

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2023

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, due to my attendance at the Select Subcommittee on the Weaponization of the Federal Government's hearing and the delay in recessing the hearing for votes, I missed the first 2 votes on Thursday, July 20, 2023.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 361 and NAY on Roll Call No. 362.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3935, SECURING GROWTH AND ROBUST LEADERSHIP IN AMERICAN AVIATION ACT, AND PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 3941, SCHOOLS NOT SHELTERS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2023

Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a segment of the White House's Statement of Administration Policy in regard to Section 813 of the Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act:

Maintaining Safe and Secure Airspace During Major Sports Events. While the Administration supports the goal of providing accessibility to and public use of the national airspace, it is concerned that provisions proposed in the bill could introduce unnecessary risks to those attending major sporting events if the effectiveness of safety and security buffers currently provided by temporary flight restrictions were to be decreased. To the extent that the proposed provisions are intended to accommodate airshows, the Administration urges the Congress to consider alternative methods to deconflict airshows and major sports events rather than potentially put aviation operations in close proximity to events attended by millions of Americans each year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I inadvertently cast a "NO" vote for House Amendment No. 36 to H.R. 3935, but I intended a "YEA" vote on Roll Call No. 346.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TROY BALDERSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2023

Mr. BALDERSON. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 352, I mistakenly voted No when I intended to vote Aye.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ZONING COMMISSION HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Zoning Commission Home Rule Act. This bill would give the District of Columbia the authority to appoint all members of the D.C. Zoning Commission (Commission). Currently, the membership of the Commission consists of two federal officials (the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) and the Director of the National Park Service (NPS)) and three members appointed by the D.C. mayor, subject to D.C. Council approval. The federal officials are members even though the Commission has no authority over federal property.

Land use is a quintessential local matter in our country. Despite the D.C. Home Rule Act, which gave D.C. authority over local matters, 40 percent of the members of the Commission are federal officials, who are unaccountable to the nearly 700,000 residents who live in D.C.. The federal government would lose nothing under this bill because the federal government's land-use interests in the nation's capital are protected by federal law and federal agencies.

The Commission creates the zoning maps and regulations, which must "not be inconsistent with the comprehensive plan for the national capital." The mayor is responsible for the local elements of the comprehensive plan, subject to Council approval. The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPD), which is the central federal planning agency for the federal government in D.C. and approves federal projects here, is responsible for the federal elements of the comprehensive plan. This bill would not alter the comprehensive plan process or the authority of NCPD and the Commission.

This bill would immediately remove the AOC and the NPS Director from the Commission, and the Commission would, at least initially, consist solely of three mayoral appointees. D.C. would have the authority to reconstitute the membership of the Commission through local legislation.

This is an important step to increase D.C. home rule, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING TEOFILO "TIO" ARCHULETA TACHIAS

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2023

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Teofilo "Tio" Archuleta Tachias. Arizona owes a debt of gratitude to Tio, who we lost at the age of 87 on July 6. Tio was an Arizona trailblazer, a champion for the Hispanic and Native communities, and a consequential leader who broke economic, social, and political barriers to forge a stronger path forward for our state.

Born in Cabezón, New Mexico, Tio and his family moved to Flagstaff, Arizona when he

was six years old. He would soon find his passion for public service when he volunteered for former President Harry S. Truman's presidential campaign at only 12. Tio eventually ran for office himself and became the first Latino in Flagstaff who won a major election when he was elected to the Coconino County Board of Supervisors. He continued his public service career with the Arizona Board of Regents and was selected as its president in 1984.

Tio was always one to advocate for causes greater than himself, and he was regarded as a humble king maker who seldom spoke and was hard to dislike, even by his political adversaries. He showed people what "boots on the ground" really meant and made it his mission to reach people wherever they were. Tio channeled his talents to turn out historic numbers of Native American voters throughout Arizona and ensure thousands of people can exercise their right to vote. His organizing led to historic elections including that of former Arizona Governor Raúl H. Castro, the first Hispanic governor of our state, as well as helping to elect the first Native American and African American to the Coconino County Board of Supervisors.

Tio mentored an entire generation of political leaders in Arizona, but above all, he cherished his role as a father, grandfather, great grandfather, and even great-great grandfather. Our community is fortunate to have bore witness to Tio's legacy and know that his impact will be felt by generations through the many lives he touched.

I thank you Tio, and Godspeed.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RUTH ALVIA MUNCHUS BAKER

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 24, 2023

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and legacy of Ruth Alvia Munchus Baker, a pillar of our Fort Worth community.

Ruth Alvia Munchus Baker was born June 16, 1931, in Fort Worth and completed her education at historic I.M. Terrell High School. In 1948, she began a devoted marriage and partnership with Herbert Baker and later became the proud mother of five daughters.

Mrs. Baker began working outside her home as her children entered school. She was employed in her family business at Baker Funeral Home for more than sixty years, serving in many roles, including receptionist, musician, lady attendant, beautician and cosmetologist, board member, and co-owner. Mrs. Baker was revered as a friendly and knowledgeable employee who knew how to do nearly every task associated with funeral services. Blessed with a long life, Mrs. Baker continued working for her family business well into her ninety-second year.

Mrs. Baker was also a woman of faith. Ruth began her journey starting at a young age at Saint John Missionary Baptist Church on Baptist Hill. She later would become a founding member of the Beth-Eden Baptist Church in Fort Worth. Later, she united with Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, where she served as a Trustee, Sunday School teacher, member of the Choir, Brownettes and General Mission.