

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

KILAH DAVENPORT CHILD PROTECTION ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2013

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of a bill we are debating today, H.R. 3627, The Kilah Davenport Child Protection Act of 2013.

This commonsense bill will create an important study to examine the penalties that apply to child abusers across the country so that we can ensure we are doing everything possible to keep our children safe.

The motivation behind this significant legislation comes from one of my own constituents, Kilah Davenport. Kilah was abused when she was just three years old and suffers from severe mental and physical damage. I have had the pleasure of meeting young Kilah several times, and each time I'm moved by her strength and conviction. Not even old enough for kindergarten, Kilah is faced with an uphill battle of physical therapy and rehab. I will continue to pray that this innocent young girl makes a full recovery.

Mr. Speaker, child abuse and the safety of our children are not partisan issues. We must equip our states with the necessary tools to punish abusers to the fullest extent of the law. I am committed to ensuring that the federal government empowers the states to strengthen child abuse laws and ensure the safety of the most innocent in our society.

This bill guarantees that our states can address the serious problem of child abuse and makes certain that those who choose to harm a child are dealt with in a swift and severe manner. I support this bill, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

RECOGNIZING WORK ONE SOUTHEAST

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Work One Southeast to the success of the 6th District job fair.

On October 21, 2013, over 150 job seekers from across the district met with 36 businesses looking to hire new employees. In a time when jobs are still hard to come by these job fairs are an important tool in linking job seekers with perspective employers. I am proud we were able to bring community leaders together and provide this service to the people of the 6th District.

The job fair would not have been the success it was without the help of Work One Southeast. I want to recognize the work of

both Jamie Geyer and Angela Black. Their efforts in planning and organizing the job fair show a deep commitment to their community and the economic health of Southeastern Indiana. We could not have done the job fair without them.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in recognizing Work One Southeast. I look forward to working with them in the future as we strive to serve the people Southeastern Indiana.

HONORING BRAD ROBERTS

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brad Roberts, who recently passed away. Mr. Roberts' impressive career will surely be remembered by all. As the sponsor of H.R. 1465, the STORAGE Act, I am a strong proponent of energy storage and have had the opportunity to get to know this industry and the individuals who comprise it.

Brad Roberts was a leader in this industry, serving for decades as the volunteer Executive Director of the Electricity Storage Association, which advocates for technologies that make our electric grid more resilient, cleaner, more efficient, and less expensive. Mr. Roberts worked full-time as the Power Quality Systems Director for the Power Quality group of S&C Electric Company.

Growing up, Mr. Roberts was a graduate of Pensacola High School and a member of the Pensacola Fighting Tiger Band. During this time he had the opportunity to march in the Inaugural Parade for President John F. Kennedy. He then earned a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Florida and was registered as a professional engineer.

Mr. Roberts began his engineering work as a systems reliability engineer in the Apollo Lunar Module Program at Cape Kennedy, and amassed over 35 years of experience in the design and operation of critical power systems. These systems ranged from single phase UPS systems to medium-voltage applications. His career grew to include senior management positions and the publishing of several technical papers and journal articles. Throughout his life he held many leadership positions in various organizations. In addition to his roles at ESA and S&C, Mr. Roberts served as the Chairman of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) Power Engineering Society's Emerging Technologies Committee. He was also a member of the US Department of Energy's Electricity Advisory Committee, and the University of Florida's College of Engineering Advisory Committee.

During his remarkable career, Mr. Roberts was honored with the 2004 John Mungenast International Power Quality Award, the 2009

Phil Symons Electricity Storage Award, and was also recognized as a Senior Life Member of IEEE.

In closing, I know Brad Roberts will surely be missed by those who knew him or knew of him. His passing is a loss to the industry. I send condolences to his family and loved-ones on behalf of my own family as well as the people of New York's 19th Congressional District.

KILAH DAVENPORT CHILD PROTECTION ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2013

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, we all agree that child abuse is a horrific problem, and the abuse of Kilah Davenport is a tragedy. We must take appropriate steps to try to prevent such future tragedies.

Child abuse is a widespread problem. In 2011, approximately 681,000 children were victims of maltreatment, and approximately 3.3 million children received preventative services from Child Protective Services agencies in the United States. Furthermore, nearly five children die every day in America from abuse and neglect, and more than 78 percent of reported child fatalities as a result of abuse and neglect were caused by one or more of the child victim's parents.

In addition to harming children directly, child abuse contributes to future crime.

