

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF FATHER KENNETH WESTRAY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Father Kenneth Westray, pastor of St. Vincent de Paul Parish in San Francisco and a civil and human rights champion in our city, who sadly passed away last week, on June 24, 2020.

Father Westray was a pillar of the San Francisco community whose selfless leadership was a tribute to the mission of the name-sake of our parish, St. Vincent. He ministered to the poor and the most vulnerable in our community with great love, respect and faith. We all will remember and be inspired by the unwavering compassion and courage he showed in the face of the AIDS epidemic, which brought strength and solace to so many during one of the darkest chapters of our city's and country's history.

Personally, my husband Paul, my family and I were deeply saddened to hear of Father Westray's passing. Our family have been parishioners at St. Vincent de Paul for generations, since Paul's parents John and Corinne Pelosi became parishioners in the 1930s. We count ourselves blessed to have known Father Westray, beloved by all for his kind and gentle soul, who strengthened our church as he built community and inspired love for service and love for God.

We enjoyed being with Father Ken in San Francisco and even in Washington. I had the privilege of welcoming Father Ken and his family to the U.S. Capitol for the visit of Pope Francis. His mother Jean was beaming with pride in him that day and on her visits to San Francisco. We shared a dedication to the San Francisco Interfaith Council and the San Francisco 49ers.

Over forty years, Father Westray was a powerful force for good in our community, lifting up the lives of so many. Although born in our nation's capital, Father Westray was proudly claimed by San Franciscans as a son of our city. He completed his seminary studies at St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park and dedicated the rest of his life to ministering to the needs of our Bay Area community.

After-being ordained to the priesthood by Archbishop Quinn at St. Mary's Cathedral, Father Westray began his first assignment as associate pastor at Sacred Heart Church in San Francisco. Over the next forty years, he would serve in parishes throughout our city: at St. Elizabeth Parish, on the Council of Priests, at Sacred Heart Grammar School where he would minister for 14 years, at St. Sebastian Parish in Greenbrae, at St. Isabella Parish in San Rafael, and at our St. Vincent de Paul Parish. He served several terms on the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Interfaith Council, a powerful force for healing and unity in our community, including on its inaugural Board.

Father Westray served our community and country in so many ways, including both in the church and in uniform. Before entering seminary, he was a Merchant Marine and later served with the Military Vicariate as chaplain in the United States Navy Inactive Reserve.

May Father Westray's lifetime of compassionate leadership to lift up the least of these continue to be a blessing to our community. May it be a comfort to Father Westray's family, his mother Jean, sister Cecilia, brother Kevin and nephew Vonty, that Archbishop Cordileone, the entire St. Vincent de Paul Parish and so many others mourn their loss and pray for them during this sad time.

HONORING BUFFY JAMISON

HON. CYNTHIA AXNE

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Buffy Jamison, co-founder and co-chair of the Iowa Queer Communities of Color Coalition, as our Iowan of the Week for the final full week of Pride Month.

Pride 2020 has looked a little different than in years past. While the parades and events did not occur as originally planned, people of all genders and sexual orientations are still celebrating the tremendous strides and achievements that the LGBTQIA+ community has made throughout our history.

The observance of Pride means both commemorating the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, which began on June 28, 1969, as well as celebrating achievement, diversity, and acceptance of our LGBTQIA+ friends and family. Pride also reminds us that the fight for equality of opportunity and justice for all is not yet complete. Even fifty years later, the same rejection of police brutality and discrimination is at the forefront of our conscience, as an intersectional issue, and protests and activism are once again promoting necessary reform.

That's why I've chosen Buffy as our Iowan of the Week. With the Iowa Queer Communities of Color Coalition, she works to address the inequity of services, socioeconomic disparities, and institutional racism experienced by communities through education, advocacy, intentional inclusivity, and organizing.

Buffy is a native Iowan who has worked both in a leadership role within community organizations and as an educator. After receiving her Master's in Higher Education from the University of Denver, Buffy returned to Iowa to dedicate her time and efforts to helping educate the general public about our marginalized communities who are too often overlooked in vital conversations and policymaking.

As Program Coordinator and LGBTQ Healthcare Liaison working with One Iowa, Buffy has helped train thousands of people on issues of intersectionality and inclusion. By emphasizing education that exposes individ-

uals to issues they may not come into contact within their own lives, she has been a leader in our state—making sure the voices of those long ignored by history are brought to the forefront.

