

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING BERNARD TYSON

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Bernard Tyson, a devoted husband, father, and health advocate. His passing is a great loss for our country and all those committed to quality, affordable health care, as well as a deeply personal loss for all of those who were privileged to call him a friend. We extend our deepest condolences to his wife, Denise Bradley-Tyson, his three sons, Bernard Jr., Alexander, and Charles, and the Kaiser Permanente family on their loss.

Bernard Tyson was a proud son of the Bay Area who embodied our city's values of equality and opportunity for all. Born in Vallejo, California, on January 20, 1959, Mr. Tyson was one of seven children of Billie and Moses Tyson. He spent his formative years in Vallejo, CA, where he graduated from Vallejo High School with the class of 1977. Mr. Tyson and his family spent much time in and out of hospitals with his mother, who had diabetes. These visits helped shape and develop his interest in the field of medicine, and inspired within him a dream of running his own hospital one day.

After graduating from high school, Mr. Tyson attended Golden Gate University in San Francisco, California. While in university, he worked as an administrative analyst for Vallejo General Hospital. In 1982, he earned his Bachelor's Degree in Health Service Management and in 1984, he earned his Master of Business Administration from Golden Gate University.

Mr. Tyson spent much of his professional career at Kaiser Permanente, which he loved. He joined the company in 1987 as an Assistant Administrator. In 1992, he was appointed CEO of the Kaiser Foundation Hospital in Santa Rosa. From 1993 to 1999, he held the positions of Vice President, Senior Vice President (SVP), and Central East Division president for Kaiser Permanente. From 1999 to 2006, he was the SVP, Chief Operating Officer for regions outside California, and SVP of brand strategy. From 2006 to 2010, he served as the Executive VP of Health Plan and Hospital Operations. From 2010 to 2013, he was President and COO of Kaiser Permanente. From 2013 to 2014, he was promoted to CEO and from 2014 to 2019, he had been Chairman and CEO.

To say that Mr. Tyson knew the interworking of the Kaiser would be an understatement. He worked his way to the top one step at a time, mastering all he could along the way. Mr. Tyson's innovative, pioneering and effective leadership was recognized by many. In 2017, Mr. Tyson was named one of Time's 100 most influential people.

As one of our nation's most prominent African American CEOs and health care leaders,

Mr. Tyson blazed a trail for countless other health care advocates and leaders of color to bring their vision, values and expertise to improving the health and well-being of our communities. While he made his mark as a leader of the health care community, his reach extended to every part of our Bay Area community: to the arts, education, sports, and local activism. He brought a commitment to diversity and inclusion to everything he did, from the grassroots to the corporate suite. His bright smile encouraged others to participate. He gave people hope.

From when we first met Mr. Tyson, his visionary approach to health care stood out. His passionate advocacy for the Affordable Care Act helped protect and strengthen this landmark legislation, ensuring that every family, in every community had access to the care they needed to grow and thrive. For his many contributions to the health of families and the strength of our nation, we are deeply grateful.

Today, on behalf of California's 12th Congressional District, I join Congresswoman LEE in celebrating Bernard Tyson's impactful life and legacy. May it be a comfort to Denise, Bernard Jr., Alexander, and Charles that so many mourn with and pray for them during this sad time. May Bernard rest in power and in peace.

CELEBRATING THE 95TH  
BIRTHDAY OF PHYLLIS LYON

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise with joy to recognize an icon of San Francisco, a trailblazer in the fight for civil rights and a dear friend, Phyllis Lyon, who recently celebrated her 95th birthday.

Beginning in the 1950s, Phyllis and her late wife, Del Martin, were on the vanguard in the fight to make real the promise of equality for LGBTQ Americans, forming our nation's first lesbian civil rights organization, Daughter of Bilitis, and establishing the first nationally distributed lesbian newsletter, the Ladder. They worked tirelessly to ensure that every woman could live without fear of violence or persecution.

As a journalist, community organizer and clarion voice for justice and equality, Phyllis has dedicated her entire life to uniting diverse communities to create fundamental change. From working to decriminalize homosexuality, successfully advocating to outlaw employment discrimination in San Francisco and ensuring that our city respected the dignity of everyone, Phyllis's work has had a powerful impact that has strengthened our communities and our democracy.

For 40 years, the Lyon-Martin Health Services, named in honor of their dedication to the health and well-being of all women, has been a model for community-based health care that

provides lifesaving services, case management and care for women of every age, race, disability, socio-economic condition and sexual orientation. Phyllis' unwavering commitment to caring for our most vulnerable continued as my appointee to the 1995 White House Conference on Aging, where she was a strong voice for the rights of lesbian seniors and all women.

Phyllis and Del's relationship and service to our community has been a source of inspiration to me and all who are fortunate enough to know them. In 1996, during the Floor debate on the so-called Defense of Marriage Act, I was privileged to display their picture, asking my colleagues, "If you knew Phyllis and Del . . . why would you not want them to be treated equally?" This year, I once again recognized them on the House Floor as we voted to pass the landmark Equality Act to finally, fully end discrimination against LGBTQ individuals and guarantee the civil rights of all Americans, regardless of who they are or whom the love.

Phyllis and Del's marriage in 2004, the first same-sex wedding to be recognized in San Francisco, was a joyous celebration. When the California Supreme Court voided their marriage, they recommitted to the fight for equality until the decision was finally overturned in 2008, when they became the first LGBTQ couple to be legally married in California.

While Del sadly passed away a few months later, Phyllis continues to be a blessing to our community, using her vision, values and voice to build a brighter future for San Franciscans and all Americans. On behalf of the House of Representatives, it is a pleasure to wish Phyllis Lyon a happy 95th birthday and a year filled with peace, love and joy.

RECOGNIZING MELVIN MATHIAS  
ON HIS 90TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Melvin Mathias, a resident of Illinois who will celebrate his 90th birthday on November 23rd. I came to know Melvin's story through his cousin and my friend, Sidney Mathias of Buffalo Grove, and I wish to share it today because it embodies so much of the opportunity, perseverance, and immigrant heritage that makes our nation special.

