

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEE SHORT-TERM DIS- ABILITY INSURANCE ACT OF 2019

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Federal Employee Short-Term Disability Insurance Act of 2019, which would help provide financial relief for federal employees who have a short-term injury or disability, become pregnant, or develop a pregnancy-related illness. This bill would offer federal employees short-term disability insurance at no cost to the federal government. Employees would be responsible for 100 percent of the premiums and be able to receive disability insurance benefits for up to one year, which would replace a portion of their lost income due to a non-work-related injury or illness or pregnancy. These benefits would be particularly advantageous to ensure that our federal employees, who do not yet enjoy paid maternity leave, are able to utilize the 12 weeks of unpaid maternity leave permitted by federal law while continuing to pay their bills, buy groceries and make their mortgage, car and other loan payments without depleting their retirement or other savings accounts. Too many federal employees do not take advantage of the full amount of federal unpaid maternity leave they and their newborn need because they have no way to replace the lost income.

I decided to investigate how we could provide short-term disability insurance for federal employees after learning that many of them already buy short-term disability insurance as individuals in the private market at high individual rates. Although federal employees have good health insurance, federal health benefits do not replace lost income if employees are unable to work. Moreover, while federal employees may have available sick or annual leave days, they may not have enough such days to pay the bills if they have to be out of work for an extended period, such as following surgery. Although there are long-term disability options for federal employees who become permanently disabled, federal employees do not qualify for such benefits until they have worked for the federal government for at least 18 months. My bill does no more than put federal employees in the same position as many of their private-sector counterparts, who often have access to disability insurance through an employer at group rates, an option unavailable to federal employees. This bill would not allow participating insurance companies to exclude persons based on preexisting conditions. Because of the federal government's purchasing power, this bill would provide these benefits at a more competitive rate than is available for employees purchasing as individuals, as many do. Under the bill, the Director of the Office of Personnel Management would contract with private carriers to provide this coverage, essentially providing the equivalent of group cov-

erage available to workers in the private sector.

According to the Social Security Administration, a 20-year-old worker has a one-in-four chance of becoming disabled by retirement age. The majority of disabilities are not caused by major accidents, but by injury or illnesses, such as back injuries or cancer, according to the Council for Disability Awareness. There is every reason to allow our federal employees to take advantage of the federal government's group rates to obtain the most reasonable price if they choose to purchase short-term disability coverage on their own at no cost to the federal government.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE LEGACY OF MARRINER S. ECCLES

HON. BEN McADAMS

OF UTAH
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Mr. McADAMS. Madam Speaker, Utah native Marriner S. Eccles is one of the giants in the history of America's free enterprise banking system and the father of the modern Federal Reserve.

He was born in Logan, Utah in 1890 and as a child, worked in several of his father's businesses. He created a family holding company, the Eccles Investment Company, in 1916 to manage various enterprises. By the mid-1920s, he, his brother George and others had organized the First Security Corporation, believed to be the first multibank holding company. Before entering public service, he successfully prevented the collapse of the family bank in 1931. In 1933, Congress invited him to give his analysis of the Great Depression. He delivered a five-point program to fix the economy that formed the basis of the New Deal.

When Marriner Eccles was named Chair of the Federal Reserve in 1934, he was just 44 years old. Time magazine wrote at the time, "Many believe Marriner S. Eccles is the only thing standing between the U.S. and disaster."

Former U.S. Labor Secretary Robert Reich has stated that any list of the most influential individuals on America's thinking in the post-war era must include Marriner S. Eccles. Historians note that one reason America was able to win World War II, which took a great deal of money, is the advice President Franklin D. Roosevelt received from Marriner Eccles.

Eccles was known as someone who thought deeply about problems and then acted without concern for the political consequences. When Congress passed the Banking Act of 1935, which sought to clarify the powers and responsibilities of the Reserve Board in matters of national monetary policy, and to increase the autonomy of regional Reserve Banks, he said, "The function of banking and money is perhaps the most important of all in our entire

economy." He then congratulated the Congress for working "tirelessly and conscientiously to reconcile different points of view in accordance with what they believed to be in the public interest."