Children who experience child abuse and neglect are about 9 times more likely to become involved in criminal activity. We should therefore get serious about reducing child abuse by enacting the type of meaningful legislation proven to actually reduce child abuse—and save money in the process—like nurse family partnerships.

Nurse family partnerships are an evidence-based community health program that provide home visits from registered nurses to low-income, first-time moms from pregnancy until the child turns two years old. In medical and scientific journals, nurse family partnerships are most often cited as the most effective intervention to prevent child abuse and neglect.

The approach of H.R. 3627 is to allow sentences of up to 10 years for those convicted for the third time for domestic abuse which, with this bill, will include child abuse. But it only applies to those offenses committed in national parks, military bases, Indian country, and on other federal land.

So of all of the cases of child abuse committed nationally, this bill unfortunately reaches only a negligible portion of the cases—those committed on federal land by people with two prior offenses.

Moreover, I am concerned that by increasing the penalties for third offenses, this bill implies that federal judges don't know what to do

• 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.

with a defendant convicted for a third time of these heinous offenses.

As I have described, child abuse is a serious problem, and in order to determine the appropriateness of expanding federal laws, we should have had a hearing on this issue, which we did not. We have received no evidence suggesting that federal judges impose such sentences on these third-time offenders that they keep getting out of prison and committing child abuse again.

The reason the bill before us today can only apply to federal lands is because we do not have jurisdiction over local crimes. The issue of child abuse is traditionally a matter for the states, and therefore this issue might have been best, first considered by the over-criminalization task force.

If our goal is to actually reduce the ravages of child abuse, we should not limit our efforts to the negligible number of prosecutable cases involving third offenses on federal lands.

I say prosecutable because most child abuse is not reported at all, and many chases that are reported are difficult to prosecute because family members may be unwilling to testify against one another. In fact, we have received no evidence that this bill would have even applied to the Kilah Davenport case, which does not appear to have occurred on federal land or have been committed by a third-time offender.

We need to focus federal efforts on supporting programs which will prevent these crimes from happening in the first place.

H.R. 3627 does, however, include a worthwhile provision that requires the Attorney General to issue a report outlining the child abuse laws in the 50 states. The states can then review their statutes to see how they compare to other states and decide if their state laws need to be amended.

I agree with the desire to do more to protect our children from such tragic victimization, and we should work together to reduce child abuse. However, I think there are better ways to do it.

HONORING TIM CARPENTER

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Mr. ELLISON of Minnesota and Mr. GRIJALVA of Arizona, the co-chairs of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, as well as Ms. LEE of California, Mr. MCGOVERN of Massachusetts and Mr. GRAYSON of Florida, I rise to acknowledge the many contributions of Mr. Tim Carpenter, and to send him wishes for healing as he fights against cancer. As the co-founder and director of the Progressive Democrats of America, Tim has helped to create a grassroots movement to bring the voice of the people to Washington.

For the past thirty years, Tim has been indefatigable in pressing forward progressive ideals to help strengthen our American democracy. He has been in the forefront of progressive causes, from promoting nuclear disarmament to fighting to abolish the death penalty to establishing health care as a human right, as well as securing voting rights and jobs for all.

Tim was a key organizer for the presidential campaigns of Rev. Jesse Jackson (1988), and Gov. Jerry Brown (1992), and he served as Deputy National Campaign Manager in the Kucinich for President campaign (2004). Tim was a national DNC delegate, and addressed the 1992 Democratic National Convention. Tim worked closely with Reverend Jesse Jackson Sr. during the 2004 Presidential election, in order to bring national attention to very serious problems with voting procedures in Ohio and other states. He helped strengthen and improve our democracy, by challenging elected officials in Congress and throughout the nation to protect the cherished right of our citizens to vote. Tim has received several awards including "Democrat of the Year" in Northampton, MA, Progressive Activist of the Year by the Nation magazine, as well as the Marilyn Clement award for his work on behalf of H.R. 676, the "Expanded Improved Medicare for All."

Tim's zeal to improve our system of government stems from his days as a student when he earned History and Political Science degrees from California State University Fullerton, as well as a Master's Degree in History. Early in his career, Tim took efforts to shape and guide our young men and women as a high school and community college U.S. History and Government teacher. For many years, Tim worked with California state senator Tom Hayden as a senior staff member. He was also an influential field organizer in the Orange County California Democratic Party.

Despite his ailments, Tim is still engaging, still pushing forward and still trying to raise awareness of the great challenges this country is facing.

In this trying time we lend our support to our friend, Tim, his wife Barbara Considine, and their daughters, Sheila and Julia. We ask that you all will join us in wishing Tim a full and quick recovery so that he can continue to do important work on behalf of our country.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT MARY HERRERA, U.S. MARINE CORPS (RET.)

HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Sergeant Mary Herrera, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.), a brave young woman and member of the Arizona National Guard from my congressional district whose personal story of valor on the battlefield is truly inspirational. Her courage under enemy attack on November 8, 2003 on a routine mission in Iraq as part of the 855th Military Police Academy won her a Purple Heart.

I am proud of Sgt. Herrera, who represents the best and brightest in not only my district and state of Arizona, which is home to over a half million veterans, but also in our nation.

Thanks to her story and example, the state of Arizona passed a bill that authorized tuition waiver scholarships to National Guardsmen and women who received a Purple Heart or were medically discharged due to injuries while serving in the military after 9/11. The bill is known as the Mary Herrera bill. Now, Sgt. Herrera is a Field Representative of the West for the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes.

The Coalition to Salute America's Heroes is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, non-partisan organization, established in 2004 to provide severely wounded veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and their families with emergency financial assistance and other support services to help them recover from their injuries and rebuild their lives. All funds needed to develop and manage programs that advance its mission come from contributions to CSAH by individual citizens, corporate donors and foundations.

According to Major General David Rataczak of the Arizona National Guard, Herrera is "the bravest person he has ever met." He refers to Sgt. Herrera as a true example of a modern citizen-soldier who, despite being small in stature, is motivated, loyal, physically and mentally capable, disciplined and proficient, courageous and always a professional.

Sgt. Herrera, who represents the changing demographic within U.S. armed forces, is dedicated to improving the lives of young veterans who are returning home from war. Last month, she represented our state in a high-level event hosted by CSAH in Washington, D.C., for members of Congress, staff and concerned citizens. The event focused on the serious challenge of homelessness facing young veterans, which is becoming a burgeoning crisis among female combat veterans.

Under the leadership of President and CEO David Walker, the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes helps severely wounded veterans and families of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom in the state of Arizona and across the country to recover from their injuries and illnesses by providing emergency financial aid and other support services, in hopes that these veterans can transition successfully into civilian life. In addition, the Coalition's emergency aid services respond to trends associated with suicide among veterans (24 per day), a skyrocketing divorce rate (60 percent among actives), and growing domestic abuse.

Recently, in my home state of Arizona, the Coalition awarded a \$10,000 grant toward the construction of a multipurpose recreational facility designed to benefit long-term patients undergoing rehabilitation and other medical care at Prescott VA Hospital. In addition, it donated \$5,000 to fund the design and construction of a bronze sculpture called "Heroic Challenges" (in the outdoor recreational facility at the hospital), which will depict a runner crossing the finish line with a look of determination on his face. The winner of this race, however, is distinguished by a prosthetic leg, a tracheotomy scar on his neck, several shrapnel wounds, and burn scars on one arm. Also, the Coalition donated a grant of nearly \$5,000 to the Arizona Coalition to End Homelessness to support the group's initiatives to provide housing for homeless veterans. The grant furnished approximately 60 housing units that will be occupied by veterans.

We have not seen the total surge yet from Iraq and Afghanistan—and the women coming out of those conflicts are combat veterans who have the same issues the men have. The Coalition is working hard to address these challenges. In 2013 alone, the Coalition will have donated nearly \$1 million in direct aid to veterans in addition to managing the many other CSAH programs that are available to wounded veterans (conferences, holiday gift checks, education and training, etc.).

On December 9–13, 2013, The Road to Recovery (R2R) Conference and Tribute is a four-day educational and motivational event for wounded veterans and their families designed to prepare them for the challenges in their lives that lie ahead.

On behalf of the state of Arizona, and in particular, the First District of Arizona, I would like to offer my deepest admiration, respect and appreciation to Sgt. Herrera and the Coalition for their efforts to improve the lives of those who have fought and served our country with distinction. We owe Mary a debt of gratitude. She is an example to us all.

CONGRATULATING JOHN ROBINSON ROYERO ON ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize, honor and congratulate an outstanding constituent of my district, John Robinson Royero of Scout Troop 100 in Oviedo, Florida, for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The rank of Eagle Scout is the highest achievement in scouting. To attain this rank, he has demonstrated the qualities of leadership, self-discipline and perseverance while serving his family, friends and community. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the rank of Eagle Scout. The awarding of the Rank of Eagle Scout is a performance-based achievement with high standards that have been well maintained over the past century.

John Royero has met every test and challenge to pass through the ranks of the Boy Scouts. Those aspiring to be Eagle Scouts must fulfill requirements in the areas of leadership, service and outdoor skills. To demonstrate proficiency as a scout, each Boy Scout must achieve merit badges in the areas of First Aid, Citizenship, Environment, Fitness, Family Life and much more.

The work ethic John has shown in his Eagle Scout projects, and every other project leading up to his Eagle Scout rank, speaks volumes about his commitment to assisting his community and serving a cause greater than himself. It is my honor to commend John Royero for his achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout. John will join the ranks of fellow Eagle Scouts like President Gerald R. Ford, Neil Armstrong and Florida Governor Rick Scott.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. John's devotion to the Boy Scouts over the past decade is laudable, and I congratulate him on his achievement. I thank him for his dedication to service and know we can expect great things from him in the future. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating John Robinson Royero on obtaining the rank of Eagle Scout, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 9TH ANNUAL NORTHWEST INDIANA INNOVATION INDUCTION CEREMONY

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sincerity and admiration that I offer congratulations to Ivy Tech Community College Northwest and its regional partners, who recently celebrated their 9th Annual Northwest Indiana Innovation Induction Ceremony. At the ceremony that reflects the "Spirit of Innovation" in Indiana, thirty-one individuals and teams were inducted as members of the 2013–2014 Class of the Society of Innovators of Northwest Indiana. Of these individuals, several members were inducted as Society Fellows for their exceptional efforts in innovation, including Julie Bombacino, Mike Falk, Nina Fonstein, Ph.D., Lisa Hopp, Ph.D., RN, and Don Keller. Additionally, Stewart McMillan was honored as the Gerald I. Lamkin Fellow for Innovation and Service, a special recognition named for the President Emeritus of Ivy Tech College of Indiana. Also honored were the Chanute Prize team recipients, the Kemin/Lambert Spearmint team, North Judson and the Tuskegee Airmen EAA Young Eagles Program team at the Gary/Chicago International Airport. For their truly remarkable contributions to the community of Northwest Indiana and their continuous efforts to cultivate a culture of innovation, these honorees were inducted during a prestigious event that took place at Horseshoe Casino in Hammond, Indiana, on October 17, 2013.

The Society of Innovators of Northwest Indiana was created by Ivy Tech Northwest with the goal of highlighting and encouraging innovative individuals and groups within the not-for-profit, public, and private sectors, as well as building a "culture of innovation" in Northwest Indiana. The importance of innovation in Northwest Indiana, as well as globally, is crucial in today's ever-changing economy.

Our 9th Annual Innovators Awards Ceremony inducted some of the most innovative thinkers, doers and innovators across Northwest Indiana, said Thomas Coley, Ph.D., Chancellor, Ivy Tech Community College Northwest and North Central. The five Fellows selected by the Society of Innovators were chosen for their extraordinary innovative leadership and the impact of their accomplishments throughout the community of Northwest Indiana and the world. Julie Bombacino, president of Just Blend Foods, Chesterton, developed a line of "blended real food meals" for adults and children who need to use feeding tubes. This is the first product that delivers real food meal options for tube-fed individuals who have, in the past, had to rely on a formula that is typically made of 50% corn syrup. Mike Falk, chief executive officer and president of Falk-PLI Engineering and Surveying, Portage, is the first to introduce highly developed surveying instruments called laser trackers and laser scanners in the steel industry in Northwest Indiana and beyond. Nina Fonstein, Ph.D., retired scientist and present day consultant, is a world-renowned specialist in the development of stronger, lighter and environmentally friendly "new steels" for the ArcelorMittal Global Research and Develop-

ment Center in East Chicago. Lisa Hopp, Ph.D., RN, is the founding director of the Indiana Center for Evidence-Based Nursing Practice (ICEBNP). The center, located at Purdue University Calumet's College of Nursing, is the first of its kind in the Midwest and is part of a global effort to "expand the understanding and use of research-based evidence to produce the best patient outcomes." Don Keller is the president and chief executive officer of Tri-State Industries in Hammond. Don launched an integrated system of industrial robotic technology that allows factories to keep their costs down while increasing productivity. Tri-State is a leader in this industry and the first of its kind in Northwest Indiana and the Chicagoland area.

I am also honored to acknowledge Stewart McMillan, who was recognized as the Gerald I. Lamkin Fellow for Innovation and Service. Stewart is the president and chief executive officer of Task Force Tips in Valparaiso. Task Force Tips is a world-wide leader in the manufacturing and distribution of firefighting nozzles and equipment with the goal of making firefighting safer and more effective. Stewart is a true innovative leader who focuses on the importance of the entire organization rather than relying upon a small group of people within the organization for ideas. Under Stewart's direction, Task Force Tips is an innovative leader in its industry in the global economy.