Mr. Mathias was born in Fulda, Germany, to Erich and Kathinka in 1929. A Holocaust survivor, he immigrated to the United States in October 1936 with his parents and maternal grandparents, to escape religious persecution by the Nazis.

Mr. Mathias and his family eventually settled on Chicago's South Side. He became a United States citizen on July 7, 1943. In 1951, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in

• 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.

the Korean War until 1953. After he was discharged from the military, he began working for his uncle Ernest at Quality Sheet Metal Works. He worked hard at the company and eventually became the co-owner with his cousin Sidney. He led the company until it closed in 1992.

Mr. Mathias built his first house in Chicago after marrying Joanne Decker in 1955. Soon after, they had two children, Linda and Larry. The family relocated to Homewood in 1970, where Joanne passed away in 1990. Mr. Mathias later remarried Adrienne Cohen in 1993, and the couple remained together until her passing in 2012.

Presently, Mr. Mathias is active and engaged member of his local community. He is involved in several veterans groups including the Homewood VFW 807 and the Pvt. Sam Veivelt Post of the Jewish War Veterans of America, where he serves as Quartermaster and Corresponding Secretary. In recognition of his service in the Korean War, he participated in the Chicago Honor Flight in 2016 to visit the Memorial in Washington, D.C. He also enjoys traveling and spending time with family.

I heartily congratulate Mr. Mathias on his 90th birthday, and thank him for his service to our community and nation.

SERVICE-DISABLED VETERANS  
SMALL BUSINESS CONTINUATION  
ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 13, 2019*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 499, the "Service-Disabled Veterans Small Business Continuation Act."

H.R. 499 amends the Small Business Act to clarify the treatment of surviving spouses for purposes of the service-disabled veteran-owned small business definition.

This act will provide the surviving spouse of a service-disabled veteran with federal contracting preference as a Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Small Business Administration (SBA).

On Monday we celebrated Veterans Day to show our veterans and military families how important they are to us and how grateful we are for them each and every day.

I offer my deepest gratitude to our nation's troops and reservists, their families, and the 21.6 million veterans, including 29,126 here in the 18th Congressional District. 21.6 million brave men and women are veterans of our nation's military service.

This includes more than 2 million women, 2.7 million African American men and women, 1.5 million Hispanic men and women, 342,000 Asian American Pacific Islanders, and 178,000 American Indians.

The memory of the fallen are never forgotten.

Each Veterans Day, Americans come together to remember those who have served our country around the world in the name of freedom and democracy.

The debt that we owe to them is immeasurable.

Their sacrifices, and those of their families, are freedom's foundation.

This bill will help veteran families by extending additional benefits to the surviving spouses of deceased veterans across the country, including at home in Harris County.

By allowing the spouses of deceased service-disabled veterans to retain their status as a Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business, they will remain competitive in the federal contracting market.

After the years of service their family members provide to our country in support of their loved ones who sever the military, veterans' spouses have earned the reliability this bill provides to them and their businesses.

Current law allows surviving spouses of 100 percent service-disabled veteran business owners to continue receiving preferences for contracts with the VA, but the benefit does not extend to the spouses of veterans with a disability less than 100 percent.

The bipartisan bill introduced today will extend the benefit to these spouses for three years, helping ensure their businesses are not upended after the death of their veteran spouse.

I thank my colleague, Congressman CHABOT for sponsoring this legislation to support families of Veterans who so bravely supported the freedoms of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 499 to amend the Small Business Act to clarify the treatment of surviving spouses for purposes of the service-disabled veteran-owned small business definition.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DOCTOR  
BILL NOBLE

**HON. DAVID B. MCKINLEY**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. MCKINLEY. Madam Speaker, last week, Wheeling lost a compassionate doctor and an all-around good man. So, I rise today to honor the life of Dr. Bill Noble of Wheeling, West Virginia. Bill was a beloved husband, father, grandfather, friend, teacher and cardiologist.

My wife, Mary, a nurse, worked with Bill for many years at Ohio Valley Medical Center where he not only served as chief of cardiology, but was also a dedicated teacher. He was recognized as teacher of the year several times by the medical residents, but his greatest passion was for his work as a cardiologist. Bill touched the lives of thousands in the area and our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Dawn, his two children and his extended family as they mourn his passing. He will be missed.

RECOGNIZING STEVE FARUS AND  
HIS 40 YEARS OF SERVICE TO  
THE DUNCAN FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT

**HON. TROY BALDERSON**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. BALDERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Duncan Falls Fire Depart-

ment's 1st Assistant Chief, Steve Farus, for the forty years he has dedicated to Wayne Township and the surrounding area.

Assistant Chief Farus's career, now spanning more than four decades, exemplifies a selfless commitment to public service. After graduating from Philo High School in 1971, Steve joined the U.S. Navy, where he served honorably for four years. Upon his return to civilian life, Assistant Chief Farus graduated from college and joined the Duncan Falls Volunteer Fire Department. In this role, Steve has continually gone above and beyond his call of duty. His dedication has manifested itself in numerous ways, including in his co-founding of Duncan Falls Safety Town—an educational program through which he has delivered countless safety demonstrations to school, church, and other civic groups across the Wayne community.

In addition, Steve is a long-serving member of the Muskingum County Firefighters Association, where he was instrumental in acquiring a Fire Safety Trailer for the Duncan Falls Fire Department. Today, the trailer is used for children's safety demonstrations and is a favorite stop on the many station tours that Steve coordinates for members of the community. For his remarkable service, Assistant Chief Farus has been honored with several awards, including the Zanesville Sertoma Service to Mankind Award and the Gardner Insurance Community Protector Award.

Beyond his work with the Fire Department, Steve has further served Wayne Township as the owner and operator of the Clyde Thompson Funeral home since 1985. He and his wife, DuAnne, are the proud parents of Scott, Matthew, and Stacey, and now have 6 grandchildren.

As family, friends, and Wayne Township gather to recognize Steve's outstanding career, I salute him for his commitment to advocating for safety and for his ongoing service above self. Assistant Chief Farus can take great pride in all he has accomplished and the positive impact that his work has had and will continue to have.

