

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF SISTER MARGARET CLAYDON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Sister Margaret Claydon, who served as President of Trinity Washington University (then Trinity College), my alma mater. Sister Margaret was a beloved pillar of the Trinity community, a revolutionary who transformed women's education in America and a role model for thousands of young women and me.

Sister Margaret dedicated her life to Trinity. She enrolled at Trinity as a freshman in the fall of 1941, entered the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur (SNDdeN) in 1946 and taught Latin at several SNDdeN high schools before returning to Trinity in the English Department in 1952. She served as Trinity's president from 1959 to 1975, becoming one of the youngest college presidents in the country, and then served as a professor of English until her retirement in 2004. She continued to live in the SNDdeN community at Trinity until moving to Mount Notre Dame in Cincinnati in 2015.

Sister Margaret Claydon was an exemplar of the ideal Trinity Woman: a leader of penetrating intellect, firm faith and inquiring mind, whose keen sense of purpose and courage to question the status quo was an inspiration to all who walked through our school's halls. For the women in my class and me, Sister Margaret, with her youth, sophistication and success, was a symbol of strength and empowerment, whose leadership was a reminder that women could become not only a Secretary or Treasurer, but a President—or the Speaker of the House.

Sister Margaret's leadership of Trinity was transformational. During an era of great upheaval on campuses and in communities across America, she boldly led Trinity into the future: revitalizing and modernizing the curriculum, leading the conversion of governance to the lay board and securing a Phi Beta Kappa Chapter for Trinity, all while holding firm to Trinity's proud heritage as an all women's Catholic institution. The excellence of her leadership was recognized in her being named to many of the great boards of higher education and her serving as the only woman on a significant delegation of presidents of Catholic colleges to the Vatican in the late 1960s.

Speaking before the National Catholic Educational Association fifty years ago, Sister Margaret declared, "We have to be willing to acquaint our students with controversy and problematic knowledge. The emphasis cannot be only on the assemblage and mastery of facts, but must be on how to make sense of them in relation to the whole human condition . . . For the times in which we live, rigidity or timidity have no place. These times, these problems cry out for courage, for openness."

May Sister Margaret's lifetime of courageous leadership to educate and empower

women to seek the truth and pursue progress for all continue to be a blessing to our community. And may it be a comfort to the Trinity community, the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, her family and all who knew and loved Sister Margaret that so many mourn their loss and pray for them during this sad time.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF LINA FAT

HON. AMI BERA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. BERA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Lina Fat.

Born in Hong Kong, Lina moved to the United States to attend college in Tennessee. She eventually graduated from the University of California, San Francisco School of Pharmacy. She married Ken Fat in 1940 and worked as a pharmacist.

Lina then made a career change and studied at the Culinary Institute of America, Le Cordon Bleu, and the Dickson Culinary School. In 1974, the Fat Family opened China Camp in Old Sacramento, which celebrated the Chinese connection to the Gold Rush. It was Lina's idea to base the menu on grilled meats and she became the chef of China Camp. Eventually, she became the Fat Family Restaurant Group's executive corporate chef and later the vice president of culinary research and development.

In 2000, Lina was named businesswoman of the year by the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. In 2007 she launched the Sacramento World Music and Dance Festival. Lina and her family also were generous supporters of the Asian American community and other civic efforts.

I am pleased that the Sacramento Asian Pacific Chamber of Commerce will honor Lina's legacy by renaming its "Small Business of the Year Award" to the "Fat Family Legacy Award."

Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in remembering Lina's life and her contributions to our community in Sacramento.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MS. TERRY ROWE

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate and offer gratitude to Ms. Terry Rowe who dedicated over 40 years of outstanding service to the House of Representatives. Terry started her career at the House as the Junior Secretary for the Member Services Division of House Information Systems; and her final years of service included her time as

the Director of House Graphics Studio and the Art Director of House Creative Services.

For many years, Terry led House Graphics and served the entire House community by providing excellent consultation and design services. Terry's colleagues at the CAO and the countless Congressional offices she worked with over the course of her four-decade career not only praised her insight and talents, but also commended her for her hard work, dedication, professionalism, and contributions, day-in and day-out, to strengthen and protect the institution of the U.S. House of Representatives.

In the aftermath of September 11, 2001 and the subsequent anthrax attack on Capitol Hill, Terry was a steady voice of institutional knowledge, and a "can do" spirit for an impromptu communications team that supported the CAO operations. She served as the liaison with the Government Printing Office and took care of the preparation and printing of all materials needed to support the House community through this very difficult time. Her ability to create partnerships and solutions enabled others on the team to effectively complete their tasks without un-do stress. All required materials would be ready for the House Executive Committee the following morning.

During her service to the House, she provided the highest quality graphic design and artistic work to Members, Committees, Leadership, and support offices. Her work directly contributed to the House of Representatives carrying out the people's work by enabling Members to use high-quality visual aides to support their communications. Many counted on this service for effective, quality products that help to brand and market their services. Terry never said "no" to a service request and always delivered on time and with her famous smile. For those who have known Terry throughout her career on the Hill, it has been an honor to serve with her.

After 40 years of service, Ms. Rowe will leave the House better than when she joined it, and her helping hand will be missed by many.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF JACK CREIGHTON

HON. DENNY HECK

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. HECK. Madam Speaker, my heart is at half-mast after the passing of a business leader from my home state, Jack Creighton. He was a beloved husband, father, and grandfather. He was also a mentor and a friend.

Jack had an impressive resume. President and CEO of Weyerhaeuser, Interim Chairman and CEO of United Airlines, national president of the Boy Scouts of America, Civilian Aide to the Secretary of the Army—those are just a few of the highlights. If I were to list all his career accomplishments, board memberships,

• 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.

foundation involvements, and community projects, that list would take up more space in the RECORD than I am permitted.

But those who knew Jack—as I was so fortunate to have—understand that there was so much more to him than his resume. Simply reading through his list of accomplishments, impressive as it is, misses the essence of Jack's contributions to our society and the many people whose lives have been enriched and improved because of him. I am one such person.

Several years before I first ran for Congress, I co-founded a company that provides professional learning and training services to Fortune 500 companies. As the company grew, Jack became the chairman of the board. I had ongoing involvement in the management and operations of the business, as I was also a board member. The truth is that I learned much more than I contributed. Sitting next to Jack every meeting was like going to graduate school for business.

