

nondefense discretionary funding, for the Department of Homeland Security.

These taxpayer dollars must be used in a manner consistent with the mission and purpose of the Department of Homeland Security, while using the best methods for assuring adherence to good government principles.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SETH MOULTON

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. MOULTON. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained from the floor on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 and missed one vote. Had I been present to vote, I would have voted in the following manner: YEA on roll call No. 213.

CELEBRATING LOVELAND CHAPTER 211'S 150TH RE-CONSECRATION

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. WENSTRUP. Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the Royal Arch Masons at Loveland Chapter 211's re-consecration on October 7, 2020.

Loveland Chapter 211 has served the community since 1870, building a network of over 600 members through the years. Currently, the association has 57 members who proudly dedicate their charter to service, personal development, and the betterment of their community.

Congratulations to Loveland Chapter 211 on this notable anniversary and re-consecration. We are grateful for their many years of service.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL ASHLEY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant General Robert Ashley on the eve of his retirement, after over 35 years of service to his nation as an Army intelligence officer.

As testament to his competence and character, on two-separate occasions, the Nation entrusted General Ashley with the responsibility to lead different elements of our Intelligence Community.

The congressional intelligence committees are unique as they must truly partner with the organizations they are charged to oversee.

In my time on the Intelligence Committee, and his time leading military intelligence organizations, I have appreciated General Ashley's candor and ability to think strategically.

As the Army's Intelligence Chief, he implemented reforms that saved struggling acquisition programs and delivered tools directly to warfighters.

Most recently, in his tenure as Director of DIA, General Ashley led key initiatives that ensured continuing the transformation of the DIA.

Perhaps most importantly, and in the best tradition of service, General Ashley took time out of his busy schedule to mentor junior intelligence officers. I am confident that this next generation of intelligence professionals will be his most significant and lasting legacy.

General Ashley has done his part to leave the Army, the Department of Defense, the Defense Intelligence Agency, and the Intelligence Community in a stronger position for his successors and the Nation. We wish him well.

HONORING WILLIAM LANSON FOR HIS UNIQUE AND INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CITY OF NEW HAVEN

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I am honored to rise today to join the Amistad Committee, the City of New Haven, and all of those gathered today in paying tribute to a pioneering African American who quite literally changed the landscape of the City of New Haven, William Lanson, and who ultimately faced defamation and destitution from a white Majority that used its levers of state power to put him into ruin. But, today, we return him to his rightful and honorable place in the history of our town as a bronze statue is dedicated in his honor.

According to a Hartford Courant piece in 2001, quote, "William Lanson was an extraordinary figure in early 19th-century New Haven. Almost certainly an escaped slave, Lanson overcame incredible odds to become a highly successful businessman, one of the earliest black entrepreneurs in Connecticut." William Lanson was a man ahead of his time in many ways, none more so than in the innovative engineering concepts that he brought to his successful projects in the City of New Haven. Though little is known about his earliest years, we do know that Lanson and his family moved to New Haven around 1803 and within just seven years he became the city's principal wharf builder.

In 1810, he was the only contractor able to complete the complicated 1,350-foot extension to the city's Long Wharf, enabling larger boats to dock in the city's port and allowing the city to compete with nearby ports including New York. The extension was only possible because he employed specially designed scows, carefully designed by Lanson himself, capable of carrying twenty-five tons of stone at a time. The stone was quarried by him and his laborers, from nearby East Rock, floated on the scows to the harbor where they were installed to stabilize the pilings for the wharf's extension. Following his success at Long Wharf, Lanson was contracted to build the retaining wall for the newly planned Farmington Canal where it flowed into the harbor basin. These two projects changed the very character of New Haven Harbor and the City itself, further

allowing both to thrive and prosper—a feat which would have not been accomplished without William Lanson's invaluable contributions.

It was more than the architecture of the city to which he contributed. It was its business landscape, its civic culture, and its moral fiber, as an African American leader who fought their disenfranchisement. He was a successful businessman, operating a hotel, grocery, and livery service, as well as a founding member of the Temple Street Church, which later became the Dixwell Avenue Congregational United Church of Christ. He was a fierce abolitionist and advocate for voting rights.

According to research by Yale, in 1811, the Reverend Timothy Dwight, President of Yale College, praised William Lanson, as quote, "honourable proof of the character which they sustain, both for capacity, and integrity, in the view of respectable men." But, as the Yale research said, quote, "By the end of the 1820s such praise had all but vanished . . . and Lanson found himself beset financially and attacked and ridiculed." According to Amy L. Trout, curator at the New Haven Colony Historical Society, quote, "he was constantly harassed by the police. The minute he was released from the police station and got home, he would be arrested for something else."

Late in life, Lanson wrote that he was jailed five times in six years for a total of 450 days, for selling liquor at his hotel, the Liberian, a very common practice. The pressure continued until he died forgotten, defamed, and destitute. So, we right that wrong. And, we must. Lanson was an unbelievably important and impressive man, an African American who reshaped, reformed, and re-invigorated. Doing so as an African American in the 19th century. He was a force.

William Lanson left an indelible mark on the City of New Haven and I am glad to be able to witness our community coming together to recognize, celebrate, and preserve his story. My deepest thanks to the dedicated members of the Amistad Committee and the City of New Haven who have ensured that William Lanson's contributions to our community will always be remembered.

COVID PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE, AND EFFECTIVE PLANNING FOR ADVANCED REQUIREMENTS BY THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH ACT OF 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 30, 2020

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as the Founding Chair of the Coronavirus Task Force and a senior member of the Judiciary and Homeland Committees, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7496, the "COVID PREPARE Act," which requires every federal agency to submit a report to Congress on the steps they are taking to respond to a potential resurgence of COVID-19, including measurable goals, anticipated challenges, and how they will consult with Congress.

I would like to thank Representatives BRAD SCHNEIDER and JOHN KATKO for introducing and leading this important piece of legislation.

By passing this bipartisan bill today, Congress has taken it upon itself to ensure that all federal agencies are aware of the risks associated with any resurgence in coronavirus cases and are prepared to address them efficiently.

This legislation stipulates that Congress will receive regular updates from these agencies until the President ends the emergency declaration related to the coronavirus pandemic.

At the beginning of this pandemic, the federal government's response to COVID-19 was delayed, disorganized, and haphazard.

It is because of these inefficiencies that the United States currently has over 7 million cases of the coronavirus and over 205,000 related deaths.

In the state of Texas alone, there are currently 761,332 cases of the virus and approximately 15,820 deaths.

We must not make the same mistakes again.

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to wreak havoc on American communities and take thousands of American lives, experts have warned that things might get even worse in the fall, especially as schools, businesses, and communities continue to reopen.

Over the last six months, federal agencies have learned many hard lessons, and they have crafted new, effective strategies that will protect families and communities across the country fight against a possible resurgence of coronavirus cases this fall.

We must put our faith in science and continue to invest in testing, contact tracing, as well as vaccine development.

In my own district, I have facilitated the opening of 32 testing sites since the beginning of the pandemic in an effort to curb the spread of the virus.

Mr. Speaker, Congress has a duty to assure the American people that the federal government is doing everything in its power to beat back the dual health and economic crises of this pandemic.

H.R. 7496 honors that responsibility entrusted to us by the American people, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come together and vote for this important legislation.

COMMEMORATING THE VICTIMS
OF THE NAZI MASSACRE AT
BABYN YAR IN UKRAINE BE-
TWEEN 29-30 SEPTEMBER 1941

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate all those who lost their lives in the Holocaust and honor the memory of those who were so brutally murdered in the atrocities that took place between 29-30 September 1941 at Babyn Yar in Ukraine.

It is of great importance to me to bring this issue to the attention of the United States Congress because of my Jewish heritage and family ties to Ukraine, but also to shine a light on one of the darkest chapters in our shared history. The past must never be forgotten, and the lessons we learn, especially the painful ones, should guide us to a better future.

As we see a resurgence of antisemitism and Holocaust denial across the world, and when

there are fewer and fewer living survivors to tell the story first hand, it is essential that we learn the tragedies of the past and educate future generations so we can prevent these events from never happening again.

