

workforce ensures that citizen services are uninterrupted by a change in administration.

As you may acknowledge, Madam Speaker, it was of the highest civilian honor for me to serve as a member of then President-elect Barack Obama's transition team, and to engage with the apolitical workforce. While the country faced economic peril, I formally joined the Administration just a few weeks after the President was sworn into office, as a White House appointee serving in the United States Department of the Treasury, alongside Presidential appointees of the former Administration of George W. Bush. I witnessed first-hand how a peaceful and collegial transition of power is achieved. In the process, I garnered tremendous respect for the dedicated career civil servants who continue to serve no matter the political outcome. Today, that same workforce is looking at two possibilities come November: preparing for a new administration or continuing to govern as part of the current administration.

If, following the results of the November 3rd election, a presidential transition falls upon our federal government, a large task is at hand for the new administration. While this is not assumed, it is a scenario worthy of planning and consideration. Just as, if the current president is reaffirmed and continues to a second term, the duties of his administration will continue. Peace and trust in either scenario is paramount. In any such outcome, I ask of my fellow countrymen and women and with specific request of my colleagues within this coequal branch of government to pledge to achieve a more perfect union and recognize that in November, millions will see their votes cast for the winner of the Presidential election, just as millions will see their vote cast for the runner-up of the election. We may suspect or assume the continued and sustained activities of our federal government, and recommitting to this assurance is a healthy and productive exercising of our authorities. In particular, as collective bodies within the Congress and federal agencies, it is our cooperative responsibility to ensure strife and upheaval does not impede the critical duties of our civilian workforce. We, as an elected body of federal representatives oversee, fund, and authorize the efforts of our federal agencies and maintain a responsibility and dedication to their success, particularly in the aftermath of presidential elections.

Today I officially submit as record to this chamber a request to my colleagues. We, as federated leaders and representatives, may express dismay and disagreement with one another and with election outcomes, but we also set the tone to continue the peaceful process following from the votes cast by millions and preparation for ongoing governance and legislative affairs. And we certainly maintain an authority to hold reckless actions of federal officials accountable.

Many in this Chamber on both sides of the aisle have dedicated their life's work to achieving equality, and all took an oath upon being a sworn member of the United States House of Representatives to support and defend the Constitution of the United States of America. Our duties are not just reflections; they are actions and commitments that form a more perfect union and promote the general welfare as this nation continues to thrive as a free and safe democracy. As we exercise the full abilities vested in us as men and women within this form of public trust, we commit to contin-

ued renewal and restoring of our government with each election.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
MR. JERRY YUCHIEH WANG

HON. DON BACON

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Mr. BACON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the service of Jerry Yuchieh Wang. Mr. Wang is an outgoing Senior Officer in the Congressional Liaison Division of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office (TECRO), which is the de facto embassy of Taiwan. Mr. Wang is returning to Taiwan for his next assignment in the Department of International Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China (Taiwan). During his service as the TECRO contact for my office, as well as the House Armed Services Committee, Senate Armed Services Committee and Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mr. Wang has been an invaluable resource for my staff and me.

In 2015, Mr. Wang was hand-picked to serve as a congressional liaison for TECRO. During his five and a half years of service in this position, Mr. Wang's insights assisted Members in gaining a deeper understanding of the importance of the United States' relationship with Taiwan and facilitated visits between U.S. and Taiwanese officials at all levels.

Since arriving in Washington, Mr. Wang has played an important role in supporting the strengthening of US-Taiwan security cooperation, personnel exchanges, and the provision of critical defense articles as required by the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979. He was also an integral member of the TECRO team supporting Taiwan's participation in international Organizations and US-Taiwan trade relations. Additionally, Mr. Wang has organized and overseen many Congressional Member and Staff Delegation visits to Taiwan, including my own.

Mr. Wang has served in Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2010. Early in his diplomatic career, he worked in the Department of International Organizations on Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) related issues. Mr. Wang received a Master's degree in Political Science from the National Taiwan University.

Mr. Wang has been a tireless advocate for the universal values of liberty, democracy, and the respect for the integrity of individual rights—values that are shared by the people of the United States and Taiwan. Our world is a better place because of the work of leaders like Mr. Wang. While Mr. Wang secured many legislative victories for Taiwan during his tenure in Washington, D.C., he made even more long-lasting friendships. My colleagues and our staff are proud to call him a friend, and we hope to see him back in Washington, D.C. one day.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SISTER
PAMELA MARIE BUGANSKI

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and celebrate the transformational life of Sister Pamela Marie Buganski. Hailing from Toledo, Ohio's Old Orchard neighborhood, Sister Pamela began her service to the Toledo community in 1975. For forty-five long years, she dedicated her life in service to her religious community, embracing the poor and needy in communities across Northern Ohio, Guatemala, Papua New Guinea, Mexico, and Texas.