I thank Steve for his devotion to bettering Wayne Township, Ohio, and in turn, I honor him for his incredible record of achievement.

HONORING AMBASSADOR JOHN  
O'KEEFE

**HON. DAVID E. PRICE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ambassador John O'Keefe, who is retiring after a distinguished diplomatic and public service career including, most recently, eleven years at the helm of the Open World Leadership Center at the Library of Congress.

Open World is a unique exchange program for emerging democracies, particularly former Soviet and communist states. This program leverages the energy of Members of Congress and their constituents, bringing current and rising foreign leaders to Washington and other communities throughout our country for dialogue and cultural exposure. Open World now maintains a vast network of more than 29,000 alumni.

As a member of Open World's Board of Trustees, I have seen firsthand the impact of Ambassador O'Keefe's visionary leadership. As Chairman of the House Democracy Partnership, I have worked with him to increase the synergy between our two programs, greatly increasing the number of Parliamentarians with whom we can interact.

Under Ambassador O'Keefe's leadership, Open World expanded to seventeen countries and created direct agreements with fourteen American embassies in Open World program countries, thus strengthening the United States legislative branch's relationship with U.S. missions abroad. Open World also expanded programming to bring Members of Parliament from Central Asia to the United States by virtue of Ambassador O'Keefe's knowledge of the region.

John O'Keefe became ambassador to the Kyrgyz Republic in 2000. As Ambassador, he made lasting contributions to the country and the region. He negotiated the treaty that established a military base in Kyrgyzstan that could be used by Coalition forces in support of operations in Afghanistan. He worked with the President of Kyrgyzstan to establish an investment advisory council to attract foreign capital to the country, and he worked with the Minister of Education to ensure merit-based university acceptance for students. Ambassador O'Keefe also helped to create an outreach program to the Kyrgyz Muslim community.

After serving as Ambassador, Mr. O'Keefe returned to the State Department, where he served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of the Director General, Bureau of Human Resources, and head of the Office of Career Development and Assignments. He served as Acting Director General in 2006 and then as Deputy Director of the Foreign Service Institute of the Department.

Ambassador O'Keefe's commitment to diplomacy earned him many awards and accolades for his service throughout his career at the State Department, including the Distinguished Honor Award and the Presidential Performance Award. He was later recognized with the prestigious Replogle Award for Management Improvement, the Presidential Meritorious Service Award, and the Secretary of State Award for Lifetime Achievement.

Madam Speaker, I am privileged to know John O'Keefe as an exemplar of our country's values, an accomplished diplomat, and a valued partner in many endeavors. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring him for his long and dedicated service to the State Department, to the Open World Leadership Center, and to our country.

IN HONOR OF THE EXTRAORDINARY LEGACY OF MALCOLM THOMAS

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable legacy of Malcolm Thomas, a selfless community servant and business leader, whose many contributions to the state of Alabama have served to uplift the state socially and economically. From his impressive career as CEO of his

own engineering service firm, to his support for historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), to his exemplary leadership as Exalted Ruler of R.E. Nelms Elk Lodge No. 977, Malcolm Thomas has spent much of his life in the pursuit of success and excellence, not only for himself, but for the greater community.

Born in Selma, Alabama to the late Reverend George Thomas and the late Mrs. Lovie Thomas, Malcolm Thomas was taught the importance of high-quality education from an early age. He attended college at Alabama A&M University in Huntsville, Alabama, where he earned his bachelor of science degree in business administration. It was during his time at Alabama A&M that two lifelong interests were sparked, in business and in the preservation and continued vitality of HBCUs.

Founded in 1875 by a former slave, Dr. William Hooper Council, Alabama A&M is a proud member of the HBCU system. As a student there, Mr. Thomas saw first-hand the importance of ensuring that A&M and other institutions like it, historically established for the African American community who had been barred entry to traditionally white institutions, be fully funded, providing students with top tier professors and facilities. Mr. Thomas' commitment to ensuring the continued vitality of HBCUs was recognized by Governor Riley, who asked Mr. Thomas to serve on the Governor's Commission on Historically Black Colleges and Universities between 2003 and 2008.

After graduating from Alabama A&M, Mr. Thomas worked in several corporate positions before becoming the owner and CEO of Malcolm Thomas Industries, a certified engineering services firm. Now semi-retired, Mr. Thomas has extensive expertise in marketing, negotiating and event planning. Today, he works part-time as an event planner, based in Huntsville, Alabama.

A selfless community servant, Mr. Thomas boasts membership (past and present) to countless boards and charitable organizations, including the Huntsville Housing Authority Board of Appeals, the North Alabama Sickle Cell Board of Directors and the Vocational Education Advisory Council for Huntsville City Schools. He was formerly Chairman of the Engineering Technology Advisory Committee at Alabama A&M, a founding board member of the Alabama A&M University Foundation and a charter member of 100 Black Men of Huntsville. Politically active, Mr. Thomas served on the Executive Committee of the Madison County Republican Men's Club and on President George H.W. Bush's Personal Advisory Committee. Further, he claimed membership to the Black Americans for President George H.W. Bush Committee of 100.

Mr. Thomas has been a member of the fraternal organization the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks since June 17, 1957. Mr. Thomas has held many positions within the organization, including serving as state photographer, Chairman of the State Nominating Committee, First Vice President of the Alabama Association of the Improved Benevolent Protective Order of the Elks of the World and ultimately State President. Mr. Thomas served as President for twelve years, during which time the organization introduced a state choir, the Past State President degree and a golf tournament. He has been further recognized as an Esteemed Lecturing Knight, a trustee and Exalted Ruler of R.E. Nelms

Elks Lodge No. 977. His tenure as Exalted Ruler spanned 1983 through 2008 and 2009 through 2019, during which time the Lodge gave money to the Boys and Girls Club, the Harris Home for Children and Homeless Persons and the Boy Scouts of America, in addition to providing scholarships for students at Alabama A&M. Mr. Thomas is also a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Fraternity Inc., Delta Theta Lambda Chapter.

