

HONORING MARY E. PERRY

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2019

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mary E. Perry, a long-time community leader and advocate in Wake County, North Carolina, who is celebrating her 90th birthday on October 15, 2019.

Mrs. Perry has served as President of the Wendell-Wake County Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) for 41 years, amplifying the voices of underrepresented community members. She also was elected the first African American to chair the Wake County Democratic Party and served for 20 years on the East Wake Advisory Council.

Mrs. Perry's service is marked by a resolve to fight injustice—from the early days of the civil rights movement to the present fight for voting rights and equity in education, health care, and housing. In Jim Crow North Carolina, she endured threats as she challenged the practice of segregation at restaurants in Zebulon. This difficult and formative experience strengthened her determination to speak out and stand up for underrepresented communities. More recently, she served as a plaintiff in a NAACP lawsuit against North Carolina's discriminatory voter ID laws. Mrs. Perry also helped empower the next generation of youth leaders to follow in her footsteps by reactivating the Wendell-Wake County NAACP youth council.

Her dedication earned her numerous accolades. The NAACP recognized her as the President of the Year in addition to granting her the Charles McLean Award and the Political Action Trailblazer Award. She received the Order of the Long Leaf Pine from then-North Carolina Governor James B. Hunt and the Zeta Sigma Chapter of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Social Act Award. Additionally, she is widely recognized for her devotion to community service, receiving the North Carolina Human Relations Council Community Involvement Award and the East Wake Community Service Award.

In her hometown, Mrs. Perry has attended and offered leadership at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church for over 70 years. She served as President of the Usher Board, Finance Committee Chair, and Vice Chair of the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Perry was educated in the Wake County Public School system and received a bachelor's degree from Shaw University in Raleigh, NC. She is the proud mother of four children and has five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Mary E. Perry for her long and fruitful life of service and in sending her best-wishes for her 90th birthday.

REAFFIRMING IMPORTANCE OF THE UNITED STATES TO PROMOTE THE SAFETY, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING OF REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS

SPEECH OF

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 24, 2019

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I am glad that the House is considering H. Res. 444, a bipartisan resolution that I introduced with Representatives DIAZ-BALART, NEGUSE, and LOFGREN to reaffirm U.S. leadership in responding to displacement crises around the world.

We are facing the worst refugee crisis in history. According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, in 2018, there were more than 70.8 million displaced persons worldwide. This included nearly 26 million refugees, over 41 million internally displaced persons, and 3.5 million people seeking asylum. Put another way, in 2018, 37,000 people were being displaced from their homes each day. About half of all refugees were children. 67 percent came from Syria, Afghanistan, South Sudan, Myanmar, and Somalia and 84 percent were hosted by developing nations.

Beyond the statistics, there are far too many stories of people fleeing despair. Seemingly every day we are presented with new accounts of migrants in Central America escaping gang or domestic violence and seeking refuge in the United States. Across the globe, Syrians, Somalis, Yemenis, and others continue to be displaced by various conflicts.

This refugee crisis requires global leadership and compassion—yet we have seen the Trump Administration drastically reduce refugee admissions into the U.S. In 2018, the United States resettled only 22,000 refugees compared to the 85,000 resettled in 2016. Now, we're hearing reports that the Administration is considering lowering the refugee admissions ceiling for next year to as low as zero to 10,000 people. And while the new fiscal year begins in one week, the Administration still hasn't consulted with Congress—as it's required to do by law—about its plans.

This is a betrayal of our shared American values. And it's a betrayal of our fellow human beings. Refugees are fleeing their homes because they are being persecuted for their race, religion, nationality, for belonging to a particular social group or being of a certain political opinion. They need our assistance.

The United States resettlement program is critical to global humanitarian efforts. These efforts serve to strengthen global security, advance United States foreign policy goals, and support regional host countries while also serving individuals and families in need. Moreover, the resettlement program benefits the interests of the United States.

When I was in the Air Force I saw the need for and the significance of our refugee resettlement program first-hand. In the 1990s, I participated in Operation Pacific Haven, where the United States helped thousands of Kurds flee from northern Iraq to prevent Saddam Hussein from slaughtering them. We first brought them to Guam, where I saw the extensive screening process that the U.S. conducted before bringing many of the refugees

to the mainland. Not only were lives saved in this operation, but decades later our nation continues to benefit from helping those refugees. Knowing the severity of the refugee crisis today, we as a nation must do better to help those in need.