I wish to extend my deepest sympathies to her parents, Dr. Raymond and Ruth Buganski; her four sisters Cynthia, Lynn, Laura, and Joan; her five brothers Mark, Joseph, Robert, David, and Michael; and her numerous nieces and nephews.

Most recently I had the honor of meeting Sister Pamela again during my visit to the U.S. Southern Border with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus in January 2020. I was so impressed by her dedication to help those struggling to survive in the face of dire circumstances. She stood at the edge of freedom and hope for them. Many of those detained had traveled thousands of miles to the U.S. border to seek refuge only to find the passage blocked by the Trump Administration's immoral "Remain in Mexico" policy. What we saw were families fleeing violence forced to live in squalor in the outskirts of our country by a broken immigration system that has little regard for the human condition. She bore witness to the anguish, misery, illness, and desperation. Sister Pamela recognized that we are all truly God's children. She treated everyone who crossed her path with the love and respect endowed to them by our Creator.

Sister Pamela was born in St. Louis, Missouri in 1956 and her family eventually moved to Toledo, OH. There she attended St. Pius and Notre Dame Academy and eventually entered the Sisters of Notre Dame in 1975, professing her vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience in 1978.

She pursued graduate studies at the University of Dayton and the University of Notre Dame. Recognizing the importance of investing in our nation's youth, she dedicated twelve years of her life teaching at junior high schools across Northwestern Ohio and then another ten years teaching math and computer science at St. Mary High School and Notre Dame Academy.

Sister Pamela's deep devotion to her faith and service took her on three mission trips, one to Papua New Guinea and two to Guatemala. After studying Spanish, Sister Pamela's drive to support social justice initiatives and marginalized communities brought her to Texas.

Here, she helped devastated communities after Hurricane Harvey and was accredited by CLINIC to advocate for those seeking refuge at the U.S.'s Southern border. Her sister Cynthia described her best as someone who "was a genuine caregiver from the beginning . . . she could bring calm to chaos".

On behalf of so many grateful communities in Northern Ohio and across our hemisphere,

I express deepest gratitude for the precious life of Sister Pamela. Let her life serve as an example to all during this especially challenging time. May her spirit and prophetic legacy inspire a humane path forward for all people who seek liberty.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DR.
THOMAS ELY OF TENNESSEE

HON. MARK E. GREEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Thomas Ely for his distinguished career in the medical profession and recent election as the 124th President of the American Osteopathic Association. Tennesseans across our great state are proud to join me in celebrating his accomplishments and election to the highest leadership role in the osteopathic profession.

Dr. Ely's career has been marked by dedication and tireless leadership in the medical field. As a fellow Tennessean, he served his patients with care and represented our great state for over 30 years as a delegate to the AOA House of Delegates, as well as serving as the President of the Tennessee Osteopathic Medical Association (TOMA).

His desire to help others led him to join the United States Army, where he served honorably for 20 years, and where he received many honors, including the Legion of Merit and the Bronze Star. Even after retiring from service, he eagerly answered the call to support our troops during Operation Desert Storm. It is the sacrifices of brave men and women like Dr. Ely that has built our country, and we are forever indebted to his service.

I am honored to have worked alongside Dr. Ely in the medical profession. On behalf of the United States Congress, I wish to commend Dr. Ely for his service, and I congratulate him as he continues his lifelong career of serving others, now as the President of the American Osteopathic Association.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND
LEGACY OF ALAN S. BECKER

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of my dear friend, co-founder of Becker and Poliakoff law firm, Alan S. Becker. Alan's quest for a law degree brought him to Florida where he attended the University of Miami School of Law. Alan graduated in 1969 and scored the highest grade on that years legal Bar exam. Early in his career he worked in the Office of the Attorney General and as an assistant public defender.

At the age of 26, Alan became the youngest person elected to the Florida House of Representatives, serving three terms from 1972 to 1978. Alan pioneered community association law with his long-time business partner, Gary Poliakoff, initially working out of the trunk of a car representing condo owners. Their law firm

has since grown into one of the largest in Florida, with offices in New York, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C.