After his Fed service, Eccles returned to the banking business in Utah. He died in 1977. In 1982, the Federal Reserve Building in Washington, D.C. was renamed in his honor. His descendants continued to carry out his legacy of public service. The Marriner S. Eccles Foundation has given generously to higher education, hospitals and medical research, arts and culture and family and social services, including programs supporting the elderly, the disabled and the homeless. As a community, as a state and as a country, we continue to reap the benefits of Marriner Eccles' intellect, dedication, compassion and commitment to American values and ideals.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, in July, the Trump administration published a proposed change to the broad-based categorical eligibility for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. This change is a bad idea and would severely hurt working families and children in my district and across this country.

North Texas has a major issue of food insecurity. More than one in six residents in Dallas County are not certain where their next meal will come from. Over 20 percent of children in North Texas are food insecure, many of which rely on free or reduced lunch as well to ensure they can feed their mind in the classroom rather than worrying about filling their stomachs. This change would make it even harder on children and working parents in North Texas to have access to healthy foods. It would put them one step closer to total calamity.

Hunger has always been an important issue to me. Earlier this month, many organizations came together for the 8th Annual Dallas Hunger Summit to discuss how they can work together in ensuring that working families across North Texas have access to healthy foods. Organizations such as the Texas Hunger Initiative and the North Texas Food Bank have participated in this summit for years and have been valuable resources as we fight each day to have fewer of our neighbors deal with hunger. With this change, thousands of additional working families in North Texas would be forced to rely on the services of these organizations due to this administration's heartless policies.

Simply put. These changes to the broad-based categorical eligibility for SNAP strips food off the table of hard-working families. It makes it harder for organizations such as food

• 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.

pantries and charities to meet the increased utilization of their programs. Most offensive of all, this program, a program designed to help families get on their feet and move out of poverty and up the economic scale, is being changed simply so that this administration can leave more people behind.

Madam Speaker, I urge the Trump Administration to carefully reevaluate their policies towards working families and immediately rescind this terrible policy change.

AMERICAN LEGION HORACE ORR
POST 29 IN MARIETTA CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of American Legion Horace Orr Post 29 in Marietta, Georgia; which, on Sunday, September 29, 2019, will celebrate its 100th birthday. Post 29 is one of the oldest in the country and the largest in the state of Georgia, with 971 legion members and more than 1,300 members overall.

Post 29 is named in honor of Sgt. William H. Orr, the only soldier from Marietta, Georgia killed during WWI. Sgt. Orr worked as a salesman for the Dixie Culbert Metal Company in Atlanta when he was drafted, and honorably served in the Army, Company A, 325th Infantry, 82nd Division. He was killed in action on October 14, 1918, in the battle of Argonne Forest in France, and is buried in Mars Hill Cemetery near Acworth, Georgia. The American Legion was originally founded in Paris, France in 1919, after WWI, by veterans, to support veterans and communities. Today, the Legion is the largest wartime veterans service organization, with more than 13,000 posts and nearly two million members worldwide. The American Legion organization is committed to helping American veterans from all wars, mentoring youth, promoting patriotism, serving communities, and advocating for strong national security, among other service related activities.

Given the organization's longevity and service, it is hard to put into words the impact the American Legion, and Post 29, has had on our veterans and communities; so I will repeat these words, directly from American Legion Horace Orr Post 29 in Marietta, who put it best, "We are veterans serving veterans. Please join us."

On behalf of Georgia's 11th Congressional District and the United States Congress, and as a fellow legionnaire, I congratulate the members of American Legion Post 29 on the celebration of your 100th year.

HONORING THE CENTRAL
ACCOMACK LITTLE LEAGUE SENIOR BOYS AND GIRLS TEAMS

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the Central Accomack

Little League Senior Boys and Girls teams. The Girls team won the Virginia State Championship and the Boys team won both the Virginia State Championship and the Southeast Region Championship.

