

CONGRATULATING SERGEANT
CARL COATS ON HIS RETIRE-
MENT FROM THE POLICE DE-
PARTMENT OF GRAPEVINE,
TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sergeant Carl Coats on his well-earned retirement from the Grapevine Police Department. After twenty-five years of dedicated service, Carl has distinguished himself as a respected member of the Grapevine police force.

Beginning his career with the United States Marine Corps, Carl attained the rank of Sergeant and served as a Marine Security Guard at the American Embassies in Prague, Czechoslovakia and Quito, Ecuador. Transitioning to law enforcement in 1990, Carl served four years as a correctional officer with the Cooke County Sheriffs Department in Gainesville, Texas. In addition to that experience, he graduated from the police academy and subsequently became Deputy Sheriff.

In 1994, Carl joined the Grapevine Police Department where he has devotedly served as Patrol Officer, Detective, CID Sergeant and Patrol Sergeant. As evidence of his dedication to professional development, Carl is a graduate of the School of Police Supervision through the Institute for Law Enforcement. Through rigorous instruction, Carl has also obtained his Master Peace Officer's License—the highest level of its kind.

Carl's colleagues, supervisors and community members have expressed their deepest appreciation for his accomplished service. Specializing in child protection and physical abuse investigation, Carl has earned twenty-four commendations to date. In 1999, Carl received the Life Saving Award for his rescue of a five-year-old autistic child from a swimming pool. The following year, he developed a multidisciplinary team approach to investigate shaken baby syndrome. Carl also received the 2002 Advocate of the Year Award from the Tarrant County Crime Prevention Resource Center, honoring his efforts in promoting safety for women and children in the community.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the excellence of Carl's work which has repeatedly been commended as an invaluable asset to both the City and the Grapevine Police Department. His legacy will leave a lasting mark. I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Carl Coats for his numerous years of service.

THE GOLDEN LIONS CLUB

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Golden Lions Club for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

The Golden Lions Club has been serving the Golden community since 1942. Standing behind the International Lions Club motto of

"We Serve", the Lions Club offers their services to anyone that needs help with a project. With over 8,000 hours of volunteer service in 2019, the Golden Lions continue to make a positive impact within the community. From constructing public bathrooms and pavilions to providing eyeglasses and scholarships to school children; where there's a need, there's a Lion. Through funding efforts, engaging volunteers in community projects, and supporting local schools and students, the Lions Club has committed to making the City of Golden a better place to live, work, and play.

I congratulate the Golden Lions Club for receiving this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan. I thank them for their contributions to our community.

COMMENDING PRIME MINISTER
NARENDRA MODI AND THE IN-
DIAN PARLIAMENT FOR PRO-
MOTING STABILITY IN JAMMU
AND KASHMIR

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

As we all have seen, the Indian parliament passed legislation last month changing the status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir. They modified provisions that were an obstacle to economic development and promoted a sense of separatism.

Up until recently, Kashmir had been governed by Article 370, which was an outdated provision of law that the Indian constitution recognized as "temporary."

Article 370 might have worked well for those with political connections, but it denied economic opportunities for the people.

I also created a polarizing environment that was exploited politically. During the past decades, thousands of people lost their lives due to terrorist attacks. Several groups based in Pakistan were able to conduct cross-border terrorism that wreaked havoc on individuals and families, and led to a morbid economy.

The Modi government had to make a decision on whether to continue with the old policy or to pursue progress by changing the region's legal status.

Madam Speaker, the people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve better and Prime Minister Modi was right to take bold steps to address this situation. Changes to the status of Jammu and Kashmir passed Parliament by a two-thirds majority, which highlights the consensus on the need for this reform.

Even with these changes, those seeking to cause disruption have continued to promote violence.

Pakistan-based terror groups have recently floated posters warning common citizens against venturing out, going to work, and visiting public places. The groups have continued to engage in cross-border terrorism and have attacked civilians and children. These militant groups have also attacked migrant workers and those who are involved in the apple business, which is the chief crop of Kashmir.

Madam Speaker, in order for Jammu and Kashmir to flourish, there must be peace and

stability. Individuals and families need to feel safe when they leave their homes and go to work.

The steps that Prime Minister Modi and the Parliament have taken are needed, they're good for the long-term stability of the region, and they should be applauded.

FULL UTILIZATION OF THE HARBOR
MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2440 the "The Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act."

In 1986, Congress enacted the Harbor Maintenance Tax to recover the operation and maintenance dredging costs for federally-authorized ports from maritime shippers.

This is a direct levy on importers and domestic shippers using coastal or inland ports and is typically passed along to U.S. taxpayers on the purchase of imported goods.

These revenues are deposited in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund within the Treasury Department, from which Congress appropriates funds to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for harbor maintenance dredging.

According to the Army Corps of Engineers, navigation channels at our nation's 59 busiest ports are available less than 35 percent of the time.

The American Society of Civil Engineers estimates that our nation's ports and harbors will need additional investment of \$15.8 billion between now and 2020 just to meet the demands of larger and heavier ships that will use the Panama Canal.

H.R. 2440 ensures that the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund is used for its intended purpose—the maintenance of federally-authorized harbors.

This will enable the Army Corps of Engineers to dredge all federal harbors to ensure that they are to their constructed widths and depths.

The act also provides critical federal funding—\$34 billion—for infrastructure investment for our coastal and inland harbors over the next decade.

The bill achieves this task without raising taxes.

This bill also authorizes the expenditure of the expected \$25.5 billion in new revenue over the next decade, for our critical port harbor needs.

And, the bill authorizes the appropriation of additional funds for harbor maintenance needs.

As is clear, the need to ensure that this port, and similar such ports, stay open and operating as much as practical is vital.

The failure to do so can impact employment, the economy, and the livelihoods of countless individuals and businesses.

Ports are uniquely vulnerable to any number of disturbances, including those produced by weather, abuses by those who utilize the ports, and naturally-occurring wear-and-tear to the ports.

One such example of this naturally-occurring phenomena which requires remedial efforts is dredging.