

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PULMONARY HYPERTENSION AWARENESS MONTH

#### HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month and the outstanding work the Pulmonary Hypertension Association (PHA) in the fight against the rare and debilitating disease, pulmonary hypertension (PH).

Pulmonary Hypertension (PH) is high blood pressure that occurs in the arteries of the lungs. It reflects the pressure the heart must apply to pump blood from the heart through the arteries of the lungs. As with a tangled hose, pressure builds up and backs up forcing the heart to work harder and less oxygen to reach the body. PH symptoms generally include fatigue, dizziness and shortness of breath with the severity of the disease correlating with its progression. If left undiagnosed or untreated it can lead to heart failure and death.

I am proud to represent the Pulmonary Hypertension Association (PHA) headquartered in Silver Spring. PHA is dedicated to extending and improving the life of those affected by PH. PHA was the first organization in the world dedicated to providing comprehensive PH patient and caregiver support; medical education; specialty care services that improve patients' quality of life; and research funding. As a result of PHA's advocacy for continued investment in medical research and sustained scientific progress, there are 14 Food and Drug Administration-approved targeted treatment options for two forms of PH.

When individuals are diagnosed with PH quickly and begin appropriate therapy, their prognosis and life-expectancy improve dramatically. However, it currently takes an average of 2.5 years to receive a diagnosis and three quarters of patients have severe PH when they are finally diagnosed. Without treatment, historical studies have shown a mean survival time of 2.8 years after diagnosis for pulmonary arterial hypertension (PAH). Patients with advanced PH cannot benefit as greatly from available therapies and often face dramatic and costly medical interventions, including 24-hour IV infused medication, increased risk for hospitalization and in some cases heart-lung transplantation.

I am proud to work with PHA in their efforts to increase awareness of PH and create new programs that promote early and accurate diagnosis and quality care for PH patients.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing November as Pulmonary Hypertension Awareness Month and to continue supporting federal activities that improve the lives of patients impacted by PH including research programs at the National Institutes of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

### STEVEN SUMMER

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Steven Summer, who after 45 years in the healthcare arena, including 13 years leading the Colorado Hospital Association, is retiring. From Medicaid expansion to advancing hospital safety improvements, Steven's four and a half decades of service have resulted in work to improve the quality, access, and payment innovations in healthcare systems.

Steven began his career with the Association of American Medical Colleges, moving first to the Maryland Hospital Association, and then serving as President and CEO of the West Virginia Hospital Association, before capping his career for the past 13 years at the helm of the Colorado Hospital Association. These positions reflect his talent for bringing people together and fostering and strengthening collaboration in developing healthcare policy and finding healthcare delivery system solutions—and all with a smile on his face.

Steven's consensus-building approach contributed to Colorado's successful Medicaid expansion, the creation of Colorado's Telehealth Network, and advanced an innovative substance use disorder treatment partnership between emergency physicians and hospitals to find alternatives to opioids, which serves as a model for other states. Programs like the alternatives to opioids effort have been incorporated in federal opioid legislation and many of CHA's initiatives under his leadership have informed federal policy and decision-making in Washington.

Throughout his career, Steven has provided countless time and resources to his community by serving on local and state healthcare boards and commissions, volunteering with the Kavod Senior Life Home, and many local programs like school and youth organizations.

I congratulate Steven on a lifetime of service and wish him all the best in retirement.

### RECOGNIZING JUSTIN BRADLEY FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CON- GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM- MENDATION

#### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Justin Bradley of Lolo for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and his service to his community.

Mr. Bradley is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps from 2001 to 2006 serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in the Philippines and Afghanistan with two additional

deployments to Japan. He received multiple commendations during his time in the Marines, including the Combat Action Ribbon, a NATO Ribbon, and the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal.

Following his service in the Marine Corps, he returned to serve his community at the Department of Corrections in the Probation and Parole Division. There, he has dedicated himself to the protection of the community through accountability and never complaining about the long hours. In addition to this role, he works closely with the Missoula County Sheriff Crime Task Force, the High Intensity Drug Task Force, and the U.S. Marshalls. Mr. Bradley is known to help fellow officers individually in developing proper firearm safety, as well as self-protection for when they are on the job.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Justin Bradley for his service and his dedication to his community.

### IN HONOR OF ROBERT M. RECHNITZ

#### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mr. Robert M. Rechnitz. Mr. Rechnitz, a longtime resident of the Locust section of Middletown, New Jersey, passed away on October 12, 2019 after a vibrant life filled with numerous professional and personal accomplishments.

Robert (Bob) Rechnitz was a prominent member of the community and a fixture of the thriving arts and humanities landscape in Monmouth County. As co-founder and executive producer of Two River Theater, Bob was committed to providing an outlet for creative expression and a preeminent institution for the public to enjoy. In addition to his extensive background and work in theater, Bob was an esteemed educator, stalwart preservationist and dedicated philanthropist. He lived his life in service to his community and his achievements and generosity have been recognized by many awards and tributes over the years.