Congratulations to the Central Accomack Senior Girls All Star Softball team members: Hailey Berry, Jordan Crockett, McKenzie DeAmicis, Taylor Fluhart, Chloe Hall, Haylie Justice, Jaelyn Killmon, Kathleen McAuliffe, Brianna Rucker, Alana Shea, Sarah Taylor, Jamie Lyn Wert, and Logan Woermer. I would also like to congratulate Manager Bobbie Jo Wert and Coaches Kimmie Justice and Kimberly Wert.

I also extend my congratulations to the Central and North Accomack Senior Boys All Star Baseball team members: Brandon Adamos, Zykeese Davis, Armonte Dickerson, Landon Fuller, Tyler Green, Dylan Marshall, Jacob Meilhammer, Dustin Nelson, Luke Parks, Dylan Ross, Everett Savage, and Cade Williams. I congratulate Coaches Ricky Parks, Chris Beasley, and Bert Adamos, and Manager Shane Fowler.

I would also like to recognize the District 8 President Andy Adler and the Central Accomack League President Billy Justice for a very successful season. Finally, I wish to commend Central Accomack Little League for 61 years of service to the youth of the Eastern Shore.

I wish these teams the best of luck in their future endeavors.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW
OF CONSTANTINOPLE

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople for his 50th anniversary of Priesthood.

His All Holiness was ordained as a priest on October 19, 1969. Since that day, he has never ceased to make strides in religious studies and world peace. His service to our global society has had a positive impact on many lives.

His All Holiness was elected the 270th Archbishop of Constantinople, New Rome, and Ecumenical Patriarch on October 22, 1991. Countless nations and academic institutions have given His All Holiness awards for his work. In 1997, to recognize his efforts in both religious understanding and peace, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew received the Congressional Gold Medal.

I am grateful for all the good that His All Holiness does for Americans, and those around the world. Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew serves as a reminder to us all that the positive efforts of just one person can be beneficial to countless lives of others.

CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCIA L. FUDGE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Ms. FUDGE. Madam Speaker, over 40 states and territories use Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility or Broad-Based Categorical Eligibility (or BBCE) to streamline the administration of SNAP and provide critical assistance to households receiving benefits and services through the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant.

BBCE is proven to help millions of working poor families move toward financial security, by easing the benefits cliff as their earnings increase.

On July 24, 2019, USDA published a proposed rule to restrict the use of BBCE and eliminate SNAP benefits for an estimated 3.1 million Americans. This includes children, working families, military veterans, disabled individuals, and seniors.

Most shameful is the proposals impact on hungry school-age children. By USDA's own estimates, the new policy would take away direct access to free school meals for at least 500,000 schoolchildren.

Nearly half a million children would be left to go hungry during the school day, shifting the burden to strapped school districts.

In my state of Ohio, according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, over 61,000 SNAP households would lose their benefits. USDA reports that in 2017, the prevalence of food insecurity among Ohioans was higher than the national average.

13.7 percent of Ohioans were food insecure in 2017, compared to 12.3 percent nationally.

Even USDA admits the proposed changes to SNAP will make food insecurity worse and make it harder for millions of Americans to get by.

Most notably, it would remove the current flexibility for states and territories to use BBCE to tailor SNAP to best meet the food needs of their own populations.

Republicans love to talk about states' rights when it suits them, but when it comes to the flexibility of states to meet the needs of their food-insecure populations, they want something very different.

As the economy continues to leave working families and our most vulnerable behind, programs like SNAP are needed more than ever.

Congress already debated these issues.

We came together and rejected this policy in both the 2014 and 2018 farm bills with a record bipartisan vote.

This proposed rule is shameful and cruel and is contrary to the will of Congress.

This unilateral action by the Administration only complicates legitimate bipartisan efforts to make programs like SNAP more effective and efficient for the millions of people who rely on it to put food on the table.

