

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor from January 6 through January 10, 2020 due to a family matter.

Had I been present, I would have supported the final passage of all bills and resolutions considered on the floor. I strongly supported the passage of H.R. 535, the PFAS Action Act. PFAS pose a critical threat to human health, and I was proud my amendment, which would promote resources for private well water testing and treatment, was included in the bill. Wisconsinites deserve clean drinking water, and I am proud the House of Representatives is taking steps to address PFAS contamination across the country.

I also strongly supported the passage of H. Con. Res. 83. This resolution sends a clear message to this Administration, our men and women in uniform, and all Americans: we will not go into another war without the President making the case to the American people and seeking approval from Congress.

CELEBRATING BETTER MADE'S 90 YEARS OF BUSINESS—THE SNACK OF DETROIT

HON. RASHIDA TLAI

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Ms. TLAI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Better Made, a snack foods manufacturer based in Detroit, Michigan.

Founded in 1930 by Sicilian immigrants Cross Mocerri and Peter Ciripriano, Better Made produces a wide array of snack foods beloved throughout metropolitan Detroit and Michigan. Its founders set out to make a better potato chip, the genesis of the Better Made brand name. The company has grown from its humble beginnings, one of countless small manufacturers of potato chips that sprang up during the Great Depression. Better Made's most popular product is still made from potatoes harvested primarily from Michigan, using upwards of fifty million pounds of potatoes annually.

Better Made, a true American success story, embodies Detroit's spirit of tenacity. As a Detroit native, growing up you did not think about a potato chip without thinking about Better Made chips. That remains true to this day. Better Made is a staple to many in Southeast Michigan and those who are hundreds of miles away. It's surely at the top of the list of items put in care packages sent from the Detroit area.

Please join me in celebrating Better Made's longevity.

KOREAN AMERICAN DAY 2020

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, as the representative of Queens, where so many Korean Americans call home, I wish everyone a Happy Korean American Day. New York State has the second largest number of Korean Americans in the country. Every day in Queens, I see the vibrant influence of Korean Americans in my congressional district.

Over 117 years ago, Koreans arrived on our U.S. shores. Since then, Korean Americans have enriched every facet of American history, culture, and cuisine. Whether in the entertainment industry or academia; whether in medicine or public service—Korean Americans have made and continue to make immeasurable contributions to this nation.

In fact, over 70 years ago, a Korean American became the first Asian American to win an Olympic gold medal, and later became the first American to win back-to-back Olympic gold medals in platform diving. Since the 116th Congress, we have the first Korean American Democratic Member of Congress. We also now have the first Korean American NASA astronaut. And in January 2019, I was proud that Jin Park, the first Dreamer Rhodes Scholar and one of my constituents, joined me as my guest at the State of the Union Address.

Fighting for issues that matter to Korean Americans is a personal one. After all, half of my family are Korean American; my two boys are half-Korean American. Even as we celebrate the admirable history, contributions, and of course the incredible foods of Korean Americans, we cannot ignore the critical issues like human rights, immigration, health care, and education, which impact Korean Americans.

On human rights, I introduced the H.R. 1771, the Divided Families Reunification Act, which would require the U.S. Secretary of State and the U.S. Special Envoy on North Korea Human Rights Issues to prioritize helping Korean American families reunite with family members in North Korea. The Korean War was a heart wrenching event that not only split the peninsula in two, it tore families apart. I am thrilled this bill passed out of the House Foreign Affairs Committee in October 2019, and it is now awaiting consideration before the full House of Representatives.

On immigration, Koreans make up the highest number of Dreamers from non-Latin American countries. I am fighting for a path to citizenship for those individuals, including Korean Dreamers, who have known this country as their only home. In June 2019, I was proud to cosponsor and vote for the House passage of H.R. 6—the American Dream and Promise Act of 2019, which would finally provide a pathway to citizenship for Dreamers like Jin Park.

I am also proud to cosponsor the Adoptee Citizenship Act of 2019, which would close the

loophole in the 2000 Child Citizenship Act. Today, there are 35,000 adult international adoptees who are in the U.S. without citizenship and are at risk of deportation. This includes thousands of Korean adoptees who are undocumented in New York.