His love of nature and the theater and his commitment to social and humanitarian causes left an indelible impact on the community. From his support of the Monmouth Conservation Foundation and Monmouth University to his contributions to Monmouth Medical Center and Riverview Medical Center, to name just a few, his philanthropic endeavors will benefit generations to come.

Bob leaves behind a loving family, including his devoted wife and partner Joan, their children Emily, Adam and Joshua, son-in-law John Paladino, daughter-in-law Elizabeth Fordi, grandchildren Max and Flora Paladino and Esme Rechnitz, as well as many dear friends and colleagues.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Robert M.

• 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.

Rechnitz for his devotion to his family and his immeasurable contributions to the greater Monmouth County community.

RECOGNIZING JEFFREY MEYERS

**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeff Meyers, Commissioner of the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NHDHHS), for his many years of service and leadership in state government, including his four-year tenure as Commissioner.

Prior to joining NHDHHS, Jeff previously served as an Assistant Attorney General for the state's Department of Justice, as well as the New Hampshire Senate's legal counsel, and as chief counsel to former Governor John Lynch. During Jeff's time with NHDHHS, he was the Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, leading the agency's efforts to implement programming, strategies and services. In 2016, Jeff was nominated by Governor Maggie Hassan and confirmed by the New Hampshire Executive Council as Commissioner of the state's largest agency.

As Commissioner, Jeff has managed significant initiatives including the implementation of the state's bipartisan New Hampshire Health Protection Program, which expanded access to health insurance for thousands of underserved Granite Staters. In addition, he negotiated a federal waiver to support the capacity of the state's behavioral health system and has promoted the integration of mental health and substance use disorder services with medical care. I commend Jeff Meyers for his leadership as NHDHHS Commissioner, his commitment to our state and wish him all the very best in his professional endeavors.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Jeff Meyers for all he has done to better health and well-being in our state and look forward to our future work together.

RECOGNIZING GREGORY GROVE  
FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CON-  
GRESSIONAL VETERAN COM-  
MENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gregory Grove of Eureka, a recipient of the 2019 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Grove is a veteran of the United States Navy. He served from 1983 to 1984 as a Diesel Engine Technician.

Mr. Grove is best known for his coaching of the local Special Olympics team. His passion and dedication to children has made a huge impact in the community. Mr. Grove leads with a tender heart and truly loves being a positive influence on our youth. He has been involved

with the Big Brothers program, Boy Scouts, 4-H, and coached Little League baseball. For ten years he has coached for Special Olympics. He's also an incredible Santa Claus. If you saw Mr. Grove, you could tell why his smile makes every little face he sees light up during Christmas time. He is also a member of American Legion Eureka Post No. 74 and plays an important role in the Highway Fatality Marker program in Lincoln County.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Gregory Grove for his service to his country and community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LORI TRAHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, on November 15, 2019, my vote was not recorded on the McAdams amendment to H.R. 4863 (Roll Call No. 619). I would like to reflect how I intended to vote: YEA on Roll Call No. 619.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. AYANNA PRESSLEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, due to business that took me off the House floor on November 15, 2019, I was unable to vote in time to express my support of the McAdams amendment to the United States Export Finance Agency Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 619.

RECOGNIZING DONALD  
HELMBRECHT FOR THE 2019 MON-  
TANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN  
COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Donald Helmbrecht of Victor for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and dedication to veteran causes in his community.

Mr. Helmbrecht served in the U.S. Army for seven years, spending time in both Vietnam and Korea. Mr. Helmbrecht received multiple commendations during his military service including the Purple Heart and Bronze Star.

His dedication to his country and community continued after his time serving in the Army. Mr. Helmbrecht serves on the American Legion Honor Guard with Corvallis Post 91 where he helps maintain the American Legion roadway cross program, as well as veteran crosses. Additionally, he is an active volunteer in his church, and for many other community activities.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Donald Helmbrecht for his service and dedication.

CELEBRATING PATHWAYS EARLY  
EDUCATION CENTER OF  
IMMOKALEE'S 55TH ANNIVER-  
SARY

**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, in recognition of American Education Week, I rise today to congratulate Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee on celebrating their 55th anniversary and to commend them for their dedication and exemplary service to Southern Florida.

Originally named Immokalee Child Care Center of Immokalee, Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee was founded in 1962 by members of the Church Women United, who recognized a need for childcare facilities in their community. At the time, working parents, specifically migrant workers, were left with few options for childcare. This led to parents having to make a difficult decision—leave their children unattended or take them to the fields during the workday. Both options posed significant dangers for these children. Knowing that this practice cannot continue, dedicated members and community groups worked together to raise funds and open a facility, which immediately served twenty-five children.

