

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE LATE PETE FRATES

**HON. LORI TRAHAN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2019

Mrs. TRAHAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the late Pete Frates, a global icon and champion for Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) research and awareness.

A lifelong resident of Massachusetts and former Boston College baseball player, Pete Frates passed away on December 9, 2019 after a hard-fought battle with ALS.

Diagnosed with the disease in 2012, Pete spent his numbered days raising funds and awareness for ALS research through his social media phenomenon, the "ALS Ice Bucket Challenge," sparking a global movement that ignited 17 million people into action in order to raise \$115 million for the cause.

Pete lived his life selflessly, leaving behind a strong legacy and lessons we can all learn from—be kind to one another and when faced with adversity, face it bravely and help others like you.

Eight years ago, Pete received a terrible diagnosis and a hopeless prognosis. Instead of falling into a cycle of self-pity and remorse, Pete saw this as an opportunity to help others suffering with ALS. At the time, Pete looked at the one life he had and saw its incredible worth. He then took this one step further, springing into action to improve the lives of others.

My heart goes out to Pete's mother and father, wife, child, and friends. I know they will carry on his legacy and continue his courageous work to bring the world one step closer to the eradication of ALS.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man whose life is an inspiration to us all. Pete Frates did not die in vain.

HONORING MICHAEL A. HOULEMARD, JR.

**HON. JIMMY PANETTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michael A. Houlemard, Jr. for more than twenty years of leadership as the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) Executive Officer and congratulate him on his retirement.

Mr. Houlemard was born in New Orleans, Louisiana and grew up in Pasadena, California. He studied at University of California, Santa Barbara and graduated with a degree in Political Science before completing a Master of Arts degree in Urban Studies at Occidental College. Following his studies, Mr. Houlemard participated in the prestigious CORO Foundation fellowship program.

Mr. Houlemard's early career included a gubernatorial appointment as a Deputy in the

California Department of Housing and Community Development, time as a Project Manager for the Pasadena Redevelopment Agency, and leadership roles as Executive Director of the Southern California Urban Coalition, Deputy Director of the Pasadena Urban Coalition, and Assistant Dean/Director in the University of California at Santa Barbara Office of Veterans' Affairs.

As Executive Officer of FORA, Mr. Houlemard oversees the broadly representative agency located on the Monterey Bay, which is responsible for former Fort Ord's conversion to civilian reuse program. Mr. Houlemard also oversees a \$100 million munitions and explosives cleanup of 3,400 former Fort Ord acres. In this role, Mr. Houlemard's decisive leadership and expertise resulted in FORA being designated a military base reuse national model by the Department of Defense. Mr. Houlemard's work has also been lauded by the Association of Defense Communities, earning him their Local Reuse Authority Executive of the Year Award, and the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce, earning him their Ruth Vreeland Public Official of the Year Award.

Michael A. Houlemard, Jr. has served the central coast of California with adept leadership and tireless dedication over the past two decades, making FORA a model agency for the potential of a civilian reuse program. I hope that Mr. Houlemard enjoys his well-earned retirement spending time with his beloved wife, Christina Valentino, watching his favorite pastime, baseball, and visiting his cherished hometown of New Orleans. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his years of service and encouraging him to let the good times roll (*laissez les bon temps rouler*).

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ODESSA FOOTBALL TEAM

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the Missouri Class 3 State Championship won by the Odessa High School football team. Such an achievement is the result of strong leadership and continued dedication by both players and coaches alike. It is truly an honor to recognize this exemplary group of athletes from Missouri's Fifth Congressional District.

For the first time in a quarter of a century and only the second time in school history, Odessa High School earned the state championship title in a 49–28 win over Cassville High School at the University of Missouri's Faurot Field on Saturday, December 7, 2019. This victory was the culmination of their unwavering perseverance and excellence on and off the field.

Building upon their undefeated record and averaging 55 points per game, the Bulldogs

entered the championship game eager and focused. The Bulldogs took the lead, 6–0, in the first twelve seconds after Senior Bryley Ray's 93-yard kickoff return. Capitalizing on their early advantage, Odessa covered 80-yards in six plays on its third drive of the game. Not giving into Odessa's pressure, Cassville brought the score at the end of the first quarter to 14–7. In the second quarter, quarterback, Josey Meirerend and Ray led Odessa to a 21–7 lead before Ethan Uhrlaub's 1-yard score made it 28–7. Leaving nothing to chance, junior Brett Duncan's 27-yard post pattern completed a five-play, 52-yard drive, sending the Bulldogs into halftime with a 35–14 advantage. But the Bulldogs never became complacent and continued to push themselves.

Going into the second half of the game, Odessa remained singularly focused on their goal of becoming state champs. Carter Westerhold caught an 18-yard pass for a score to complete their first drive of the half while Luke Malizzi led the way on the second to provide the final margin of victory. In a true display of unity and willpower, the Odessa Bulldogs defeated the Cassville Wildcats 49–28.

This momentous accomplishment was achieved not by individuals, but as a united group of young men with guidance from a devoted group of coaches: Mark Thomas, head coach; Barry Blank, assistant head coach; Jeremy Helton, defensive coordinator; Chuck Clemens, special teams coordinator; Kiefer Kratz, JV head coach; and Miles Hoshard, JV offensive coordinator. The accolades of Odessa's football team and coaching staff are a testament to what they have built through their hard work and collaboration.

It is my honor to congratulate each member of the team that have helped Odessa High School to claim this prestigious title. I encourage each player to continue challenging themselves to always give their best on and off the field.

Madam Speaker, please join with Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in celebrating the Missouri Class 3 State Championship victory of the Odessa Bulldogs, and I encourage all of us to unite together under the same spirit of perseverance, collaboration, and hard work that led this remarkable team to their first state championship win in over twenty-five years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 12, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, yesterday I missed a roll call vote, and I wish to state how I would have voted had I been present: Roll Call No. 671—Yes.

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