But beyond his vast knowledge and business acumen, Jack brought something else to our board meetings, something that has stayed with me ever since, something I hope to emulate: his compassion. Jack cared deeply for the employees of the company and always looked out for their interests. "We have to take care of our people," he frequently said. To Jack, a successful business wasn't measured merely by impressive numbers on a balance sheet; it was about the people. The most effective way to invest in the success of a company was to invest in the success of the people who comprise it.

Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me in honoring the life and contributions of Jack Creighton, and in sending condolences to his wife, Dr. Jan Creighton, and the entire Creighton family. I will remember Jack as a teacher, a mentor, and a friend. Knowing him has made me a better person. While he is no longer with us, his example remains and will continue to inspire those who knew him, because Jack knew that a successful life is not measured merely by impressive lines on a resume. It is about the people. And the most effective way to make the world a better place is to invest in the success of the people who comprise it.

**CALEXICO HIGH SCHOOL NAVY
JUNIOR RESERVES OFFICERS
TRAINING CORPS**

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Navy Junior Reserves Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) program at Calexico High School. This is the only NJROTC program in the Imperial Valley, CA.

Calexico High School established a Navy National Defense Cadet Corp (NNDCC) program in August of 2016. The establishment of a NNDCC program at Calexico High School included coordination with the Naval Service Training Command and the NJROTC Director.

On September 23, 2019, the Secretary of the Navy, approved Calexico High School's request to advance from an NNDCC unit to an NJROTC unit. There were 181 students enrolled as NJROTC cadets at this time.

**HONORING THE SERVICE OF
ROBERT ARMSTRONG**

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of long-time community member Robert (Bob) Armstrong as he celebrates his 90th birthday.

Bob was born in Visalia, California, but the Armstrong family eventually relocated to Northern California where Bob graduated from Richmond High School. Following graduation, Bob entered the U.S. Navy and served as an electronic technician. He married Anna Mae Caliri before attending the University of California, Berkeley, and graduated with a degree in Electrical Engineering and a teaching certificate in 1957.

In 1958, Bob and Anna moved to Concord where they raised their two children, Janet and Jim. That same year, Bob began a career as a high school teacher, and he would go on to teach math, electronics, and driver's education at multiple high schools including Mt. Diablo High School, Pacifica High School, Ygnacio Valley High School, and Concord High School. Not only was Bob dedicated to educating youth in our community, but he was also actively involved in the teachers' union. After 30 years of teaching, Bob retired in order to take care of his aging parents. Retirement also gave Bob time to enjoy his many hobbies, spending many days boating and fishing and even joining a gym at age 86 where he takes cardio dance classes. Bob bowls four times a week and is still picking up new activities to stay busy. His adventurous spirit has led Bob to try many new things in life and he loves sharing his wisdom with others.

Bob has been a member of the community for over 60 years. He is known for always having a smile on his face and spreading joy to everyone who knows him. Please join me in wishing Bob well on his 90th birthday.

**NO PUBLIC CHARGE DEPORTATION
ACT**

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, for over 100 years, public charge has been part of U.S. immigration law as a ground of deportation. It is time we change that part of law, especially with how the current administration is weaponizing this rule to hurt families and limit them from accessing critical safety net programs.

Since the Trump administration published the new public charge rule in 2018, there are reports that this has led to chilling impacts on immigrant families participating in safety net programs for fear of jeopardizing their immigration status. One in seven adults in immigrant families reported that they or a family member did not participate in a noncash benefit program in 2018, out of fear of risking future green card status. Even permanent residents who would not be affected by this proposed rule have reported forgoing safety net programs.

Madam Speaker, even more frightening is that this rule instills fear in families with children. In fact, the rule could lead up to 4.7 million people to withdraw from Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program alone. This fear has resulted in parents trying to opt out of free school lunch for their children—New York State schools have free lunch for all students—out of concern that they may be deemed a public charge and even possibly lose status and be deported.

That is why, I am introducing the "No Public Charge Deportation Act", which would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to remove public charge as a ground of deportation.

The Trump administration is weaponizing the public charge rule to discriminate against low-income immigrants and immigrants of color. We need to assure families that they will not be deported if they legally use critical benefits such as Medicaid, SNAP, and housing assistance.

Madam Speaker, families should not have to decide between putting food on the table and risk getting deported. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation to make sure families will not forgo programs that help provide basic necessities because of a public charge rule.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. LOESACK. I missed the vote on H.R. 2382. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 37.

**HONORING MS. LORENA L. LACAR
FOR HER COMMITMENT TO THE
VETERAN COMMUNITY**

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lorena L. Lacar's professionalism and dedication to the Veteran community.

Lorena L. Lacar entered employment as an extra-help employee with the County of Imperial on April 7, 1993. She then transferred to the Imperial County Veterans Service Office on January 27, 1995, where she served for over 20 years.

During Ms. Lacar's tenure, she helped over 20,000 veterans, dependents and widows claim their benefits which amounted to over \$13,449,000 in retroactive payments, \$1,678,032 in monthly award payments and over \$112,447 in lump sum payments, thus allowing veterans to enjoy an increased quality of life owed to them for their service.

Ms. Lacar's exemplary professionalism and diligence has earned her the love and respect of the Imperial Valley's veteran community. She has developed a vast array of resources and professional relationships to help enhance the quality of life for veterans. She has also devoted herself to assist veterans in need of shelter, subsistence, and has generously volunteered her time after hours to assist veterans in need of crisis counseling or dependents in need of emergency services.

Although Ms. Lacar is not a veteran herself, she has dedicated her career to assisting veterans in her community. Ms. Lacar has portrayed the highest degree of compassion and care for veterans and their families. She ensured that the Imperial County Veterans Office was able to maintain uninterrupted service for veterans.

It is with great appreciation that I recognize Ms. Lorena L. Lacar.

HONORING ELEANOR (ELLIE)
BLOCH

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Eleanor (Ellie) Bloch, who passed away on January 15, 2020, at the age of 83 after a lifetime of public service to her community.

Born in 1936 in Brookline, Massachusetts, to Hymen Stutman and Nellie Wiener Stutman, Ellie graduated from Brookline High School in 1954 and then attended Boston University as a music major. She later graduated from Susquehanna University in Pennsylvania. After meeting and marrying her first husband, Harry Salesky, who passed away in 1983, they moved to New York and then Tiburon, where she remained for the next 48 years. In 1985, Ellie married Don Spater, who died in 1996. She met her third husband, John Bloch, through mutual friends, and they married in 1999.