Since its founding, Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee has not strayed from its mission of providing quality education and developmental services for the children of Southern Florida. Presently, Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee serves 125 students from diverse backgrounds and continues to grow. Their curriculum centers on developing critical social, emotional, linguistic and academic skills for their students to ensure that each child has the ability to meet age-appropriate milestones. However, understanding that children need more than just in-classroom teaching to be successful, Pathways plays an active role in supporting children and their families after the school day ends. They identify students who need additional assistance and partner with agencies who provide them with access to mental health services, food and shelter needs, and healthcare options.

Having had the privilege of working with Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee for a number of years, I continue to be impressed by their steadfast commitment to each and every child they teach. It cannot be stated enough how important early childhood education centers, like Pathways, are for empowering students to reach their full potential. I am proud that Florida's 25th Congressional district is home to such a dedicated childcare center.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Pathways Early Education Center of Immokalee for their fifty-five years of service to Southern Florida and the Immokalee community and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable organization.

HONORING THE ISLAMIC CENTER  
OF CULPEPER

**HON. RASHIDA TLAI**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Ms. TLAI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the Islamic Center of Culpeper on the occasion of the ground breaking of their new mosque.

Culpeper, Virginia is home to a growing, close-knit Muslim community known as the Islamic Center of Culpeper, (ICC). For many years the ICC community has been worshipping in a very small space lacking proper heating in the brutal winters and air conditioning in the scorching summers. The facility even lacked an adequate washing facility to perform ablution before prayers. The ICC searched for nearly five years before finding and purchasing a parcel of land in January of 2016. Immediately, they made plans to begin constructing a brand-new mosque to serve as a place of worship and a place for community.

The ICC had no idea of the challenges they would face.

Since 1995, every pump and hall permit application submitted to the Culpeper County Government by a house of worship had been approved, but in April of 2016, the County denied ICC's permit application.

The County also ordered a moratorium on any new pump and haul applications, which barred ICC from any attempts to re-apply, and in advance of one of the local zoning hearings, protesters hung a banner stating, "NO ISLAMIC CENTER!" in big black letters.

The ICC fought back.

Muslim Advocates and Arnold & Porter Kaye Scholer filed a lawsuit against the County on behalf of ICC, following a lawsuit by the Department of Justice and one month later, the ICC and the County reached a settlement. The ICC could move forward with their plans to build a mosque, and the County issued a statement welcoming the ICC and compensated the community for their expenses.

Please join me in honoring the ICC and their resilience as they celebrate this milestone project.

RECOGNIZING ROGER KNOELL FOR  
THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRES-  
SIONAL VETERAN COMMENDA-  
TION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Roger Knoell of Butte for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Knoell is a veteran of the United States Navy serving in the Vietnam War. Over his twenty years of service, Mr. Knoell received multiple medals and awards, including the Submarine Dolphin Warfare Pin, the Combat Action Ribbon, and the National Defense Service Medal.

Upon returning to his community, Mr. Knoell dedicated his time to veteran groups in Butte.

As a member of the American Legion, he served as a key member in the selection of the of Butte for the new Southwest Montana Veterans Home. Outside of his work with veterans' groups, Mr. Knoell serves on the Board of Directors for the Legion Oasis Apartment Complex, which provides low- and medium-income housing for the residents of Butte. He is also known to be a great Butte promoter, bringing events to the community such as the Harley Owners State Rally, and the United States Submarine Veterans Incorporated.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Roger Knoell for his service to his country and his dedication to the Butte Community.

IN HONOR OF NATIONAL  
APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

**HON. RUSS FULCHER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. FULCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Apprenticeship Week.

In my home state of Idaho, more than 1,500 students participate in registered apprenticeships. This is a jump of fifty percent in just the last two years. More than 280 Idaho companies participate in apprenticeship programs. They include companies like Micron Technology, that enroll about 350 people every year in their apprenticeship program. But success in apprenticeship programs is about more than numbers. Take the story of Bryan Brandel, who comes from my hometown of Meridian. Bryan grew up watching his father and grandfather work as linemen for the phone company. Bryan seemed to be following in their footsteps when he enrolled in a Vocational Technology program at Meridian High School. He learned practical skills, including how to weld. As Bryan was completing high school, his father and grandfather encouraged him to pursue a traditional four-year degree. He finished his degree; but wasn't sure what to do next. He went on to graduate school, still not sure what he was going to do. Months before completing his dissertation, Bryan realized that he did not want to pursue Ecology or Biology. He thought about his passion. That took him back to his high school Vocational Technology program. He made the bold step of becoming a lineman in the electric utility industry. After finishing school at Northwest Lineman College, he started working for Idaho Power, completing their lineman apprenticeship program. He obtained a journeyman position on a line crew, and today is a line crew foreman. Bryan's story is typical of the many young adults in our communities who follow traditional education paths that might not be right for them. Because of his experience, Bryan actively promotes apprenticeships for Idaho Power. He speaks to high school students about the wonderful opportunities they bring. His story is truly inspirational. Apprenticeship programs create good-paying jobs, allow students to complete programs debt-free, and provide a sense of accomplishment. They give Idahoans like Bryan, and all Americans, opportunity and purpose in our market economy.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL CY-  
BERSECURITY CAREER AWARE-  
NESS WEEK

