

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING ARKANSAS STATE VETERANS HOME IN NORTH LITTLE ROCK ARKANSAS

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 6, 2020

Mr. HILL of Arkansas. Madam Speaker, today, I recognize Sarah Roberson and the staff at the Arkansas State Veterans Home in North Little Rock, Arkansas. Sarah and the staff have been restoring hope and happiness to our veterans through creativity and compassion.

Sarah Roberson and the team have quickly developed new ways to bring joy to our veterans during the current public health crisis due to COVID-19 by dedicating their time to connecting veterans to their families via virtual chat, promoting outdoor activities including golf cart rides, gardening, and long walks.

Sarah has also made sure our veterans have the ability to vote by assisting veterans with registering, transferring, and applying for absentee ballots.

This initiative has shined a light on how creativity and compassion encourage positive attitudes and can unite a community even amidst a public health crisis.

I congratulate Sarah Roberson and the team at the Arkansas State Veterans Home for their efforts in lifting the spirits of our veteran community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSIE LEE

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 6, 2020

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Madam Speaker, while present in the House Chamber, I attempted to cast my electronic vote and vote “yea” on roll call 138. I then departed the House Chamber, though my attempted vote apparently was not recorded. I intended to vote in support of H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act.

Had my vote been recorded without error, I would have voted “Yea” on Roll Call No. 138.

COMMEMORATING THE ACA AND PASSAGE OF THE FAIRNESS IN SOCIAL SECURITY ACT

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 6, 2020

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, 2020 commemorates the 10-year anniversary of the Affordable Care Act, historic legislation which has greatly expanded access to healthcare for tens of millions of Americans. For those with pre-existing conditions, and for so many hard-

working middle-class families, the ACA truly is a critical law that has provided access to life-saving care.

As the President and my Republican colleagues champion the dismantling of the ACA—destruction of progress for millions of citizens with, indeed, no proposal to take its place—I am honored to instead collaborate with my Democratic colleagues to ensure we are building and improving upon the victories of the ACA.

That’s why I’m proud to champion the passage of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Enhancement Act, which included my bill the Fairness in Social Security Act—legislation to ensure Social Security recipients continue to receive the Affordable Care Act tax credits for which they are eligible. Without this legislation, countless citizens will have the same experience as a constituent of mine, who suddenly and unfairly owed 27 thousand dollars to the IRS. For people with disabilities, veterans, and countless others, this bill will mean the difference between having access to healthcare or not.

And that’s the bottom line of so many provisions within the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Enhancement Act: without them—and without the ACA as a whole—the lives of our nation’s most vulnerable citizens will be at risk.

Now, as our nation faces unprecedented health and economic crises, is the time to improve our healthcare system, not dismantle it. I look forward to working with each and every member on both sides of the aisle who share that goal.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GREGORY ALLEN THOMPSON

HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 6, 2020

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Gregory Allen Thompson.

Born in Ft. Benning, Georgia, Gregory was a valued father, businessman, and patriot. He graduated in 1982 from Columbus High School. Gregory received a Bachelor of Science in Communications from National Louis University. His patriotism inspired him to serve in the United States Air Force. He also worked as a Civil Service Employee. Gregory served as Chief of the United States Air Force Art Program at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Gregory worked in the U.S. State Department as a Security Officer for over 15 years. Gregory was the owner of Made to Measure, Custom Tailor clothing business and remained part-owner and partner with Howard Wallace. He was a dedicated member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Arlington.

Gregory has served our nation with distinction. This record is testament to his civic engagement, attentiveness, and hard work for

which our country is forever grateful. Gregory was a valued father and friend to those who knew him.

HONORING BILL FINE

HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 6, 2020

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the career and accomplishments of a leader in the New England media industry, Bill Fine.

For half a century, Bill lived and breathed broadcast journalism. A graduate of Boston University’s College of Communication, he began his career as a sports anchor in the 1970s. Over the ensuing years, he worked his way up the ranks of WCVB until earning a promotion to the helm of the station in 2005.

As president and general manager of WCVB, he steered the broadcaster towards a number of awards, including six Gabriel Awards as the “Nation’s Best Television Station” and the prestigious Service to America Award in 2014 for its contributions to the Greater Boston community following the Boston Marathon bombings.

But more than just a leader in business, Bill was a leader in his community. Not satisfied with simply informing the public through WCVB’s programming, he spent long hours advocating for the causes he held dear and supporting organizations that strengthened neighborhoods across our Commonwealth.

In the years that I’ve gotten to know Bill, he’s been a constant presence in the Boston community, willing to lend a hand whenever needed and often before being asked. While I am certainly excited for him and his next chapter, he will be missed by all of those who have worked with him through the years.

To Bill and his wife, Gail, enjoy retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY K. WEBER, SR.

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 6, 2020

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Madam Speaker, due to COVID-19 exposure, I self-quarantined from June 29 to July 3, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 123; NAY on Roll Call No. 124; YEA on Roll Call No. 125; NAY on Roll Call No. 126; YEA on Roll Call No. 127; NAY on Roll Call No. 128; NAY on Roll Call No. 129; 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.

• 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.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE
OF ALLISON ENDERT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 6, 2020

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the tragically shortened life of Allison Endert, who died on June 15, 2020, while taking an afternoon walk in Seabright, California.

Allison was born in Eureka, California, in 1977. She graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz, where she developed a deep love and respect for the beautiful Santa Cruz area, its mountains, its ocean and the spirit of its people.

Allison was a true public servant. At the time of her death she was an analyst on the staff of Santa Cruz County Supervisor Ryan Coonerty. Prior to that she served as an analyst for then County Supervisor Neal Coonerty,

and as Assemblyman John Laird's District Director. She used her exceptional talents as effective vehicles to make a difference in the lives of people. She was justly proud of helping to establish the Nurse-Family Partnership, which connects first-time mothers to nurses to ease the transition to parenthood, and of being a key partner in the Twin Lakes Beach Project. She loved Hawaii, music concerts, being an ardent supporter of her daughters' schools, and her great delight was watching them play sports.

The people who knew and loved Allison have expressed their feelings about her in many loving words. They say that she had moral clarity and was incredibly talented. She had a passion for public service and always tried to find ways to make lives better. She was a bright light who was always committed, friendly, caring, and loyal, and radiated compassion. She was a great listener with a deep commitment to social justice. She held herself and others to very high standards, she did

what she said she would do, and always did it well. She adored her family and they came first in her life.

Allison's dear friend and mine, Les Gardner, said of Allison, "She was pure of heart. The most incredibly kind and principled young woman I have ever met. Life did not change her. When she died she was the same kind, young principled girl I knew so many years ago. A testament to her life is how many people she touched and are now mourning her loss."

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in expressing our deepest condolences to Allison Endert's partner, Andy Tatum, and her two daughters, Molly Endert-Tatum and Lucy Endert-Tatum. She also leaves her mother, Kathy Huntley, two stepfathers, two brothers and a sister. Our community and our country have lost a shining star, one who contributed greatly and would have done even more, had she been given the time.