

CELEBRATING SPEAK UP, STAND UP, SAVE A LIFE CONFERENCE AND MOVEMENT

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the impact created by the Speak Up, Stand Up, Save a Life conference and movement.

In Arizona, much like the rest of the country, student deaths from suicide have increased substantially, and research has shown, many youth related deaths have been found to be preventable, if only people had the tools to make a difference. Dr. Lily Matos DeBlieux, superintendent of the Pendergast District, and Gina Godbehere, attorney, and Bureau Chief of the Maricopa County Attorney's office, met in Leadership West Class XXII, and worked collaboratively to create the Speak Up, Stand Up, Save a Life Conference in 2017, the only conference of its kind in Arizona.

Now in its fourth year, over 5,000 students, counselors, law enforcement, parents and education advocates came together in a January 2019 conference, to eradicate the stigma and consequences of bullying and to prevent teen suicide. Due to their efforts to help Arizona be a better place for this and future generations, police chiefs, and law enforcement officers from agencies throughout the state joined the effort and attended the conference, along with students, counselors, teachers, education advocates, and caring adults.

The daylong event inspired attendees to connect and create lasting solutions they can implement at their schools. The conference offered students an opportunity to hear from local and national speakers on the difficult issues they face on a daily basis, both inside and outside of school. The conference is free of charge, thanks to sponsors and in-kind donations. What makes this youth conference unique is the outreach offered to the adults through the conference, implementation at the school sites, and follow-up to family resource nights in the communities.

This vital project is now active in 38 school districts in Arizona with a total of 158 schools participating. The upcoming January 2020 conference will inspire youth and adults to be empowered, and make a difference in their schools, districts and communities.

The objective of this vital movement is to create tools for students in schools with diverse populations and community partners to take back to their campuses and communities with the goal to prevent suicide by inspiring over 380,000 students to speak up, stand up, and save lives.

RECOGNIZING AL BURTON

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, joined by Representatives Jackie Speier and Anna Eshoo, I rise to recognize legendary television producer Al Burton, who died last week at his home in the Bay Area at the age of 91.

Born in 1928 in Columbus, Ohio, Al graduated from Northwestern University in 1948. Then it was off to California where he made his mark.

Al initially focused on shows and events targeted at teens, becoming known as the Teen Dean of Television, with shows like Tele-Teen Reporter and Spotlight on Youth. He also created the Miss Teen-Age America pageant (which became Miss Teen USA).

During this early period Al worked with a young Johnny Carson on the game show Do You Trust Your Wife? (later retitled Who Do You Trust?) and produced as well as directed a weekly talk show, The Oscar Levant Show.

In the 1960s, Al put on live and broadcast musical concerts. This included the first live television performance of The Beach Boys, the first appearance in the U.S. of The Rolling Stones, as well as concerts by The Doors, Cream, and The Four Seasons.

Then, starting in the early 1970s, Al worked with Norman Lear to revolutionize and change the very face of television. He worked on such iconic shows as All in the Family, The Jeffersons, One Day at a Time, Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman, Diff'rent Strokes, and The Facts of Life.

Al went to work on his own in 1983, continuing to produce television shows. These shows included Charles in Charge, The New Lassie, and Win Ben Stein's Money.

During Al's long career his positive attitude and steady demeanor helped manage difficult talent to allow the show to go on. For many of his television shows he even wrote and published the theme song as well.

Al's contribution to American culture is immeasurable. Millions of Americans, and indeed people around the world, have him to thank for helping to expand their horizons and for countless hours of pure enjoyment.

Our deepest condolences go out to his wife, Sally Burton, and their daughter, Jennifer Burton Werbe.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MCINTIRE-STENNIS ACT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the McIntire-Stennis Act District of Columbia Equality Act, which would amend the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act (Act) to make the District of Columbia eligible for funding. The District is treated as a state under federal programs, with a few exceptions, most of them simply oversights or failures to update. This legislation would rectify the exception in this Act, ensuring equitable treatment for the District and allowing the District to benefit from the funding opportunities available under the Act.

The Act provides U.S. states and territories with formula funds to support state-designated institutions' cooperative forestry research programs. The Act defines "State" to include Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam. The District's notable, but faulty, absence from this definition makes it ineligible for grant funds that would support research at the District's state-supported university, the University

of the District of Columbia's (UDC) College of Agriculture, Urban Stability, and Environmental Science, a program that complements the city's ongoing forestry efforts. UDC is the nation's only urban land-grant university.

We appreciate that Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands and Guam are included under the definition of "State," even though, unlike the District of Columbia, their residents do not pay federal income taxes. It would be particularly troubling if the District, whose residents pay the highest amount per capita in federal taxes, which support farm and other federal programs, were to continue to be excluded.

It has been argued that the District should be excluded because of its lack of local timber production. However, the Act says, "[i]n making such apportionments, consideration shall be given to pertinent factors including" local timber production. Proximity to timber is, therefore, only one in a non-exclusive list of factors that are part of the larger analysis regarding the apportionments. Excluding the District from the definition of "State" merely because it is not located in an area with a timber industry runs counter to the intent of the Act. While timber production can be a factor in determining the amount of state allocations, there is no reason that the District should be excluded from the Act.

We believe, therefore, that the omission of the District must have been the result of an oversight during the original drafting of the Act. However, as you can imagine, this omission has serious consequences for the District, rendering UDC ineligible for these formula grant funds. Passage of this bill would allow students and researchers in the nation's capital to take part in this important forestry program.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote because I was in my district to participate in an official event with the Vice President.

Had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 579; NAY on Roll Call No. 580; YEA on Roll Call No. 581; YEA on Roll Call No. 582; NAY on Roll Call No. 583; and YEA on Roll Call No. 584.

RECOGNIZING STAFF SERGEANT JIM SKINNER, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2019 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor twelve distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their