Ellie was elected to represent Marin County in the California Senior Legislature in 2004, and she served in this role tirelessly up until her passing. Among her many efforts, she worked hard to help pass a state emergency plan that included best practices for local governments and municipalities to evacuate seniors and people with disabilities. She served as one the vice chairs of the Joint Rules Committee from 2013–2015, and was a member of the Housing and Transportation committee, spending days at a time in Sacramento advocating for seniors and people with disabilities. In 2017, Ellie was awarded the Moira Jackson award for distinguished service to the California Senior Legislature.

In addition to her work with the California State Legislature, Ellie was a member of the legislative committee for the California Commission on Aging, served as president of the Tiburon Sunset Rotary Club, and from 2010–2018, she was an advisory board member for San Francisco State University's Romberg Tiburon Center for Environmental Studies. She also served as a board member for Family Service Agency of Marin for 20 years, and she was a board member and secretary for the Marin City Community Development Corporation and Marin City Land Corporation for 15 years.

Beyond her incredible community service, Ellie was also the co-founder, coordinator, and mediator for Marin Mediation Services where she worked for 40 years. In this capacity, she was known for her ability to treat everyone who came before her fairly, toiling to reach resolutions that would benefit all parties involved. In her free time, Ellie could be found enjoying art, music, spending time with friends

and family, participating in yoga classes, and at the Corinthian Yacht Club.

Ellie is survived by her husband, John Bloch, and three sons, William Salesky, Joseph Salesky and Andrew Salesky, and stepchildren Julie Middlebrook, Jenni Hamilton, Andrew Bloch, Deborah Spater-Melnick, Cheryl Spater and Lori Munoz, as well as seven grandchildren, one step-grandson, four great-grandchildren and two step-great-grandchildren. While she will be greatly missed, Ellie's legacy will live on through the indelible and positive impact she had on her family, friends and extended community. Madam Speaker, please join me in sending her loved ones our sincere condolences and warm regards.

INTRODUCTION OF TSA CHILD
CARE ACT

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, over 44,000 Transportation Security Officers serve as our first line of defense at airports across the country. Due to the nature of their job, these hardworking men and women, many of whom are parents, work abnormal hours, yet are not provided with the benefits, such as childcare, that many other federal employees receive.

We need to ensure that Transportation Security Officers' children are taken care of when their parents are working, especially during split shifts. Moreover, we need to provide our Transportation Security Officers that are expecting adequate breaks and provide designated lactation facilities for mothers.

For that reason, I am introducing the TSA Child CARE Act. This bipartisan, pragmatic legislation requires the Transportation Security Administration to assess childcare options and barriers to such services for TSA personnel who are parents or guardians of children. The bill requires TSA to report back to Congress on how it will respond to any findings, including a timeline for implementation for any recommendations. We must ensure that we have policies and procedures set in place to ensure that our hard-working

RECOGNITION OF MR. TRACY "T-
DOG" RASCOE, AS CALIFORNIA
56TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT'S 2019
VETERAN OF THE YEAR

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Tracy "T-Dog" Rascoe, who was recently recognized by California State Assembly Member, Eduardo Garcia, as California 56th Assembly District Veteran of the Year for 2019.

Tracy served as a Surface Sonar Technician in the U.S. Navy for 10 years before joining the U.S. Navy Reserves. There, he served for two years before transferring to the U.S. Army Reserves. In the Army reserves, he served as a Human Resource and Training

noncommissioned officer (NCO) with the 104th and 95th Infantry Training Division where he helped train drill sergeants.

After Tracy's U.S. Navy active duty service, he joined the renewable energy industry in wind power. There, he utilized his training and managerial background and became a Technical Trainer and Training Manager for major leading organizations within the industry. Recognizing the potential for the industry's future growth in the U.S. and the job opportunities it could provide veterans and others, Tracy became a director of wind energy technology for both a community college and a for-profit school. During his term as a director, he volunteered to lead the American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) Education Work Group. Here he worked diligently for two years with middle and senior members of the industry, colleges, technical schools, the Department of Energy and the Department of Labor to create skill sets for Wind Energy Technicians in the U.S. The skill sets were approved in 2010 and have resulted in the creation of official U.S. job codes for Wind Technicians. Currently, he serves on the AWEA Veterans Employment Committee, which focuses on attracting additional veterans to the wind industry.

In 2012, Tracy left the Pattern Energy Operations Headquarters in Houston Texas, to become an Operations Manager of their wind farm in Ocotillo, CA. As a veteran, Tracy and his wife (Dawn), were determined to be of service to others alike and transferred their American Legion memberships to the Boyce Aten Post located in El Centro. There, they quickly identified the need to revitalize the Post for the good of its members and the local community.

While serving two consecutive years as the Post Commander, Tracy rose through the elected ranks in the 30th District (Imperial County) as 2nd Vice Commander, 1st Vice Commander and then Commander. As the 30th District Commander, his successful leadership and hands on approach helped revitalize the district posts. One of the posts under his leadership was severely struggling and on the verge of closure. As a result of his leadership, the post was not only able to remain open, but it successfully achieved 135 percent increase in membership and has remained stellar in various performances to date. His leadership helped the 30th District achieve 3rd place in membership in the entire state of 30 districts. As a result, the district received great respect and admiration within the American Legion Department of California 5th Area, which comprised of 107 American Legion Posts with over 25,000 members in Imperial, Orange, San Bernardino, San Diego and Riverside counties.

This past year, he was elected and served honorably as the American Legion Department of California (DOC) Vice Commander-Area 5. During his one-year term, he again earned great respect and admiration from leaders within the DOC.

As a mentor, Tracy continues to strive to improve. Last year he and Dawn completed the California American Legion College. They supported one another as she serves as an Auxiliary Unit 25 President and was recently elected as the Auxiliary 30th District President.

Tracy presently serves as Jr. Past Vice Commander-Area 5, 30th District Judge Advocate and as an Executive Board Member for the Boyce Aten American Legion Post 25 and

Veteran of Foreign Wars (VFW) No. 9305, in El Centro, CA. In addition, he was selected to be one of only seven members of the newly formed American Legion Department of California Training Committee. There he drafted the approved Annual Training Budget and is leading the development of Post Finance Officer training to assist the 442 American Legion DOC Posts.

