

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING 100 YEARS OF THE  
BOLL WEEVIL MONUMENT IN EN-  
TERPRISE, ALABAMA

**HON. MARTHA ROBY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mrs. ROBY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Boll Weevil Monument in the City of Enterprise, Alabama.

In 1882, John Henry Carmichael founded the city of Enterprise. Early on, Enterprise thrived primarily due to agriculture, specifically the cotton crop. Cotton was the catalyst that spurred the development of water and electric systems, the growth of the schools, and the opening of new businesses in the community. Enterprise, Alabama like many other towns and cities emerging in the southern United States, were economically dependent on the prosperity of the cotton crop.

The Boll Weevil, a small insect native to Mexico, made its way to the southern United States in the early 1900s, devastating cotton buds and destroying the viability of the crop along the way. Enterprise was not spared, as the Boll Weevil ravished Coffee County's cotton production and the city's agricultural foundation. The farmers and families of Enterprise suffered greatly from this economic blow, but they remained determined and solution-oriented.

In pursuit of relief from the economic hardship for the citizens of Enterprise, banker H.M. Sessions, county Agent John Pittman, and scientist Dr. George Washington Carver encouraged agricultural diversification. With favorable soil and weather conditions, relief came in the form of peanut seeds, which were brought to Enterprise in 1916 and grown by local farmer, C.W. Baston. In just one year, the peanut industry exploded in Enterprise, yielding over five million dollars and making the city a top peanut producer nationwide.

The Boll Weevil Monument that many in the community pass by every day was erected to recognize the role of the Boll Weevil in transforming Enterprise and compelling its citizens to "triumph over adversity." This central monument symbolizes the adaptability, resiliency, and determination that embody the character of Enterprise and its citizens, past and present.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to join my constituents and the residents of Enterprise to honor the centennial of the Boll Weevil Monument on Main Street. This monument stands as a reminder to us all of what can be accomplished in the face of adversity. I am proud and forever grateful to represent this city and the people of the Second Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING SUPERVISOR  
LAURENCE CRABTREE

**HON. TOM McCLINTOCK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Supervisor Laurence Crabtree, who is retiring after 50 years of service as an indispensable steward of our forests.

Laurence's passion for forest service began in his teenage years, when he worked as a smokechaser in a youth employment program at Clearwater National Forest in 1969. After working in a variety of seasonal positions as a firefighter, timber cruiser, and forester, Laurence spent twenty years as a District Timber Management Officer and District Resource Officer on Lassen National Forest.

After serving as a District Ranger at Humboldt-Toiyabe and Modoc National Forests, followed by two years at Plumas National Forest, Laurence took his skills to my congressional district, serving as Forest Supervisor of the Eldorado National Forest for more than six years. Indeed, Laurence has spent his life as an ardent servant of our forests and the millions of Americans who visit them each year.

Laurence was an explorer of our lands just as he was a protector, and his list of accomplishments speaks volume to his work. He discovered a rare moth in the Sierras that had not been seen for 140 years, then discovered a new moth in Nevada, aptly named *Pelochrista crabtreei*. He was awarded a Proclamation of Commendation from the Lassen County Board of Supervisors for his community involvement as the Big Valley District Ranger, as well as a Quality Step Increase for "furthering the trust and collaborative relationships with Central Nevada Counties and Tribes." One of his proudest accomplishments was dedicating the Olympic Training Center at Echo Summit in El Dorado County as a California Historical Landmark to honor the special site used for training by America's top athletes.

As wildfires ravaged nearly every corner of California, Laurence was at the forefront of making our forests environmentally sound and recreationally accommodating. Following the 2014 King Fire, Laurence's role as an Agency Administrator contributed immensely to the King Fire Restoration Project, which quickly began a complete reforestation process. His work over the past six years in particular has led Eldorado National Forest to become a regional leader in timber production and hazardous fuel treatment. He has received multiple certificates of merit for excellence in leadership and management, highlighting his devotion to protecting the communities and unique wildlife that make our western forests so special.

