

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MSGT. LARRY A.  
LEDFORD

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Master Sergeant (MSGT.) Larry A. Ledford of Kingsport, Tennessee for his military service during the Vietnam era.

MSGt. Ledford joined our U.S. Air Force almost immediately after he graduated from high school in 1968. He was first stationed at Andersen Air Force Base (AFB) in Guam. Later, he was sent to HQ Intelligence where he was tasked with providing administrative support to his fellow service members who were responsible for interpreting bomb assessment targets in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos while they were also identifying additional targets. Notably, he took part in both Bullet Shot and Linebacker II Operations. Some of his additional station assignments were Bergstrom Air Force Base (AFB) in Texas, Air Force HQ Southern Europe, and Ramstein Air Base in Germany.

His final assignment was the Air Force Flight Test Center at Edwards Air Force Base in California. Upon active-duty retirement, he served another 18 years with our Department of Defense (DoD).

A family man through and through, he wishes to personally thank and recognize his devoted wife, Mrs. Jane Ledford, as they celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary later this year. Like MSGt. Ledford, Mrs. Ledford faithfully served DoD with a career spanning nearly 40 years of civil service. He also proudly mentions his two very accomplished sons Steven and Bryan, who followed in their footsteps in service to DoD as government contractors.

Please join me in honoring MSGt. Ledford for his long career of service to our Nation in both military and civilian sectors.

HONORING ROBERT BRICK ON RECEIVING THE 2022 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD ON BEHALF OF TRAVERSE CONNECT

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Robert Brick for receiving the 2022 Distinguished Service Award on behalf of Traverse Connect.

Bob is a tenured real estate broker with 50 years of experience, as well as the owner of RE/MAX Bayshore Properties, a nationally recognized real estate firm in the greater Traverse City area. Since starting his career in 1973, Bob has continually displayed professionalism and a desire to help his local community through his business.

Upon graduating from St. John's University of Minnesota, Bob began his time in real estate and cemented himself as one of the Nation's top brokers. Working with his children, Bob has facilitated positive change throughout the area by partnering with organizations such as Children's Miracle Network Hospitals and by creating his own relief fund for those impacted or displaced by natural disasters.

Bob has continually strived to be the best community member he can be and has used his platform to extend a helping hand to his fellow residents. His commitment to the people of Traverse City is undeniable and his work will have a lasting impact on the area's most vulnerable residents for years to come. Traverse City, the surrounding communities, and all of Michigan's First District owe Bob our support and gratitude as he accepts this well-deserved award. His dedication to the betterment of others' lives highlights the character of both Bob and his family.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Robert Brick for his steadfast service to the Traverse City region. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to Bob and his family and wish them the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING THE EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend the East Bay Municipal Utility District, upon celebrating its 100th anniversary serving the East Bay community. This outstanding achievement is a testament to the critical work the District has accomplished to ensure the health and prosperity of the East Bay environment and community.

Originally founded in 1923, under the State of California Municipal Utility District Act, the East Bay Municipal Utility District has provided access to water for generations of Californians. Today, the company continues its commitment to preserving the environment and faithfully serving the people of Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

The East Bay Municipal Utility District plays a vital role in building, operating, and maintaining the infrastructure that protects and strengthens California's water supply. Through the East Bay Municipal Utility District's critical leadership in developing the Freeport Regional Water Project, it is helping meet the daily water needs of both Sacramento and the East Bay.

Since its founding, the East Bay Municipal Utility District has worked tirelessly as a trailblazer in environmental stewardship, consistently leading efforts to promote environmental sustainability. The East Bay Municipal Utility District was the first wastewater agency in

North America to produce more renewable energy than it uses, by capturing methane gas from the water treatment process. This groundbreaking development served as a national model of renewable energy, inspiring other public and private agencies across the country.

On behalf of the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate the East Bay Municipal Utility District upon its 100th anniversary and extend my sincere gratitude for its generations of service to the East Bay community.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT  
MICHAEL KILGORE

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Staff Sergeant Michael Dwayne Kilgore of Johnson City, Tennessee who served during the Vietnam War era from March 1968 to February 1970.

During Vietnam, he served in a Recon Platoon which was attached to Echo Company 2nd Battalion, 8th Air Cavalry, 1st Air Cavalry Division. As part of the Recon Platoon, he surveyed the area of operation ahead of the main force, however, he was usually the first person to receive contact from the enemy.

During his service, SSGT. Kilgore was awarded two Bronze Stars, 2 Purple Hearts, 3 Air Medals, and the Army Commendation Medal. He also was stationed in numerous locations around the East Coast and graduated from the War College at Fort Benning, Georgia.

ENCOURAGING THE EXPANSION AND STRENGTHENING OF THE ABRAHAM ACCORDS TO URGE OTHER NATIONS TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL AND ENSURE THAT EXISTING AGREEMENTS REAP TANGIBLE SECURITY AND ECONOMIC BENEFITS FOR THE CITIZENS OF THOSE COUNTRIES AND ALL PEOPLES IN THE REGION

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 25, 2023*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H. Res. 311.

All people deserve safety, justice, equality, human rights, and the right to self-determination. No child anywhere should go to bed at night fearing ongoing violence.

Israel is an important and strategic ally in the Middle East region, and our national security interests are intertwined. The United

• 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.