for reelection and served on the Legislative/Audit Committee until she resigned at the age of 82. In addition, Cody served on the Outagamie County Health and Human Services Board.

Her contributions to the community are vast and continue to be honored. In 2013, Cody was honored as a Woman of Distinction by the Mid-Day Women's Alliance. She was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Wisconsin Law Journal in 2015. In 2016, the Fox Cities Chamber of Commerce inducted Cody into the Business Hall of Fame for her success and influence as a business leader.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to rise in recognition of Cody Splitt's 100th birthday. I would like to thank Cody for her service in the U.S. Navy and continued commitment to improving the Fox Valley community. May she have a happy and healthy birthday.

CONGRATULATING WILLIAM J.
NOONAN ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. DINA TITUS

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. TITUS. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate my dear friend, William J. Noonan, on his well-deserved retirement. After a long

and successful career in government and the gaming industry, the last 18 years of which he spent at Boyd Gaming, Bill leaves Las Vegas better than he found it. I am sad to see him depart his official position but know he will stay involved in our community.

After graduating from Missouri State and subsequently receiving his Master's in Public Administration from the University of Kansas, Bill spent years managing cities across this country and guiding them through both tough and exciting economic periods. Although gaming was not widely legalized throughout the country when Bill first landed in Las Vegas in the 1990s, he sensed the tides turning and worked with city leaders to prepare for its expansion.

It was important to Bill to foster strong relationships between the gaming industry and the communities in which companies operated, and he went above and beyond his professional duties to accomplish this. With his strategic thinking and amiable personality, Bill made Boyd Gaming a better community partner and Las Vegas a stronger and more prosperous community through his service as Vice Chairman and Executive Board member of the Nevada Resort Association.

I had the pleasure of hosting Bill as my guest to the State of the Union one year. It is difficult to find someone who enjoys politics as much as Bill. But Bill has been so much more than just an observer: Bill has run a casino; dined with U.S. presidents; guided economic development and philanthropy in Las Vegas as Chair of the Las Vegas Metro Chamber of Commerce and through the Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance; served on the Board of the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority; and helped unify our community after the horrific events of 1 October.

He is well respected in the gaming industry intentionally and has been recognized numerous times for his leadership, including as Gaming Professional of the Year. He has truly left his mark on Las Vegas, and we are all indebted to him for it. I wish Bill and his wife, Sylvia, all the best in their future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING MR. HENRY
RODRIGUEZ MARTINEZ, SR.

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. VEASEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Mr. Henry Rodriguez Martinez, Sr. of Dallas. Mr. Martinez was a father, veteran and a local civil rights leader that was committed to bettering our DFW communities throughout his life of public service.

Mr. Martinez was son of West Dallas, and spent his life making sure that communities of color had a seat at the table. He was an early pioneer in building Latino political power in our community and was one of the loudest advocates in the fight to guarantee better representation for all people of color on the Dallas City council. I know he would be proud to see the diversity we have on our city council today.

Mr. Martinez also worked to ensure the safety of West Dallas and the greater DFW-area. Martinez was an active member of the Eagle Ford/Ledbetter Community of West Dallas throughout his life and as the president of

the Ledbetter Neighborhood Association helped improve local transit across the community and improve the quality of life for those that lived there.

My thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Martinez's family and friends. West Dallas is losing a fighter and advocate for their community. His spirit and accomplishments are irreplaceable, but we will always strive to emulate them.

RECOGNIZING THE 113TH ANNIVERSARY
AND 95TH GENERAL CONVENTION
OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA
FRATERNITY, INC.

HON. STEVEN HORSFORD

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 113th Anniversary and 95th General Convention of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (ΑΦΑ) is the first African-American, intercollegiate Greek-lettered fraternity. It was initially a literary and social studies club organized in the 1905–1906 school year at Cornell University but later evolved into a fraternity with a founding date of December 4, 1906. Its aims are "Manly Deeds, Scholarship, and Love For All Mankind," and its motto is "First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All."