Tracy continues to demonstrate his dedication to our community, veterans and patriotism. This can be easily seen by his roles and active participations: Co-Founder and President of the Imperial Valley Patriotic Planning Committee, member of the 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb Committee, member of the Vietnam Moving Wall 2020 Ceremonies Committee, Advocate and active participant for the Imperial County Veterans Advisory Council and Veterans Employment Committee, member and Secretary of the Imperial County Continuum of Care Council and Point-In-Time Count Committee.

Tracy is a Cold War and Gulf War Veteran. In the past year, he alone raised several hundreds of dollars to help support California Veterans through the American Legion's CALVAR Helmets for Heroes program. He has also provided multiple patriotic ceremonies to the community and served as the Master of Ceremony for the Boyce Aten Post 25's 100th Anniversary.

Tracy is known and highly respected by many of the elected leaders within my district and Imperial County. I thank Tracy for his service and congratulate him for being selected as California 56th Assembly District's 2019 Veteran of the Year.

LOCAL-BASED SOCIAL SECURITY
BENEFITS ACT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to the need to ensure that we protect the most vulnerable of Americans, our elderly, disabled and disadvantaged citizens, from the risk of living in poverty. Social Security was established 85 years ago, to provide a structure to maintain a collective sense of security amidst the expansion and development of our great Nation.

According to the Social Security Administration (SSA), about 63 million Americans received \$1 trillion in benefits in 2018. SSA estimates that about one-third of beneficiaries depend on Social Security benefits for more than 90 percent of their retirement income. Furthermore, the number of Americans 65-and-older is projected to nearly double from 52 million in 2018 to 95 million by 2060; their total population will rise from 16 percent to 23 percent. Unfortunately, due to inflation and wide economic disparities by region, Social Security provides an uneven distribution of benefits across the country. As you know, New York City is one of the most expensive places to live in the nation, and many, especially seniors, battle with paying for even the most basic of necessities, including food and rent.

That is why I am introducing the "Locality-based Social Security Benefits Act", which would adjust the amount of monthly old-age,

survivors, and disability insurance payments under Title II of the Social Security Act based on locality-based comparability payment rates.

Madam Speaker, Social Security is an important safety net that many Americans have come to rely upon as their main source of income. We must ensure that the quality of life is not dependent upon where our senior and disadvantaged citizens live in America. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNUAL
SALUTE OF THE BLACK NURSES
ASSOCIATION OF GREATER
WASHINGTON D.C. AREA, INC.

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the 40th Annual Salute of the Black Nurses Association of Greater Washington, D.C. Area, Inc.

The Black Nurses Association (BNA) of Greater Washington, D.C. Area (GWDCA), Inc., chartered in 1975, endeavors to support the mission of the National Black Nurses Association (NBNA) and provide services to residents in the D.C. area.

BNA of GWDCA acts as a vehicle for cohesion and solidarity among Black nurses to ensure the continuity of common heritage. The BNA of GWDCA hosted its first Annual Salute to a Black Nurse on February 14, 1981 at St. Elizabeths Hospital to recognize the contributions of nurses in the community and to celebrate Black History Month. "The Salute" has become a signature community program, where one practicing nurse is awarded "Nurse of the Year" and one nursing student is awarded a scholarship.

BNA of GWDCA has a distinguished legacy of community service with a focus on addressing specific health problems of the Black consumer and health care disparities. Past programs have included participation in the National Black Nurses National Hypertension Project, National Depression Project and partnerships with the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society. The association's signature community service project provides community-based health assessments and teaching through church-based and collaborative health fairs and partnerships with the D.C. Department of Health, Office of Immunizations and the Washington Hospital Center.

Importantly, we are grateful that in response to the critical shortage of nurses in all areas of practice, the BNA of GWDCA's "Choose Nursing Project" provides career information and mentoring in the field for students in D.C. area middle and high schools. As a chapter, BNA of GWDCA continues to carry the mission of "Empowering the community through Education, Service and Caring" and support the NBNA's theme, "The Art and Science of Nursing."

Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Black Nurses Association of Greater Washington, D.C. area for 45 years of working to improve the lives of D.C. residents and the profession of nursing.

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUP-
PORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF
THE LAST DAY OF FEBRUARY
EACH YEAR AS "RARE DISEASE
DAY"

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to reintroduce this resolution with my colleague Rep. RICHARD HUDSON of North Carolina. Our resolution supports the designation of Rare Disease Day on the last day of February. I am pleased that this resolution has been endorsed by the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) and am thankful for its leadership on these critical issues over many years.

Nearly one in ten Americans live with one or more of the roughly 7,000 known rare diseases. More than half of those struggling with rare diseases—defined as affecting less than 200,000 people—are children. Sadly, many rare diseases and conditions are serious, life-threatening, and lack effective treatments. These are not just statistics: I am sure most of us know at least one family member or friend who has been affected by or struggled with the unique challenges of rare diseases.

Moreover, as we observe Black History Month, it's important to know that African Americans and other minorities are especially vulnerable to rare diseases, including Sickle Cell Anemia and Sarcoidosis. These diseases and conditions—including Thalassemia and Hereditary ATTR (hATTR) amyloidosis—disproportionately affect African Americans. Despite these unique obstacles, African Americans have an inspiring tradition of both combatting rare diseases and improving medical science.

One great example is Dr. Charles Drew, an African American scientist who helped found the modern "blood bank," which helped dramatically expand blood transfusions. A faculty member at Howard University, Dr. Drew's pioneering work in blood transfusions took place against the backdrop of segregation and discrimination. During his time overseeing the Red Cross's blood plasma donation program, Dr. Drew was prohibited from donating his own blood because of the color of his skin. Despite these obstacles, Dr. Drew's work improved the practice of blood transfusions, which is now a lifeline for many individuals struggling today with rare diseases. The examples of Dr. Drew and countless other researchers, physicians, nurses, activists, and patients underscore the importance of bringing additional awareness to rare diseases.

Despite the many challenges, some progress has been made. More than 840 drugs and biologics have been approached by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for the treatment of rare diseases. However, Congress must do more to combat rare diseases. That's why in September of 2019, Rep. HUDSON and I introduced the Rare Disease Advancement, Surveillance Research, and Education (RARE) Act of 2019 (H.R. 4228). Our legislation, cosponsored by 57 bipartisan Members of Congress, expands the ability of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and Centers for Diseases Control and Prevention (CDC) to study rare diseases by improving

treatment, research, and diagnostics of rare diseases through new and existing programs.

