

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING BRIGADIER
GENERAL DAVID A. PIFFARERIO

HON. DEBBIE MUCARSEL-POWELL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Ms. MUCARSEL-POWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Brigadier General David A. Piffarerio for his admirable dedication and selfless service to our Nation. BG Piffarerio will retire from his assignment as Commander of the 482nd Fighter Wing, Air Force Reserve Command, Homestead Air Reserve Base (HARB), Florida on August 2, 2020. BG Piffarerio first took command of the 482nd Fighter Wing at HARB on September 9, 2018. BG Piffarerio's tenure as Commander has marked everlasting change in the City of Homestead.

BG Piffarerio was commissioned to the United States Air Force in 1994 as an honor graduate. BG Piffarerio has served as a command pilot with over 3,500 flying hours making him one of the most proficient pilots in aircrafts such as the F-15E. His devotion to flying led him to a major milestone, becoming the first pilot in the Air Force to log 1,000 hours in the F-22 Raptor. BG Piffarerio has dedicated over 13 years on active duty in a variety of F-15E Strike Eagle and F-22 assignments. He was selected as part of the first cadre to test the F-22 during follow-on evaluations in 2002. Shortly after, BG Piffarerio was named program manager and F-22 test director at Nellis Air Force Base, Nevada. BG Piffarerio was also a part of the initial cadre who stood up the 477th Fighter Group in 2007. He served as the Commander of the 302nd Fighter Squadron, Air Force Reserve Command's 477th Fighter Group, Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska. Prior to assuming command of the 482nd Fighter Wing, BG Piffarerio was the Command Center Director at Joint Headquarters North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command.

This admirable work ethic, experienced operational knowledge, and excellent leadership made him a respected and honorable Commander of the 482nd Fighter Wing. For the community in Florida's Congressional District 26, and the devoted men and women at Homestead Air Reserve Base, BG Piffarerio embodies superior professionalism. He led his members with courage and consistency. Under his respected role, BG Piffarerio commanded over 2,500 personnel members, stemming from active duty Air Force association personnel, traditional reservists, Air Reserve technicians, and full-time civilians. BG Piffarerio also managed wide-ranging tenant units that include the Air National Guard's 125th Fighter Wing, Detachment 1 Alert Force, Headquarters, Special Operations Command, South (SOC SOUTH), U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Coast Guard Maritime Safety and Security Team (MSST 91114), the Florida Army National Guard's 50th Regional

Support Group, and members of the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

BG Piffarerio's impact reaches far beyond the work at HARB, ensuring the Homestead community benefits as well. He led efforts in enacting positive change within the community by partnering with local businesses, Homestead Hospital, Veterans Affairs, Military Affairs Committee (MAC), the South Dade Chamber of Commerce, and many other community organizations. It has been an honor to have someone of exceptional caliber serve as Commander. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today and congratulate General Piffarerio for a lifetime of service. We wish him, his wife, Jennifer and his son, Bryce, the best wishes on his new journey as Deputy Commander, U.S. Alaskan Command, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN SHIMKUS

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. KINZINGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of my good friend and mentor, Congressman JOHN SHIMKUS of Illinois' 15th District.

For 23 years, JOHN has served here in the House of Representatives, leading our delegation and making his mark on the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Before his service in Congress, JOHN served our country in the United States Army and the United States Army Reserve, retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

For his district and his country, JOHN has served with great honor, integrity, and conviction. He has changed the game with his work on our nation's energy portfolio and chemical safety measures, especially with the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which became law in June 2016 and formally outlined how we use and dispose of chemicals.

This was a major undertaking and the success of this legislative achievement is one of many you'll find throughout JOHN's career.

In Congress, he was a champion for finding safe nuclear waste repository solutions and reducing greenhouse gases and sulfur emissions.

He introduced legislation that would streamline permits to enable efficient broadband infrastructure, recognizing the needs of underserved communities.

He also championed the 1999 legislation that officially designated 9-1-1 as the universal emergency telephone number within the U.S.