A man of steadfast faith, Mr. Thomas has been a dedicated member of Phillips Christian Methodist Episcopal Church where he serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees. He is married to the love of his life, Dr. Mattie Daniels Thomas with whom he shares two children, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

On a personal note, I have known "Uncle Malcolm" all my life and count him as both a mentor and an extended part of my family. His business acumen and legendary leadership in the Elks has been an inspiration to us all. As a beloved mentor and political advisor, Uncle Malcolm ensures his legacy in investing in the hearts and minds of the next generation. I know that I would not be Alabama's first Black Congresswoman without the love, support and guidance of dear family friends like Uncle Malcolm and Auntie Mattie. As you prepare to succeed from your many years of service to the R.E. Nelms Elks Lodge No. 977, know that your work has strengthened the organization and set a high bar for others to follow.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and great works of Mr. Malcolm Thomas that has left an indelible imprint on the Huntsville community and the State of Alabama.

IN RECOGNITION OF WAYNE OLIVEIRA

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the retirement of Mr. Wayne Oliveira, a veteran of the Fairhaven Fire Department with forty-two years of service.

In 1977 Wayne Oliveira started his career as a call firefighter. Years later, Wayne would be appointed a full-time firefighter and EMT by Fire Chief Donald Bernard. Shortly after his appointment, Wayne began taking on numerous responsibilities. Wayne was elected secretary of the firefighter's union, a position he would hold for the next twenty years. He became a Public Fire Educator in 1989, prioritizing informing children and seniors about the importance of fire safety. Developing the SAFE program, Wayne taught classes in child car seat installation as well as CPR. Continuing his outreach efforts, Wayne organized Public Safety Open Houses for the public long before prevention programs became standard practice.

Wayne was named Standard Times Man of the Year in 2012 for his wide array of volunteer work. From cleaning the traffic island outside of the local high school to fundraising for a new memorial sign which he personally maintains, Wayne sets an incredible example of selflessness in the work he takes on. He has engaged with the town at large as Co-

Chairman of Fairhaven Outdoor Movie Night, Captain of Artillery for the Fairhaven Village Militia, as well as Chairman of the Bicentennial and Beautification Committees.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the retirement of Wayne Oliveira and offer my gratitude for his years of service and care for the town Fairhaven. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing him for his retirement and wishing him nothing but the best in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF DENISE DALRYMPLE FOR A DISTINGUISHED CAREER WITH THE GIRL SCOUTS OF SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN

### HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Denise Dalrymple on her retirement and recognize her years of distinguished service with the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan. Ms. Dalrymple's contributions to the Michigan community are worthy of commendation.

In 1912, the first Girl Scout troop was established in Savannah, Georgia by Juliette Gordon Low. She envisioned gathering a group of women who would empower each other, build courage, confidence, and character, and always strive to make the world the better place. Over a century later, the Girl Scouts continue to honor their founder's dutiful vision by offering girls a chance to cultivate leadership, experience adventure, and to aspire for success. Through the Girl Scouts' wide breadth of programs, thousands of girls have learned they are strong, capable, and powerful leaders who can tackle challenges, solve problems, and achieve anything they set their minds to.

Since joining the Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan as Chief Executive Officer in 2008, Denise Dalrymple has been instrumental in the Girl Scouts' continued success. Under her leadership, the organization has provided its services and programs to over 24,000 girls in eight Michigan counties: Sanilac, St. Clair, Genesee, Lapeer, Oakland, Macomb, Wayne, and Monroe. Beloved by many, Ms. Dalrymple is known amongst her friends, family, and colleagues as a dedicated, humble, and effective leader who endeavors to make everyone's lives a little brighter. Beyond her service in a professional capacity, Ms. Dalrymple also serves as a role model who leads by example and inspires thousands of girls across our community. She has touched the lives of many and truly embodies the Girl Scout Promise every day.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Denise Dalrymple for her years of service to Girl Scouts of Southeastern Michigan. We thank her for her outstanding and impactful work and wish her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF SWOPE HEALTH'S FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Swope Health and their fifty years of service to the Greater Kansas City metro area. Since they were founded in 1969, Swope Health has expanded to provide an extensive number of services to citizens of all backgrounds around the city and have become an indispensable part of the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri.

Swope Health opened in 1969 as an integral part of President Lyndon Johnson's Model Cities Program. President Johnson created the program, as well as its offshoot, the Model Cities Health Corporations, as a precursor to the contemporary oversight seen in American cities. Championing this moment of opportunity, Swope Health took its mandate seriously. The first clinic opened by Swope Health operated in the basement of Metropolitan Missionary Baptist Church with a total of twenty employees. These twenty valiant health care professionals successfully cared for over 2,000 patients in their first year. Today, the organization has grown exponentially, serving over 40,000 patients throughout western Missouri and eastern Kansas, and their spirit of exemplary service and tireless energy persists.

Swope Health operates under an integrated healthcare model, which means they successfully provide a wide range of services for adults and children, men and women's health, and even dental care. The list of specific services they provide is extensive and impressive. To best accomplish this, Swope Health employs over 500 associates from a diverse range of professional backgrounds and careers. Moreover, their dedication to diversity and inclusion is readily apparent, not only in the range of employees, but also executives that are proud to represent Swope Health. Swope Health's executive leadership, from CEO Dave Barber to Community Engagement, Development & Outreach Coordinator Michelle Keller, reflect the best and brightest from a wide range of ethnic and social backgrounds, all of whom share a dedication to providing high quality, affordable, and accessible healthcare.

Furthermore, Swope Health has taken its role as a community partner seriously by expanding its outpatient offerings around the city, opening safety-net clinics for low-income and uninsured Kansas Citians, and hosting fun, creative, and beneficial events throughout the year. From Swope Health Socks and Hops, which encouraged individuals to enjoy craft beer while supporting the area's homeless shelters, to hosting Kansas City's National Health Center Week, Swope Health always takes their place as a regional leader seriously.

Madam Speaker, please join me and the Fifth Congressional District of Missouri in honoring Swope Health for their dedicated leadership, service, and care over the last fifty years.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE SADIE HOLLAND

### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge Sadie Holland, who retired as the Lee County Justice Court judge after 16 years of service.

