

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF CHIEF
SHAWN BABENDURE

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2020

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and service of Shawn Babendure, a husband, father, coach, U.S. Army veteran and District Chief of the Spring, Texas Fire Department who tragically passed away this week much too young and far too early.

A native Texan, born and raised in Houston, Shawri leaves a legacy of a lifetime of service to his community and his country which began when Shawn joined the Champions Fire Department in 1990 while attending Cypress Creek High School.

His service continued when he enlisted in the United States Army in 1993. He served honorably and well for nearly four years as a Communications Repair Specialist with the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment at Fort Irwin, California, the Army's National Training Center. He distinguished himself as an expert marksman and earned his paratrooper wings. He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal for his service.

Shortly after his military service, Shawn earned his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Houston. Shawn worked in the financial services industry where he served as Vice President of Wealth Management for a global wealth management firm, a position he still held at the time of his death.

In 2007, Shawn chose to serve his community once again and returned to public service as a fireman at the Spring Fire Department. Shawn's work ethic and professionalism were evidenced by his promotion to positions of increasing responsibility at the Spring Fire Department where he impressively earned more than ten professional certificates for every facet of fire, rescue and emergency service and rose in rank from fireman to District Chief.

Shawn's love for his community and his contagious laughter were hallmarks of his personality and his service and he passed on his care and compassion for others by training and mentoring the next generation of firefighters.

I join the entire Spring community in honoring Chief Babendure's lifetime of service and join his wife, Jessica, and their children, Sophia and Harrison, in mourning their loss. Chief Babendure will be deeply mourned and greatly missed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2020

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I was unknowingly exposed to someone who later tested positive for Coronavirus. Out of an abundance of caution and for the health and well-being of my colleagues, I am in self-quarantine until Thursday, July 23, 2020 at 12:01 a.m. As such, I had to miss this vote series.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 139; NAY on Roll Call No. 140; NAY on Roll Call No. 141; NAY on Roll Call No. 142; YEA on Roll Call No. 143; NAY on Roll Call No. 144; NAY on Roll Call No. 145; NAY on Roll Call No. 146; NAY on Roll Call No. 147; NAY on Roll Call No. 148; NAY on Roll Call No. 149; NAY on Roll Call No. 150; YEA on Roll Call No. 151; and YEA on Roll Call No. 152.

WILLIAM M. (MAC) THORNBERRY
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 20, 2020

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of the fiscal year 2021 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). I would like to start by thanking Chairman SMITH, Ranking Member THORNBERRY, and the House Armed Services Committee staff who have worked many long nights putting together this year's NDAA. The bill that is before the House is a good bill and I encourage my colleagues to support its passage.

As the Chairman of the Readiness Subcommittee, I believe the bill upholds our responsibility to provide congressional oversight of and support to the sustainment, logistics, infrastructure, and readiness of our military. I'd like to take a moment and thank my staff for their tireless work—the Readiness Subcommittee staff, Brian Garrett, Jeanine Womble, Melanie Harris, Jay Vallario, John Muller, Dave Sienicki, and Sean Falvey, and my personal staff, Bradley Bottoms, Betsy Thompson, Marcus Jones, and Danusia Hubah. I am proud of the Readiness Subcommittee's contribution to this year's bill and I'd like to highlight the following provisions.

The Readiness portion of the bill continues to emphasize the need to address vulnerabilities in installation and energy resiliency, both in response to climate change and to ensure the Department can continue to operate when fuel supplies and utilities are disrupted. The bill:

requires the Department to report on efforts to consider fuel consumption, distribution, and

logistics and the steps being taken to decrease consumption of fossil fuels by 30 percent to reduce the number of resupply convoys and oilers required in a contested environment;

requires the Department to institute energy metering on critical military facilities to assess their energy requirements and to ensure resilient power sources for these facilities.

strengthens an existing preference for the purchase of electric or hybrid vehicles for official business on military installations; and

requires a report on the implementation of provisions from last year's NDAA to include installation master planning, updates to building codes, sea-level rise modeling, and climate assessment tools.

Last year's NDAA made sweeping reforms in response to concerns that courageous military families raised regarding the management, oversight, and condition of military family housing. This year, we pick up where we left off. The bill:

requires a report on known environmental hazards in government-owned housing and requires the Department to report on the feasibility of standardizing privatized housing performance metrics; and

requires partners to put funding of maintenance and recapitalization of housing units ahead of fees that enrich corporate management in all future and renegotiated privatized housing agreements.

Similarly, we build on previous efforts to address PFAS contamination around military installations. The bill:

requires the Department of Defense to notify the congressional defense committees when there has been an uncontrolled release of a PFAS-containing firefighting agent that may impact human health or the environment;

requires the Department of Defense to publish on a public website the results of drinking and ground water PFAS testing conducted on military installations or former defense sites;

makes technical corrections to ensure all National Guard installations are eligible for funding for PFAS remediation in our National Guard communities; and

requires the Department to survey and report on technologies that will help facilitate the on-time phase-out of PFAS containing firefighting agents.

While the Department of Defense talks a lot about modernization and development of new capabilities, we must ensure that the appropriate focus remains on the sustainment of these weapon systems and the logistics required to move and supply them in a conflict. To that end, the bill:

requires the Department to examine and periodically report on the sustainment and logistics requirements, gaps, and mitigations necessary to support force structure, power projection, and other elements of the national defense strategy;

helps ensure Congress continues to receive timely and relevant information regarding both

• 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.