**HON. BILL POSEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. POSEY. Madam Speaker, November 11th marks the start of National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week. This week-long campaign focuses on local, regional and national interest to engage the community on not only the importance of cybersecurity but career opportunities in the field.

Cybersecurity IT workers play a vital role in upkeeping the integrity of our systems, networks, and programs as well as pioneering new ways to promote system strength against unforeseen threats. In a highly interconnected and increasingly globalized world, there has never been a more important time than now to raise awareness.

Unfortunately, America is facing a critical shortage of people trained in cybersecurity. There are currently over 300,000 jobs nationally that need to be filled in the cybersecurity workforce and globally, an expected shortfall of 1.8 million cybersecurity professionals by 2022. This deficit can easily be filled by American talent and continued commitment to making educational resources available early.

In my own district, we are playing our part by educating the public about what role cybersecurity plays in their everyday lives and how impactful a career in cybersecurity can be. To raise awareness of the importance of cybersecurity, several of our local colleges along with CareerSource Brevard, Brevard School District, Economic Development Commission of Florida's Space Coast and Florida High Tech Corridor to name a few, will come together to discuss the role of cybersecurity in our economy, in enhancing public safety and national security.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week.

RECOGNIZING NEIL NEARY FOR  
THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRES-  
SIONAL VETERAN COMMENDA-  
TION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Neil Neary of Butte for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and commitment to the American Legion.

Mr. Neary is a veteran of the U.S. Army and served during the Korean War. He was a member of the engineering corps and received commendations including the Good Conduct Medal. After his service in the Army, Mr. Neary brought back his spirit of service to his community as a member of American Legion Post 1 in Butte.

As a member of the Montana American Legion for 62 years, Mr. Neary has been an important figure for the Legion. He served in various roles over the years and was the Department of Montana State Commander for three

of those years. Mr. Neary's long service and leadership in the Montana American Legion has made him a patriotic role model for many in his community.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Neil Neary for his dedication and commitment.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. WILLIAM R. TIMMONS, IV**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. TIMMONS. Madam Speaker, I missed votes last week (11/12 through 11/15) due to full-time military duties with the South Carolina Air National Guard. Had I been present, I would have voted:

YEA on Roll Call No. 610; YEA on Roll Call No. 611; YEA on Roll Call No. 612; YEA on Roll Call No. 613; YEA on Roll Call No. 614; NAY on Roll Call No. 615; NAY on Roll Call No. 616; YEA on Roll Call No. 617; YEA on Roll Call No. 618; YEA on Roll Call No. 619; YEA on Roll Call No. 620; YEA on Roll Call No. 621; YEA on Roll Call No. 622; YEA on Roll Call No. 623; and NAY on Roll Call No. 624.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIMMY PANETTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during the second vote series on October 22, 2019. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 578.

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RECOGNIZING THOMAS PRICE FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Thomas Price of Eureka, a recipient of the 2019 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Price is a veteran of the United States Navy. He served from 1944 to 1946 on the USS *Missoula* APA 211 earning the Pacific 2 Star Award and attaining the rank of Seaman First Class. He was on board the USS *Missoula* when the flag was raised on Mount Suribachi during the Battle of Iwo Jima on February 23, 1945.

Serving his community, Mr. Price has worked with special needs children for 25 years. He's given ten scholarships to local high school graduating seniors. He's also spent many years serving on boards for the local nursing home and Lincoln County Fairgrounds. Mr. Price even puts on a weekly bingo game and donates the proceeds to local charities throughout his community.

Mr. Price is a humble man who continually helps others. He has a generous heart and always blessed the people in his community.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Thomas Price for his dedication and service.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on November 13, 2019 during roll call no. 612, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 3537, Veteran Entrepreneurship Training Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 613, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 499, Service-Disabled Veterans Small Business Continuation Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 614, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3734, SERV Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

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HONORING MR. ARTHUR MAX BACON'S RETIREMENT

**HON. DAVID SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of an extraordinary Georgian, Mr. Arthur Max Bacon.

Max Bacon is a lifetime civil servant. He began his career at his local branch of the United States Postal Service, only retiring as the town's Postmaster in 2006 after 40 years. For some of that same time, he also served the citizens of Smyrna on their City Council for 6 years, after which he carried on his father's legacy and was elected as the Mayor of Smyrna in 1985. When he retires from his post at the end of this term, he will hold the title of the longest-serving mayor in the city's history.

