plus years as a distinguished advocate for Texas property owners with Texas REALTORS. Shortly after earning an accounting degree from the University of Texas, Mark pursued a career in public policy and has held a presence in Texas politics ever since. Throughout his professional career, Mark has worked in multiple positions at the national, state, and local political levels. Mark served in the Texas Legislature as the Chief of Staff for Texas Senator Florence Shapiro, and then worked as the Campaign Director for now-U.S. Senator John Cornyn's successful race for Texas Attorney General.

Upon joining Texas REALTORS in 1998 as Director of Governmental Affairs, Mark brought a unique expertise that eventually ascended him to Vice President of Government Affairs in 2004. Mark has become an outstanding leader for the company as he was responsible for over 120,000 members in the association. With over two decades of experience with Texas REALTORS, Mark has admirably served many Texas by advocating for private-property rights, providing reliable information, and has gained respect among the Houston community. Leading up to the historic passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, Mark played a significant role in gathering support for this monumental legislation in the Houston area. He also spearheaded oversight on economic analysis that showed the positive impact tax reform would have on Texas property owners and American workers and families across the country. Not only did he work hard in Texas, Mark also led a team to Washington, D.C. to inform lawmakers on their most up-to-date research and findings-data that was instrumental in giving America a new tax code.

In 2018, Mark was inducted into the REALTORS Political Action Committee (RPAC) Hall of Fame—a testament to his hard work and success in the real estate field. Outside of his professional career, Mark is also an avid writer. He publishes two blogs, the first is a political blog simplifying the legislative process for his readers, and the second is a personal, faith-based blog interwoven with his own family history. After twenty years of hard work, I am proud to join Mark’s colleagues and friends in celebrating his well-earned retirement. Mark, thank you for all you’ve done for our community. The Houston community has been blessed by your accomplishments, and I wish you well as you begin your next chapter.

RECOGNIZING NORMA GIBBS FOR A LIFE DEDICATED TO COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. HARLEY ROUDA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, September 6, 2019

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the life and legacy of Norma Gibbs. Mrs. Gibbs, the City of Huntington Beach’s first female City Council member and Mayor, lived a life marked by extraordinary commitment and public service.

Mrs. Gibbs passed away on Sunday, September 1, 2019, but the impact she made during her lifetime will continue for generations. During a time when politics was dominated by men, Mrs. Gibbs encouraged women to vote and play an active role in community development. She would serve as the inspiration for many women to run for office, and because of her hard work, the City where she served as Mayor now boasts a City Council whose membership is commanded by women.

In 1979, Mrs. Gibbs founded Interval House, a nonprofit that cares for and supports survivors of abuse. From Interval House to the opening of the Huntington Central Park Library, Mrs. Gibbs lived a life dedicated to uplifting our community. Her lifetime of public service would earn her the President’s Lifetime Achievement award in 2015.

Today I ask that all Members join me in recognizing the amazing life and works of Norma Gibbs.