Judge Holland made history as Lee County's first female justice court judge. She is a lifelong public servant, previously serving as a Tupelo court administrator and is the former Mayor of Nettleton, Mississippi. She also was a school bus driver for 17 years. Judge Holland's influence in the community is so significant that Lee County proclaimed November 3rd as "Sadie Holland Day."

Although she is retired from public service, Judge Holland will remain active in the community and will continue to work as a funeral director for Holland Funeral Directors in Tupelo, Mississippi. Judge Sadie Holland is a remarkable Mississippian who has set a shining example for others to follow. I wish her many more years of good health.

RECOGNIZING JAKE PLUMMER FOR HIS INDUCTION INTO THE COLLEGE FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

### HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor Jake Plummer, a legendary former student athlete at Arizona State University who has earned induction into the College Football Hall of Fame.

"Jake the Snake" made his first pass as a Sun Devil quarterback count: a 78-yard touchdown in the team's shutout win over the University of Utah. It's clear that the world should have known at that time, at that place, that Plummer's Sun Devil career would be one for the ages. But few could have predicted the heights the young gunslinger from Boise, Idaho would take the program.

The Sun Devils needed a savior. After the team consistently earned bowl game appearances in the 1970s and 1980s, it was in the midst of a decade-long drought as Plummer entered his senior year as the team's captain. That year, 1996, there was renewed promise. And under the guidance of head coach Bruce Snyder, the team began the season with a gritty roster and a Top 25 ranking.

Hopes for a Pac-10 championship nearly ended as soon as they began. During the season opener, ASU squandered a 42-21 lead, allowing the University of Washington to score three straight touchdowns to tie the game. With just a minute left in the fourth quarter, the Sun Devil offense took the field and Plummer orchestrated a 42-yard drive that set up a game-winning field goal. Plummer and the team showed they could overcome adversity—an inner-strength they would need several times throughout the season.

The nation finally took notice of this special Sun Devil squad when it shut out two-time defending national champion and top-ranked Nebraska Cornhuskers before more than 74,000

fans at Sun Devil Stadium on September 21, 1996. Plummer sparked the team's stellar performance, leading the team 80 yards down the field on its first offensive drive and connecting with wide receiver Keith Poole for a 25-yard touchdown to put ASU on the board. The Sun Devils' 19–0 victory ended Nebraska's 26-game winning streak and marked just the second time a No. 1 team had been shut out in college football history.

For Plummer, highlights continued throughout the year. After the Sun Devils fell behind on the road to the UCLA Bruins, Plummer delivered on what is now one of the most memorable plays in ASU history. With 6:45 left in the fourth quarter, and the Devils on the Bruins' 16-yard line, Plummer handed the ball off to halfback J.R. Redmond. Redmond moved right, then faded back to throw the ball back to Plummer, who caught it at the 10-yard line before slithering past four Bruin defenders and into the end zone for a touchdown.

After vanquishing its remaining Pac-10 opponents, Plummer and the Sun Devils pummeled their arch-rival Arizona Wildcats with a 56–14 win in Tucson.

The undefeated Sun Devils earned the Pac-10 championship and represented the conference in the 1997 Rose Bowl.

Plummer's season—and career—remains one of the best in Sun Devil history. After the 1996 season, during which he threw 24 touchdowns and for more than 2,500 yards, he was named a finalist for the Heisman Trophy, recognized as the Pac-10 Offensive Player of the Year, a second team All-American, and was a two-time All-Academic All-Conference player.

Jake Plummer went on to be drafted into the National Football League by the Arizona Cardinals and also started for the Denver Broncos, but it is his time at ASU—and especially his legendary senior season—that earned him his spot in the Hall of Fame. He remains a fan favorite in Tempe, and I am honored to recognize his career and contributions to Arizona.

HONORING THE SACRIFICE OF PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOSEPH ROBERT LIVERMORE

**HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, it was only two days after the attack on Pearl Harbor when Joseph Robert Livermore chose to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. At just the young age of 19, he felt compelled to answer the call to serve in the second World War, a war that would take him across the globe to defend this great nation.

Bob was a Private First Class and had been serving in the military for nearly two years when he arrived at the Battle of Tarawa. He and his division initially survived the fight; a presidential unit citation even lauded his unit's "outstanding performance in combat." Sadly, however, that same battle would eventually cost Bob his life when he was fatally wounded by an enemy bayonet.

Bob was laid to rest with 1,000 brothers-in-arms on then Japanese-held Betio Island where he would remain for nearly 80 years. It wasn't until July 30th of this year, that through

advances in technology and by the grace of God, Bob's remains were identified to be returned home.

Though it has been nearly eight decades since Bob's passing, we must never forget that he is much more than a name inscribed on a memorial. He was a young man from Bakersfield whose deep sense of patriotism and love of country was instilled in him from an early age. He attended East Bakersfield High School where he was a star athlete of both football and track. He was President of his junior class. He was a loving brother and a thoughtful son. And perhaps most importantly, he was taken from this earth before his full potential could be realized.

To Bob's family here in attendance, please know that we will never forget his sacrifice, and we humbly join you in celebrating his life today and commemorating his memory which will far outlive any of us.

Bob's story is a meaningful reminder that tomorrow isn't guaranteed, and that we should be particularly grateful for our servicemen and servicewomen who willingly put themselves in harm's way to defend our freedoms.

And to Bob, who I'm sure is smiling at us from above, at long last, welcome home. We've been waiting for him.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4803 CITIZENSHIP FOR CHILDREN OF MILITARY MEMBERS AND CIVIL SERVANTS ACT

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4803, the "Citizenship for Children of Military Members and Civil Servants Act."

H.R. 4803 establishes that a foreign-born child of a U.S. citizen member of the Armed Forces or government employee may automatically acquire U.S. citizenship even if the child is not residing in the United States.

This bill is necessary because the Trump Administration announced on August 28, 2019 that it was changing its policy guidance and ending automatic American citizenship for children of U.S. service members and other federal workers stationed abroad.