More work needs to be done to bring attention to the needs of those who struggle with rare diseases, and to celebrate their courage. That's why Rep. HUDSON and I are introducing this important resolution. Each year, many individuals with rare diseases and their loved ones celebrate Rare Disease Day to share their stories and educate communities of researchers, health professionals, governments, and community organizations about how rare diseases affect them.

In 2019, more than 100 countries observed Rare Disease Day. Our resolution expresses support for the designation of the last day of this month as Rare Disease Day. Congress should recognize this work and improve our efforts to address the challenges facing the rare disease patient community.

Madam Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join us in supporting Rare Disease Day's designation on the last day of February to better champion people with rare diseases. I urge the House to support this resolution.

**SAN DIEGO VOICE & VIEWPOINT'S
60TH DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY**

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. VARGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the San Diego Voice & Viewpoint Newspaper in recognition of their 60th anniversary.

The San Diego Voice & Viewpoint is the oldest and largest African American newspaper in San Diego. Its publisher, Dr. John Warren, and his late wife and co-publisher, Gerri Warren (emeritus) took over the Voice & Viewpoint in 1987. The couple worked diligently in the community to make the publication a nationally award-winning publication.

From small church gatherings to major political campaigns, for six decades, the San Diego Voice & Viewpoint has faithfully reported the news for African American communities in San Diego County. As San Diego's largest African American publication, their news features have highlighted people and events in a more comprehensive manner, while commentators have argued from different points of view in the lively op-ed pages. The Voice & Viewpoint has grown over the last decade to over 350 newsstands and outlets in convenience stores. The publication can be found in all 89 zip codes of San Diego and has readership of over 60,000.

I would like to honor San Diego Voice & Viewpoint for its dedication and lifelong commitment to the African American community within California's 51st Congressional District.

**RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2020 DALE CITY CIVIC ASSO-
CIATION AWARDS**

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the recipients of

the 2020 Dale City Civic Association awards. With the core values of compassion and a true sense of community, Dale City Civic Association honors community members who are making a positive impact in their city.

The Dale City Civic Association stages this annual banquet to honor those in their community who have gone above and beyond the call in their service to our community. This banquet and the awards serve a strong purpose by helping strengthen the community's foundation and welcoming neighborhoods in Dale City. Improving the quality of life in Dale City for their residents is the goal of the Dale City Civic Association and these award recipients have made that goal much more achievable. From teachers to public safety officials, to those who volunteer in their free time, these civil servants show why it is imperative to have individuals like them who selflessly dedicate their time and efforts to make sure their community is prepared for the challenges of the day while laying the groundwork for a better tomorrow. Their great work should be a model to us all, and it is my honor to enter into the RECORD the following honorees of the 2020 Dale City Civic Association Award:

High School Teacher of the Year: Jason Brown

Middle School Teacher of the Year: Kristen Morris

Elementary School Teacher of the Year: Toni Brown

DCFVD Firefighter of the Year: Technician Peter Langone

DCFVD Cadet of the Year: Cadet Majd Mansour

DCFVD Officer of the Year: Sergeant Andrew Kelly

DCFVD EMS Provider of the Year: Sergeant Joseph Krimmer

Kathleen Seefeldt Community Service Award: Sharon Stone

Business of the Year: One Stop Awards & Apparel

David G. Brickley Youth Environmental and Conservation Award: Michele Aguilar-Flores

Deloris C. Hampton Future Teacher Memorial Scholarship: Daniela Avelar

Deputy Sheriff of the Year: Deputy Nieves "Gladys" Russell

Police Officer of the Year: Officer Tyler Reza

Kathie Feeney Nurse of the Year: Matthew Blackington

PWC Department of Fire and Rescue—Firefight Provider of the Year: Technician I Damian Lyles

PWC Department of Fire and Rescue—EMT Provider of the Year: Technician II Yasmin Ahmady

Ernestine S. Jenkins Lifetime Volunteer Achievement Award: Marilyn Avery

Catherine Spellane Citizen of the Year: Marilyn Sykes

John D. Jenkins Youth Citizen of the Year Award: Camy Diaz.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me once again in congratulating these recipients of the 2020 Dale City Civic Association awards. I thank them for their immense contributions to our community and wish them continued success.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COLONEL DAVID KELLEY'S RETIREMENT FROM THE ARMY RESERVE

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize LTC David Kelley from the Army Reserve for 24 years of service and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement from the military.

A decorated Officer, LTC Kelley has exemplified the true meaning of dedicated service. He's established himself as a leader both in the Army Reserve and our Ohio law enforcement. In addition to his role in the Reserves, LTC Kelly serves as a local prosecutor.

As a fellow Reservist, I appreciate and recognize the outstanding military career LTC Kelley has had. I also thank him for his commitment to serving the people of Southern Ohio, most recently as the elected Prosecuting Attorney in Adams County.

I wish LTC Kelley the best of luck moving forward.

A grateful nation salutes LTC Kelley.
Hooah.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I regretfully missed votes on Thursday, February 6, 2020. I had intended to vote "yes" on roll call vote 38, "yes" on vote 39, "yes" on vote 40, "yes" on vote 41, "no" on vote 42, "no" on vote 43, "yes" on vote 44, "no" on vote 45, "no" on vote 46, "yes" on vote 47, "yes" on vote 48, "no" on vote 49, "yes" on vote 50, and "yes" on vote 51.

**DECORUM AND MAINTAINING
CIVILITY IN THE HOUSE**

HON. GARY J. PALMER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. PALMER. Madam Speaker, I rise to respond to the assertion of the Majority Leader that the act of destroying the copy of President Trump's State of the Union address that the President—as required by the Constitution—presented to Speaker PELOSI was speech protected under the 1st Amendment. The Majority Leader should be reminded that not all speech that is protected under the 1st Amendment is allowable in the House chamber under the Rules of the House.

Moreover, the act of destroying the official House copy of President Trump's State of the Union address in of itself is a violation of what is and should be expected for the conduct of every member of the House. The premeditated and wanton disregard of the rules governing decorum that we all commit to abide by diminishes the civility and undermines the

order that is essential to the functioning of the House as a deliberative body and that is expected of every member of the House of Representatives including and especially the Speaker of the House. I would add that if such conduct is ignored and not addressed by the leadership of both Parties our ability to govern will be seriously compromised.