Chapters were chartered at Howard University and Virginia Union University in 1907. The fraternity now has over 290,000 members and has been open to men of all races since 1945. Currently, there are more than 730 active chapters in the Americas, Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, and Asia. It is the largest predominantly African-American fraternity and one of the ten largest collegiate fraternities in the nation.

Alpha Phi Alpha is a social organization with a service organization mission and has provided leadership and service during the Great Depression, both World Wars, and the Civil Rights Movement. The fraternity has addressed social issues such as apartheid, AIDS, urban housing, and other economic, cultural, and political issues of interest to people of color.

National programs and initiatives of the fraternity include A Voteless People Is a Hopeless People, My Brother's Keeper, Go To High School, Go To College, Project Alpha, and the World Policy Council. It also conducts philanthropic programming initiatives with the March of Dimes, Head Start, the Boy Scouts of America, and Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. Currently the fraternity is involved in a vigorous civic engagement initiative aimed at voter protection and a full census count for people of color.

Members of this fraternity include many historical civil rights leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr., NAACP founder W. E. B. Du Bois. Other world-renowned members include political activist Cornel West, musicians Duke Ellington and Lionel Richie, NBA legend Walt Frazier, Jamaican Prime Minister Norman Manley, Olympic gold medalist Jesse Owens, Justice Thurgood Marshall, Investor and founder of Vista Equity Partners Robert F. Smith, United Nations Ambassador Andrew Young, Academy Award winning director Barry

Jenkins, six time MTV Video Music Awards winning director and choreographer Frank Gatson Jr., the hero of the Nashville Waffle House shooting, James Shaw Jr., and ESPN sportscasters Stuart Scott, Stan Verrett and Jay Harris.

Alpha Phi Alpha asserts that through its community outreach initiatives, the fraternity supplies voice and vision to the struggle of African Americans, the African diaspora, and the countless unique problems that affect Black men. The fraternity provides for charitable endeavors through its Education and Building Foundations, providing academic scholarships and shelter to underprivileged families. The fraternity combines its efforts in conjunction with other philanthropic organizations such as Head Start, Boy Scouts of America, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, Project Alpha with the March of Dimes, NAACP, Habitat for Humanity, and many Fortune 500 companies.

In Las Vegas, since 1964 and 1993 respectively, the Theta Pi Lambda and Sigma Psi Chapters hold high the light of Alpha. We boast in our ranks Brothers Chief State Supreme Court Justice Michael Douglas; Chief District Judge Addelior D Guy, III; Dr. James McMillan, the 1st Black Dentist in Nevada; Rev. Dr. Marion Bennet; Dr. Bob Bailey, the 1st Black TV Personality in Nevada; Ricki Y. Barlow, Las Vegas City Councilman; NV Assemblyman Steven Brooks; and Cedric Crear, Las Vegas City Councilman. Over the past 5 years they have reinvested over \$140,000 in scholarships and boast a 100 percent college acceptance rate, through the Alpha Men and Divas of Tomorrow Mentoring program.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, I attempted to vote in favor of H.R. 3239. Unfortunately, due to a mechanical error during yesterday's vote on this bill, my vote was not recorded.

As a legislator, a medical professional, and an advocate of humane treatment for all people, I am proud to support this bill because it will raise the minimum standards for medical treatment of migrants and asylum seekers seeking refuge at our southwestern border.

I went to the border to view the circumstances on the ground and what I saw were inhumane conditions. Men, women, and children should never be placed in cages.

In 2018 alone, there were nine migrant deaths that occurred after an encounter with Customs and Border Protection—including seven-year-old Jakelin, who died of dehydration and shock; and eight-year-old Felipe, who died from influenza while in the custody of Customs and Border Protection.

In the first half of 2019, there have been ten deaths, including a two-year-old who died from

pneumonia and a 16-year-old who died from influenza.