On health, while Asian Americans only make up 6 percent of the U.S. population, our community makes up more than 50 percent of hepatitis B virus cases in the nation. This is a tragedy. That is why, as Co-Chair of the Congressional Hepatitis Caucus, I secured almost \$40 million in federal funds for the CDC's Division of Viral Hepatitis to eliminate this deadly disease.

On education, over 40 percent of Asian Americans are in community colleges. That is why I introduced the Community College Student Success Act which would improve graduation rates at under-resourced public community colleges with high percentages of low-income and minority students. And in the most recent federal funding bill that was signed into law, I secured nearly \$4.5 million grant funding for institutions that have a significant number of Asian American students. After all, everyone deserves their best chance at a quality education, no matter their background.

Madam Speaker, on these and so many other important issues, it is important to recognize and continue the fight. I am excited to celebrate Korean American Day with all the Korean Americans in Queens, and across our nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE HEROIC ACTIONS OF ESTANISLADO "TONY" CASTRO III

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tony Castro of Mukwonago, Wisconsin for his heroic actions.

While Tony and his wife were driving in Mukwonago on December 26, 2019, Tony noticed that there was an unattended bicycle on the corner. He then immediately noticed two children screaming for help in the middle of an icy pond.

Tony jumped out of the car and ran to the edge of the water. He began to calm the children down. 911 was called and Tony let the children know that help was on the way. The children were struggling in the icy water and Tony continued to coach them through how to stay above water.

While his wife, Danielle, ran back to their house to grab a rope, Tony stayed with the children. When Danielle returned, she saw that Tony and a Mukwonago police officer had jumped into the pond to rescue the children. Tony was in water up to his neck and was warning the police officer that the bottom of the pond was slick with a steep drop off. Danielle had found an extension cord at their

• 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.

house and threw it to Tony. He tied the cord around the police officer. Tony held the extension cord tightly while the police officer attempted to break through the ice to save the children.

Mukwonago Fire and Rescue arrived while Tony and the police officer were in the icy pond. The Fire and Rescue members began throwing additional rope to Tony, the police officer, and the children. The members of the rescue unit pulled everyone to shore. During this whole situation, Tony was in the icy water for over five minutes trying to reach the children. He showed bravery and risked his life to save the children.

Tony's quick thinking and selflessness led to the two children being saved. He is a hero.

On behalf of Wisconsin's First Congressional District, I thank Tony for his heroic actions. When faced with a decision to risk his life and save these children, Tony did not think twice.

REMEMBERING JEANNE SULLIVAN

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Jeanne Sullivan, who passed away on November 24th after a courageous two-year battle with cancer.

Jeanne was born in China and spent most of her childhood in Brazil and Montreal, Canada, before immigrating to the United States with her parents. She graduated from Boston University with a degree in Comparative Religion and spoke five languages fluently.

In her free time, Jeanne read thousands of books and was an accomplished artist. Her home was filled with art, as well as projects for her church, community, and grandchildren. Loving wife, mother to her three children, Tamara, Pandi and Nick, and dedicated grandmother, she brought a sense of imagination and profound love to everyone she touched.

Jeanne lived her life helping others and caring for the community around her. Even in her final days, she was thinking of others, and told her children that her greatest purpose in life was bringing joy to all people. Jeanne will always be remembered for her knowledge, spirit, and commitment to her community—all of which she passed down to her children.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, due to a family illness, I was not in Washington, D.C. on January 8, 2020, and, as a result, I missed three votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on roll call vote no. 2, ordering the previous question providing on H. Res. 779; "aye" on roll call vote no. 3, on agreeing to H. Res. 779, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 535, the "PFAS Action Act of 2019;" and "aye" on roll call vote no. 4, final passage of H.R. 2281, the "Secure 5G and Beyond Act of 2020."

I had to leave Washington, D.C. on January 9, 2020, and, as a result, I missed one vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on roll call vote no. 8, final passage of H.R. 5078, the "Prison to Proprietorship Act."

