

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MR. CURT SMITH

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 23, 2019

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Curt Smith, a distinguished Hoosier who has spent nearly four decades fighting to advance faith, family, and freedom in the great state of Indiana. Curt truly embodies what it means to have a servant's heart. He has served our state with honor and integrity in various roles including 15 years as an aide for U.S. Senator Dan Coats and U.S. Rep. John Hostettler and 18 years as President of the Indiana Family Institute.

Curt has truly established himself as a thought leader and advocate for the preservation of our First Amendment rights. He has heavily contributed to Indiana's many pro-life achievements including banning abortion up to 20 weeks and defunding Planned Parenthood of state tax-dollars. Curt also has taken it upon himself countless times to defend the religious liberty of all Hoosiers at the state and local level.

Furthermore, under Curt's leadership, the Indiana Family Institute has implemented countless groundbreaking programs and initiatives including the "5 Freedom's Project", a program which works to address social and economic problems facing Hoosiers through effective policy and research. Most notably, Curt was instrumental in developing the Hoosier Leadership Series, a program that seeks to develop leadership, worldview training, and create a network of future conservative leaders across Indiana. My wife, Amanda, and I are both proud graduates of this program and we are thankful for the impact it has had on our lives.

Madam Speaker, Curt is a once in a generation type of leader and the state of Indiana is proud to have someone of his caliber guiding us into a brighter tomorrow. I wish him many more years of success in his new role as Chairman of the Indiana Family Institute.

TRIBUTE TO ABBEY EUSEBIO

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 23, 2019

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Abbey Eusebio, an incredible woman and dedicated public servant who has served on my staff as a Constituent Advocate for over 14 years. While I will soon lose Abbey as a staff member, she will always be part of my Team. I wish her continued success in her future endeavors but look forward to seeing her in the community as we continue to fight for inclusion and representation for all.

Abbey has devoted her professional life to helping the most vulnerable members of our

community. In her role as a Constituent Advocate, she assisted anyone who came in the door or called my office, helping them find resources and navigate government agencies that are all too often complex and unresponsive.

Abbey has a well-earned reputation as an effective, compassionate and diligent member of my staff. She is thoughtful and tenacious as she pursues matters on behalf of constituents of the 9th Congressional District of Illinois. Over 14 years of service, Abbey provided extensive casework support to individual reaching out for help with immigration, housing, taxes, veterans' benefits, and a wide range of other issues. Her depth of knowledge and dogged persistence in tracking down necessary information from federal agencies has helped hundreds of residents who may have otherwise fallen through the cracks. Over her many years of service, Abbey collected "regulars" who would keep in touch and stop in to see her, and she would often receive word-of-mouth referrals from the community because of her amazing work and reputation.

Abbey worked with other members of my staff to organize and run numerous events throughout the 9th Congressional District, and my staff and I could always trust that her work would be done in a complete and capable manner. She was often seen at several local libraries where she and other staff held weekly office hours, and she was always happy to converse with constituents.

Abbey frequently spoke on my behalf when I was unable to attend community events, and she never failed to represent the office with gravitas and eloquence. She is a familiar and trusted face at many events in our vibrant Filipino community, where she is one of their strongest advocates.

My staff and I will feel a distinct void when Abbey moves on to conduct outreach for the Illinois Attorney General's Office, but I know that she will continue to use her skills and many talents to assist residents throughout Illinois in the months and years ahead.

I will miss Abbey, but I know that she will continue to do tremendous work in our community. I love her very much.

HONORING THE 193RD SPECIAL OPERATIONS WING OF MIDDLETOWN, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 23, 2019

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the outstanding men and women of the 193rd Special Operations Wing of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard for earning the Wing's 18th Air Force Outstanding Unit Award. This highly prestigious award recognizes the Wing's exceptionally meritorious service from October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2017.

During this period, 772 Airmen from the 193rd Special Operations Wing deployed in support of contingency operations overseas, advancing our military's effectiveness on the battlefield while protecting our Nation and our American way of life.

During the same period, the Wing also distinguished itself through its domestic operations. The unit is at the cutting edge in its disaster relief capabilities. After Hurricane Harvey and again after Hurricane Maria, the unit performed vital life-sustaining activities, working around the clock to deliver personnel and critical cargo to the affected areas and to restore communications to advance disaster relief efforts.

The Airmen of the 193rd Special Operations Wing consistently demonstrate their excellence in their training and their operations across the country and around the world. Pennsylvania's Tenth Congressional District is honored to be the home of such a distinguished unit. I commend them for earning this Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, and I extend my heartfelt thanks to them for their hard work, dedication and steadfast service to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and to the United States.

HONORING AUGUST VETERAN OF THE MONTH KEN PENNINGTON

HON. ROSS SPANO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 23, 2019

Mr. SPANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor World War II veteran Warrant Officer One Kenneth A. Pennington, U.S. Navy Retired.

Mr. Pennington enlisted in the US Navy in 1937. After spending time in the European theater, he was assigned to the newly commissioned aircraft carrier, USS *Princeton*. After 9 major engagements in the Pacific, the *Princeton* was sunk during the Battle of Leyte Gulf on October 24, 1944, resulting in 108 casualties and over 200 injured. Many consider this battle to be the largest naval battle of World War II and possibly the largest in history.

In 1946, Mr. Pennington was assigned as deck chief on the USS *Midway* aircraft carrier, and eventually saw action in the Korean conflict while aboard the USS *Mount McKinley*. He continued to serve over 30 years until 1967, and was recognized for his commitment, bravery, and heroism with 10 medals during that time.

This past March, Mr. Pennington celebrated his 100th birthday. However, it is our community and I who celebrate him, his career, and lifetime of service. Our nation owes you a debt of gratitude for all you have endured to protect our freedoms and faith, one that brought you through the darkest days of war. I thank him for blessing us with his life of sacrifice, and am humbled to honor him before the United States Congress.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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