Buffy works every single day to ensure our society actively considers the work still to be done. By shining a light on the challenges still ahead, and instructing our friends and neighbors on meaningful actions that can be undertaken at every level, she helps move us toward achieving a more perfect union.

In honor of Buffy's contributions to our state, and the work she puts in every day, I'm proud to name her Iowan of the Week.

HONORING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF WORLD WAR II VETERAN WILLIAM J. KULL

HON. HARLEY ROUDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of U.S. Army and World War II Veteran, William J. Kull of Huntington Beach, CA. Mr. Kull's patriotism and commitment to serve his community and the United States as a member of America's greatest generation should serve as an example for all especially as we continue to confront the challenges our nation faces today.

A young husband and father, Mr. Kull was a member of the New York Fire Department when he was drafted into the service in 1944. He completed Basic Training in South Carolina, then sailed to Glasgow on the HMS Queen Elizabeth, then took a Belgian ship to France. On June 6th, 1944, approximately 156,000 American, Canadian, and British forces landed on five beaches in the Normandy region of France. The operation took months of planning by General Dwight Eisenhower, who coordinated and led the attack of troops from three different nations. Mr. Kull was assigned to Rifle Company, 1st Battalion, 12th Regiment in the 4th Division, U.S. Army when he arrived the next day to replace the massive casualties sustained in battle.

Landing on Utah Beach, he saw six months of fighting on the frontlines, during which time he was promoted quickly through the ranks from Private to Staff Sergeant. His unit fought their way through Belgium and arrived in Germany before realizing confrontation at the Battle of Hurtgen Forest. Mr. Kull recalled it as "a terrible place . . . when we left, it wasn't a forest anymore."

Mr. Kull continued through the perilous challenges of war, including fighting at the Battle of the Bulge. Not knowing his sergeant had surrendered, Mr. Kull was fiercely engaged with the enemy when a German rifle held him at gunpoint. Now a Prisoner of War, in a miraculous display of loyalty to duty and country, it took only a few hours for him to escape, along with other members of his unit, and catch up with his remaining company.

• 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.

Against overwhelming odds, Mr. Kull and a couple of other squads continued to fight. Members of the 5th Division arrived to relieve them on Christmas Eve. Travelling by truck back into France, he was sent to hold the Remagen Bridge, only just captured by American Forces. He recalled that once they crossed the Rhine River and then went along the Danube, they were met with sporadic resistance.

With the war in the European Theatre essentially over, his unit remained as part of the occupying forces and shipped back to France. He received many medals, badges and citations for his exemplary service including the Order of Leopold II with Palm Degree of Chevalier and the Croix d'Guerre with Palm Leaf cluster. He was awarded the Bronze Star with Oakleaf Cluster "for exemplary conduct in ground combat against the armed enemy on or about 12 November 1944 in the European Theater of Operations."

Mr. Kull left military service in 1945 and returned to the New York Fire Department where he retired after twenty-three years of service. He has three sons Richard, David and Chuck who reside in Colorado and Texas. Mr. Kull exemplifies incredible intelligence, courage, and perseverance, and we must show our due appreciation and honor to all the men and women who lost their lives to help end the war. I truly admire Mr. Kull for answering the call of duty during one of the most historic moments in our nation's history. On this day we pay tribute to his service to our country and wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

I ask that all Members join me in honoring the birthday of William J. Kull on June 29th.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RALPH LEE ABRAHAM

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. ABRAHAM. Madam Speaker, on Friday, June 26, I was unavoidably detained on Roll Call Vote No. 122. Had I been present to vote I would have voted "NAY" on Roll Call Vote No. 122.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, June 25, 2020, I missed votes due to flight changes and delays. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 116, and NAY on Roll Call No. 117.

SMITH REYNOLDS AIRPORT

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, the Smith Reynolds Airport—located in North Carolina's Fifth District—is set to be designated as North Carolina's first legacy airport.

Originally named Miller Municipal Field in 1927, the airport was soon renamed in 1942 after the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation made a donation to the airport.

Since its inception, the airport has served as an Army Corps facility and was the birthplace for Piedmont Airlines, the legacy carrier that merged with US Airways.

