

during roll call no. 536, On Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 564, Providing for consideration of H.R. 4378, Making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 537, On Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 564, Providing for consideration of H.R. 4378, Making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 538, On Passage, H.R. 4378, Making continuing appropriations for fiscal year 2020, and for other purposes. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

CELEBRATING LIUNA LOCAL 500'S  
100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2019*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a century of service of the Laborers' Local 500 union in Toledo, Ohio. Next week members will come together to celebrate this significant milestone, both reminiscing and looking toward the future.

The International Hod Carriers' and Building Laborers' Union (which would become today's Laborers' International Union of North America, or LIUNA) Local No. 500 was chartered on October 20, 1919 to represent laborers who were in demand to build roads, bridges and other infrastructure in Toledo and Northwest Ohio. The union has since provided skills training to thousands of laborers and secured living wages, health insurance and retirement pension benefits for thousands of its members who live and work in Northwest Ohio, allowing them to live decent, productive lives; provide for their families; and retire with dignity and security. Local 500 has produced many community leaders and has been a beacon in our community.

Local 500 helped protect its hundreds of members during the Great Depression of the 1930s while working to build landmark Toledo structures under the federal New Deal program, including University Stadium at the University of Toledo and the Toledo Main Public Library. Members also contributed mightily on the home front during World War II, helping to build many of the Northwest Ohio factories that supplied and eventually helped win the war effort.

Over the years, Local 500 members have helped build many of the vital highways, roads, bridges and infrastructure of Northwest Ohio, including the Toledo Municipal Airport, the Ohio Turnpike, the Davis Besse Nuclear Power Station, Veterans' Glass City Skyway, Interstate 280 and Interstate 475. Members have helped build and rebuild downtown Toledo, including the Fiberglas Tower, Promenade Park, One Seagate Tower, Owens Corning World Headquarters and the Fifth Third Field baseball stadium.

At the same time as the members of Local 500 helped to build and shape our region, they have remained eager and important contributors to our community. The union participates in charitable initiatives such as repairing the City of Toledo's Wilson and Farr pools and

sponsoring the Kings Kids Academy and Family House Homeless Shelter.

Today, as Local 500 turns 100 years old, it continues to serve and protect its membership and its six-county jurisdiction of Lucas, Wood, Fulton, Henry, Defiance, and Williams counties while providing the region with a skilled workforce involved in the placement and removal of concrete, demolition, asbestos removal, grade checking, flagging, carpenters tenders, brick mason tenders, hazardous waste removal, tunneling and more.

President Barack Obama noted, "Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we've been waiting for. We are the change that we seek." As the membership of LIUNA Local 500 looks back on a century of progress and changing both lives and community for the better, we pause to remember those on whose shoulders we stand. We look forward to the next century with promise. Onward.

INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE ON  
WOMEN'S BUSINESS ENTERPRISE  
ACT OF 2019

**HON. GRACE MENG**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2019*

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise to bring attention to the critical need to support women-owned businesses. Women-owned businesses are driving economic growth in our nation.

Since 1972, the number of women-owned businesses increased nearly 3,000 percent. Between 2018 and 2019, U.S. women of all backgrounds started an average of 1,817 new businesses per day, representing 42 percent of all businesses. These businesses generate \$1.9 trillion and employs 9.4 million workers. As of 2019, women of color account for 50 percent of all women-owned businesses, and these businesses in particular are growing at a significantly faster rate than women in general and all businesses. The social and economic benefits of encouraging and supporting women entrepreneurs are undeniable and enormous.

Despite the incredible ingenuity of women entrepreneurs, women still face significant barriers to business ownership due to unmanageable expectations for work-life balance, implicit biases against women in STEM, and limited access to capital.

That is why I am introducing the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise Act of 2019—a bill to reauthorize a federal agency (of the same name) that would help coordinate federal resources and grow women-owned businesses. Better coordination is critical to making sure women business owners and entrepreneurs receive the assistance they need to help start, grow, and sustain their business enterprises. The Interagency Committee's responsibility will be to look at the behavior of the federal agencies in how they support, expand, and strengthen resources and programs for women-owned businesses—ultimately making sure our federal government is doing all that it must to support women entrepreneurs.

First established in 1979, the ICWBE led several federal agencies in the development of

policies to assist women business owners. While the Interagency Committee was initially maintained through both Democratic and Republican administrations, it has been inactive since 2000 with no chairperson at the helm. My bill would amend Title IV of the Women's Business Ownership Act to reauthorize the Interagency Committee by making sure a Chairperson is at the helm. Getting the Interagency Committee back to functioning status would help increase the ability of the federal government to provide targeted assistance to women entrepreneurs so they can achieve their business goals, while ensuring this entity carries out its mission to support and reinvest in women-owned businesses.

Madam Speaker, women entrepreneurs are the key to engineering new and better innovations in today's global economy—and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2019*

Ms. ESCOBAR. Madam Speaker, my votes were not recorded on September 26, 2019. I am not recorded because I had to attend to a family matter. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 549; "yea" on Roll Call No. 550; "nay" on Roll Call No. 551; and "yea" on Roll Call No. 552.

TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2019*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on October 10, 2019, Taiwan will celebrate its 108th National Day—also known as Double Ten Day. I am grateful for the opportunity to offer my best wishes to the people of Taiwan in advance of this occasion.

Taiwan is a friend, an ally, and an important economic and security partner of the United States. Trade ties between the U.S. and Taiwan have grown rapidly over the years, and Taiwan is now the United States' 11th largest trading partner and South Carolina's 10th largest trading partner worldwide. We appreciate the enormous investment of Nan Ya Plastics Corporation in Lake City as a subsidiary of Formosa Plastics Group, creating jobs.

The U.S.-Taiwan relations are broader than just trade. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act. In the years since the Act's adoption, Taiwan has blossomed into a thriving full-fledged democracy. With its respect for the rule of law, human rights, open market economy and a robust civil society, Taiwan has served as a beacon of freedom and an indispensable strategic partner of the United States in the Indo-Pacific. My lifelong appreciation of the people of Chinese heritage was inspired by my father, 1st Lt. Hugh deV. Wilson, U.S. Army Air Corps, 14th Air Force, with the Flying Tigers. He developed an affection for the people of China as he served in 1944 in Chengdu, Xi'an, and Kunming to protect Chinese citizens from aggressors.