

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2020*

Mr. STEUBE. Madam Speaker, I was absent for votes due to a personal family matter out of state.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 55, and YEA on Roll Call No. 56.

## COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF BILLIE SUE HOGGARD

**HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2020*

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of my close friend Billie Sue Hoggard, who passed away on Sunday evening. Billie Sue was a lifelong public servant, a political pioneer, and a devout follower of the Lord. She brightened every room she entered, had a wonderful sense of humor, and a truly unmistakable laugh.

Billie Sue was a nationally board-certified teacher. Generations of students in Jonesboro, across five decades and four schools, were blessed to find themselves in her classroom. She was selected for three international teaching exchanges by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, teaching in China, Japan, and Mexico. Her passion for teaching could not be extinguished—she came out of a well-deserved retirement just a few years ago to go back to the classroom.

Billie Sue's service to her community extended to public office. She was appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee as Justice of the Peace on the Craighead County Quorum Court and as the Commissioner for the Arkansas Educational Television Network. She was later elected by the people of the county to continue her service on the Quorum Court. She was an active member of many civil service organizations, including the American Legion Auxiliary, Lion's Club, and countless education advocacy groups.

Billie Sue was a groundbreaking pioneer of conservatism in Arkansas. In the era of the "yellow dog democrat," Billie Sue was unabashedly Republican. She ran for State Representative in Northeast Arkansas as a Republican at a time in which it was unheard of to do so. While she did not win her election to state office, I believe it is safe to say that without her, Eastern Arkansas would not be the conservative bastion it is today. Under her leadership of the Craighead County Republican Party from 2010 to 2018, the county flipped all legislative seats and well over half of county wide offices. She was awarded the "Hi, I'm Frank White" Award in 2017, the highest distinction given by the Arkansas GOP.

Billie Sue was a living proof that with passion, tenacity, and a tireless work ethic, an individual can accomplish anything. She put it best when she said, "I am personally convinced that one person can be a change catalyst, a transformer in any situation, any organi-

zation. Such an individual is yeast that can leaven an entire loaf. It requires vision, initiative, patience, respect, persistence, courage, and faith to be a transforming leader."

I know today that Billie Sue Hoggard left this Earth proud of her litany of accomplishments and the positive transformations she made in Arkansas. Billie Sue is survived by her children, Tammy, Kayla, Jess, and Tim, and grandchildren Meagan, Dane, Maxwell, Emma, Bella, Kate, and Jesslyn. I ask Congress to join me in offering condolences to Billie Sue's family, and commemorating the life and achievements of an incredible leader and servant.

## HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. DAVID STERN

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2020*

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Mr. David Stern of Scarsdale, New York. Mr. Stern passed away on January 1, 2020, at the age of 77. An attorney by training, Mr. Stern served as commissioner of the National Basketball Association (NBA) from 1984 through 2014. Mr. Stern is survived by his adoring wife, Dianne, and his two sons, Andrew and Eric.

As NBA Commissioner, Mr. Stern shepherded the NBA from a middling American sports product to a global entertainment giant. During his tenure as commissioner, the NBA gained 7 new franchises, opened offices in 15 cities outside the United States, and televised games in more than 200 countries and in 50 languages.

Business accomplishments aside, David Stern's socially responsible leadership of the league was truly groundbreaking. He was deeply committed to advancing opportunities for women in the game of basketball, overseeing the creation of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) in 1997. In speaking of his commitment to the WNBA, the league's first president, Val Ackerman, said, "Without his vision and engagement, the league wouldn't have gotten off the ground. He was the mastermind, and the WNBA was really in line with his vision about how sports and society are intertwined."

We also recognize David Stern for his support of Los Angeles Lakers forward Earvin 'Magic' Johnson in the wake of Johnson's HIV+ diagnosis in 1991. In an era of great mythmaking and stigma regarding people living with AIDS and HIV, Stern appeared publicly with Johnson at a press conference in the announcement's wake and invited Johnson to participate in that NBA season's All-Star game. The next summer, he ensured Johnson's inclusion on the 1992 Olympic 'Dream Team' that sent NBA players to compete in the Olympics for the first time in the league's history, an achievement Stern also masterminded.

Stern's public support for Magic Johnson, coupled with his efforts to educate both the league and the public about the reality of the disease, was more than just a nice gesture from employer to employee. It was a bold, public demonstration of compassion that

changed minds and undoubtedly helped save lives. For this, we honor the character and strength of David Stern.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members of Congress to join me in recognizing David Stern's exceptional accomplishments and in sending our sincerest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2020*

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I regretfully missed votes on Monday, February 10, 2020. I had intended to vote "yes" on roll call vote 55, and "yes" on vote 56.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. HARLEY ROUDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 11, 2020*

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Monday, February 10, 2020 to attend a memorial service in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call Vote No. 55 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 2932, as Amended): YEA; and Roll Call Vote No. 56 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3413, as Amended): YEA.

## PROTECTING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AGAINST DRONES AND EMERGING THREATS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 10, 2020*

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4432, the "Protecting Critical Infrastructure Against Drones and Emerging Threats Act."

As Chairman of the Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Innovation Subcommittee, I have made it a priority to understand the security challenges facing our critical infrastructure and to figure out solutions.

My district in Louisiana has one of the nation's highest concentrations of critical infrastructure—including pipelines, refineries, ports, and stadiums.

I have talked with owners and operators of critical infrastructure in my district and across the nation about the security issues they're facing, and there is always one common theme: Drones.

Drones are hardly a new technology, but they do present policymakers at every level of government with serious challenges.

It's a challenging issue because drone technology is an important tool in infrastructure security, providing situational awareness over critical infrastructure.

At the same time, we know bad actors can use drones to move explosives, conduct surveillance and mapping activities, and carry out cyber attacks.