The Smith Reynolds airport has been a vital component of the Piedmont community. Through this designation, its impact will lead to further growth and innovation within North Carolina's aviation sector and will serve as a boon to the stat and local economy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I am back home in Green Bay, Wisconsin on paternity leave with my family. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 120; YEA on Roll Call No. 121; and NAY on Roll Call No. 122.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following roll call votes. Had I been present for them, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call 120—Veto Message to Accompany H.J. Res. 76, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Borrower Defense Institutional Accountability"—NAY, Roll Call 121—Republican Motion to Recommit on H.R. 51—YAY, and Roll Call 122—H.R. 51—Washington, D.C. Admission Act—NAY.

TRIBUTE TO DOTTIE REICHARD

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to include in the RECORD a statement on behalf of my predecessor, Congressman Barney Frank.

One of the great bargains the American people get is the hard work done by the unselfish men and women who work for members of Congress.

No one I have been lucky enough to work with exemplifies that better than Dottie Reichard, who died last week after a great public career.

Sometimes the smartest things you do take the least effort. I inherited Dottie in 1980 in my first run for the House from my predecessor, Fr. Robert Drinan. No decision I made in fifty years in government did as much good, not just for me, but for the people and values I tried to serve.

She was an exemplary combination of all the virtues required to make government work the way it is supposed to. A first rate intelligence, unshakeable integrity, and unstinting compassion rarely coexist in equal force in one person with perfect political instincts, great organizational ability, and niceness. They did in Dottie.

The skill, generosity and absolute efficiency with which she coped with two unconventional and sometimes challenging personalities—Fr. Drinan and me—were all the more remarkable for how easy she made it look. But she didn't fool everybody. When I had the sad responsibility to share the news of her death with the people she had worked with, the genuine sadness was universal that we lost someone special.

No politician ever had a better supporter, teacher, friend, counselor, or—most of all—colleague—than I had in Dottie Reichard.

RECOGNIZING THE LATE PEDRO SALAS FOR HIS DEDICATION TO MANY CONTRIBUTIONS HE MADE FOR HIS COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Pedro Salas, a Vietnam War Veteran and active member of his community in Buffalo, New York. Salas, also known as Pete or Pello, was born in Moca, Puerto Rico in 1949 to Ignacio Salas-Lorenzo and Maria Gonzalez-Soto de Salas, and moved to Buffalo's West Side in the early 1950s with his family. Salas' family was deeply involved in the flourishing Puerto Rican businesses within the growing Latino neighborhoods.

Salas graduated from Grover Cleveland High School in 1968 and earned his degree at the University at Buffalo, where he was also a member of the University's Latino Student Organization, PODER.

Salas was drafted into the Vietnam War, where he courageously served in the United States Army. He was stationed in Germany and received an honorable discharge as a ranking Specialist. Salas' extensive career also included working for General Motors and Westinghouse, as well as serving as an academic counselor at the University at Buffalo, and as a counselor at the New York State Division for Youth. Salas' dedication to civil service is also reflected in his active membership in the American Legion, where he served as an active contributor to the Francis A. Lombardo American Legion Post. Salas was also one of several veterans who worked to found the Gabriel A. Rodriguez American Legion Post 1928, and he served as the organization's First Commander, in which he recognized the contributions of Latino veterans in Western New York.

In addition to Salas' dedication to his community, he was also a loving husband to his wife Ana Lopez, and a loving father to his three children: Mariana, nicknamed Mimi, Pedro Jose, nicknamed P.J., and Michael. Salas is also survived by his three grandchildren: Nick, Mari, and A.J., as well as his brother, Arturo. He was a dedicated sports fan, who was actively involved in local Puerto

Rican softball leagues and was known to have never missed a Bills game.

I wish to thank and honor Pedro Salas today, and his dedication to the United States Army, as well as his active participation in civil service organizations that aided in expanding the ways in which Latino Veterans are honored and remembered. His family, local community, and the United States as a whole are better for having known Salas and we stand here today to recognize his impactful leadership and heartfelt commitment. I thank Pete Salas, for his life-long service and dedication to this country.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING
ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR.
WILL DEGREGORIO

HON. TOM MALINOWSKI

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the memory of William "Will" DeGregorio, a beloved member of the Cranford, NJ community.