Mayor Bacon is a life-long resident of Smyrna's 15 square miles. He attended Smyrna Elementary School and graduated from Campbell High School in 1966. In that time, he has seen it transform from a small community to a lively, diverse suburb at the edge of Atlanta in Cobb County. Since Mayor Bacon began his tenure as mayor, Smyrna has more than doubled in residency, growing to become the second most-populated city in the county. However, that growth did not come without its challenges, which Mayor Bacon has maneuvered handedly, allowing the city to reinvent itself over the years.

Through his long span of leadership, Mayor Bacon has received numerous prestigious awards. Some highlights of those are: the 1993 Georgia Municipal Association Community Leadership Award, the Cobb County 1997 Citizen of the Year from the Marietta Daily Journal, the 2001 Citizen of the Year Award from the Smyrna Area Council of the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce, and the 2015

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award by Campbell High School.

Mayor Bacon will be remembered for serving his tireless efforts to serve his hometown and improve the lives of its residents. A mark of a true leader is doing what you think is right, even if it is not the most politically popular choice. Throughout his time as the head of the city of Smyrna, Max Bacon did just that. He is leaving behind an extraordinary legacy, and it is only fitting that we commemorate his contribution to the Smyrna, and the greater Georgia community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in congratulating Max Bacon on his retirement, and I extend my sincerest wishes for his continued health and happiness.

May God continue to bless Mr. Arthur Max Bacon.

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RECOGNIZING HAROLD RIENSCHER FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. GREG GIANFORTE**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Harold Riensch Senior of Reed Point, a recipient of the 2019 Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and leadership in his community.

Mr. Riensch is a veteran of the United States Marine Corps. He is a Vietnam veteran who served in the 3rd Tank Battalion, 3rd Marine Division earning awards like the Navy Cross, and attaining the rank of Master Gunner Sergeant.

During the Vietnam War, Mr. Riensch and his crew were assigned to recover a disabled tank. During this mission, their vehicle detonated a mine. While repairing their vehicle, the Marines came under heavy fire. In an instant, two of Staff Sergeant Riensch's crew were killed and two others were wounded leaving him alone to defend his injured crew and damaged vehicle. With the help of a few grenades and unmatched bravery, Mr. Riensch was able to fight off the Northern Vietnamese soldiers by himself until backup arrived. His quick action and heroism saved the lives of his two fellow Marines.

After completing his military service, Mr. Riensch served as a member of the Stillwater County Weed control Board and President of the local community landowner's association. His friends and neighbors say Mr. Riensch never hesitates to help when asked upon.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Harold Riensch Senior for his dedication and service.

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IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF STEVE F. DEMPSEY

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sheriff Steve Dempsey

from King George. Steve's service to his community goes without question, and I believe he is worthy of recognition.

Sheriff Dempsey's extensive training included both the Metropolitan Police Academy in Washington, D.C. where he was K-9 certified and the FBI Academy where he was able to learn countless hours of information on how to handle increasingly difficult situations ranging from terrorism to financial crime.

Sheriff Dempsey, along with his wife Charlene and their family, comes from a long line of public servants—as is evident in Sheriff Dempsey's commitment to his community. Steve was in the Virginia National Guard and served until 1978. He has been with the King George County Sheriff's Department for 39 years, serving as both an officer and a mentor. He was the first K-9 officer in the county and served as a patrol deputy for 7 years. And, on top of all this, he has taught for almost 20 years at the regional academy; passing on vital experience and lessons to members of law enforcement who benefit from his teachings.

Not stopping there, he served as the Special Olympics Chair for the Commonwealth from 2017 to 2018 and is currently serving as President of the Virginia Sheriff's Association. I am filled with pride to know all the good that this man has done for his community and our district.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments, hard work, and dedication of Sheriff Dempsey. Words alone cannot express our pride, and I am proud to represent him. May God bless him and his family.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF RUTH HYMAN

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Ruth Hyman as she celebrates her 100th birthday this year. It is my honor to join with her family and friends in marking this incredible milestone and wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

A lifelong resident of Long Branch, New Jersey, Ms. Hyman was the youngest of eight children. Her parents, Ida and David Hyman, were founding members of Congregation Brothers of Israel and instilled in their children the importance of hard work and community service. Throughout her life, Ms. Hyman has striven to be an active and charitable member of her community, supporting Congregation Brothers of Israel, the Visiting Nurse Association Health Group, and Jewish and Family Children's Services, among many others. In addition, Ms. Hyman established and operated a long-running women's apparel business and worked as an editor of technical manuals for the federal government. Her involvement with numerous local charities and organizations reflect her passion to help others and improve our communities and her success and accomplishments serve as an example of what hard work can attain.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in honoring Ms. Ruth Hyman as she celebrates her 100th birthday. Her generous spirit and impact on the commu-

nity continue to be felt throughout Monmouth County and New Jersey.

