

States provides \$3.8 billion in security assistance to Israel's government each year, and I support the use of these funds for security purposes such as Iron Dome. These dollars should be used to keep the Israeli people safe, but unfortunately the American people do not know how billions of this annual security assistance is being spent. That is why I have worked for years to account for the use of these funds.

Not \$1 of U.S. aid should be used to commit human rights violations, demolish families' homes, or permanently annex Palestinian lands. Peace can only be achieved when everyone's human rights are respected, and Congress has a responsibility to not ignore the well-documented mistreatment of Palestinian children and families living under Israeli military occupation.

The resolution also fails to mention a two-state solution, for the first time ever. I echo the concerns of many of my House colleagues about this missing commitment for all parties to work together toward a peaceful future.

I join Jewish Voice for Peace, the Institute for Middle East Understanding, and many other civil society groups in opposition to this poorly written resolution.

There is a path to peace and security in the Middle East, and it requires leading with our U.S. values of democracy and equal justice for all.

RECOGNIZING PASCO COUNTY FIRE CHIEF SCOTT CASSIN

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fire Chief of Pasco County Fire Rescue, Scott Cassin. Chief Cassin has served Pasco County since 2010 and became Chief on August 26, 2012. For nearly 37 years, Chief Cassin has served in fire service, serving communities in Indiana and Florida. He has worked nearly every job available in the service and has exemplified his commitment and passion to all he has interacted with.

Overseeing Pasco County Fire Rescue which responds to 80,000 calls annually and operates a fleet of 175+ vehicles with 700+ personnel, Chief Cassin's strong leadership has allowed the department to innovate and continually push the limits of modern fire service.

I thank Chief Cassin for his years of service to our community. It is my hope that he enjoys the retirement he has earned.

HONORING NICOLE BRADDOCK

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nicole Braddock, whom I have named the 2023 Climate Crisis Champion for Solano County because of the important work she has done to promote conservation and address the impacts of climate change on California's 4th Congressional District.

Nicole Braddock was born in Cedarville, California. She obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, Davis in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology, and she holds an MBA from Capella University. In addition to these impressive educational achievements, Ms. Braddock has a strong commitment to bringing communities together and building common ground in conversations around climate change.

Through her role as the Executive Director of Solano Land Trust, Ms. Braddock has championed the protection of more than 8,000 acres of working farms and natural areas as well as the restoration of miles of creeks and streams. Solano Land Trust goes beyond land conservation to ensure the establishment of strong relationships between community members and the land.

Ms. Braddock has also advocated for the development of accessible trails and picnic areas to promote public resources available to all members of our community. Ms. Braddock's strong desire to give back to the community is exemplified through her development of partnerships, which allow for every individual in Solano County to benefit from protected natural areas. Additionally, Ms. Braddock supports land conservation efforts through her work on the National Land Trust Alliance Leadership Council. The Land Trust Alliance works with local land trusts to expand land conservation locally and nationally.

Outside of her participation with the Land Trust, Ms. Braddock volunteers with numerous nonprofit organizations and provides pro bono coaching to local leaders working in land conservation. Ms. Braddock also serves on the board of the Solano Economic Development Corporation, an organization dedicated to growing Solano County's economy through the creation of new jobs and competition among businesses.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Nicole Braddock is a leader dedicated to land conservation and environmental advocacy. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Solano County's 2023 Climate Crisis Champion.

HONORING TECHNICAL SERGEANT DENNIS GONZALEZ-FURMAN UPON RECEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

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 Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman of the 437th Air Mobility Wing for earning the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service, dedication, and sacrifice during Operation Allies Refuge. He exemplifies the best of America, and his tireless efforts guarantee the safety of all those who call America home.

Last year, Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman joined the servicemembers of the 349th Air Mobility Wing in meeting a challenge of colossal scale, when they helped execute the drawdown of forces from Afghanistan. Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman and the 349th Air Mobility Wing played a critical role in the largest noncombatant evacuation operation in history, Operation

Allies Refuge, ultimately saving over 124,000 lives. They directly supported the evacuation of nearly 13,000 Afghans while simultaneously managing the security and operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport. I have listened to countless stories from this group of brave men and women that exemplify the character, leadership, and bravery that is cultivated in the United States Air Force.

Service records only scratch the surface of the courageous actions performed during Operation Allies Refuge. These valiant servicemembers, like Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman, put their hearts and lives on the line to save so many and epitomize the values of courage and patriotism.

On behalf of a grateful country and all the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman of the 437th Air Mobility Wing for receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and extend my sincere gratitude for his sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great country.

HONORING SERGEANT HAROLD WAYNE LEONARD

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 Sergeant Harold Wayne Leonard of Bluff City, Tennessee for his heroic service. Sgt. Leonard saw multiple deployments, including serving in Germany during the Berlin Crisis, in South Korea, at Ft. Bragg during the Cuban Missile Crisis, and Vietnam.

Assigned to the 8th Artillery 25th Infantry Division, Sgt. Leonard and his comrades fought 60 continuous days and nights in Cu Chi where North Vietnamese rigged explosives, booby traps, and punji sticks. In grueling conditions, he served bravely in what his fellow soldiers coined as, "Hell's Half Acre". Along with his division, his service in the Battle of Cu Chi proved invaluable to the discovery of the Viet Cong's district headquarters with over half a million military and intelligence documents.

He and his division were awarded the second highest unit decoration bestowed upon a U.S. Army unit, the Valorous Unit Award for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. A family man, he insists all recognition and commendations for his service are given to Mrs. Leonard, his devoted wife of 62 years, for her many sacrifices in providing him great love and care.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF FIRST SERGEANT RYAN DUBUQUE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize First Sergeant Ryan Dubuque on his retirement from the U.S. Army after 21 years of service to our Nation. After more than two decades of military service, including working to recruit the next generation