

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE PROGRAM

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 2, 2020

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, in this historical moment, we are all working to find ways to eliminate racial injustice and the disparities it causes. Certainly, people of color must be treated with fairness and respect by law enforcement. But it will take far more than that to begin to make a dent in the race and sex discrimination that keeps far too many people locked out of the American dream. In this context, the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise or DBE Program, which is reauthorized in this legislation, is essential. As we have over the past decades since the DBE program was originally enacted in 1983, this Committee has received enormous amounts of evidence demonstrating that discrimination continues to plague the industries that make up the surface transportation market. One of the studies referenced in our Committee Report involves the Nashville and the surrounding metropolitan area. The numbers are devastating—especially in prime contracting. Firms owned by African Americans earned 3 cents on the dollar of what we would expect them to earn given their availability in Architecture and Engineering markets. For Asian Americans the number was 18 cents on the dollar and for Hispanic Americans it was 47 cents on the dollar. That is simply unacceptable. In construction contracting, African Americans did better, but Hispanic Americans did much, much worse—and none did as well as white males. In prime construction contracts, African American owned firms earned 55 cents on the dollar of what we would have expected given their representation in the availability for prime construction contracting. Asian Americans earned 25 cents on the dollar and Hispanic Americans earned 1 cent on the dollar. Metro Nashville Tennessee Disparity Study Final Report, Griffin and Strong, P.C., August 2018, at 83 through 84. These numbers make clear that minority business owners in this country are trapped in a cycle of discrimination from which escape is close to impossible. We cannot permit this situation to continue.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF BRIAN DAVIS AND HIS THIRTY-FIVE YEAR CAREER WITH THE CATTARAUGUS COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 2, 2020

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the retirement of Brian Davis, Cattaraugus County Soil and Water Conservation District Field Manager.

Brian dedicated thirty years of his life to serving as the district field manager and oversaw a considerable amount of projects that ranged from agriculture to wildlife issues, as well as forest issues and streambank protection. Previously, he served as a technician with the conservation district for five years.

His dedication to the cause of conservation has been evidenced by his hard work, successful projects over the years and his enthusiasm for the task at hand. He has overseen millions of dollars of projects over the years that have aided businesses, farmers and highway superintendents across the area. These efforts have had a considerable impact on the district and have improved the environment in various ways.

Brian has provided dedicated leadership during his tenure at the Cattaraugus County Soil and Water Conservation District and he will be missed by all. He leaves behind a legacy of service and commitment that will be difficult to replace, however, he has certainly earned his retirement. We hope his next steps on this new path will be rewarding and bountiful, as his contributions have been to the communities he has served.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to congratulate Brian Davis of the Cattaraugus County Soil and Water Conservation District on his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 2, 2020

Mrs. ROBY. Madam Speaker, today I was unable to vote on Tuesday, June 30 and Wednesday, July 1. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: NAY on Roll Call No. 130; NAY on Roll Call No. 131; NAY on Roll Call No. 132; NAY on Roll Call No. 133; YEA on Roll Call No. 134; YEA on Roll Call No. 135; NAY on Roll Call No. 136; YEA on Roll Call No. 137; and NAY on Roll Call No. 138.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF JAMESTOWN POLICE CHIEF HARRY SNELLINGS

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 2, 2020

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the retirement of Jamestown Police Chief Harry Snellings.

Chief Harry Snellings has been with the Jamestown Police Department in Jamestown, New York since 1996. He began as a police officer, was promoted to Sergeant in 2004 and later, Lieutenant in 2009. In 2010, Harry took over as Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety.

From 2001 to 2009, Harry was a member of the Special Weapons and Tactics team (S.W.A.T.), serving as a team leader and a team commander during that time. In 2011, he attended and graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy.

Prior to his service as a police officer, Harry served in the United States Army for twenty-three years and was deployed three times. He selflessly dedicated his life to public service and public safety throughout his career, and has certainly earned his retirement. We applaud his efforts and wish him the best in the next chapters of his life.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to congratulate Chief Harry Snelling upon his retirement.

● 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.