Laurence's passion for serving his community extends beyond the forests. In both California and Nevada, Laurence served on school boards and chambers of commerce.

Now, Laurence and his wife Denice will be returning to Big Valley, where he will undoubtedly continue his active involvement with his community while also spending more time with his family.

Gifford Pinchot was explicit in his first maxim for foresters, "A public official is there to serve the public and not run them." Laurence Crabtree has done just that for 50 years, and I thank him for decades of devotion to safeguarding our national forests for the use and enjoyment of the American people.

HONORING MR. GREGORY RICH

**HON. JIMMY GOMEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gregory Rich, who after a 40-year career is retiring from the global healthcare company, Grifols. As a long-standing company executive, Greg has dedicated his professional life to serving patients through an unwavering commitment to excellence, integrity, and innovation.

My congressional district in Los Angeles is home to one of Grifols' three plasma-therapeutics manufacturing facilities and U.S. corporate offices. This is where Greg has spent the majority of his career. Greg's tenure in Los Angeles was marked by major investments in Grifols' facilities, the local community and most importantly, the people of El Sereno and surrounding neighborhoods.

A native of southern California, Greg graduated from California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting and data processing. Greg began his career as an auditor with Touche, Ross & Company, and later joined Alpha Therapeutic Corporation as director of corporate planning. Greg then relocated to Barcelona, Spain, to facilitate the company's joint venture with Laboratory Grifols, serving as the assistant director of finance. Greg was promoted to the position of Co-President of Laboratory Grifols, and remained in this position until returning to Alpha Therapeutic Corporation as vice president and general manager of international operations. He later became senior vice president and general manager for the parent company of Alpha Therapeutic Corporation.

In 2001, Greg became president and chief executive officer of Grifols USA, and currently serves as President and CEO of Grifols Shared Services North America, Inc. Throughout his tenure with Grifols and its predecessor companies, Greg has exemplified a culture of service to his colleagues in the U.S., Spain, and around the world. His collegiality and dedication to the values and mission of the company will be missed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Greg and his wife Deborah on a remarkable career. We wish them every success in the future.

● 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.

HONORING VIDAL DÁVILA

**HON. DUSTY JOHNSON**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Vidal Dávila for his retirement from the National Park Service after almost forty-five years of service.

Mr. Dávila has been a passionate servant for our nation's national parks his entire life. He grew up regularly visiting national parks, cultivating a passion for protecting and preserving public lands from a young age.

Mr. Dávila has served in an impressive number of public lands across the United States, including Texas' Amistad Recreation Area, Texas' Big Bend National Park, and Texas' Guadalupe Mountains National Park. He also served in the Southwest Regional Office in New Mexico, the Great Basin National Park in Nevada, and, of course, South Dakota's Wind Cave National Park.

Wind Cave has greatly benefited from Mr. Dávila's leadership over the past twelve years. Mr. Dávila became Wind Cave's superintendent in 2007 and was awarded Superintendent of the Year for Natural Resources by the Midwest Regional Director for his hard work and dedication to the park. He also has served as a member of the NPS Midwest Regional Office Bison Leadership Team since 2013 where he helped facilitate coordination between bison parks and National Park Service leadership.

I commend Mr. Dávila for his outstanding record of service, dedication, and hard work. I extend my deepest congratulations to Vidal Dávila for his contributions to South Dakota and our nation's parks.

RECOGNIZING THE IOTA CHAPTER OF PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY INCORPORATED ON THEIR 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Iota Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated. The Iota Chapter was chartered on December 11, 1919, on the historic campus of Shaw University, making it the first Greek-lettered organization at Shaw, the ninth chapter in the history of Phi Beta Sigma, and the second chapter in North Carolina.