RECOGNIZING THE INCOMING 2020 OFFICERS OF THE OCCOQUAN-WOODBRIDGE-LORTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the incoming 2020 officers of the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department. OWLVFD is located in Prince William County Virginia, 25 miles from our Nation's Capital. The OWLVFD goes on an average of 20,000 runs per year, aiding 80,000 residents in a 27 square mile area.

Incorporated in the Commonwealth of Virginia in 1938, the OWLVFD is comprised of committed community members who volunteer their time, energy, and financial resources to ensuring the safety of the families and property in and around Woodbridge. During its 80-year history, the Department has continued to expand and there are now three stations staffed by approximately 250 volunteers who serve and protect an ever-growing local population. From their bravery in action, to their presence with the youth in the community, OWLVFD is readily available for the families of Woodbridge.

It is with great honor I enter into the RECORD the names of the following Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department Officers:

Department Chief—Rick Michael
 Department President—David Williams
 Executive Vice President—George Smith
 Membership Secretary—Scott Shaw
 Treasurer—Debra Haight
 Board of Directors—Jonathan Baldwin, Mike Clark, Anna Smith, Rebecca Barnes, Michele Bauer, Melissa Payne, Zachary Wessolleck, Kevin Lewis
 Election Officer—Sabrina Brandon Ricks
 Sergeant-At-Arms—Thomas Hubbard
 Assistant Chiefs—Kurt Bolland, Ernest DeSantis, Steve Godin, Wayne Haight, Ryan Williams
 Rescue Chief—Edward Craig
 Fire Captains—Kody Perry, Justin Witt
 Rescue Captain—Sandra Williams
 Fire Lieutenants—Mark Chandler, Jonathan Baldwin
 EMS Lieutenants—Melissa Westphal, Sybil Meeley, Michael Yankaskas, Mark Powers.

While a new executive board has been elected and new officers sworn in, the mission of OWLVFD remains the same. The volunteers of the OWLVFD continue to put themselves in harm's way for the benefit of the residents of the area and have educated and mentored the youth in Woodbridge, not only teaching fire safety education, but also strengthening community relations.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleague join me in recognizing the men and women of

the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department for their service to our country and steadfast commitment to their community and in congratulating the newly elected officers and board members. I thank them for their dedication and to all I say: "Stay safe."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I was called out of the House Chamber. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 50.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Miss RICE of New York. Madam Speaker, I was necessarily absent from votes on Wednesday February 5, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 35, YEA on Roll Call No. 36, and YEA on Roll Call No. 37.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I was not present for votes on February 6 and 7, 2020 due to family medical matters in Alabama.

Had I been present on February 6, I would have voted YEA on the Motion to Table the Republican Privileged Resolution on H. Res. 833, YEA on the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule on H. Res. 833, and YEA on H. Res. 833. During the second vote series, I would have voted YEA on the Stevens/Morelle Amendment, NAY on the Foxx Amendment, NAY on the Roe Amendment, YEA on the Wild Amendment, NAY on the Allen Amendment, NAY on the Meadows Amendment, YEA on the Jackson Lee Amendment, YEA on the Rouda Amendment, NAY on the Republican Motion to Recommit on H.R. 2474, YEA on Final Passage of H.R. 2474, and YEA on Agreeing to H. Res. 826.

I'd like to highlight that I am particularly disappointed that I missed the vote for H. Res. 826, a resolution to disapprove of the Trump Administration's Medicaid block grant scheme. Millions of Americans, including more than 1 million in Alabama, have access to the health care they need and deserve because of Medicaid. Most health care providers in my district and across the country are dependent on reimbursements from Medicaid to keep their doors open and to continue delivering care in our communities. I am proud the House Democrats took a strong stance against this Administration and their continued assault on health care access and coverage by passing

a resolution condemning the most recent attacks on Medicaid.

On February 7, I would have voted YEA on the Shalala Amendment, NAY on the Republican Motion to Recommit on H.R. 5687, and YEA on Final Passage of H.R. 5687.

RECOGNIZING AN HILL'S NATURALIZATION CEREMONY

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate An Hill for recently becoming a United States citizen.

An and her husband, Geoffrey, met abroad, fell in love, and married. With hopes of starting a family in the United States, they needed to first secure a visa for An and turned to my office in hopes of obtaining assistance.

After my office successfully helped the Hill family, An moved to Ohio with her husband and began the journey to become a naturalized citizen.

Just a few weeks ago, her journey was complete, and my staff was honored to join her and her family at the naturalization ceremony as she took her oath of citizenship.

To me, nothing is quite as beautiful than a naturalization ceremony. Congratulations, An, on all your hard work and dedication to becoming a United States citizen.

An, raise the American flag and know that it is your flag, and the United States is your nation—your home.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF JAMES McALLISTER AND HIS SERVICE TO THE OCCOQUAN-WOODBRIDGE-LORTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the service and dedication of Chief James McAllister of the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department. Chief McAllister is retiring from the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department following nearly three decades of service to our community.

Chief McAllister joined OWLVFD in June of 1991. Throughout his years of service Chief McAllister has served the department in every operational role. He has been a Firefighter, Medic, and for the last 11 years he has led the department as its Chief. Under his steadfast leadership, the department has continued to grow and expand, along with the community it serves. The OWLVFD is one of the largest volunteer departments in the country with almost 300 volunteer members and three fire stations. It provides fire suppression, EMS care and rescue services to 80,000 residents who live and work in a 27 square mile area. Last year, the department responded to more than 8,000 911-emergency calls which resulted in nearly 20,000 runs.

In addition to his duties leading the department, he has served the county through his

participation on many committees, task forces, and the Prince William County Fire and Rescue Association. His achievements, successes and dedication are made even more inspiring by the fact that all of his work has been as a dedicated volunteer. In recognition of his commitment and his 28-year career, it is my great honor to recognize Chief James McAllister of the Occoquan-Woodbridge-Lorton Volunteer Fire Department.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me once again in congratulating Chief James McAllister for his 28-years of service to OWLVFD. His positive contributions, and dedicated service to our community can never be repaid. We thank Chief McAllister, and we wish him the best in retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. NORCROSS. Madam Speaker, yesterday, I was inadvertently detained during the vote on expressing disapproval of the Trump Administration's harmful actions towards Medicaid. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 51.