Yes, that's right—JOHN SHIMKUS made 9-1-1 the official emergency number and we should ALL be grateful. His effort to create and establish this comprehensive emergency communications infrastructure has undoubtedly saved countless lives.

During his time in the House, JOHN's legislative accomplishments ran the gamut—from the 9-1-1 legislation and his impressive (and expansive) energy policy portfolio, to improving child safety measures through Anton's Law and others, securing funding for rare cancer research, protecting veterans and our communities, and leading countless biofuel and telecommunication provisions.

The bills he championed have been signed into law by three different presidents, showcasing the prowess JOHN has in legislating and working across the aisle to get things done for the American people.

It's this ability to find common ground and work together with his colleagues to get the job done that has made JOHN so successful as a Congressman and so well-respected as a colleague.

His leadership has been critical over the years, and I know without question that this institution is better because of his service and that I am a better Member of Congress because of his guidance.

JOHN SHIMKUS is more than a colleague, he's a true friend and a patriot. His impact on Members like me has been incredibly profound and I know his legacy of servant leadership will continue to serve as a model for incoming Members of Congress for years to come.

Madam Speaker, the hometown hero of Collinsville, Illinois has served this chamber well and is most deserving of this recognition here today. We are going to miss our good friend JOHN SHIMKUS in the People's House, but we wish him all the best in his retirement.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN SHIMKUS

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF DUNCAN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a good friend and esteemed colleague, the gentleman from Illinois, JOHN SHIMKUS.

Congressman SHIMKUS has been a true statesman and a devoted public servant for the people of his district.

He's a testament to hard work, commitment to the job, and dedication to serving the United States of America.

JOHN and I have served on the House Energy and Commerce Committee together and share a passion for energy and environment policy.

We have fought for Yucca Mountain and for the promise of a permanent geological repository for our nation's nuclear waste, something that impacts both South Carolina and Illinois.

We have fought for the advancement of nuclear energy as part of our all-of-the-above energy matrix and a carbon-free source of electricity.

We fought for these things and more—and his efforts in these fights will be truly missed.

• 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.

I thank JOHN. It has been great working with him here in Congress.

I know God will bless him in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE CITY OF BETHANY, MISSOURI

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize the City of Bethany. Bethany is celebrating 175 years of being a town this September. Located within Harrison County, Bethany may be a small town within my district, but this town's roots run farther than can be imagined.

Bethany, having been around since 1845, is well known for its early days of being a railroad town which ultimately shaped the economy, culture and community of this wonderful town for almost 100 years until the last train pulled out of Bethany in 1980. The Railroad industry wasn't the only industry that helped the City of Bethany become what it is today. For many years, Bethany was known as one of the best trading places in Northwest Missouri. Now thanks to the Interstate 35, Bethany is still on the map in Northwest Missouri for its service industry and retail industry which has fueled the wonderful growth of Bethany over the past 30 to 40 years. Home of Babe Adams, a great baseball player who pitched in three world series games, and Benjamin Prentiss, a Civil War General and former Postmaster of Bethany, the city of Bethany has many reasons to be proud of its past 175 years.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the City of Bethany for 175 years of existence but also to recognize the city's extremely bright future ahead. I am honored to represent every citizen within and around the City of Bethany in the United States Congress.

IN HONOR OF DONNA KELLY-WILLIAMS, RN, PRESIDENT, MASSACHUSETTS NURSES ASSOCIATION

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Donna Kelly-Williams in recognition of her outstanding contributions to the American Labor Movement, the Massachusetts Nurses Association and for nearly fifty years of dedicated service to her community.

The daughter of Louise and John Kelly of Somerville, MA, Donna was born on September 19, 1954. Her family lived on Marion Street in Somerville until they moved to Arlington, MA. Donna and her husband Bill bought a house just a few doors down from her parents where they reside today.

Donna attended St. Joseph's High School in Somerville. Subsequently, she enrolled at LaSalle College where she earned her nursing degree. She then enrolled at the University of Massachusetts, Boston, earning her under-

graduate degree, and then earning a Masters' Degree at Cambridge College. In 2007, she attended the Harvard Trade Union Labor Program.