I was also not in Washington, D.C. on January 10, 2020, and, as a result, I missed five votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on roll call vote no. 9, agreeing to the Burgess Amendment to H.R. 535; "no" on roll call vote no. 10, agreeing to the Balderson Amendment to H.R. 535; "aye" on roll call vote no. 11, agreeing to the Pappas Amendment to H.R. 535; "no" on roll call vote no. 12, the Motion to Recommit H.R. 535 with instructions; and "yes" on roll call vote no. 13, final passage of H.R. 535, the "PFAS Action Now Act."

THANKING FRAZIER PAYNE FOR SEVENTEEN YEARS OF SERVICE TO ALABAMA'S FIRST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. BRADLEY BYRNE

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. BYRNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to share my deepest appreciation for my Deputy District Director, Frazier Payne, for his 17 years of service to Alabama's First Congressional District. Today marks Frazier's final day serving the people of Southwest Alabama.

After graduating from the University of Alabama, Frazier jumped headfirst into politics working for the successful campaign of my predecessor representing Alabama's First District, Jo Bonner. Frazier faithfully served Congressman Bonner during his entire tenure in office, and I and the people of Southwest Alabama were very fortunate when Frazier agreed to join my staff as well.

As Deputy District Director, Frazier has been invaluable as my representative in communities throughout our district. Few people know Southwest Alabama better than Frazier. He is well-known by constituents, local leaders and elected officials. More importantly, he has their trust. And they know he has mine too.

People are drawn to Frazier not only because of his likability but because he is trustworthy. His reputation for integrity and as someone who can be relied upon has been so valuable to me and my staff. He has always had my full trust, and I have been better able to serve my constituents because of his wise counsel.

Next week Frazier will begin his next chapter as Regional External Affairs Liaison with the Alabama Community College System, covering southwest Alabama and its three community colleges. I am so pleased he will remain in Mobile, and I am confident he will continue as an engaged leader in our community.

I thank his wife Lesley and children Lula and Corrine for allowing their husband and father to serve the people of the First District for 17 years. We've scored so many significant victories for Southwest Alabama during this time, and we are all better for his service.

On behalf of Alabama's First Congressional District, I congratulate Frazier for beginning an exciting new opportunity and thank him for his years of hard work, commitment, and service to Southwest Alabama.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. McHENRY. Madam Speaker, due to an unforeseen scheduling conflict, I was unable to vote on the first two amendments to H.R. 535. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 9, and YEA on Roll Call No. 10.

SERGEANT MAJOR SERGIO MARTINEZRUIZ RETIRES FROM THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. COOK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary service and career of Sergeant Major Sergio MartinezRuiz, who will retire from the Marine Corps on January 10, 2020 after a twenty-seven-year career serving our nation.

Sergeant Major Martinez enlisted in the Marine Corps in January 1993. Upon completion of both Marine Combat Training and Basic Engineer School, he was assigned to the 8th Engineer Support Battalion (ESB) as a combat engineer. During his time with 8th ESB he deployed numerous times in support of Joint Task Force (JTF)-6's counter drug operations. Sergeant Major Martinez has served as a Drill Instructor and Senior Drill Instructor, as well as an Assistant Marine Officer Instructor and Marine Officer Instructor. Over the course of his impressive career, Sergeant Major Martinez has deployed twice to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and once to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and his decorations include a Bronze Star Medal.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives, I offer Sergeant Major Sergio MartinezRuiz my sincere congratulations on his retirement. As a retired Marine myself, I know how difficult this change can be, but I am truly grateful to him for his outstanding service to our nation. Semper Fi.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL JOHN EDWARD GRAY

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 13, 2020

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Retired Colonel John Edward Gray of Mount Ulla, North Carolina, who passed away earlier this month at age 94.

Colonel Gray was born in Cleveland, North Carolina on August 24, 1925 and went on to serve in five campaigns against the Japanese in the Pacific theater in World War II.

Following the war, he returned home and resumed his education at Davidson College. After he graduated in 1949, he served again in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars.