

prioritize policies that strengthen it. In my home state of Ohio, the manufacturing industry accounts for 16.6 percent of total output, and employs 12.5 percent of our workforce, or 690,200 employees. All told, the manufacturing produced \$107.95 billion worth of output in Ohio in 2017 and continues to grow each day.

H.R. 2397 would strengthen our nation's largest investment in advanced manufacturing—the Manufacturing USA Program—which has thrived in the past seven years since its creation and build on that success to strengthen our manufacturing workforce. This bill would reauthorize the successful Revitalize American Manufacturing and Innovation of 2014 and extend it to all agencies sponsoring centers for manufacturing innovation, allowing more of those that invest in manufacturing to benefit from this program. It would further strengthen the institutes' role in advanced manufacturing workforce development—something I'm deeply passionate about—along with outreach to and inclusion of small- and medium-sized businesses, which are vital to a prosperous American economy.

H.R. 2397 also puts important checks, balances, and oversight into place by encouraging the program office to develop pilot programs for the institutes, as well as identify for and disseminate to them best education and workforce training practices. It would also expand Manufacturing USA's authorities to collaborate with other agencies, including to develop network-wide performance goals. In addition, while this bill would authorize agencies to renew institutes for an additional period of funding, allowing those institutes to meet their ultimate goals, this would only be allowed following a rigorous review of the institute's progress toward meeting measurable goals.

The manufacturing industry is a pillar of the American economy and drives many of the other industries that make up our country's annual GDP. Without the manufacturing industry, the American economy would cease to exist. H.R. 2397 would expand on manufacturing programs with proven success and accelerate our nation's progress in advanced manufacturing. Ultimately, this legislation leverages existing programs across the federal government to help Manufacturing USA Institutes achieve its goals. Finally, as an advocate for small business and workforce development, I'm excited that this bill expands to include more small- and medium-sized manufacturers, since they are the lifeblood of our nation's economy.

Once again, I thank my colleague from Michigan for her leadership on this legislation, and I urge the committee's support of H.R. 2397.

LIFE AND MEMORY OF KATHY
TEAL

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Mr. BUCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and memory of Kathy Teal.

Kathy was born in Newark, NJ and grew up in the Chicago suburb of Wheaton, IL. A certified midwife, she devoted herself to serving unwed mothers and children. Kathy was a founding member of both Birthright of Greeley

and the Genesis Project of Northern Colorado, organizations dedicated to helping single mothers and their children. She spent her life advocating for policies that protected expectant mothers in Colorado and continually supported organizations that protect the sanctity of life, including the Weld County Right to Life.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Kathy Teal for always fighting to protect those unable to protect themselves. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my condolences to the Teal family and my gratitude to Kathy for her life of service.

HONORING MEIERHOFFER
FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Meierhoffer Funeral Home and Crematory in St. Joseph, Missouri, as it celebrates its 125th anniversary.

For one hundred twenty-five years and five generations, the Meierhoffer Family has been there for people. For grieving families, for widows and children, Meierhoffer Funeral Home has been there. The Meierhoffers, with kindness, empathy and a quiet presence are able to bring calm to the chaos of raw nerves and frayed emotions. They are able to help others make peace and help families begin the process of healing from a loss. People say that having a good funeral home is like having a good lawyer. You never want to have to call them, but when you do have to make that call, you are always glad that they are there. I and all of St. Joseph, are eternally grateful that for over a century the Meierhoffer Funeral Home has been there.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Meierhoffer Funeral Home and Crematory for one hundred twenty-five years of serving the people of St. Joseph, Missouri. I am honored to have such a long-standing family business in the Sixth Congressional District of Missouri and to represent the Meierhoffer Family in the United States Congress.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND
SERVICE OF DIANE LORENZETTI

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of longtime Concord resident, Diane Lorenzetti.

Diane, affectionately known as "Miss Diane," was born in Concord, California in 1943 to loving parents Ettore and Emily Lorenzetti. While attending Holy Names College, Diane worked part-time as a pre-school teacher for the City of Concord. In 1974, she left the classroom and became the Director of the Concord Senior Center.

Over the next 29 years, Diane worked tirelessly to ensure a pleasant and engaging experience for all visiting seniors. It is said that she made the center feel like a second home

and challenged herself to remember the names of everyone she met. During her tenure as Director, Diane was an important and reliable figure in the Concord senior community.

As the executive producer of the Concord Senior Citizen's Club, Diane directed a number of shows such as Talent Recycled, which played to hundreds of fans at the Senior Center, the Willows Theatre, and the Concord Pavilion. It was important to Diane to allow the seniors who participated to express themselves creatively and feel a sense of community.

On top of her work with the senior community, Diane was very active with the Druids of California and was a member of the local chapter starting in 1960. She also served as a member of the Young Ladies institute where she worked to support the Catholic faith, encourage apostolic and charitable works, and celebrate Italian American heritage.

Diane will be sorely missed, and her lasting impact will long be remembered in the Concord community.

RECOGNIZING VIET BAO DAILY
NEWS AND WRITING ON AMERICA

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 30, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Viet Bao Daily News for the 20th anniversary of the Writing on America program. Viet Bao Daily News introduced Writing on America twenty years ago, on April 30, 2000, which marked the 25th anniversary of the beginning of a new Vietnamese population in the United States of America.

In the face of adversity, the Vietnamese community in the U.S. has demonstrated commendable resilience and strength, building a home for themselves and laying a strong foundation for generations of Vietnamese Americans to come. Viet Bao, one of the most well-respected and widely read sources of Vietnamese daily news, has become an integral part of this legacy.

Outside of being a reliable news source for the Vietnamese community, Viet Bao's Writing on America program has fostered the stories of Vietnamese and Vietnamese American individuals traversing the negative impacts of the Vietnam War and the Vietnamese diaspora. The program hosts an annual writing contest for the Vietnamese community to submit essays on their unique overseas experiences. The top winners of the contest are given a monetary award, but all approved submissions are published daily in Viet Bao and aggregated into a book available for purchase online. These stories attract more than 80,000 readers per year.

The Writing on America program became a tool of healing for the individuals sharing their stories and for the individuals who could relate to their experiences. It is also an archive of Vietnamese history in America, one that is filled with the grief of leaving one's home country, an unrelenting belief in the American dream, and the hope for a future of happiness and prosperity. Over time, it has become a forum for celebrating the achievements and joys of the Vietnamese community.