

GEORGIA ADVANCES DEMOCRACY

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, this week was extraordinary for the advancement of democracy in the Republic of Georgia with the first step of adoption of important electoral reforms by the Parliament, led by Prime Minister Giorgi Gakharia. The constitutional amendment approved by Georgian lawmakers this week will lead to a mixed electoral system in Georgia, a compromise brokered between the country's political rivals pursuant to the March 8th agreement. The Parliament's approval of this crucial reform signals Georgia's serious commitment to democratic consolidation and Euro-Atlantic integration.

The people of America appreciate the courageous Georgian lawmakers supporting the March 8th agreement. This includes this week's important electoral reforms but also efforts addressing political interference in the judicial system. In doing so, Georgia will safeguard the progress it has made and prove itself once again as an undeniably successful regional model of democratic transition.

Georgia is well represented in Washington with Ambassador David Bakradze. South Carolina has a special warm relationship developed by Honorary Consul of Georgia, Admiral David Shimp, of Charleston.

HONORING THE TX03 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the 2019–2020 Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC). Over the past year, students from public, private, and home schools in grades 9th through 12th across Texas' Third Congressional District participated in my inaugural youth program.

From student governments, athletics, fine arts, honor societies, and a multitude of community and civic organizations, these servant leaders proved to be engaged members of our community as they learned more about our democracy.

During the past school year, students assembled on multiple occasions to discuss issues of importance to their generation and our country as a whole. In addition to attending various interactive information sessions, students shared their feedback by completing multiple assignments on current events and topics associated with our meetings. These young leaders truly capitalized on their experience by engaging in policy discussions while offering innovative solutions on issues of the day.

Despite the hardships posed from the COVID–19 pandemic, members of my CYAC continued to participate virtually in discussion regarding Congressional efforts to provide relief for those impacted by coronavirus while

sharing multi-faceted concerns on effects of the virus.

These students consistently impressed me with their knowledge and willingness to engage in thoughtful and constructive dialogue, even when their opinions differed from one another. It is a reminder, when we come to the table with the desire to improve America, there is nothing we can't achieve.

Now as I conclude my inaugural Congressional Youth Advisory Council, I am filled with conviction knowing this next generation of leaders will continue to propel our country forward through their commitment to finding productive solutions.

I thank every member of the Congressional Youth Advisory Council for their unwavering commitment to this program even amidst great adversity. Each of them has the potential to shape our nation in bold new ways while serving their community. It has been an honor to know and serve them in Congress.

Anna Aasen, Gabriella Abraham, Benjamin Ai, Luis Barajas, James Barta, Calame Brady, George Colandrea, Mason Daugherty, Tristan Espinoza, Zachary Evans, Ainsley Ford.

Tatiana Gong, Alayla Gurram, Tristan Hassell, Austin Hoang, Allie Johnson, Jonah Johnson, Caroline Joyce, Daniel Jungerman, Ameya Khanapurkar, Elizabeth Klayork.

Itzel Martin-Huesca, Cale Morrow, Aaron Myers, Sneha Nadella, Katherine Nelson-Ortiz, Katherine Novakovich, Rohan Raghav, Graham Robinson, Sierra Rodriguez, Inaki Romero-Garza.

Pierce Sandlin, Eli Scott, Tajvir Singh, Chase Stevens, Jennifer Su, Macy Su, Thomas Topping, CJ Ward, Samuel White, Reese Woertink.

SCOTLAND COUNTY HOSPITAL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Scotland County Hospital. Scotland County Hospital is an important Critical Access Hospital in my district that is celebrating their 50th anniversary and I stand today to celebrate with them and recognize their unwavering commitment to keeping rural Missourians healthy.

Established in 1970, Scotland County Hospital has met the healthcare needs of thousands of individuals over the past five decades. The only hospital in a five-county region, Scotland County Hospital has gone above and beyond in serving the area, continuing to expand their services to provide accessible healthcare. Located in Memphis, Missouri, Scotland County Hospital has continued to grow, transforming into a state-of-the-art facility with nearly 200 employees. In addition to their main facility, Scotland County Hospital has also opened several rural health clinics in surrounding counties. I firmly believe that Scotland County Hospital goes above and beyond in successfully fulfilling their mission "to improve the healthcare of our communities with services close to home".