INTRODUCTION OF THE WASHINGTON, D.C. ADMISSION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, the Committee on Oversight and Reform is preparing to hold the first markup of the District of Columbia statehood bill in either chamber of Congress since 1993, when I got the first-ever floor vote on the bill. I rise today to introduce a revised version of the bill, the purpose of which is to make technical and conforming changes and to address transition issues.

On January 3, 2019, the first day of this Congress, I introduced H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act, which has 224 cosponsors, a record for the D.C. statehood bill and far more cosponsors than most bills passed by the House. The bill I introduce today includes the text of H.R. 51, but makes technical and conforming changes to the text, provides transition assistance to the new state and establishes a transition commission to assist with the orderly transition to statehood and to a reduced federal district. The D.C. statehood bill is well within the authority of Congress, and is in compliance with the Admissions and District clauses of the Constitution, as well as the 23rd Amendment.

While the Constitution does not establish prerequisites for admission of states into the Union, Congress has generally considered three factors: commitment to democracy, support for statehood and requisite population and resources for the state to support itself. The District meets each prerequisite. The District has a larger population than two states, pays more in federal taxes than 22 states and pays more in federal taxes per capita than any other state. D.C. has a higher per capita per-

sonal income and gross domestic product than any state. In November 2016, over 86 percent of District residents voted in favor of an advisory referendum requesting that the D.C. Council petition Congress for statehood.

Congress has two choices. It can continue to exercise undemocratic, autocratic authority over the 705,000 American citizens who reside in our nation's capital, treating them, in the words of Frederick Douglass, as "aliens, not citizens, but subjects." Or it can live up to this nation's promise and ideals, end taxation without representation and pass the Washington, D.C. Admission Act.

Since the founding of the nation, District residents have always carried all the obligations of citizenship, including serving in all of the nation's wars and payment of federal taxes, all without voting representation on the floor in either house of Congress or freedom from congressional interference in purely local matters. The bill I introduce seeks to end this unequal treatment and give the residents of the nation's capital their full rights as American citizens.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

INTRODUCTION OF THE UNDERSTANDING AND STUDYING AMERICAN (USA) CIVICS ACT OF 2020

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to introduce the Understanding and Studying American (USA) Civics Act of 2020.

Today, only 32 percent of Americans can name all three government branches. That means two-thirds of the people in the U.S. are not equipped with foundational knowledge necessary to participate in and navigate our democracy. Investing in civics education is key to ensuring that future participants and leaders in our democracy are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to do so.

The USA Civics Act of 2020 would provide grants to establish and strengthen civics programs to promote more comprehensive understandings of the history, achievements, and global impacts of American constitutional and representative democracy. Specifically, the bill supports the efforts of social science teachers in primary and secondary schools. In addition to funding teacher initiatives and educational curricula and materials, the USA Civics Act of 2020 would provide funding to develop open educational resources and outreach activities.

The USA Civics Act promotes the study of American political thought and constitutional democracies globally, invests in opportunities for civics educators to deepen their knowledge of the field, and opens new doors for our young future leaders to learn how they can participate in the country's political life. I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THOMAS RAILSBACK

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor and remember the life of Congressman Thomas Railsback, who passed away on January 20, 2020, at the age of 87.

Born in Moline, Illinois in 1940, Tom displayed a natural gravitation towards leadership. He began his studies at Grinnell College in Iowa and then Northwestern Law School in Illinois. Not long after he finished his formal education, Tom served in the United States Army from 1957 to 1959. After the completion of his military service, Tom returned home to the Quad Cities to practice law.

Tom had a resilient passion for ethical leadership, which pushed his desire to hold public office promoting just ideals, supporting bipartisan solutions advocating for good constituent service. In 1962, he was elected to the Illinois General Assembly as a republican state representative, where he served for two terms. In 1966 he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, where he represented Illinois' 19th congressional district for 16 years. While serving in the House, Tom played a key role in the passage of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, which provides critical support for state programs that assist communities to take a comprehensive approach to juvenile justice. Tom was the second ranking republican on the House Judiciary Committee and a key member during the Nixon presidency.

Tom found joy in his life through his family and many lifelong friends. He and his first wife, Patricia (Sloan) Railsback, raised four daughters: Kathryn, Julie, Maggie, and Lisa. Tom married Joyelyn Railsback on Oct. 23, 1998. They enjoyed golfing together, playing word games, and traveling during their 21 years of marriage.

Congressman Tom Railsback's steadfast work to improve the lives of American citizens stands as a model for progress to further the greater good and prosperity of the union. He set the standard for the values and priorities which current—and future—public servants should strive to uphold in order to better our communities. It's my honor to commemorate his life and his tireless bi-partisan work to improve the lives of Americans and strive for ethical leadership. My deepest condolences go out to his wife, family, colleagues, and friends during their time of mourning.

PATHWAY TO STABLE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR ALL ACT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the human right of every person to have a safe and affordable home. As we know, our nation is faced with a staggering housing crisis. At least 600,000 Americans are experiencing homelessness in a given night—

and this number can vary throughout the year. In the State of New York, we are faced with more than 90,000 New Yorkers without a home. Furthermore, nationwide, only 37 affordable and available homes exist for every 100 extremely low-income renter households. In my own Sixth Congressional District of New York, these numbers are even worse; only 18 housing units are available for every 100 extremely low-income households.

Madam Speaker, these are not just data points; these are heartbreaking numbers—especially when one considers the families, the children in these households. We know that children living in stable, affordable homes are more likely to thrive in school and have greater opportunities to learn inside and outside the classroom.

And yet, low-income families continue to face the unjust and heartbreaking decision of choosing between paying rent or paying for necessary expenses such as groceries, childcare, or prescription drugs.

Madam Speaker, this is a cruel and impossible decision.

In September 2019, the Trump Administration took aim at individuals experiencing homelessness in the U.S. by releasing a report that targeted a handful of states and cities by offering policy responses that adopted an “out of sight, out of mind” approach, such as rounding up and increasing the policing of vulnerable communities. Slashing HUD programs, tripling the rents for the lowest-income subsidized residents, allowing homeless shelters to discriminate against the LGBTQ community, and evicting thousands of people will only exacerbate the homelessness crisis in America.