Madam Speaker, Donna took a job at Cambridge Hospital and observed a strike by a union at the hospital. She called her father and he instructed her to come home immediately and not cross the picket line. This incident sparked her fire for collective bargaining, workers' rights and fair representation.

Donna accepted a nursing position at Cambridge Hospital, becoming the President of the Cambridge Hospital MNA Bargaining Committee. Not surprisingly, she rose to the position of Vice-President of the MNA, and for the past twelve years has been President of the MNA.

During her tenure as MNA President, Donna has worked ferociously to represent the nurses and health care professionals in this state. She has accomplished much: legislation banning mandatory overtime was passed as well as legislation limiting the number of patients assigned to ICU nurses across the Commonwealth.

Throughout this COVID 19 pandemic, Donna has fought for PPE for healthcare professionals, for legislation to limit occupational exposure to COVID 19, and to eliminate the re-use of n95 masks which endangers the safety of those who use them. She has worked to secure housing for nurses who are fearful of carrying the virus home, and for counseling for those who are in need.

Madam Speaker, Donna is known for her kind smile, quick sense of humor, her relentless energy when fighting for her nurses and her affection for Dunkin' Donuts iced coffee. She has had the good fortune to be married to Bill for 42 years. They are the proud parents of four children and three grandchildren.

It is my distinct honor to join with Donna Kelly-Williams' family, friends, and contemporaries to thank her for her service to the American Labor Movement, and for her dedication to nurses and patients across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on September 29, 2020. The peaceful transition of power following an election is the cornerstone of our democracy. Had I been present for the roll call vote on H. Res. 1155 to reaffirm this commitment, I would have cast the following vote:

Roll Call 208: Yea.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, due to unforeseen flight delays, I was unable to vote on September 29, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 207, and YEA on Roll Call No. 208.

CELEBRATING BOND BETWEEN 10 YEAR OLD KHLÖE MOUTRA AND MISSOURI CITY POLICE OFFICER

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a special bond that developed between Missouri City, TX Police Officer Jessica Berry and a young girl, Khloe Moutra. Their friendship sparked a community initiative to collect books for officers to distribute at events and on emergency scenes.

This friendship began thanks to Khloe's grandmother who introduced her to officers at the Missouri City Police Department. After the meeting, "A Book and a Smile" was started with Khloe's extra savings, a program designed to give books to families who couldn't get them at libraries due to the pandemic. Khloe's goal is to give 1 million books to 1 million kids—and she's well on her way with a recent donation of 1,000 children's books from Disney.

Khloe's grandmother wanted her to feel safe going to the police for help when she needed it. This simple gesture blossomed into a wonderful friendship and initiated a goodwill effort to support literacy and give back to the community. This special alliance highlights the potential for goodwill during this pandemic and beyond.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I thank Khloe Moutra and the Missouri City Police Department for the inspirational work they've done for our community.

CONGRATULATING SISTER BETH BROSNER A CHAMPION FOR THOSE IN NEED, ON HER RETIREMENT FROM HEART, LOVE & SOUL

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sister Beth Brosmer on her retirement as Executive Director of Heart, Love & Soul, a nonprofit in the city of Niagara Falls, New York "dedicated to feeding those in need; body, mind and soul."

A native of Columbus, Ohio and a member of the Sisters of St. Francis at Stella Niagara for more than five decades, Sister Beth's career of care included a stint as development director for her order to ensure the care of her fellow sisters and at one of her hometown hospitals working with volunteers. Her experience and determination in making a difference in the lives of others made her an ideal choice eleven years ago to lead this agency that lives up to its name.

Heart, Love & Soul is now one of the largest organizations in Niagara County, serving individuals and families from Niagara Falls to Lake Ontario. Founded in 1982 as a food pantry by a local prayer group, Heart, Love & Soul has expanded over the years and most dramatically under the direction of Sister Beth to include a dining room, case management, children's, veterans and senior services, cooking