

help finding affordable rentals, and some case management. RRH is widely credited with a steep nationwide reduction in family homelessness.

Among homelessness services providers, the operative maxim is: "it's a marathon, not a sprint!" This pandemic will last well into calendar year 2021, and they know their workload will likely get even heavier. Therefore, it is imperative that the federal government sufficiently resource those providers through enactment of Section 201.

2. Section 202 would authorize the establishment of \$1 billion in emergency housing vouchers which could provide permanent housing to homeless Americans, those at risk of becoming homeless, as well as those escaping from domestic violence. With respect to homeless families and individuals, specifically, these vouchers could be used to provide safe spaces to those most vulnerable to the virus—the elderly, the disabled, and the sick—who need deeper subsidies. Additional funding beyond what is provided here will be needed to ensure a permanent housing solution for all homeless people who are elderly or have serious disabilities, and we look forward to working with you to fulfill this need.

3. Section 101 would establish a \$100 billion rental assistance fund in order to prevent a wave of homelessness from sweeping across the nation and overwhelming homelessness services providers. Many renters, who were already spending unsustainable amounts of their incomes on rent, are incurring significant arrearages during state and federal eviction moratoria, and they are in danger of eviction when those moratoria expire.

Your legislation offers homeless and unstably-housed Americans hope and inspiration during this terrible time, so thank you for your extraordinary leadership.

Sincerely,

STEVE BERG,

Vice President for Programs and Policy,
National Alliance to End Homelessness.

BMW PRODUCES 5 MILLION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, South Carolina has become America's number one exporter of autos with the success of BMW and now enhanced with new Volvo production and Mercedes vans. With the vision of the late Governor Carroll Campbell who recruited BMW, thousands of jobs have been achieved at BMW and its suppliers.

The achievements of 5 million produced by BMW was highlighted by The Columbia Business Report of June 22nd:

BMW MANUFACTURING PASSES PRODUCTION
MILESTONE

BMW has made 5 million vehicles in Spartanburg County.

The milestone U.S.-made BMW is a red X5 M Competition equipped with a 617-horsepower M TwinPower Turbo V-8 engine, according to a news release. It was completed June 5 and will remain at the factory to become part of the BMW history collection. Others in the collection include the first car made at the plant.

"You cannot be successful in business if you do not have great products and great people," Knudt Flor, president and CEO of BMW Manufacturing, said in the news release. "This BMW X5 M Competition is a symbol of the success of our products and

the commitment and dedication of our associates and supplier network. Every BMW X5 in the world comes from Plant Spartanburg. We are proud to call South Carolina home."

More than half of the BMW vehicles sold in the United States are built at Plant Spartanburg, according to Bernhard Kuhnt, president and CEO of BMW of North America.

"We cannot overstate the importance of Plant Spartanburg to our sales network," he said in the news release. "BMW Group has long considered the United States to be our second home and we are proud to say that the U.S. is in fact home to the biggest BMW plant in the world. We congratulate our colleagues on this historic achievement."

BMW celebrated 25 years of manufacturing in the Upstate last year, when it built a record 411,620 vehicles. Nearly 70% of the plant's production was exported from 2010-2019. Last year's value of exports was \$9.6 billion, more than any other U.S. carmaker for the sixth consecutive year, according to the news release. The plant has expanded seven times, with \$10.6 billion in investment, and has 11,000 workers on site.

"BMW changed the very fabric of our state's economy when it decided to locate in South Carolina nearly three decades ago," Gov. Henry McMaster said in the release. "That this great company built its 5 millionth American-made vehicle in Spartanburg should be a source of great pride for our people and a reason for celebration. It's one more example of South Carolinians sharing in the success of a company that has become an integral part of our state because of its dedication to our people."

HONORING ALEXANDER TWILIGHT

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Mr. WELCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 225th anniversary of the birth of a trailblazing Vermonter, Alexander Lucius Twilight, and to honor his legacy. Alexander was not only the first African American to graduate from a U.S. college or university, but the first African American to serve in a state legislature. In recognition of his contributions and his legacy as a trailblazer, the Vermont legislature passed a resolution in June 2020 marking his birthday, September 23, 2020, as Alexander Twilight Day.

Alexander was born on September 23, 1795 to mixed-race parents. His father, Ichabod Twilight, fought with the Second New Hampshire Regiment in the Revolutionary War. After the war, Ichabod and his wife, Mary, moved to Bradford, Vermont.

Vermont's 1777 constitution prohibited adult slavery, but the letter of the law was not reflected in practice. In the decades following Vermont's acceptance as the 14th state, Black children were still held as slaves and all Black Vermonters continued to face the threat of being kidnapped and sold out of state. Against this backdrop of widespread discrimination, Twilight graduated with a bachelor's degree from Middlebury College in 1823. He is the first known African American to receive a bachelor's degree from any U.S. college or university.

After he graduated, Twilight became a teacher and a minister. He moved to New York to teach and married Mercy Ladd Merrill.

Soon after, he returned to Vermont to run the Orleans County Grammar School in Brownington. To accommodate increasing enrollment, he organized the funding and construction of a new school building to house and educate students. He also served as the local pastor, delivering sermons decrying slavery and supporting temperance. His sermons reveal a man of strong convictions, who viewed human history as a progression towards greater individual freedom guided by conscience.

In 1836, Twilight became "the first" again, this time as the first African American elected to serve in a state legislature. He continued to teach at the Orleans County School and in Quebec until 1855, when a stroke left him paralyzed. He died two years later, on June 19, 1857. The next year, Vermont passed a complete ban on slavery, declaring that anyone who entered the state was free.

Today, Twilight's house, the school where he taught, and the dormitory he built still stand as part of the Old Stone House Museum in the Brownington Historic District. His legacy as an educator lives on through the Museum, where his ideals are reflected in the museum's educational programs, community services and his personal collection. Twilight's memory is etched in Vermont's higher learning institutions, such as Middlebury College's Alexander Twilight Hall and Alexander Twilight Auditorium at Northern Vermont University—Lyndon.

I hope that Alexander Twilight will continue to be remembered and celebrated as a pioneer who persevered against long odds. He should also serve as a reminder of how far we have come as a nation, and how far we still have to go to achieve equality for all Americans, regardless of skin color, race or ethnicity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote in person due to a family commitment. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 130.

IN RECOGNITION OF RAY PETERSEN'S DECADES OF REMARKABLE PUBLIC SERVICE TO UTAH

HON. JOHN R. CURTIS

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 1, 2020

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate Mr. Ray Petersen on a remarkable career of indispensable service to the great State of Utah. By virtue of Ray's enduring commitment to overseeing proper land management practices, Emery County flourishes with beauty and opportunity. The residents of Emery County, and the countless visitors who enjoy the region, have Ray to thank for his 18 years as Emery County's Public Lands Administrator, and his lifetime of public service to rural Utah.

Ray has dedicated his career to addressing critical rural issues. As a fourth-generation