In addition, the Administration has repeatedly taken steps to increase the number of families and individuals living in unstable housing situations and those at risk of homelessness. While Congress has continued to push back against the Administration’s every attempt to gut and dismantle our federal homelessness and affordable housing programs, Congress must—and can—do more.

That is why I am introducing the Pathway to Stable and Affordable Housing for All Act. We need bold and robust solutions to address these housing challenges that every single congressional district faces. That is why, today, I am introducing the Pathway to Stable and Affordable Housing for All Act—a bill sets forth a 10-year investment plan based on estimates from frontline service providers and experts that focus on meeting the challenges our states and communities face every day.

Specifically, this bill consists of four provisions: two of which would help states and organizations on the ground assist individuals experiencing homelessness into homeless shelters quickly and efficiently, and two focused on getting those in the shelter system into safe, affordable housing:

\$10 billion per year in additional funding for Emergency Solutions Grants;

\$10 billion per year in additional funding for Continuum of Care grants so organizations can move those experiencing homelessness into the shelter system and provide needed supports;

\$40 billion per year direct appropriation to the Housing Trust Fund—on top of the existing funding provided by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac—to begin to chip away at the deficit of units in our nation’s affordable housing stock; and

Fully funding tenant-based rental assistance to allow all eligible households to get into permanent, safe, affordable housing.

The National Low Income Housing Coalition estimates, if enacted, this bill would effectively end homelessness and housing poverty.

Madam Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to support this critical bill—the Pathway to Stable and Affordable Housing for All Act—to ensure housing justice for all Americans.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE MATTHEW W. MCFARLAND’S NOMINATION TO THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Judge Matthew McFarland on his confirmation to the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio.

Raised just outside of Portsmouth, Ohio, Judge McFarland has extensive personal and professional history practicing law across Scioto County and Southern Ohio for the last 20 years. His dedication to public service is admirable.

As an appellate judge, Judge McFarland authored over 1,000 opinions and made over 2,900 panel votes and served as the Presiding and Administrative Judge for multiple years. He has served as a visiting Judge on the Supreme Court of Ohio on four separate occasions allowing him to sit on each level of the Ohio Judiciary including the trial, appellate, and supreme court bench.

Judge McFarland is now only the second federal judge to serve the Southern District of Ohio from Scioto County.

I’m proud to recognize Judge McFarland for his outstanding public service and for his recent confirmation. I am confident he will continue to serve the people of Ohio well and I wish him the best of luck as he begins his tenure on the federal bench.

CLARIFICATION OF CHANGES TO THE ALTERNATIVE FUEL MIXTURE CREDIT CONTAINED IN H.R. 1865

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, in December Congress addressed a number of expired or expiring tax provisions, commonly known as “tax extenders,” by passing H.R. 1865 as part of year-end, FY’20 spending measure.

For the most part, these tax provisions were simply extended seamlessly through 2020, which I viewed as a wasted opportunity to create real certainty around these provisions for taxpayers.

Additionally, one provision extending a fuel excise tax credit known as the Alternative Fuel Mixture Credit (AFMC) contained modifications prohibiting the blending of certain categories of fuels in order to claim the credit. These fuel

categories had been part of the AFMC and the related Alternative Fuel Credit since both were created in a Surface Transportation bill in 2005, and they had also been extended multiple times since then in past tax extenders bills. The intended purpose of these provisions was to reduce the United States’ dependence on foreign oil and to encourage cheaper, cleaner burning fuels (whether for transportation or other uses).

One of the longstanding fuel categories eliminated in H.R. 1865 was liquefied petroleum gas. Since enacted, the AFMC had provided a credit to taxpayers for mixtures of liquefied petroleum gas, including propane, and taxable fuel. The modification in H.R. 1865 eliminates the credit for any mixture that includes any type of liquefied petroleum gas.

Madam Speaker, I have long been an opponent of retroactive tax increases, and there are currently several taxpayers in disputes with the Internal Revenue Service over whether they can properly claim the AFMC on past tax returns.

I will note that the subsection of H.R. 1865 that eliminated the longstanding classes of fuels from the AFMC also contained “no inference” language stating:

“Nothing contained in this subsection or the amendments made by this subsection shall be construed to create any inference as to a change in law or guidance in effect prior to enactment of this subsection” (enactment occurred when H.R. 1865 was signed into law on December 20, 2019).

The Congressional intent of this “no inference” language is unambiguous—this provision should ensure a fair day in court for taxpayers in legitimate disputes with the IRS over the AFMC.

HONORING SPECTOR FURNITURE AS THEY MARK THEIR 130TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 7, 2020

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the many family, friends, and community leaders who have gathered today and extend my very best wishes to Howard and Ken Kreiger as they mark the 130th Anniversary of their iconic Main Street store, Spector Furniture. Family owned and operated since its doors opened in 1890, Spector Furniture is a cornerstone of the community of Ansonia, Connecticut.

One hundred-thirty years of Spector Furniture is an impressive achievement. As old as the City of Ansonia itself, it is the oldest furniture store in Connecticut and a testament to the honored traditions of Yankee craftsmanship as well as entrepreneurial spirit. Simon Spector opened the business and it has been passed down generation to generation—from Simon to George Spector, then Lawrence Winer, followed by David Kreiger, and now Howie and Ken—with each facing their own challenges to survival. Spector Furniture has weathered World War I, Prohibition, the Great Depression, the devastating Flood of 1955, de-industrialization, stagflation, NAFTA, and the rise of Made in China. Through it all, and all of the changes that have taken place in the

American economy, the Connecticut economy, and the economy of the Valley, Spector Furniture has stood tall.

I have often said that small businesses are the backbone of our nation's economy. For one hundred-thirty years, Spector Furniture has been a fixture in Ansonia and throughout its history, has been a testament to the impact small businesses can have on a community.

Even as the store has grown and expanded over the years, their vision and commitment to innovation and quality service has never wavered. It is small businesses like Spector Furniture, that forge the strongest bonds of our communities.

I am honored to take this moment and stand to recognize the innovative and entrepreneurial spirit of Simon Spector and the gen-

erations of his family who have not only made Spector Furniture a success, but, more importantly, have ensured that its success has bolstered the Ansonia community as a whole. To Howard, Ken and the entire family—my heartfelt congratulations on this incredible milestone. I have no doubt that Spector Furniture will continue in its success for many years to come. One hundred (Cent' Anni).