The Iota Chapter was founded by Jesse W. Lewis, who eventually became the fraternity's seventh International President. Mr. Lewis wanted to organize a Greek-lettered fraternity on Shaw's campus that exemplified the ideals of brotherhood, scholarship, and service and Phi Beta Sigma was a perfect fit. Sigma brothers to this day, hold deep convictions to use Phi Beta Sigma's ideals to better their communities.

The Iota Chapter has produced many prominent alumni who have contributed enormously in the fields of medicine, speech pathology, education, and dentistry, including my father,

Dr. G. K. Butterfield, Sr. who entered Shaw in September 1919 after fighting in World War One. On his 22nd birthday, February 9, 1922, he was initiated into the Iota Chapter. My father graduated from Shaw in 1922 and graduated from Meharry Medical College as a dentist in 1927. He returned to North Carolina, married my mother whom he met at Shaw, and moved to Wilson, North Carolina where he remained until he passed away at the age of 95. During his lifetime, my father was active in Phi Beta Sigma and became a well-respected civil rights leader in our hometown, and was even elected to the Wilson City Council in 1953 during the dark days of segregation.

Shaw University was the first historically Black institution of higher education in North Carolina and is among the oldest historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) in the nation. In many ways, Shaw, with the help of the Iota Chapter, has been an institutional pioneer for civil rights. During the 1960's, Shaw and members of the Iota Chapter were leaders of numerous marches and demonstrations that took place on the streets of Raleigh and across North Carolina in the fight for civil rights and the end of segregation.

Phi Beta Sigma has blossomed into an international organization of leaders. No longer a singular entity, members of the Fraternity have been instrumental in the establishment of the Phi Beta Sigma National Foundation, the Phi Beta Sigma Federal Credit Union, and the Fraternity's sister organization, the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, which was founded in 1920.

Madam Speaker, to this day, the Iota Chapter continues to be a vital chapter of Phi Beta Sigma and a leading role model for community service in North Carolina. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Iota Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma on its centennial.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on December 9, 2019 during roll call no. 655, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 4761, DHS Opioid Detection Resilience Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 656, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 4739, Synthetic Opioid Exposure Prevention and Training Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HAPPY 10TH BIRTHDAY TO THE SUGAR LAND LOCATION OF THE HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land as they celebrate their tenth birthday.

Inspiring and encouraging minds both young and old to learn about how our world works helps make us a smarter, more educated society. The Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land does just that—sparking inspiration within the minds of the visitors that walk through its halls and exhibits.

This year marks this institution's tenth birthday—a milestone achievement for a museum. From their Space Science collection and the Hall of Paleontology to the newly-added Hall of Technology, the Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land has facilitated the education and growth of countless people in TX—22.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land on their tenth birthday. Here's to many years ahead inspiring people of all ages to learn more about our world.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER RAGSDALE

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize those men and women who continue to serve this great Nation with honor—men such as Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Christopher Ragsdale, United States Navy.

For the past year, LCDR Ragsdale served on my staff as a Congressional Defense Fellow. A 2007 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, LCDR Ragsdale is a proud Surface Warfare Officer who served in MCM Crew *BULWARK* and onboard USS *COMSTOCK* (LSD-45) and USS *BENFOLD* (DDG-65). During his assignment in my office, LCDR Ragsdale provided senior-level input for defense, veterans, foreign affairs and intelligence matters. Additionally, he executed his work as a liaison to the constituents of Virginia's First Congressional District with distinction.

Furthermore, LCDR Ragsdale provided exceptional support to me as a staff liaison to the House Armed Services Committee in my role as the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee Ranking Member. LCDR Ragsdale dutifully provided me with guidance on what the Navy's path forward should be in critical areas such as training, readiness, and manning. His recent experience in the surface community was invaluable to my work in Congress.

As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Shipbuilding Caucus and the Co-Chair of the Navy-Marine Corps Caucus, I relied on LCDR Ragsdale to organize quarterly events with government, military, and private sector leaders. These events allowed key decisionmakers to work together for the advancement of our future Naval Officers as well as the construction and repair of the ships on which they will serve.

LCDR Ragsdale also directly contributed to my goal of providing excellent constituent service to the people of the First District. He was responsible for bringing numerous constituent inquiries to a successful conclusion, and he leveraged his personal and operational

experience in the Navy to respond to the most challenging inquiries. In addition to his efforts locally, LCDR Ragsdale took on projects with regional, state, and national implications, demonstrating his ability to view a challenge from many angles and develop innovative solutions.

LCDR Ragsdale's work ethic, duty to mission, and commitment to servant leadership is without equal. I believe that his personal drive to achieve excellence in his work has and will set a very high standard for his peers. I would also like to thank LCDR Ragsdale for the service and sacrifice he has made, and continues to make, both for our Nation and our great Navy. His impeccable integrity, boundless work ethic, and loyal devotion to duty earned him the respect and admiration of my staff and the First District of Virginia. I have no doubt that LCDR Ragsdale will continue to serve the Navy honorably and with distinction.

I wish Chris and his wife Andrea the best of luck as they continue their journey together as a Navy family. It was an honor and a pleasure having Chris serve on my staff. We all can sleep soundly at night knowing that members of our all-volunteer force like Chris stand ready to defend our country and take the fight to our enemies; far away from their families and the comforts of the United States of America.

I thank LCDR Christopher Ragsdale for doing a fantastic job. Best of luck to him and may God bless him, his family, and all the Sailors he is charged with leading.

#### TELEVISION VIEWER PROTECTION ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 10, 2019*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5035. I thank the leadership of the Energy and Commerce Committee and Communications and Technology Subcommittee for reaching this bipartisan agreement.

This bill includes important consumer protections based on my bill, the TRUE Fees Act, that will provide consumers with an "all-in" price before a consumer signs up for cable or satellite TV. This includes all fees and taxes. The bill also gives consumers 24 hours to cancel without penalty.

The average consumer pays \$450 a year in opaque and confusing company-imposed fees on their cable bill (excluding taxes), according to Consumer Reports. This is a game of bait and switch and this legislation ends it.

As is the nature of a compromise, not all of the protections from my TRUE Fees Act were included, but the legislation takes an important step forward in providing consumers with transparency.

Another provision of H.R. 5035 empowers groups of small cable operators to negotiate better prices for consumers and decreases the likelihood of broadcast blackouts. This is something Mr. SCALISE and I championed in our bipartisan Modern Television Act. It is important because large broadcaster networks take advantage of small cable operators during negotiations, leading to increased costs for consumers. Worse, stalemates in negotiations cause broadcast blackouts.

While I'm pleased we're taking this important step, I also hope our Committee will revisit the issue of broader reforms to the video marketplace soon. Specifically, we need to protect consumers from other harmful practices, such as broadcast blackouts, and modernize outdated laws and regulations that hurt consumers in their wallets. Mr. SCALISE and I propose such reforms in our bill H.R. 3994, the Modern Television Act.

So far this year, broadcasters have caused nearly 300 blackouts, which is a record and more than double the number from five years prior. Furthermore, cable and satellite companies paid over \$11 billion in retransmission consent fees so far this year, which is also double from five years prior. Consumers are paying more than ever while blackouts are more frequent than ever. We must revisit these issues and protect consumers from blackouts and rising costs.

I support this legislation and urge my colleagues to do the same.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on Monday, December 9, 2019 due to weather delays in Wisconsin. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 4739 and H.R. 4761.

IN HONOR OF FLOYD BURTON'S  
100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Floyd Burton and wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

The advent of World War II was a time that not only shaped the course of our country but the lives of many Americans, including Mr. Burton. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, he was one of the many patriots who felt compelled to serve our great nation and joined the Army in 1942.

During his military career, he served as a technician corporal and assisted various campaigns throughout Germany, France, and the United Kingdom. Mr. Burton showed endless bravery and courage in his pursuit of peace across the globe.

After completing active duty, Mr. Burton returned home to North Carolina where he and his wife Dorothy raised two daughters, Delores and Barbara. He then opened a successful business in Spencer where he provided our community with retail furniture for over 38 years.

Mr. Burton remained an active community leader and has been involved in the Freemasons of North Carolina, Rowan Shrine Club, and served as Master of the Salisbury Masonic Lodge. Passionate about educating our youth, he helped establish scholarship programs with the Masonic Home for Children

at Oxford, Baptist Children's Home of North Carolina, and Catawba College.

Mr. Burton was born on December 28, 1919 and represents the best our nation has to offer. I am proud to join our community today in honoring all that he has accomplished over the last 100 years.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in thanking Mr. Floyd Burton for his service and wishing him a happy 100th birthday.

HONORING RANDY VEACH'S SERVICE TO THE ARKANSAS FARM BUREAU

**HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Randy Veach's decades of service with the Arkansas Farm Bureau.

Mr. Veach spent 20 years working for the grassroots agricultural organization, 11 of those years as a state president. He and his wife, Thelma, are a tremendous resource to our state through their advocacy and commitment to Arkansas farmers and ranchers.

Mr. Veach has always embodied the mission of the Farm Bureau by educating the public on the value of the agricultural industry in the state. I appreciate his dedication to his family, to Arkansas agriculture, and to the people we serve and love.

I personally worked with Mr. Veach over the years and saw his lifelong commitment to service firsthand. He is a powerful reminder of the impact one can have on our communities. I'm honored to recognize him for the years he has given to the state of Arkansas, and wish him all the best in retirement.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FORT BEND FOCUS MAGAZINE FOR 15 SUCCESSFUL YEARS

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fort Bend Focus Magazine on fifteen years covering the news, events and developments in the Fort Bend County region.

Since 2004, Fort Bend Focus Magazine has had its finger on the pulse of Fort Bend County under the stellar leadership of Publisher Patti A. Parish-Kaminski.

From doctors to diplomats, teachers to students, bartenders to professional baseball players—countless readers from all walks of life have enjoyed their articles covering galas, historic attractions, politics, concerts, parties and the people of Fort Bend County.

Fort Bend Focus has built a long-lasting legacy regularly reporting on the many things that make TX-22 special.

My wife, Nancy, has even written for Fort Bend Focus from time to time.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the Fort Bend Focus for keeping us informed on what's happening in our community. Here's to celebrating fifteen years of extraordinary coverage and to many more years of continued excellence.

IN HONOR OF CHARLES B. RYAN  
III

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Charles B. Ryan III, a small business owner who died on November 27, 2019 at the age of 90. Mr. Ryan made the Roanoke Valley a better place to live thanks to his contributions.

Mr. Ryan was born on August 14, 1929. After graduating from Dartmouth University in 1951, he married his beloved wife, Ms. Susan Thomas. Mr. Ryan started his career working for Firestone Tire and Rubber, before moving to Mohawk Tire and Rubber in Arkansas. The experience Mr. Ryan obtained from his first two jobs prepared him for the creation of a new tire plant. In 1968, Mr. Ryan selected Salem, Virginia as the site of the new plant. He oversaw the construction of the new plant and served as the General Manager. After working there for a few years, Mr. Ryan became a manufacturing consultant. The Mohawk tire facility is now owned by the Yokohama Tire Corporation and remains a significant employer in the Roanoke Valley.

Mr. Ryan was a skilled athlete and sports was one of his biggest hobbies. He and his wife Sue devoted countless hours to amateur sports to the benefit of others in the community. Their involvement in expanding opportunities for swimming allowed more young people, including myself, to enjoy this activity. Mr. Ryan loved golf so much that he served on the Board of Directors at his local club, Hidden Valley Country Club. He decided to create a business devoted to his hobby by opening a store in Roanoke called The Sports Shop, which provided medals and trophies for many of the area's competitions.

After a few years of consulting and running The Sports Shop, Mr. Ryan moved to Winchester, Virginia where he managed the Stowe-Woodward plant. After receiving a master's degree in accounting from Georgetown University, Mr. Ryan returned to Salem and used his new degree to open an accounting business in Roanoke.

Mr. Ryan is survived by his wife, Sue, his children Deborah Howard, C. William Ryan, Thomas Ryan, and David Ryan, and his five grandsons, Conklin and Adam Howard, Sean Ryan, and Jack and Lukas Ryan. The Roanoke Valley and the Commonwealth of Virginia were fortunate to have this fine community member and small business owner among the citizenry. I offer my condolences to the Ryan family on their loss.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and unable to be present for votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 660; NAY on Roll Call No. 661; NAY on Roll Call No. 662; NAY on

Roll Call No. 663; NAY on Roll Call No. 664; NAY on Roll Call No. 665; YEA on Roll Call No. 666; and NAY on Roll Call No. 667.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2029

**HON. VICKY HARTZLER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, due to official travel on Monday, December 9, 2019, I was unable to sign the conference report for the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020. As a core conferee, had I been present, I would have signed the conference report.

ENGINEERING BIOLOGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Monday, December 9, 2019*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4373, the Engineering Biology Research and Development Act. Engineering biology, or bioengineering, applies principles of engineering to living matter in order to develop new technology for a variety of applications. Breakthroughs in bioengineering have led to technologies that help many patients live fuller lives, including prosthetic limbs, biologics, micro-implants, medical imaging technology, and other medical devices. The applications of bioengineering also extend beyond medicine to fields such as agriculture, environmental science, and robotics, and I'm very proud to represent Silicon Valley where such of this cutting-edge research takes place.

While the United States has been a global leader in bioengineering, we cannot be complacent as other countries, including China, continue to invest heavily in research and development.

H.R. 4373 will help maintain American leadership in this critical field by establishing a federal bioengineering research initiative. It also requires the Office of Science and Technology Policy to coordinate with several agencies including the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and NASA to develop a national bioengineering strategy.

The downside of this legislation is that it does not include any new spending. I look forward to working with my colleagues to ensure we provide these agencies with the funding they need to make this initiative succeed. China now spends 30 times as much on research and development as it did 25 years ago, and while the federal government has also increased its spending on science in real terms over the same timeframe, Congress must make the necessary investments to maintain our country's global leadership in bioengineering and other high tech fields.

I thank Chairwoman JOHNSON for her important work on H.R. 4373, urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and urge them to provide the resources necessary for a robust U.S. bioengineering effort.

12 DAYS OF SALT—DAY 6: NEW JERSEY LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES RESOLUTION

**HON. MIKIE SHERRILL**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Ms. SHERRILL. Madam Speaker, to conclude my earlier remarks on the 12 Days of SALT, I include in the RECORD a resolution from the New Jersey League of Municipalities urging this Congress to remove the federal cap on State and Local Tax deductions.

NEW JERSEY STATE LEAGUE OF MUNICIPALITIES CONFERENCE RESOLUTION No. 2019-14  
RESOLUTION URGING CONGRESS TO RESTORE THE FULL DEDUCTIBILITY OF STATE AND LOCAL TAXES

Whereas, our tax obligation is an issue that concerns all residents in every municipality in the state of New Jersey; and

Whereas, the deduction for state and local taxes (SALT) has been a feature of the tax code for more than 100 years, with the first federal income tax form in 1913 allowing taxpayers to deduct state and local taxes, one of only six deductions allowed at the time, and even the federal Civil War tax in 1862 included a deduction for SALT; and

Whereas, this important provision ensures against double taxation and reflects mandatory tax payments, which support public services that benefit all citizens, such as K-12 schools, law enforcement and public safety, transportation and infrastructure, and vital community and public health services; and