A fiercely dedicated member of his community, Will worked with the New Jersey State Legislature to advance S1538/A894, a bill to create a State pediatric cancer fund to advance research efforts in the battle against pediatric cancer. The measure sought further to amend the personal income tax form to allow filers to make direct contributions to the fund. Although the measure remains outstanding, Will's contributions demonstrates his ability and willingness to use the means he had available to him to make the most positive change he could. Will also always remained active and engaged in his local community, particularly with sports organizations—most notably the Cranford Police Athletic League (PAL), in which Will played sport for much of his life.

When he was not doing his civic duty to improve the lives of others and communities around him, Will loved anything and everything related to sports and was a fierce competitor. He loved playing video games with his friends and bantering back and forth about plays, players, and coaches with anyone that would challenge his knowledge of the sport and the game. He loved the color blue, any shade of it mainly because blue represented all of his favorite professional teams: The Giants, Yankees, and Rangers.

Will always sought to unite, rather than divide, those around him. His charm was one way to do this, but he also embraced #WillPower and #WillsWarriors hashtags as rallying cries to face adversity with a positive attitude. Though he faced a myriad of challenges in his life, his grit and determination allowed him to brighten up every room he entered. His beautiful blue eyes and infectious smile and giggle allowed everyone around him to feel at ease, even when he was in discomfort. He had a gift for making people laugh, most especially his friends at Brookside Place School in Cranford.

Madam Speaker, please join me today in recognizing the extraordinary accomplishments of Will DeGregorio.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRO-
TECTING RENTERS FROM EVIC-
TIONS AND FEES ACT

HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Protecting Renters from Evictions and Fees Act along with my colleague, BARBARA LEE.

Our country is facing an unprecedented pandemic and an economic crisis greater than we've seen in generations. I'm introducing this bill which will prohibit the eviction of tenants for failure to pay rent or additional fees because if people across the country are forced out of their homes then both of the crises we face will deepen.

More than half of my constituents in Chicago rent their homes. Businesses in my district have closed or reduced hours, and some of them won't reopen again. My district is a working class, immigrant district, and far too many of my neighbors have to choose between putting food on the table and paying rent. Many of them can't access some of the benefits that Congress passed because they don't have sufficient documentation. They should not have to worry about losing their home during a public health crisis.

I am introducing this bill today so that they don't have to. I urge this body to advance this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO THE MICHIGAN GRAD-
UATES OF THE WEST POINT
CLASS OF 2020

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the 2020 graduates of the United States Military Academy from the state of Michigan.

Brilliant and talented young Americans from across the country spend four years studying and serving at West Point, our nation's oldest military academy. Each one undergoes rigorous training and testing, preparing to serve our country and its mission around the world. This challenging experience culminates with graduation and commissioning, after which these exceptional individuals go on to serve our country proudly.

The class of 2020 has impressively faced the additional challenges of these unprecedented times and I am proud to say that all the cadets from Michigan have graduated and are officially commissioned as Second Lieutenants in the United States Army. As a West Point parent, myself, I hope that the values of Duty, Honor, and Country that have been instilled in them follow them throughout their careers in the Army and in their future endeavors. I want to wish a strong congratulations to:

Nicholas Bennett-Carpenter, Grace C. Beverage, Bayleigh L. Gable, Noah M. Hanau, Nathan P. Hein, Hannah E. Homsy, Connor M. Ingleson, Adam P. Kopp, Jacob D. Lemelin, Ian D. Mackinnon, Gavin P. McAuliffe, Ashleigh P. McCabe, Bryce A.

Meylan, Damaria A. Morton, Wynter C. Nickless.

Scott J. Nieboer, James A. Niemeyer, Riley D. Page, Tyler T. Picardat, Ross R. Reason, Lindsey M. Reichard, Matthew J. Robinson, Ryan A. Rocca, Michael S. Shin, Patrick D. Sutherland, James E. Tweedie, Benjamin C. Vollbach, Benedict G. Watson, Benjamin W. Whitlow, Benjamin Q. Xu, Amy T. Ziccarello.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to recognize the newly commissioned Second Lieutenants from our state and extend my deepest appreciation for their sacrifice and commitment to Michigan and the United States of America.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF
WILLIAM A. MILLICHAP

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of William A. Millichap, a native of Glen Ellyn, Illinois, who died on June 22, 2020, at the age of 76.

William Millichap was a graduate of the University of Maryland and served his country as an officer in the United States Navy. In 1971, he joined what was then G.M. Marcus Company and quickly rose through the ranks. He became the President of Marcus and Millichap in 1986, a post he held until 2000, and he has been the company's Co-Chairman since then.