With these changes, government employees stationed abroad who are green card holders would have to move back to the U.S. and live there for three to five years in order to apply for citizenship for their child.

Previously, children born to U.S. citizen parents were considered to be "residing in the United States," and therefore would be automatically granted citizenship under the Immigration and Nationality Act § 320.

Without this legislation, children born abroad to U.S. service members and government employees in U.S. military hospitals or diplomatic facilities, will not be residing in the United States, and thus will not be considered American citizens.

This disadvantages children of parents who serve our country abroad.

Under H.R. 4803, necessary requirements would be fulfilled if a foreign-born child is living in the legal and physical custody of the citizen armed services member or government em-

ployee who has been stationed abroad (or the accompanying spouse of such a citizen), and lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States.

It is critical for the United States Congress to stand with the women and men who have served our country and allow their children citizenship.

By allowing lawful, permanent resident children of members of the U.S. Armed Forces or federal government employees who are residing overseas to automatically acquire citizenship once certain conditions are met, parents avoid the inconvenience, expense, and paperwork delays required under current law, and continue their service commitment without interruption.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4803, and allow foreign-born children of U.S. citizens who have served as a member of the Armed Forces or are government employees, to automatically acquire citizenship for their foreign born American child.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAMES I. "BUD" ROBERTSON, JR.

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I offer rise in tribute to Dr. James I. "Bud" Robertson, Jr., longtime professor at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia, who passed away on November 2 at the age of 89. Dr. Robertson, sometimes called "Mr. Virginia," was a distinguished scholar of the American Civil War.

Dr. Robertson was a native of Danville, Virginia. He earned his bachelor's degree in history at Randolph-Macon College and his master's degree and doctorate in the same subject at Emory University.

As the United States commemorated the centennial of the Civil War in the 1960s, President Kennedy asked Dr. Robertson to serve as executive director of the United States Civil War Centennial Commission. After his successful leadership of the commission, he joined the Virginia Tech faculty in 1967. Over the course of his career, he taught thousands of students, wrote more than 20 books, became founding director of the Virginia Center for Civil War Studies, and educated the public at large on the war. His biography of Stonewall Jackson earned acclaim as a definitive account of the legendary general's life, but the experiences of the common soldiers who served on both sides, "Billy Yank" and "Johnny Reb," occupied much of his study as well.

In the preface to *Civil War Sites in Virginia: A Tour Guide*, Dr. Robertson told of a cemetery at Appomattox, where a Federal soldier is buried next to Confederates. He wrote: "They sleep side by side, and it is fitting that they do; for these American heroes who lived not so long ago struggled greatly against something greater than themselves. Often fighting for nothing more than the realization of a dream, they bravely marched down the undiscovered road to tomorrow. What they gave, we now share. What they lost, we gained. Their sacrifice is the nation's legacy."

Dr. Robertson devoted himself to the study of that legacy. He did it with skill and with an

enthusiasm that could affect anyone who heard his lectures or commentary.

Among the many awards he earned over his career were three commendations from the Virginia General Assembly, the Virginia Press Association's 2004 Virginian of the Year, the Best NonFiction Book Award by the Library of Virginia in 1997, and the Outstanding Professor Award of the Virginia Council for Higher Education. In turn, Dr. Robertson strongly supported Virginia Tech financially and through the donation of a large portion of his enormous collection of Civil War books.

After his retirement from Virginia Tech, Dr. Robertson resided in Virginia's Northern Neck. He is survived by his wife, Elizabeth "Betty Lee" Robertson; his sons, James I. Robertson III and Howard Robertson; his daughter, Beth Brown; his stepson, William W. Lee Jr.; his stepdaughter, Elizabeth A. Lee; seven grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. I would like to express my condolences to them and to the Virginia Tech community on the loss of this fine scholar and gentleman.

30 YEARS AFTER THE FALL OF THE BERLIN WALL: HONORING HIS EXCELLENCY LECH WAŁĘSA, THE FORMER PRESIDENT OF POLAND

### HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to be here today to help welcome back to Washington a true hero of democracy, former President Lech Wałęsa.

Thirty years ago, we all watched with surprise and jubilation at the fall of the Berlin Wall, for decades the symbol of repression and tyranny that had fallen over the states behind the Iron Curtain. As it happens, that was my first year as a member of Congress. What followed the fall of the wall was the collapse of the totalitarian regimes and the restoration of those countries to their place among the world's democracies. This was an incredibly momentous occasion, we in Congress understand that.

In November of 1989, a humble electrician from the working-class Polish city of Gdansk spoke before a joint session of the United States Congress. I remember it well. He described his years-long struggle for freedom and asked for support from the United States. That man, of course, was soon-to-be President Wałęsa.

More than anyone else, President Wałęsa helped us understand the heroic and honorable fight that the people of Poland and others throughout central and eastern Europe were waging to win their freedom over dictatorship. We understood that the people of Europe needed our help in this struggle for freedom. And U.S. support was indeed critical in helping those countries transition to democracy.

Thirty years later, some of those countries need our help again. While the specter of communism has faded, many countries in central and eastern Europe face renewed threats to democracy. Today at a hearing of the European subcommittee, President Wałęsa and other experts described some of these new threats, in countries like Poland, Hungary, and

Turkey, where increasingly authoritarian leaders are undermining democracy and the rule of law. We owe it to President Wałęsa and all the others who continue to fight for democracy in the region to show our support.

I want to close by thanking President Wałęsa for everything he has done in support of freedom and democracy, and for visiting with us today. And I want to urge everyone that we can best honor President Wałęsa's legacy by continuing the fight against authoritarianism wherever we may find it.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE,  
LEGACY, AND SERVICE OF  
JAMES DUNCAN

### HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, today I rise in honor of the life, legacy, and service of James Duncan of Appleton, Wisconsin.

Jim was born on June 28, 1947 to Rodney and Bertha Duncan in Appleton, WI. He attended Menasha High School and graduated in the Class of 1965. Jim then served in the U.S. Army in Korea during the Vietnam War as a medic. Upon returning home from service, Jim was employed as the fourth ever paramedic in the state of Wisconsin through Gold Cross Ambulance where he aided the community for 30 years.

