

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.