My resolution reaffirms the United States commitment to promote the safety, health, and well-being of the millions of displaced persons. It recognizes the people and organizations who have risked their lives to provide assistance to displaced communities. Moreover, the resolution calls on the Secretary of State and the U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations to continue supporting robust funding for refugee protection and humanitarian response overseas and resettlement to the United States; to set robust refugee admissions goals; and to work in partnership with the international community to find solutions to existing conflicts and to promote peace and reconciliation.

I am grateful that it is supported by more than 60 organizations including Church World Service, International Rescue Committee, Oxfam America, and Refugees International, and has been cosponsored by 74 of our colleagues in the House. I also thank my colleagues, Representatives MARIO DIAZ-BALART, ZOE LOFGREN, and JOE NEGUSE, for their partnership on this bipartisan legislation.

The United States was built on the idea that we could create a free country that would serve as a haven for those fleeing persecution. Refugees don't make our country less safe. But, xenophobia, fear and hate do. Today, by passing this bipartisan resolution, Congress will send a clear message that America is stronger when we welcome refugees and help those in need.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

DOUBLE TEN DAY

HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK" FLEISCHMANN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2019

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Madam Speaker, October 10 is the national day of Taiwan. I would like to take this opportunity to wish the people of Taiwan a very Happy Double Ten Day.

Despite its small size, Taiwan is the 11th largest trading partner for the United States overall. The United States is Taiwan's 2nd largest trading partner and a leading destination for Taiwan's overseas investors. These figures represent a strong foundation that has been built between the two industries.

Our close ties are not just for trade and economy. Over the years, Taiwan has proven itself to be a model democracy in the Indo-Pacific. Its embrace of democracy shows a better path for it's people and their future. Washington and Taipei share the same values of democracy, freedom, and rule of laws. The Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) was enshrined in 1979, and later supplemented by the Six Assurances given by President Ronald Reagan in 1982. The TRA and the Six Assurances both formed the cornerstone of our relations with Taiwan. Together we have faced many challenges while displaying a steadfast commitment to one another's security and prosperity.

I would like to express my strong and continuing support for these foundations to our partnership. I reaffirm it today, and again congratulate the people of Taiwan on this important occasion.

HONORING LLOYD WRIGHT

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2019

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Lloyd Wright, the President and CEO of WFYI in Indianapolis, Indiana, on his retirement. For the last three decades, Lloyd has led WFYI to become one of the premier radio stations in the State of Indiana. Under the stewardship of Lloyd, WFYI made unprecedented strides forward in the quality of programming and the number of daily listeners.

Lloyd, a native of Beech Grove, Indiana who upon graduation from Indiana University began his nearly four decade long career in public broadcasting. He began with a position as Director of Instructional Broadcasting with the Indiana Department of Education. Later Lloyd served for six years as Broadcast Operations Manager at WTTW (Chicago Public Television), and then moved on to become a Producer, Director, and Writer for the Indiana University News Bureau. Lloyd joined WFYI in 1988 as Director of Program Production. The following year, Lloyd was appointed WFYI's President and Chief Executive Officer, a position he has held for a remarkable 30 years. Under Lloyd's leadership, WFYI's annual operating budget grew from \$2.5 million in 1988 to more than \$11 million today.

In his time at the helm of WFYI Public Media, the group flourished as a multi-media content provider, with its three distinct public television services, two HD public radio channels, interactive website and a growing array of social media assets. Program lineup changes made to satisfy audience demand for National Public Radio programs such as "Morning Edition" and "All Things Considered" helped to increase the footprint of WFYI throughout Central Indiana. Nationally loved children's television programs such as "Sesame Street" and "Mr. Roger's Neighborhood" help to anchor a strong daily program lineup that built large audiences. Lloyd's leadership also saw the creation of Indiana-related content and shows such as "Indiana Week in Review" and "Across Indiana". These steps forward in programming led to a 450 percent increase to the station's operating budget and a station membership of 25,000 listeners.

In 2008, under the stewardship of Lloyd, WFYI successfully completed a \$20 million capital campaign, and was awarded a \$900,000 Kresge Foundation Capital Grant. As a result of this massively successful fundraising campaign, WFYI was honored with multiple PBS Development Awards, including the "Award of Excellence for Overall Membership". Lloyd himself was recognized with Emmy Awards for Technical Achievement and Station of Excellence, as well as two Sagamore of the Wabash honors, the highest award given by Indiana Governors to recognize distinguished service to the State of Indiana. The station also earned distinctions from

the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, Society of Professional Journalists, the Public Media Journalists Association, Associated Press and the Indiana Broadcasters Association during Lloyd's time at the helm. In October of 2013, Lloyd received the distinguished honor of being inducted into the Indiana Broadcasters Association Pioneers Hall of Fame.