Jim continued to serve his community from 1998 to 2019, holding various leadership positions on the Outagamie County Board. He utilized his extensive background as an Army medic and an emergency responder during his time on the Public Safety Committee. Jim was an advocate for rehabilitation and a supporter of jail diversion programs, like drug treatment court and veterans treatment court.

In addition to his service on the County Board, Jim was actively involved with several organizations throughout the Fox Valley. He assisted in fundraising, event planning, and medical care for the Special Olympics, was a foster father for over 15 years, and volunteered with the food pantry through Fox Valley Christian Fellowship.

Jim was a true altruist who was tireless and tenacious in his efforts to help others. He always went the extra mile to serve when others around him would not. His goal was not to surpass all others at any cost, but to serve others whatever the cost. Jim's leadership will be missed by all.

Madam Speaker, it is truly an honor to recognize Jim's selfless service to our country. His love of country and service to the Fox Valley community will always be remembered. I offer my sincerest condolences to Jim's family.

RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE  
STEVE HOLLAND

### HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Mississippi State House Representative, Steve Holland.

Representative Holland served in the State House of Representatives for 36 years and proudly represented Mississippi's 16th district. During his extensive career, Representative Holland served on many committees, including: the Committee on Public Health and Human Services, Appropriations, Congressional Redistricting, Gaming, Judiciary A, Judiciary En Banc, Budget, Legislative Reapportionment, Medicaid, Local and Private Legislation, Tourism, Transportation, Fees and Salaries of Public Officers, Ways and Means, and Youth and Family Affairs.

Representative Holland is a true Mississippian who prioritized legislation that would create a brighter future for Mississippi. I thank him for his service, and I hope he enjoys his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING OFFICER JONATHAN  
DIAZ

### HON. TJ COX

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Officer Jonathan Diaz, of the Lemoore Police Department who passed away on November 2nd at the age of 31, while intervening in a domestic violence incident while off duty.

Officer Diaz began his law enforcement career in his hometown of Huron, CA in 2014 as a Reserve Police Officer and in 2015 was chosen as Officer of the Year.

He was hired by Lemoore PD in August of 2016 and was an asset to the community from the day he joined.

Officer Diaz received many commendations during his time with the force, including being selected to be the Recruit Training Officer for Tulare-Kings Counties Basic Police Academy, Field Training Officer for his department, being appointed as the Gang Investigator for the Kings County Major Crimes Task Force, and in September 2018 was awarded Lemoore PD's Public Safety Officer of the year.

In addition to keeping our community safe, Officer Diaz mentored at-risk youth in Lemoore through the Youth Adult Awareness Program.

Officer Diaz leaves behind his girlfriend, Victoria Gonzalez and their 10-month-old daughter, Stephanie, along with sons Jonathan Jr., Damian, his parents Juan Sr. and Blanca Diaz and three younger brothers.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOULEVARD  
BREWING COMPANY'S THIRTIETH  
ANNIVERSARY

### HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize and celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of Kansas City's own Boulevard Brewing Company. Born from one man's dream to put Kansas City back on the map for brewing, Boulevard Brewing Company has become an iconic and beloved institution by locals and tourists alike.

In the summer of 1984, while on vacation in Europe, John McDonald, founder of Boulevard Brewing Company, discovered his love and intrigue for Belgian beers. It was this curiosity and interest, coupled with the opportunity to address a gap in the market that fueled McDonald's dream. Kansas City was once home to more than a dozen breweries, producing a wide array of beers, but had succumbed to the industrial onslaught, leaving the city left with none. This, in conjunction with the homogenous nature of American beers being produced at the time, encouraged McDonald to continue to pursue this interest, embarking on an endeavor that would come to be a social and cultural pillar of Kansas City.

After attending art school, McDonald began home brewing, put together a business plan, sold his house to raise money, and sought necessary resources to start the brewery. In line with his creative background, McDonald's vision for the brewery was innovative, unique, and stood in stark contrast to what many breweries across the country looked like and produced.

McDonald began renovation in an old brick building along the historic Southwest Boulevard, which once housed the laundry for the Santa Fe Railroad. In November 1989, after more than a year of working tirelessly to retrofit the building, the first keg of Boulevard Pale Ale was loaded into the back of McDonald's pickup truck and delivered to a restaurant down the street.

For the first year, the small crew worked lengthy hours brewing, kegging, cleaning, and working to persuade bar and restaurant owners to put Boulevard beers on tap, as the company initially only produced draft beers. Knowing that the bottling of Boulevard's product would open doors to new opportunities and growth, McDonald worked to secure funding for bottling lines. After overcoming rejection by bank after bank, one institution saw promise in Boulevard's vision and enabled the brewing company to install a very small, used bottling line. With this line in place, Boulevard quickly found itself becoming the talk of the town and built a notable reputation for itself.

With its rapid growth came concerns of outgrowing the space in which Boulevard Brewing Company was founded. Faced with the decision to relocate or revitalize, McDonald chose to revitalize the historic building on Southwest Boulevard in 2006 in a \$25 million project that expanded into a new building with a 150-barrel brewhouse, packaging halls, and hospitality spaces. With sales reaching nearly 300,000 barrels, this renovation allowed the company to increase their potential brewing capacity to 700,000 barrels annually. In the years following, McDonald continued to create new products and grow Boulevard's presence. Boulevard soon found their products spanning coast-to-coast, from California to Washington, D.C. by the mid-2000s.

Eventually, their progress came full-circle when McDonald was approached by Michael Moortgat, President and fourth generation leader of Duvel Moortgat, maker of Duvel beer, which first set John McDonald on his journey in brewing. In 2014, Boulevard became part of the Duvel Moortgat family, a collection of artisanal breweries dedicated to the highest expression of the brewers' art.

Today, Jeff Krum serves as President of Boulevard Brewing Company, Brewery Ommegang of Cooperstown, NY, and Duvel

Moortgat USA. Krum has been with Boulevard since its founding and is committed to taking the brewery even further. Krum has also been an active contributor to our Kansas City community in other ways, founding Ripple Glass, which created a local and regional glass recycling solution, and serving on the board on directors of the Kansas City Streetcar Authority, the Downtown Transportation Development District, and the Kansas City Economic Development Corporation.