Today, it is critically important to remember one of the Holocaust's most oft-forgotten horrors—the massacre that took place at Babyn Yar in Ukraine and in other Eastern Europe countries, silenced for so long by the former Soviet Union.

The massacre of Kyiv's Jews at Babyn Yar was one of the largest mass killings by the Nazi regime at a single location during World War II. It is incumbent upon us to remember the sorrow and grief of the victims and their families of the Babyn Yar massacre, and I commend the Ukrainian people for coming together to deal with this tragedy and commemorate the horrific atrocity at Babyn Yar.

In honor of the 79th anniversary of the horrifying massacres at Babyn Yar, where it was officially estimated that up to 100,000 people were murdered during the Nazi occupation of Kyiv from 1941 to 1943, I rise today to honor all those who lost their lives, remind our colleagues and the world of the tremendous evil that took place at Babyn Yar, and commend the people of Ukraine for their commitment to remembering these horrific events. We must continue to stand up and say, "never again."

A review of the timeline of events surrounding the Babyn Yar tragedy are an important part of our solemn duty to ensure that terrible events like these can never happen again:

On September 19, 1941, Axis forces occupied Kyiv. A week later, the Nazi occupational government and SS leadership convened at Rear Headquarters Army Group South and made the decision to exterminate the Jews of Kyiv.

On September 28, 1941, the Nazi occupiers of Kyiv posted the following notice: "All [Jews] living in the city of Kiev and its vicinity are to report by 8 o'clock on the morning of Monday, September 29, 1941, at the corner of Melnykova and Dokterivska Streets (near the cemeteries). They are to take with them documents, money, valuables, as well as warm clothes, underwear, etc. Any [Jew] not carrying out this instruction and who is found elsewhere will be shot. Any civilian entering homes vacated by [Jews] and stealing property will be shot".

On September 29-30, 1941, the eve of Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year in Judaism, 33,771 Jewish civilians were shot and killed by machine-gun fire at Babyn Yar, a ravine northwest of Kyiv. Between September and early October 1941, about 38,000 Jews were murdered at or near Babyn Yar; and the total Jewish death toll there until the Nazi retreat was around 40,000.

When Nazi forces retreated from the Soviet Union, they attempted to hide evidence of the massacres at Babyn Yar by exhuming the bodies and burning them, but in 1991, the government of independent Ukraine erected a monument in the shape of a menorah dedicated to the Jewish victims at Babyn Yar. Sadly, the names of many of these civilians who perished have been lost forever.

IN RECOGNITION OF ADAM GROGG

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the extraordinary service of Adam Grogg, who served in the House's Office of General Counsel as an Associate General Counsel. During his tenure, Mr. Grogg played an integral role in safeguarding the legal interests of the House of Representatives and its Members, Officers, and employees in connection with federal court litigation involving issues of the highest institutional importance. Specifically, Mr. Grogg provided invaluable legal counsel and representation to numerous Committees of the House, greatly assisting them both in fulfilling their constitutionally authorized oversight functions and defending those prerogatives in litigation. In particular, Mr. Grogg's legal work has significantly contributed to the Committee on Oversight and Reform's investigation and litigation related to the 2020 decennial census.

Additionally, Mr. Grogg has provided vital legal counsel to the House regarding the presidential impeachment, as well as with respect to the defense of long-standing institutional powers, including the House's constitutional authority to adopt rules permitting its Members to participate in the legislative process remotely by proxy during an unprecedented global pandemic.

Mr. Grogg's work on behalf of the House has been of the highest caliber and I have no doubt that his next employer will benefit from his exceptional legal counsel. On behalf of the entire House community, I thank Mr. Grogg for his dedicated service to the House, and I wish for him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted: NAY on Roll Call No. 212, P.Q. for H. Res. 1161, and NAY on Roll Call No. 213, Adoption of H. Res. 1161.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO
GRANT HONORARY PROMOTION
TO WORLD WAR II VETERAN,
PRIVATE FIRST CLASS DELBERT
LITRELL TO CORPORAL

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to grant an honorary promotion to World War II veteran, Private First Class Delbert Littrell of the United States Marine Corps from Private First Class to Corporal.

PFC Delbert Littrell is an extraordinary World War II veteran. PFC Littrell served in