We should be working together to strengthen the safety net, not weaken it.

I urge USDA to rescind this harmful proposed rule immediately and finally make good on its promise to the American people to "Do Right and Feed Everyone".

CELEBRATING NORMAN WISEMAN
ON HIS 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Norman Wiseman, a great Hoosier celebrating his 80th birthday.

Norman was born on September 25, 1939, in Ridge Farm, Illinois, as the youngest of three brothers. At a young age, Norman moved with his family to northern Indiana, where he attended Madison High School and fell in love with his late wife, Sonja Gall. They graduated in 1958 and got married a year later on Valentine's Day.

Through a lot of hard work, dedication, and compassion for one another, Norman and Sonja built a beautiful life together full of love, laughter, and happiness. They had children, started a business, grew a garden every summer, and even raised honey bees. Norman has always been active in the community and has taught his family the cherished lessons of kindness, integrity, and faith.

Though his business, Wiseman Plumbing, is Norman's passion, his greatest accomplishments are the positive contributions he has made to the lives of those around him and his family. He remained steadfast and committed as his business thrived, and he continues to work years after he closed up his shop. When he's not working, he loves connecting with people and spending time around the community. At church he is known as "Norman the Doorman," greeting churchgoers each Sunday.

His wife Dee and his five children, four grandchildren, and first great-grandchild, David, are life's true blessings for Norman. All who know him are undoubtedly touched by his friendliness and spirit, and I am humbled to call him a friend.

Madam Speaker, Norman Wiseman sets a profound example as a good father, loving grandfather, avid businessman, and caring friend. On behalf of 2nd District Hoosiers, I wish Norman a very happy birthday and many more years of continued health and happiness.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LOCAL
781 CHAPTER OF THE INTER-
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE
FIGHTERS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize and celebrate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Local 781 chapter of the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF). For seventy-five years, Local 781 firefighters in Independence, Missouri, have proudly served and protected their community.

Supporting one of the oldest municipalities in Jackson County, Missouri, the contributions of Local 781 are engrained in the complex history of the Independence Fire Department and steeped in tradition, dedication and bravery. In 1843, as the prospering village flourished, so

did a growing need to protect what they had established, leading to the emergence of the Independence Fire Department.

Consisting of volunteer fire fighters, the Independence Fire Department originally fought fires in the community with buckets as their only equipment. For 175 years, the Independence Fire Department has upheld this same tenacious, innovative spirit. It has evolved and grown to meet the everchanging needs of the community it serves, and today encompasses ten fire stations, over 150 personnel, an area of seventy-eight square miles, and an institution that boldly protects and serves the community.

The men and women employed by the Independence Fire Department have been proudly and faithfully represented by the Local 781 chapter of the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) since the formation of the local chapter in 1944, empowering them to maintain the same selfless sacrifice in the protection of countless lives.

Moreover, the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) represents more than 295,000 full-time professional firefighters and paramedics who protect eighty-five percent of the nation's population. This endeavor is assisted by the nearly 3,100 affiliates and their members in every state across the United States and Canada. The IAFF not only represents firefighters and paramedics but also includes state employees, federal workers, and fire and emergency medical personnel employed at certain industrial facilities.

As leaders, advocates, and champions for its members, the International Association of Fire Fighters has played a pivotal role in every advance in fire and emergency services in the 20th century. From the introduction of shift schedules early in the last century to the enactment of SAFER in 2003, which helps bolster access to careers in essential emergency response, ensuring better work conditions for these responders, and providing established professional standards for fire service. The IAFF has consistently been there to fight for responders and improvements to public safety.

Today, the International Association of Fire Fighters continues to spearhead policy that ensures the well-being of its members and places emphasis on their ability to safely execute their duties. The growth and success of this institution is reflective of its member-driven initiatives and commitment to be an organization for firefighters, by firefighters.

Madam Speaker, please join me and all of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in celebrating the seventy-fifth anniversary of Local 781 chapter of the International Association of Fire Fighters. Let us join in recognizing the bravery of its members, both past and present, who honorably serve the community of Independence, Missouri.