The official accolades and honors for Alan are too numerous to count, however, I want to highlight a few. Alan passed the Czech Republic Bar exam in 1992 and served as honorary counsel there until 2016. He was a passionate writer, teacher and painter. He authored two books, taught "The Business of Law" at the University of Miami School of Law, and lectured on leadership at Keiser University. Alan sat on the Board of Directors for Enterprise Florida and received the Governor's Business Ambassador Medallion for his contributions to economic development.

Madam Speaker, Alan was a lifelong Democrat, but always reached across the aisle and worked in conjunction with others to find the best solution for our community, a quality that I honor and respect and is one of the many outstanding qualities of his character that made me proud to call him a friend. I extend my heartfelt condolences to Alan's family and friends and I pray that they find comfort during this extremely difficult time. Alan will be dearly missed.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ELI KENT

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of an outstanding young man whose life was taken too soon. Eli Kent, the son of Nicky and Alisha Gray Kent, passed away at the age of 10 on June 25, 2020, at the North Mississippi Medical Center.

Eli was known for his love of travel and Ole Miss sports. When he wasn't watching the excitement on Swayze field, Eli was watching his sister dance or the Wheel of Fortune. He was also a special member of Bethel Baptist Church, sharing his smile with the many people who knew and loved him.

Left to cherish his memory are his parents, Nicky and Alisha Kent; his sister, Kylee Kent; his grandparents, Jeff and Lori Gray, and James Kent; as well as many friends and extended family members.

Eli suffered from spinal muscular atrophy, and while we mourn his loss, we know he is pain-free and safe in the arms of our Lord.

RECOGNIZING THE ASTRO JELLY
DOGS' ACHIEVEMENT OF BEING
SELECTED AS A GLOBAL INNOVATION
SEMI-FINALIST TEAM

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable accomplishment of my constituents, the Astro Jelly Dogs, who were selected as a Global Innovation Semi-Finalist Team for the FIRST LEGO League Global Innovation Award. I congratulate Ryan Vollmer, Mary Jane Gibson, Tyler Carney, Samuel Perretta, Jack Stauder, Molly Rich-

ards, Benjamin Richards and their coach, Kelly Vollmer, on their passionate commitment to environmentally sustainable solutions and their impressive results. Through their innovation, the Grow Home, the Astro Jelly Dogs will renovate an abandoned row house to provide Baltimore City residents more access to fruits and vegetables.

The FIRST LEGO League Global Innovation Award recognizes and celebrates the next generation of innovators. Teams identify a problem in their local community and then work to design a unique and environmentally sustainable solution. Teams are tasked with considering barriers to implementation, evaluating their invention and validating their invention with STEM professionals. 20 semi-finalist teams are chosen from 40,000 FIRST LEGO League teams from over 100 countries to receive further assistance and ultimately win a cash prize.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the extraordinary achievement of these bright children and I hope my colleagues and constituents will join me in congratulating the Astro Jelly Dogs on a job well done.

REMEMBERING MARIE J.
BONAMICI-WOODCOCK

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2020

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the beautiful life of Marie J. Bonamici-Woodcock, mother of my esteemed colleague, Congresswoman SUZANNE BONAMICI, who passed away on June 14, 2020, at the age of 91.

Marie was born on August 10, 1928, in Detroit, Michigan. Growing up, she studied music and had a profound appreciation for the arts. In 1948, Marie married and moved to Plymouth and then Northville, Michigan, where she raised three children, Andrew, SUZANNE, and James. She was an active member of the Northville Historical Society and the Detroit Folklore Society.

She modeled for her children openness to ideas, respect for the environment, and a deep appreciation of diverse cultures. She inspired in them lifelong interests in music, art, world cultures, environmental protection, and human rights—all qualities that we admire about our colleague, Representative BONAMICI, today.

Marie was preceded in death by her parents; her two brothers, John and Robert Kehrl; and her husband, George. She is survived by her children, Andrew Bonamici (Beth), SUZANNE BONAMICI (Michael Simon), and James Bonamici (Debra); grandchildren, Kate Flaim (Ben), Tom Bonamici, Andrew Simon, Peter Bonamici, Sara Simon, and Nicolas Bonamici; and three great-grandchildren, Tuck, Ellie, and Hannah Flaim.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in reflecting on the remarkable life of Marie Bonamici-Woodcock and the love of peace and freedom that she spread throughout society.