In addition to his work with WFYI, Lloyd served multiple terms on the PBS Board of Directors, including the PBS Executive Committee, lending his expertise to those also in the public broadcasting arena. Lloyd has also generously given back to the City of Indianapolis, participating in many community organizations. Lloyd serves on the boards of the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee, The Economic Club of Indiana, among others. Additionally, Lloyd also serves as a member of the Board of Trustees for Central Christian Church in downtown Indianapolis.

The positive impact of Lloyd's work with WFYI has benefited generations of Hoosiers. His dedication to public service and public broadcasting have been invaluable to the citizens of Central Indiana and the country. On behalf of all Hoosiers I would like to thank Lloyd for his decades of service to public media consumers throughout Central Indiana, and wish him and his family all the best in a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING MARY ANN LEVAR ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2019

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Ann Levar and express my congratulations on her retirement from the U.S. House of Representatives. Since my election to Congress ten years ago, Mary Ann has been indispensable to my congressional office, serving as my District Director and assisting thousands of my constituents in Chicago and in the Chicagoland area.

It would be impossible to properly thank or congratulate Mary Ann without making clear the indelible mark she has left on my district. Mary Ann was not just my District Director—she was truly the Fifth District of Illinois' District Director. What began with a role serving as a receptionist and staff assistant for Congressman Dan Rostenkowski in 1994 evolved into years of working as a caseworker for Congressman Rod Blagojevich and culminated in her promotion to District Director for Congressman Rahm Emanuel and for myself.

After a decade of working together, I have seen firsthand what I've heard time and again from my constituents: that Mary Ann Levar is a tireless advocate for them and for the people of Chicago, leading my District Office with a compassionate, steady hand.

As a lifelong Chicagoan, Mary Ann put her heart and soul into her service to the people of Illinois' Fifth District. The daughter of German immigrants, Mary Ann spent her career working to improve her city. She raised her four children—Julie, Ryan, Michelle, and Pat Jr.—in Chicago with her husband of over forty years, former Alderman Pat Levar. She is now a proud grandmother to four, with a fifth

grandchild on the way. I have no doubt that she is excited to spend more of her time with those beautiful grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, the Fifth District will simply not be the same without Mary Ann's leadership. Her contributions will be felt for years to come and her legacy will live on in the work of all the staff she trained over the years. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mary Ann Levar for her tremendous public service.

HONORING CMSGT DARYL COOK ON HIS 32 YEARS OF MILITARY SERVICE

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2019

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Master Sergeant Daryl Cook on his 32 years of military service.

Over the years, CMSgt Cook has made immeasurable contributions to our great nation and continues to personify the core North Carolina National Guard values of integrity, selfless service, and honor. He started his career in 1987 as a Fire Protection Specialist with the U.S. Air Force and retires as the Installation Fire Chief, 145th Airlift Wing, North Carolina National Guard located at Charlotte Douglas International Airport.

During his career, CMSgt Cook has served as Airport Fire Fighter, Driver/Engineer, Fire Inspector, Hazardous Material Technician, and Nuclear Biological Chemical (NBC) Federal Trainer. Immediately following the September 11th terrorist attacks that devastated our nation, CMSgt was requested through the Army National Guard Readiness Center to staff the Civil Support Team Cell. Exemplary of CMSgt Cook's devotion to service, he helped manage response and readiness in support of Operation Noble Eagle. Cook has served as DOD HazMat Trainer, an instructor for the On-Scene Commanders Course and through the Department of Defense instructs first responders in NBC type events. CMSgt Cook has been instrumental in the development of the NC Emergency Training Center project at the Stanly County Airport.

I am proud to represent a district with one of the largest military and veteran populations, and I know I speak for our entire community when I say we are truly grateful for CMSgt Cook's extraordinary service and cannot thank him enough. I would like to offer my sincerest appreciation and wish him success in his future endeavors.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in honoring Chief Master Sergeant Daryl Cook on his 32 years of military service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 27, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on September 18, 2019 during roll call no. 533, On Ordering the Previous Question, H.Res. 558, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1423) FAIR Act;