Mr. Millichap was managing partner of Marcus and Millichap Venture Partners and served on the boards of Essex Property Trust and Loopnet. He was a Director of the National Multifamily Housing Council, and a member of the International Council of Shopping Centers, the Urban Land Institute and the National Venture Capital Association. Among his many accomplishments he helped launch San Jose National Bank and the Mid-Peninsula Bank of Commerce.

Hassam Nadji, CEO of Marcus and Millichap said that "Bill's passion and commitment to providing the best support to our sales force and creating value for our clients were contagious and remain essential parts of our culture to this day."

William Millichap's Co-Chair at Marcus and Millichap, George Marcus, is quoted as saying that "Bill was the truest of friends that one could ever have, and a real partner in good times and challenging ones. He was a unique and exceptional leader, coach and innovator. All who knew him would point to his intelligence, endless energy, enthusiasm, discipline, loyalty and competitiveness as main ingredients that made him the life force that he was."

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our sincerest condolences to William Millichap's wife Sherrie, to their children Laura, Greg, Jeff and Stacy, and their eight beloved grandchildren. Our country has lost a great patriot, a great innovator and an unparalleled leader who made our country stronger and bettered the lives of so many because of everything he did.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARKWAYNE MULLIN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. MULLIN. Madam Speaker, I was not present the week of June 22–26, 2020 on account of supporting my son's continuing recovery. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 116; NAY on Roll Call No. 117; YEA on Roll Call No. 118; NAY on Roll Call No. 119; NAY on Roll Call No. 120; YEA on Roll Call No. 121; and NAY on Roll Call No. 122.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I am back home in Green Bay, Wisconsin on paternity leave with my family. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 116; NAY on Roll Call No. 117; YEA on Roll Call No. 118; and NAY on Roll Call No. 119.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. CURTIS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 29, 2020

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted nay on H.R. 1425, the State Health Care Premium Reduction Act. I missed this vote due to a scheduled surgery I underwent.

Right now, we must deliver the most effective treatments to patients infected with COVID–19 and all those suffering from other life-threatening illnesses. Breaking down barriers to receiving timely care must remain our number one priority in order to halt transmission of the virus.

H.R. 1425 does the opposite by dramatically expanding the role of government through unconstitutional inventions in our pharmaceutical industry and broader healthcare system. This would put our brightest scientific minds in handcuffs and threaten their ability to develop future cures for COVID–19 and other life-threatening diseases.

These are especially concerning decisions to make without bipartisan input. We have to work together in order to deliver solutions that give Americans more control over how they are receiving their health care. Solutions could include expanding access to health savings accounts or association health plans to be sold across state lines and with more portability. I recently introduced legislation to increase access to both options and I encourage my Democratic colleagues to join me as I look for creative solutions to make health care more affordable for millions of hard-working Americans.

Finally, I want to point out that Congress has already taken unprecedented steps to increase access to care for the uninsured and any American household dealing with the ef-

fects of COVID–19. It is critical that our focus remains defeating this virus, keeping Americans healthy, and allowing hard-working men and women across our great nation to return to work. We cannot place greater strains on our already over-worked health care system through one-size-fits-all policy making.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF RULE SUBMITTED BY OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY RELATING TO "COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT REGULATIONS"

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a senior member of the Judiciary, Homeland Security, and Budget Committees, I rise in strong support of H.J. Res. 90, "a Congressional Review Act Resolution of Disapproval on the Office of the Comptroller of Currency's Community Reinvestment Act Rule," which overturns the recent rule-making the Office of the Comptroller of Currency (OCC) issued.

In 1977, Congress passed the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA), a crucial piece of civil rights legislation.

The CRA sought to prevent discriminatory practices, such as redlining, and required banks to invest and lend responsibly to low- and moderate-income communities.

However, we gather here today because the Office of the Comptroller of Currency (OCC) recently passed a final rule that effectively undermines the CRA and will substantially negatively impact low-income communities of color.

Madam Speaker, not only did the OCC fail to collect sufficient data before proceeding with its final rule, but it also put forth this final rule without the support of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and the Federal Reserve, two of the three CA regulators.