To this day, Boulevard remains steadfast in its commitment to the original vision and mission set forth by McDonald, helping to redefine American beer while having a lasting positive impact on the Kansas City community. Through these efforts, Boulevard Brewing Company has established itself as the Midwest's largest specialty brewer.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Boulevard Brewing Company's thirtieth anniversary and celebrating their innovation, vision, and impact in Kansas City and beyond.

IN HONOR OF CLAUDETTE COLVIN  
FOR HER COURAGE DURING THE  
CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT AND  
CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICAN  
HISTORY

**HON. ALEXANDRIA OCASIO-CORTEZ**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 15, 2019*

Ms. OCASIO-CORTEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Claudette Colvin, an American Civil Rights pioneer, who on March 2, 1955, at the age of 15, was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama for refusing to give up her seat to a young white woman passenger, becoming one of many to be arrested for challenging Montgomery's bus segregation policies. Nine months later, Rosa Parks was famously arrested for performing the same act of defiance. Although there were hundreds of people arrested before Claudette and Rosa Parks, Claudette along with Aurelia Browder, Susie McDonald, and Mary Louise Smith, were the first to challenge the law in the Alabama courts.

Prior to her historic 1955 stand against racial injustice, Claudette had been studying Black leaders like Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth during Negro History Month in her segregated school. Claudette's classroom conversations led to discussions around the current day Jim Crow laws she and all her peers were experiencing. In describing the significant moment when a bus driver ordered her to give up her seat to a young white woman, and she refused, Claudette says: "Whenever people ask me: 'Why didn't you get up when the bus driver asked you?' I say it felt as though Harriet Tubman's hands were pushing me down on one shoulder and Sojourner Truth's hands were pushing me down on the other shoulder. I felt inspired by these women because my teacher taught us about them in so much detail."

After a year-long battle in the courts, being ostracized by her peers and the community, an older man befriended her, and she became pregnant. In addition, she was a 15-year-old teenager, from a low-income family, and she had very dark skin. Therefore, the leaders deemed Claudette inappropriate to be the face of the Bus Boycott.

Claudette's heroic story was nearly forgotten by history. The story of Claudette illustrates how the role of women in the Civil Rights movement has been largely overlooked. Her actions led to monumental progress in our nation's history. Not only that, her heroic actions led to the rise of other great African Americans. If not for Claudette's brave act, there may not have been a Thurgood Marshall, Robert L. Carter, Martin Luther King, Jr., or Rosa Parks. She truly paved the way for our nation's history.

Claudette, Aurelia Browder, Susie McDonald, and Mary Louise Smith were among the four women plaintiffs to testify in the federal court case filed by civil rights attorney Fred Gray on February 1, 1956, as *Browder v. Gayle*. On June 13, 1956, the three-judge panel that heard the case in the United States District Court determined that the state and local laws requiring bus segregation in Alabama were unconstitutional. The case went to the United States Supreme Court, which upheld their ruling on December 17, 1956. Three days later, the Supreme Court issued an order to Montgomery and the state of Alabama to end bus segregation. This order not only ended bus segregation in Alabama, but also impacted public transportation throughout the United States, including airplanes, taxis and trains.

In 1987, The 100th Congress designated March as "Women's History Month" in honor of the tremendous contributions of women to society, and to recognize that despite these contributions, the role of women in history has consistently been overlooked and undervalued in our history books. Claudette is testament to the fact that we are still discovering new accomplishments of historical women, and we will continue to shine a light on these amazing icons for years to come. Though their historic acts of civil disobedience were separated by nine-months, Claudette and Rosa Parks remain intertwined in the same movement. Claudette knew Rosa very well, was active in Rosa's youth group, and considered Rosa an inspiration to her own beliefs and actions. Rosa and Claudette's mother, Mary Jane Austin (Gadson), grew up together in Pine Level, Alabama. Her mother used to play with Rosa and her brother Sylvester at Ms. Leona's house, Rosa's mother. Rosa also knew Claudette's great grandfather, Gus Vaughn, who has been mentioned in several of her books.

Madam Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Claudette Calvin's courage to stand in the face of injustice and demand her recognition of her inalienable rights. Because in her own courage to fight for her freedom, she paved a path for millions of others to do the same—because it was her constitutional right.

UNITED STATES EXPORT FINANCE  
AGENCY ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2019*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4863) to promote



the competitiveness of the United States, to reform and reauthorize the United States Export Finance Agency, and for other purposes:

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 4863, the United States Export Finance Agency Act. This legislation will reauthorize the United States Export-Import Bank for a decade, increase the agency's capabilities to keep exporters here in the United States competitive worldwide, and ensures that the Export-Import Bank is prepared for the future by establishing offices within the agency focused on clean energy.

Four years ago, Republicans and Democrats in this chamber came together to sign a

discharge petition overruling the desire of a vocal minority that was ill informed about the important role the Export Import Bank plays in ensuring that products produced here in the United States can find buyers around the world. They wanted to shut this agency down. Thankfully, cooler minds prevailed, and the agency was reauthorized.

This agency is vital to the many farmers, small businesses, and manufacturers who export their products around the world from Texas. Approximately 12 billion dollars in exports from Texas are reliant on the Export-Import Bank. Businesses like Continental Electronics Corporation in my district, which produce radio frequency broadcast transmission equipment, rely on the Export-Import

Bank to ensure their high-quality products can be sold to potential buyers across the world. Without the Export-Import Bank, buyers would have to settle for mediocre knockoff products produced in places like China.

Mr. Chair, being from a state where our economy thrives thanks to trade, I understand the importance of this legislation. But it's not just me, labor groups like the AFL-CIO, alongside business groups like the Chamber of Commerce support this import legislation. It's not often that you can get those two groups to agree on something. I urge my colleagues to pass this legislation and for the Senate to take this up immediately so that we can provide certainty to our exporters and continue to grow our economy in the right direction.