

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
U.S. CAPITOL POLICE SERGEANT
JUAN CARDENAS

HON. DAVID J. TRONE

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of U.S. Capitol Police Sergeant Juan Cardenas, badge No. 3793, who is retiring this month after thirty-two years of service.

For nearly twelve years, Cardenas has served as a Sergeant in the First Responders Unit. During this time, he has managed the mountain bike and First Responders' training programs that serve to protect Members of Congress during normal and emergency situations and acted as a supervisor in charge of motorcade operations for the President, Vice President, and Heads of State arriving at the Capitol. Sergeant Cardenas worked on projects of the utmost importance, including the State of the Union and the last three Presidential Inaugurations.

Sergeant Cardenas's success was grounded in his unwavering dedication and exceptional skill. From 2000 to 2008, Sergeant Cardenas was a supervisor in charge of the Patrol Mobile Response Division, and before that, Police Officer First Class in Communications Section 3. However, Sergeant Cardenas's life of service did not begin with the U.S. Capitol Police: Sergeant Cardenas first served his country in the United States Air Force, where he was selected for Special Air Mission and provided security to the Presidential aircraft for then-Vice President George H.W. Bush.

Throughout his career, Sergeant Cardenas has led by example as a friendly but resolute face on the Capitol grounds and beyond. Time and time again, Sergeant Cardenas has established himself as an expert, particularly due to his role in helping the U.S. Capitol Police establish a well-executed and safe motorcade operation. His ability and commitment showed every single day, whether he was managing a motorcade, searching for a lost child, apprehending a suspect, or delivering a hot meal or new shoes to a homeless veteran. Sergeant Cardenas has proven himself to be a man his colleagues and our country can rely on.

Over the years, Sergeant Cardenas has been showered with awards and commendation, including a Blue Badge Medal, one of the Department's top five honors. In 2004, Sergeant Cardenas received accolades for creating a child safety seat program and, in 1998, he received the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials telecommunicator of the year award for his role as a dispatcher during the shooting of U.S. Capitol Police Officer Jacob Chestnut and Detective John Gibson. While he is clearly reluctant to retire, it should be noted that Sergeant Cardenas has given a great deal to the Force, suffering serious injuries in a 1992 motorcycle accident as a Private on Patrol Division.

Please join me in thanking Sergeant Juan Cardenas for his incredible service to the U.S. Capitol Police, the Congress of the United States, and to our Nation.

STRENGTHENING AMERICA'S
STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCK-
PILE ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 21, 2020

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my support for H.R. 7574, the Strengthening America's Strategic National Stockpile Act of 2020. This bipartisan legislation will play a crucial role in strengthening state's and the federal government's PPE reserves to ensure our great nation is even better equipped to eradicate future health crises. Americans, especially those in South Jersey, have been harshly impacted by PPE shortages that have increased contraction and death rates and put our frontline health workers at great risk. Under this legislation, not only will America be better prepared for health emergencies, but we will do so by increasing American manufacturing of PPE and other essential supplies through an innovative pilot program. I am proud to support this crucial bipartisan legislation.

STRENGTHENING AMERICA'S
STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCK-
PILE ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 21, 2020

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 7574, the Strengthening America's Strategic National Stockpile Act of 2020. I'm proud to have advanced this bipartisan bill through my Health Subcommittee and I'm pleased to support it on the Floor.

I'm also proud that this legislation includes my bill with Representative SUSAN BROOKS to allow the SNS to sell and transfer soon-to-be expired supplies to other government agencies, stretching taxpayer dollars so we can respond to the current pandemic and be prepared for the next.

The COVID-19 pandemic has laid bare many sad and startling realities in our country. One of the most surprising is that the Strategic National Stockpile, established in 2003 to respond to public health emergencies like the one we're currently experiencing, was completely unprepared for the current outbreak.

When we opened the door of the SNS, the cupboard was bare, and American lives were lost. Today we're considering the Strength-

ening America's Strategic National Stockpile Act to address some of these shortcomings.

This legislation requires that the contents of the SNS be in good working order and mandates that the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response and CDC implement a transparent process for the use and distribution of such supplies.

The bill increases reporting on how supplies are procured for the SNS, as well as requires reporting on states' requests for supplies during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

While we cannot erase the failures of the SNS during the current pandemic, we can ensure that the stockpile is adequately supplied and maintained so we can be better prepared for the next public health emergency.

I'm proud to be an original sponsor of H.R. 7574 and I urge my colleagues to support it.

SAVANNA'S ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 21, 2020

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 227, Savanna's Act, a bill to combat the epidemic of missing and murdered Native women and girls.

In the United States, Native women face tragically high rates of violence, sexual assault, and murder. According to the Department of Justice, 84 percent of Native and Alaska Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that homicide is the third leading cause of death among Native women. These rates are ten times higher than the national average and reflect centuries of institutional racism and systemic inequalities that Native communities face.

Too often families of missing and murdered Native women are left without answers. We cannot allow the experiences of Native and Indigenous communities continue to slip through bureaucracy. I am a cosponsor of Savanna's Act, which will create and improve procedures, communication, and cooperation among federal, state, Tribal, and local agencies that may share jurisdiction over investigating crimes against Native women.

Our Nation's devastating history of colonization has left missing and murdered Native women invisible to law enforcement for centuries, but today, by passing Savanna's Act we can give a voice to this silent crisis. We must strive to better understand the institutional racism and systemic inequalities that Native communities face. And we must keep fighting for justice for those who are missing or murdered.

I thank Congresswoman TORRES for her leadership on this bill, and I urge all of my colleagues to support Savanna's Act.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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