Whereas, the SALT deduction is one of the few provisions in the federal tax code that recognizes the burden placed on states like New Jersey, which provide significantly more in federal tax revenue than they receive back in federal services and grants; and

Whereas, according to the New Jersey Society of Certified Public Accountants, in 2016 1.8 million, or 40 percent of New Jersey taxpayers, deducted from their federal income tax, their local property tax and state income taxes, averaging \$18,000 per deduction; and

Whereas, the federal Tax Cuts and Jobs Acts passed in 2017 capped the SALT deduction at \$10,000; and

Whereas, many New Jersey Families relied upon the federal SALT deduction to ensure tax fairness, and capping the SALT deduction has placed an unfair burden on New Jersey homeowners; and

Whereas, the SALT deduction cap present a barrier to affordable homeownership in New Jersey, impacting the ability of new, young families to prosper in the future. Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the New Jersey State League of Municipalities, in conference assembled, urges Congress to restore the full SALT deduction and provide more equitable taxation once again to residents of New Jersey; and be it further

*Resolved*, that copies of the resolution be transmitted to our representatives in Congress, the President of the United States, all members of the New Jersey State Legislature, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Governor of the State of New Jersey.

Sponsor: The Hon. Amalia Duarte, Committee Member, Mendham Twp.

Co-Sponsor(s): The Hon. Lauren Barnett, Mayor, Mountain Lakes; The Hon. Robert Connelly, Mayor, Madison; The Hon. Cathy Wilson, Deputy Mayor, Morris Twp.; The Hon. Paul Tomasko, Mayor, Alpine; The Hon. Nora Radest, Mayor, Summit; The Hon. Jeff Grayzel, Mayor, Morris Twp.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DAVID ROUZER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. ROUZER. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on rollcall No. 660.

**CONGRATULATING JUDGE GOGLAS ON HIS ELECTION AS THE NEW EASTERN DIRECTOR OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT SAFETY OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (FDSOA)**

**HON. PETER T. KING**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 11, 2019*

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate one of my constituents, Judge Phil Goglas, an ex-captain of the Central Islip Fire Department (CIFD) who was elected as the new Eastern Director of the Fire Department Safety Officers Association (FDSOA).

Judge Goglas is a former New York City Transit Police Officer. He received his bachelor's from St. John's University and his Juris Doctorate from Brooklyn Law School.

Judge Goglas was elected to the Suffolk County District Court in 2010 and the Suffolk County Court in 2014 where he currently presides.

Judge Goglas started his volunteer fire service with the Wyandanch Volunteer Fire Company in 1979 and joined the Central Islip Fire Department in 1993 and served as Captain of Engine and Company 3 from 2000 to 2002.

Judge Goglas has been a member of the FDSOA since 2010 and will be sworn in at the annual general meeting held in conjunction

with the 2020 Health and Safety Conference in Scottsdale, Arizona.

The Fire Department Safety Officers Association (FDSOA) was established in 1989 as a non-profit association, whose mission is to promote safety standards and practices in the fire, rescue and emergency services community. The association is led by a volunteer board of directors. The association is dedicated to the issues that affect the critical role of the safety officer in protecting and promoting the safety and health responsibilities of fire departments, communities and first responders.

I call on my colleagues to join me in congratulating Judge Goglas and continue to support our first responders who put their lives on the line for the community.

**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 Thursday, December 12, 2019 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 17

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Paul J. Ray, of Tennessee, to be Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Lanny Erdos, of Ohio, to be Director of the Office of Surface Mining Reclamation and Enforcement, Department of the Interior.

SD-366

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine tackling the opioid crisis, focusing on a whole-of-government approach.

SD-226

DECEMBER 18

Time to be announced

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Jovita Carranza, of Illinois, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

TBA

10 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Justice Office of the Inspector General Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act report, focusing on methodology, scope, and findings.

SD-342

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219