All these deaths could have been prevented. The tragic deaths of these children do not go unrecognized and are an unfortunate and disgraceful symptom of the inhumane treatment occurring at our southwest border.

H.R. 3239, the Humanitarian Standards for Individuals in Customs and Border Protection Custody Act, introduced by Congressman RAUL RUIZ, raises the bar on humanitarian standards at our southern border.

Migrant children require protection from harm, but we already know this from our own personal experiences. Our children and grandchildren need pediatric health assessments and appropriate medical attention. So do migrant children.

Your child's pediatrician needs the equipment and medications for assessment, triage and treatment. So do the health care providers for migrant children. Migrant children escaping dire situations deserve the same care for their hygiene and health.

You wouldn't allow your children or grandchildren's safety, nutrition, health and hygiene needs to go unmet because you know that they can lead to illness and death—like the deaths of the children who died after being detained at the border.

We must do better. We must dig the bar out of the ground for the humane and dignified treatment of migrants and raise it up to, at minimum, international levels, so that no more deaths occur on our watch. I commend and support my colleague, Congressman RUIZ, for introduction and passage of this bill in the House of Representatives.

THE SAFEGUARDING STUDENT VETERANS ACT

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. CUMMINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise to discuss the Safeguarding Student Veterans Act.

In recent years, we have seen a wave of abrupt closures of colleges in Maryland and around the country, particularly those operating for profit. When a college closes, students are the ones that bear the burden and are left asking "what's next?"

Students who have spent thousands of dollars can just be left with credits they are often not able to transfer. This leaves entire families placed in financial limbo due to circumstances of which the student was unaware.

In the last five years, close to a half million students were impacted by closures of around 1,200 campuses. They were robbed of their education and a chance to better themselves.

When these schools close, student veterans using the GI Bill benefits they have earned through their courageous service are dis-

proportionately impacted. Furthermore, many for-profit schools have been found to target veterans for enrollment with deceptive and predatory practices.

Between 2014 and 2018, the closure of for-profit colleges impacted almost 22,000 students using the GI Bill.

In 2016, when ITT Technical Institute closed its doors, about 7,000 of its 40,000 students were on the GI Bill.

Last year, Education Corporation of America suddenly ceased operations. Nearly 4,000 of its 18,000 students were using the GI Bill.

In addition to harming veterans, these closings also leave taxpayers on the hook because the Department of Veterans Affairs has to double the amount of funding it provides for GI Bill beneficiaries when a school closes and their credits do not transfer.

After serving our nation, veterans using their GI Bill benefits should have faith that they will be able to complete their degrees without their schools suddenly closing.

We must do better for our veterans.

Our veterans have served our country, and we must honor the sacrifices they made as they transition back into civilian life and seek to better themselves through education.

That is why I am introducing bipartisan legislation to protect these student veterans. This week I am introducing the Safeguarding Student Veterans Act with Congressman Ted Yoho of Florida. Our bill will increase coordination between the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Education, require the Department of Veterans Affairs to better understand and track the risks that certain schools pose to veterans, and empower veterans when deciding on which schools to attend.

Under the bill, when the Department of Education determines that any school, including for-profits, are facing significant financial and compliance issues, the Department of Education would need to notify and coordinate with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The Department of Veterans Affairs would then need to undertake a risk analysis for these schools. The analysis would include information the Department of Veterans Affairs receives from the Department of Education as well as additional factors such as the volume of student complaints, rates of Federal student loan defaults by veterans, and veteran completion rates.

The Department of Veterans Affairs would then notify veterans of the results of the risk analysis and include the findings in the Department of Veterans Affairs' online GI Bill Comparison Tool.

I am proud that our bill has wide-ranging support, including from the American Legion, Veterans Education Success, Vietnam Veterans of America, and Maryland Attorney General Brian Frosh.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting the Safeguarding Student Veterans Act. We must do better to protect our student veterans.