#### RECOGNIZING JAMES WATKINS FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize James Watkins of Dillon for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to his country and his community.

Mr. Watkins served in both the United States Air Force and Montana Army National Guard, serving a combined 22 years. Mr. Watkins received multiple commendations during his service, including the Army Commendation Medal.

Mr. Watkins has been a member of the American Legion Post 20 since 1968 and served in various capacities. Every year, he coordinated the placement of American Flags on the graves of veterans on Memorial Day. Part of this project was his work locating and arranging the headstones for all veterans in Dillon Mountain View Cemetery. In addition, Mr. Watkins makes, maintains, and places the white crosses for the Montana American Legion White Cross Highway Fatality Marker Program in Beaverhead County.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending James Watkins of Dillon for his dedication and service to his country and community.

#### NEW HOME, NEW BYLAWS, SAME MISSION: WPAOG HISTORY PART IV (1996-2019) SECTION B

### HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 18, 2019

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD Section B of the fourth and final installment of an article by Keith J. Hamel honoring the 150th Anniversary of the West Point Association of Graduates:

#### 2009-15: THE FOR US ALL CAMPAIGN BREAKS RECORDS

"In the summer of 2008, the Association and the Academy began to consider a new comprehensive campaign for West Point. The campaign, called For Us All: The Campaign for West Point, officially launched in January 2009. By the time the campaign ended on December 31, 2015, more than \$420 million had been either pledged or received, well exceeding the original \$350 million campaign goal.

During the For Us All Campaign, WPAOG continued to achieve new levels of support for the Academy and the Long Gray Line. The average of total annual donations to West Point/WPAOG rose to \$40.7 million per year, more than 40 percent higher than the average annual donations during the Bicentennial Campaign. More impressively, 58 percent of living alumni made one or more donations. Approximately 50,000 graduates, families, and friends of West Point partici-

pated in the For Us All Campaign. The priorities for the For Us All Campaign were divided into five areas. With a goal of \$200 million, the largest category was designated as "For the Cadets" and sought gifts to fund scholarships (from research through Academic Individual Advanced Development or AIAD opportunities), endowments (in support of academic departments, cadet clubs and teams), and Academy Centers (e.g., the Combating Terrorism Center and the Center for Oral History).

Individuals and classes also committed gifts to numerous brick and mortar projects, including the Frederic V. Malek West Point Visitors Center, the Foley Enners Nathe Lacrosse Center, the West Point Cemetery Columbarium, and more. But, as George Gilmore '71, one of the members of the For Us All Campaign Cabinet said in 2013, "We will see the effects of this campaign not in new buildings or new playing fields but rather in how well prepared our junior officers arrive in the Army." Indeed, in a world of increasing threats to the nation's security, economic stability, and fundamental values, producing leaders of character became more important than ever, and the For Us All Campaign, above all, was focused on ensuring that the Academy had the resources available to fully prepare the next generation of leaders for the Army and the nation.

Since the For Us All Campaign concluded in 2015, WPAOG has continued to build on gains achieved, increasing donations to an average of \$49 million annually and raising graduate participation to all-time highs, driven by innovative initiatives such as the All-Academy Challenge. During this period, WPAOG has also won the highest awards of recognition for management practices and transparency from Charity Navigator (four stars) and GuideStar (Platinum Seal of Transparency), and the Development team has earned "Overall Performance" and "Sustained Excellence" (a five-year award won by only 16 colleges) in fundraising awards from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE), a 3,700-member global professional association focused on advancing education.

#### FURTHER EXPANDING WPAOG SERVICES

WPAOG continued to expand its Alumni Support activities and services into the new millennium as well. Today, WPAOG provides services to 82 classes, 141 West Point societies worldwide, and to more than 53,000 individual graduates. Since launching in 2011, WPAOG's comprehensive reunion services have also proved popular with graduates: in 2019, WPAOG hosted 29 class reunions for more than 14,700 returning graduates and their guests. The WPAOG Gift Shop has steadily expanded its unique product line and services to reunion classes, graduates, cadets and their families, exceeding \$1 million in annual sales for the first time in 2005, and recently achieving \$2 million in sales. Profits from the Gift Shop support our alumni services.