CELEBRATING THE PASTORAL AN-
NIVERSARY OF PASTOR EDDIE
WILLIAMS

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pastor Eddie Williams for his thirteen years of service to the congregation at

Lakeridge Village Ministries Church of God in Christ.

Lakeridge Village Ministries was founded on the principle of uplifting people from all walks of life in spirituality and that the gift of spirituality is not limited to clergy. Pastor Williams has sought to lead his flock under that guidance, fostering a true sense of community and caring for the most vulnerable. In addition to his work in ministry, Pastor Williams has sought to expand resources and options for people suffering from the pain of addiction and mental illness. His work at Lakeridge Village has accomplished so much in fighting the stigma around mental health issues and connecting those struggling with substance abuse to the assistance they need. In short Pastor Williams has performed outstanding service to the community through his ministry and charitable work.

Please join me in tribute to Pastor Eddie Williams in celebration of his thirteen years in spiritual service to Lakeridge Village Ministries Church of God in Christ.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ATAXIA
AWARENESS DAY

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Ataxia Awareness Day, and to honor the courage of the one hundred and fifty thousand Americans living with Ataxia, a neurodegenerative disease that affects the ability to coordinate movement. Those with Ataxia may have difficulty walking, speaking, and executing fine motor skills, and for some may lead to early death.

I would also like to honor the contributions of the National Ataxia Foundation, which is dedicated to improving the lives of those impacted by Ataxia including those with the disease, and their caregivers through support, education, and research.

I applaud their commitment and advocacy at the State and Federal levels to raise awareness of this disease and urge my colleagues to learn more about it and laud the efforts being taken to break down the isolation barriers and misconceptions around Ataxia.

I especially want to thank my constituent, Ms. Kim Brown for reaching out to me and my office to raise awareness of Ataxia and support research efforts to benefit those in my district and across the nation who live with this condition.

Today I stand in solidarity with all Americans battling Ataxia, and the dedicated scientists, health care workers, and caregivers who support them. I look forward to the day when this devastating condition can be cured.

HONORING SENIOR SPECIAL
AGENT LAZARO "LARRY" COSME

HON. DENVER RIGGLEMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Mr. RIGGLEMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Senior Special Agent Lazaro

"Larry" Cosme who is retiring from his post as the National President of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association after 27 years of service. Special Agent Cosme has honorably served his country working as the top Immigration and Customs Enforcement officer for both Washington, D.C. and Virginia. He is a hero we can all be proud of.

The 27 years Special Agent Cosme has spent in law enforcement have been a gift to our nation and our communities. As the National President of the Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association Larry Cosme stood up for American police officers and fought to make sure they were properly trained and properly equipped for the difficult tasks they face. I am grateful for the work he has done and am proud to call him a 5th District Constituent.

I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Senior Special Agent Cosme and wish him a happy and restful retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I missed one vote on September 24, 2019 as I was hosting the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation in my congressional district.

Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 541.

CONGRATULATING DR. DAVID
RUIZ ON RECEIVING THE BRAVO
AWARD

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 25, 2019

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend, Dr. David Ruiz, on receiving the prestigious Bravo Award from the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber for his outstanding work to help improve the health of the Latino community in Southwest Washington.

Before moving to the Pacific Northwest, David was born and raised in Tucson, Arizona. His career has been defined by many stages, first as an original member of the first youth mariachi in the United States and then as a professional musician. After moving to Southwest Washington and joining PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center in 1994, David founded the Family Medicine Residency program at Family Medicine of Southwest Washington and has served as the director of the program for over 25 years. David also continues to dedicate his time to our communities by serving on several boards and committees that impact the health care of Southwest Washington residents.

Through David's tireless efforts, he has helped improve the health and well-being of so many, notably many Spanish-speaking residents of Southwest Washington. I want to commend David for his unwavering dedication to our community; there is no one more deserving of this award.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.