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Scotland County Hospital for their tremendous service to the City of Memphis and Northeast Missouri over the past 50 years. I am honored to represent Scotland

County Hospital in the United States Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. CURTIS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Speaker, had I been present on June 25, 2020, I would have voted nay on H.R. 7120, the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. I missed this vote due to a scheduled surgery I needed to attend in Utah.

Our country needs police reforms to improve relationships between law enforcement and communities while also ensuring the police can enforce the law. To this end, I am a proud original cosponsor of the JUSTICE Act, which simultaneously promotes both needed change while still supporting law enforcement officers who act in good faith to protect and serve. Unfortunately, the bill before the House today falls short. Mandating locally-run police departments to make one-size-fits-all changes without providing adequate resources will inevitably make it more difficult to follow good community based policing practices and recruit highly qualified officers. I am hopeful that the Senate will soon hold a vote on the JUSTICE Act and that both chambers can work together to develop a solution we can all support.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF FORTENBERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. FORTENBERRY. Madam Speaker, from Monday, March 9 through Wednesday, March 11, I missed votes due to illness. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Nos. 91, 92, 93, 94, 97, 98, and 100 and "nay" on Nos. 95, 96, 99, and 101.

RECOGNIZING LIECHTENSTEIN'S SUCCESS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, as the world faces the Wuhan Virus Pandemic, a success has been the leadership of the Principality of Liechtenstein with America's shared resolve to eradicate the virus.

The Liechtenstein Government, through the leadership of His Serene Highness Prince Alois, worked together to make Liechtenstein one of the great international success stories by keeping Covid–19 infection rates at unseen lows. These effective policies also enabled Liechtenstein to suffer the death of only one of its citizens.

The United States recognizes His Serene Highness and his government for their success and embrace of our shared values of freedom and democracy in fighting this gruesome pandemic.

Ed McMullen, appointed by President Donald Trump, has been tireless in promoting our longtime alliance with the Principality.

TRIBUTE TO GLENDA SHRUM

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Glenda Shrum, one of Eastern Kentucky's earliest activists against the region's deadly drug abuse epidemic. As Glenda retires, I want to commend her for dedicating 16 years of service as Program Supervisor for the Knott and Magoffin County Drug Court Program, plus nearly 27 years of service as Administrator of the Knott County Health Department. Her leadership and courage of conviction has helped save lives in Eastern Kentucky.

In 2003, I launched Operation UNITE to combat the opioid crisis in Kentucky's Fifth Congressional District, utilizing a holistic approach through law enforcement investigations, treatment and education. One of the first people who joined our grassroots movement was Glenda Shrum. In fact, she had already formed the Knott Drug Abuse Council in 2002 with grant funding support, and she quickly became a trusted advisor for UNITE regarding community and family needs in and beyond the borders of Knott County. I distinctly remember Glenda presenting us with results of a local study that overwhelmingly validated our joint cause to combat drug abuse. The study revealed more than 50 percent of students in Knott County were living in homes without either parent as a result of drug overdose deaths, incarceration for a drug-related crime, or losing custody as a result of substance abuse. Later in life, Glenda personally experienced the reality of this statistic when she became the guardian of a young great-niece and nephew. However, it wasn't the first time that Glenda personally felt the impact of substance abuse within her family; the first came at the age of 9, when her father was tragically killed by a drunk driver. When you examine her life experiences, Glenda's courage of conviction and passion to drive out the stigma surrounding substance abuse is abundantly clear.

Through the Drug Court Program, Glenda has actively created local partnerships with employers who are willing to give graduates a second chance job opportunity. Others have found purpose and hope through the Appalachian Artisan Center where they are learning unique skills in pottery, blacksmithing and luthiery. She has also actively created educational programs for the entire family in hopes of reuniting and repairing relationships that suffered extensive damage prior to recovery. Glenda's work has not only helped save lives in Southern and Eastern Kentucky, but has helped rebuild families, and the local workforce where these individuals in recovery are now thriving.

In addition to a career centered around helping others, Glenda volunteers her spare time with the Knott County Drug Abuse Council, which was one of the very first organizations of its kind in the Appalachian region. As chairwoman since inception, Glenda has led community-wide events, including the annual

Dad's Day Out at Carr Creek Lake in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Project Grad, a drug-free after-prom event; free Christmas gifts for children in need during the holidays; and school supplies for children impacted by the opioid epidemic.