In September 2006, AOG premiered a new award initiative to engage cadets with the presentation of the inaugural Nininger Award for Valor at Arms to Major Ryan L. Worthan '97. Conceived by E. Doug Kenna '45 and funded in perpetuity by Kenna and his wife Jean, the award is named after First Lieutenant Alexander "Sandy" Nininger '41, who was killed in action in the Philippines during World War II and posthumously received the Medal of Honor (the first American army soldier to be so honored in the war). It is given to a recent graduate who has displayed heroic action in battle. Like AOG's Distinguished Graduate Award, the Nininger is an award for which the recipient is meant to be representative of a larger body; in this

case, of “all West Point-commissioned officers who have heroically led Soldiers in combat.” However, unlike the DGA, which has been historically presented to senior members of the Long Gray Line, the recipient of the Nininger Award must be “a decorated and relatively recent graduate on Active Duty,” according to the award’s criteria. “Age is what makes the Nininger Award special,” said Captain Anthony Fuscellaro ’05, the 2013 recipient. “Cadets have an easier time connecting with the Nininger Award winners because they could be in their boots soon and see a lot of the same things they have seen.”

There have been four board chairmen, Ted Stroup ’62, Jodie Glore ’69, Larry Jordan ’68 and the current chair, Joe DeFrancisco ’65, since the new governance model was adopted in 2006. These dedicated alumni servants, along with the WPAOG Board, have provided WPAOG with strong leadership and oversight that has allowed for a consistent upward trajectory in its service to both West Point and the Long Gray Line. Other major initiatives introduced by WPAOG in the last decade include the Dettre Memorial Assistance Program, started in 2008 upon a donation from Mrs. Betty Dettre in honor of her late husband, Major General Rexford H. Dettre ’43JAN, which supports graduate burials at West Point cemetery; comprehensive reunion support services as previously mentioned, which debuted in 2011; and the Rockbound Highland Home Program, which launched in 2017 and offers personal benefits through its “Grad Pass,” “Grad Perks,” and “Grad Insider Tour” options so that each graduate who returns to West Point feels warmly welcomed back. A year later, the Rockbound Highland Home Program won two CASE “Gold” Awards in the categories of “Alumni Relations” and “Alumni Relations Events and Affinity Programs.”

Just recently, WPAOG has unveiled a new, enhanced Career Services Program, which is designed to equip all West Point graduates with the confidence to successfully navigate each phase of their post-military career transition; Grad Link, a mobile app which expands upon the popular “Find a Grad” feature on WPAOG’s website to offer the easiest and most powerful way to network with fellow grads; and Sallyport, a secure online portal that provides West Point Societies with three primary services; membership management, communications, and event management.

#### PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

Over the course of its 150-year existence, the Association of Graduates of the United States Military Academy has evolved into a truly one of a kind organization, one that is simultaneously an independent alumni association serving graduates with services and programs, and also a foundation that solicits and manages funds on behalf of the institution it supports. At many universities, alumni support is a subset of a that school’s development operation and staffed by employees of the school. A few are independent organizations with their own board of directors, but they neither solicit nor manage money for their alma mater.

The delicate balance between the foundation side of AOG and its alumni support operations had been an issue of great concern for Robert Lamb ’46, Secretary-Treasurer for AOG (1970-72) and then its first Executive Vice President (1972-90) in his 1990 essay “Two Decades of Change,” but after reviewing the last two-plus decades of AOG history it is clear that the fundraising-fraternal fellowship duality of WPAOG’s evolved nature has proved symbiotic: the more that bonds between members of the Long Gray Line are strengthened by WPAOG, the more grad-

uates support their alma mater; and the more generously graduates give of their time, talent, and treasure, the more services WPAOG is able to offer to help make the Long Gray Line the most highly connected alumni body in the world.

With its new expansion of Alumni Support and communications to keep graduates connected and engaged, today’s WPAOG stands poised to lead support for both graduates and West Point well into the 21st century. Or, going back to Anderson’s original principles when he proposed the idea of an Association of Graduates in 1869 in his letter to Thayer: “to perfect and perpetuate this truly national institution” and “for the promotion of social and fraternal intercourse,” later resolved in the Association’s preliminary meeting in which he participated.”

#### RECOGNIZING GEORGE WRIGHT FOR THE 2019 MONTANA CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

#### HON. GREG GIANFORTE

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 18, 2019*

Mr. GIANFORTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize George Wright of Laurel for the Montana Congressional Veteran Commendation for his service to our country and dedication to his community.

Mr. Wright served in the U.S. Army during World War II, operating construction equipment in order to create infrastructure for fellow troops. Mr. Wright received multiple commendations for his service, including the Bronze Star and Good Conduct Medal.

Following his service, Mr. Wright came home to serve his community. Mr. Wright owned equipment that made it possible for him to help fix what was needed, from cars to roads and much more. He was a fixture on ranches when roads washed out or cattle needed rescuing during floods.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending George Wright for his dedication and service.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 20

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support  
To hold hearings to examine the Department of Defense audit.