As a longtime, vocal advocate for marginalized communities, I am here to voice my support for H.J. Res. 90 and call attention to the numerous ways in which the OCC's final rule will perpetuate discriminatory lending practices against low- and moderate-income communities of color.

For example, the allowances and loopholes created by this final rule allow for banks to invest in communities where they can reap the largest rewards, thereby further harming low-income and minority communities by giving banks passing ratings under the CRA even while they reduce their lending to low-income borrowers and underserved communities.

In addition, the OCC's final rule also measures how well a bank is meeting its obligations under the CRA by incentivizing large deals, as opposed to smaller and more continuous financial transactions, which have been known to benefit and low- and moderate-income communities.

It is no secret that discriminatory lending practices have and continue to disproportionately affect people of color.

According to the Associated Press, black loan applicants are turned away at significantly higher rates than whites in 48 cities, Latinos in 25, Asians in 9, and Native Americans in 3.

We must take the steps necessary to change that reality.

It is imperative that Congress comes together to vote in favor of H.J. Res. 90 and demonstrate that we will not condone policies and practices that have the power to discriminate against any one group of people.

We must take it upon ourselves to ensure that everyone has the same opportunity to prosper economically.

And so, I ask all members from both parties to join me in voting to pass H.J. Res. 90.

PROVIDING FOR CONGRESSIONAL DISAPPROVAL OF RULE SUBMITTED BY OFFICE OF THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY RELATING TO "COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT REGULATIONS"

SPEECH OF

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 26, 2020

Mrs. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I rise to support House Joint Resolution 90, a resolution to overturn the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency's ill-conceived rule to dilute and weaken the Community Reinvestment Act. Originally passed in 1977, the Community Reinvestment Act was enacted into law to fight against systemic racism in the banking and housing system, otherwise known as redlining. This practice ensured that the American dream of homeownership and living in good neighborhoods with good schools would never become a reality for Black families because of the color of their skin. The peaceful protests since the murder of George Floyd against the persistent injustice and unequal treatment of Black people are a testament to why our society must keep our foot on the pedal of CRA to ensure that its intentions are fully realized to right the wrongs of the past.

At a time when the homeownership rate of Black Americans is only marginally better than it was in 1977, we should be strengthening the Community Reinvestment Act to form a more inclusive America, not gutting it like the OCC's rule would do. The COVID–19 pandemic has further proved that we need to fuel Black businesses, entrepreneurship and enterprise in Black communities to add value and make them more stable. This resolution will overturn the OCC's rule and ensure that the gains that we have made are not rolled back to the era of Jim Crow and protect investments in Black communities.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this resolution.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and

any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, June 30, 2020 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 1

9:45 a.m.
 Committee on Environment and Public Works
 Business meeting to consider the nominations of Katherine A. Crytzer, to be Inspector General, and Beth Harwell and Brian Noland, both to be a Member of the Board of Directors, all of the Tennessee Valley Authority, and 27 General Services Administration resolutions.
 SD-106

10 a.m.
 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 To hold hearings to examine exploring a compensation framework for intercollegiate athletes.
 SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works
 To hold hearings to examine infrastructure development opportunities to drive economic recovery and resiliency.
 SD-106

2 p.m.
 Select Committee on Intelligence
 Closed business meeting to consider pending intelligence matters; to be immediately followed by a closed hearing to examine certain intelligence matters.
 SVC-217

2:30 p.m.
 Committee on Indian Affairs
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine the response and mitigation to the COVID-19 pandemic in Native communities, including S. 3650, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to deem employees of urban Indian organizations as part of the Public Health Service for certain purposes.
 SD-562

3 p.m.
 Committee on Veterans' Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine recruitment, retention and building a resilient veterans health care workforce.
 SD-106

JULY 2

10 a.m.
 Committee on Appropriations
 Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
 To hold hearings to examine Operation Warp Speed, focusing on researching, manufacturing, and distributing a safe and effective coronavirus vaccine.
 SD-106

Committee on the Judiciary
 Business meeting to consider S. 3398, to establish a National Commission on Online Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention, and the nominations of John W. Holcomb, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Brett H. Ludwig, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin, R. Shireen Matthews, and Todd Wallace Robinson, both to be a United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, and Christy Criswell Wiegand, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania.
 SR-325

11 a.m.
 Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
 To hold hearings to examine human rights at home, focusing on implications for United States leadership.
 WEBEX