Had it not been for individuals, like Glenda Shrum, pounding the pavement for hope and change nearly 20 years ago, I fear what our communities would look like today. When others were hiding addiction problems and sweeping them under the rug, leaders like Glenda marched through our hills and hollows to help us raise awareness and spread a message of hope. It has been an honor to work with Glenda over the years and I personally appreciate her close interaction with our team at Operation UNITE, which now serves as a national model of success.

I want to wish Glenda many wonderful years of retirement with her family. She should rest easy knowing the countless individuals that she has empowered and inspired to make life changing decisions over the years. Her legacy will long be seen in the children that are now growing up to lead the way and continue the work she started some two decades ago. May God bless Glenda and her family for her incredible love she has shown to the people of Eastern Kentucky.

RECOGNIZING DR. LEE GOLDMAN,
MD, MPH

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Dr. Lee Goldman, MD, MPH, Dean of the Faculties of Health Science and Medicine and Chief Executive of Columbia University Irving Medical Center ("CUIMC") on his tremendous work and leadership at Columbia University over the last 14 years.

At the end of this month, Dr. Goldman will be stepping down from his leadership and academic position. Since joining CUIMC in 2006, the institution has seen remarkable growth and infusion of talent as an academic medical center and leader in clinical research while strengthening the relationship between CUIMC and NewYork Presbyterian Hospital.

Dr. Goldman has been integral to the establishment of new academic and research departments in the fields of Neuroscience, Systems Biology, Emergency Medicine, and Medical Humanities & Ethics. Growth in these fields have brought to CUIMC a more diverse faculty and staff of experts working in concert to further scientific advances. His example and leadership brought to fruition the Precision Medicine Initiative and establishment of the Institute for Genomic Medicine.

And we cannot speak of the institutional change Dr. Goldman has led without speaking of the ground-breaking Roy and Diana Vagelos Education Center providing graduate and medical students a state-of-the-art facility to better educate new generations of clinicians, scientists, and researchers.

Dr. Goldman has made an indelible imprint on CUIMC since his first day and I know the entire Columbia University family will join me in thanking him for his incredible contributions.

On behalf of New York's 13th Congressional District, I thank Dr. Goldman for his tireless work and dedication to making our diverse community stronger, resilient, and an example that future leaders will strive to achieve.

HONORING THE 2020 UNITED STATES SERVICE ACADEMY-BOUND STUDENTS

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2020

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize those young men and women from Texas' Third Congressional District who have accepted an appointment to one of our prestigious United States Service Academies.

The United States Services Academies have long been known for selecting well-rounded students who have achieved the highest standard of academics, athletics, and civic engagement. Each of these candidates have gone through a highly competitive and rigorous process to get where they are today. Their commitment to excellence both inside and outside of the classroom has set the stage for success as they train towards becoming future military leaders proudly representing Texas' Third Congressional District and our nation.

In beginning this new chapter of service, I am certain these patriots will obtain the finest education and military training available. It is with great hope for the future I thank these students for their selfless commitment and the sacrifices they will make in the years to come.

As one who has worn the uniform, it is now my privilege to congratulate these students as they embark on this new mission, and I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating our young leaders as they prepare to go forth in serving our nation with unwavering commitment and distinction.

CLASS OF 2024 APPOINTMENTS

U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Jason Ferguson; Liberty High School, McKinney.

Andrew Ferkany; Plano Senior High School/USFA Preparatory School; Plano.

McKenzie Hochevar*; Plano Senior High School, Plano.

Daniel Jungernan; Plano East Senior High School, Allen.

Catherine Kim; Plano West Senior High School, Plano.

Tiffany Li; Prince of Peace Christian School; Frisco.

Brett Schraeder; Melissa High School, Melissa.

Jordan Simmons; Greenhill School/USFA Preparatory School, McKinney.

U.S. NAVAL ACADEMY

Ryan Hogg; Prosper High School, Prosper.

Zane Smith; Deerfield Academy, Frisco.

U.S. MILITARY ACADEMY

Alexis Bradstreet; Plano East Senior High School, Richardson.

Ethan Hesson; Wylie High School, Lucas.

Nicholas Hughes; Plano Academy High School, Plano.

Mason Hutchins; Lovejoy High School, Fairview.

Stephen "Drew" Reynolds; McKinney Boyd High School, McKinney.

Natalie Russo; Lebanon High School, Frisco.