SR-222

9:35 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works  
Business meeting to consider the nomination of Sean O’Donnell, of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 2877, to reauthorize the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002; to be immediately followed by hearings to examine the nominations of Mitchell A. Silk, of New York, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, Brian D. Montgomery, of Texas, to be Deputy Secretary, and David Carey Woll, Jr., of Connecticut, and John Bobbitt, of Texas, both to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, and Peter J. Coniglio, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Export-Import.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine highly automated vehicles, focusing on Federal perspectives on the deployment of safety technology.

SH-216

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Stephen Hahn, of Texas, to be Commissioner of Food and Drugs, Department of Health and Human Services.

SD-430

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Russian influence in Belarus.

RHOB-2200

10:15 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Stephen E. Biegun, of Michigan, to be Deputy Secretary of State.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Committee on Finance

Subcommittee on Health Care

To hold hearings to examine Alzheimer’s awareness, focusing on barriers to diagnosis, treatment, and care coordination.

SD-215

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Roxanne Cabral, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, Carmen G. Cantor, of Puerto Rico, to be Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, Kelley Eckels Currie, of Georgia, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Women’s Issues, Kelly C. Degnan, of California, to be Ambassador to Georgia, Michael George DeSombre, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, David T. Fischer, of Michigan, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Morocco, Robert S. Gilchrist, of

- Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Lithuania, Peter M. Haymond, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Sung Y. Kim, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Indonesia, Yuri Kim, of Guam, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Albania, Alina L. Romanowski, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to the State of Kuwait, John Joseph Sullivan, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Russian Federation, Morse H. Tan, of Illinois, to be Ambassador at Large for Global Criminal Justice, and Leslie Meredith Tsou, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, all of the Department of State, Andeliz N. Castillo, of New York, to be United States Alternate Executive Director of the Inter-American Development Bank, Alma L. Golden, of Texas, to be an Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, and a routine list in the Foreign Service. S-116
- 2:15 p.m.  
Joint Economic Committee  
To hold hearings to examine connecting more people to work. SD-106
- 2:30 p.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Cybersecurity  
To hold closed hearings to examine implementation of the 2018 Department of Defense Cyber Strategy. SVC-217
- Committee on Foreign Relations  
Subcommittee on Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy  
To hold hearings to examine challenges and opportunities for advancing United States interests in the United Nations system. SD-419
- Committee on Indian Affairs  
Business meeting to consider S. 227, to direct the Attorney General to review, revise, and develop law enforcement and justice protocols appropriate to address missing and murdered Indians, and S. 982, to increase intergovernmental coordination to identify and combat violent crime within Indian lands and of Indians; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine honoring a nation's promise to Native veterans, including S. 1001, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to allow the Indian Health Service to cover the cost of a copayment of an Indian or Alaska Native veteran receiving medical care or services from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and S. 2365, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to authorize urban Indian organizations to enter into arrangements for the sharing of medical services and facilities. SD-628
- 3 p.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities  
To hold hearings to examine biological threats to United States national security. SR-222
- NOVEMBER 21
- 10 a.m.  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings to examine Federal payments to local governments provided through the Secure Rural Schools and Payments in Lieu of Taxes programs, including S. 430, to extend the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, S. 1643, to amend title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal charter to the Forest and Refuge County Foundation, to provide for the establishment of the Natural Resources Permanent Fund, and S. 2108, to amend section 6903 of title 31, United States Code, to provide for additional population tiers. SD-366
- Committee on the Judiciary  
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Patrick J. Bumatay, of California, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Lawrence VanDyke, of Nevada, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Philip M. Halpern, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Bernard Maurice Jones II, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Oklahoma, and Barbara Bailey Jongbloed, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut. SD-226
- 11 a.m.  
Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government  
To hold an oversight hearing examine the Federal Communications Commission, focusing on the spectrum auctions program. SD-138
- 2 p.m.  
Select Committee on Intelligence  
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219
- DECEMBER 3
- 9:30 a.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine testimony from the Government Accountability Office on privatized housing findings to include responses from the military services on ongoing reports of substandard housing conditions and services. SD-G50
- 9:45 a.m.  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine the future of United States policy towards Russia. SD-419
- DECEMBER 4
- 10 a.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on SeaPower  
To hold a joint hearing with the Subcommittee on Readiness and Management to examine United States Navy ship and submarine maintenance. SD-106
- 2:30 p.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Personnel  
To hold hearings to examine testimony about servicemember, family, and veteran suicides and prevention strategies. SR-222
- DECEMBER 11
- 10 a.m.  
Committee on the Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine the Inspector General's report on alleged abuses of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act. SD-226
- POSTPONEMENTS
- NOVEMBER 20
- 9:30 a.m.  
Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on SeaPower  
To receive a closed briefing on Navy aircraft carrier survivability. SVC-217