Finally, the recipients of the Chanute Prize for Team Innovation should be commended for their contributions. The Kemin/Lambert Spearmint team, North Judson, have patented growing and post-harvest processes for spearmint plants, which produces an all-natural extract that contains antioxidant properties and is effective in delaying lipid oxidation, color loss, and deterioration in human food, animal food, and other products for global markets. The Tuskegee Airmen EEA Young Eagles Program team at the Gary/Chicago International Airport provides the first and only monthly Young Eagles Aviation Program in the United States. Over 14,000 youth have participated in the program since its launch in 1994. The program is in affiliation with the Experimental Aviation Association and includes free flights in honor of the Tuskegee Airmen.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my distinguished colleagues to join me in commending these outstanding innovators. The contributions they have made to society here in Northwest Indiana and worldwide are immeasurable and lifelong. For their truly brilliant innovative ideas, projects, and leadership, each recipient is worthy of the highest commendation.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. ANTHONY GRISILLO BEING NAMED PENNSYLVANIA'S 2014 TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Anthony Grisillo, who was honored by Governor Tom Corbett as Pennsylvania's 2014 Teacher of the Year.

Mr. Grisillo has been teaching in the Rose Tree Media School District for 15 years and works with academically gifted students in kindergarten through 5th Grade. A winner of numerous other teaching honors, Mr. Grisillo has

brought innovative teaching methods to bear to help our students excel, including movie-making, robotics lessons and simulated NASA space missions. His students noted that Mr. Grisillo is a great teacher because he believes in his students and serves as a mentor to them. When asked to describe Mr. Grisillo in one word, students said he was “inspirational,” “extraordinary” and “fun”—just what our teachers ought to be.

Mr. Grisillo is a graduate of West Chester University and holds a Master’s Degree from Widener University.

Mr. Grisillo was one of four finalists from schools in Pennsylvania’s 7th Congressional District. Tracey Fritch of Rose Tree Media School District, Lori Gallagher of Hatboro-Horsham School District and Nicole Miletto of Hatboro-Horsham School District were also finalists for Pennsylvania’s 2014 Teacher of the Year award.

Mr. Speaker, I honor Mr. Grisillo, Ms. Fritch, Ms. Gallagher, Ms. Miletto and all our educators for their dedication to our children and their tireless work to prepare them for the future.

RECOGNIZING 91.3 FM KXCI: A TUCSON AREA RADIO STATION AND COMMUNITY LEADER

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor 91.3 FM KXCI, a community radio station serving Tucson, Arizona and the surrounding areas, on the occasion of its 30th anniversary. The anniversary, which occurs on December 6th, 2013, will be marked by a special concert event at the El Con Club and Grill in Tucson, featuring an eclectic mix of local bands.

KXCI makes invaluable contributions to the communities of southern Arizona. Its unique blend of music expands the cultural horizons of its listeners and its relationships with local arts and public service organizations bring local citizens together. By providing over \$200,000 worth of free airtime for public service announcements each year, KXCI helps Tucson area non-profits to raise awareness of their causes and foster community engagement.

KXCI’s staff, supporters and listeners understand that radio can be a powerful force for social good. Together, they have built a radio station that facilitates a healthy exchange of ideas and expressions, strengthens local communities, promotes the arts and provides stimulating entertainment.

Over 30 years, tuning into KXCI has been synonymous with placing a finger on the pulse of the city of Tucson. The station has long been one of the region’s most trusted and respected sources of news, music and current events. Those who live within its reaches find comfort in its unique programming in the car, at home and at work.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate KXCI on reaching this great milestone. Its long history of enriching the communities in and around Tucson deserves our highest admiration and respect. Happy birthday, KXCI—and many more!

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM
“RANDY” BATES, JR., JD

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an accomplished business, legal and educational leader in my district. William “Randy” Bates, Jr., has been a successful businessman and attorney in Southeast Texas and has served as a member of the Lone Star College System for more than 20 years.

Randy was the first African American appointed, and then elected, to the Lone Star College System board. He served as Vice Chair of the board and was twice elected board Chair.

As a board member and as Chair during his tenure with the Lone Star College System, he has been instrumental in the system’s growth, from fewer than 20,000 students and three colleges in 1991 to six colleges and a total enrollment of 90,000 students.

Prior to his service in the field of higher education, Randy earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from The Ohio State University and his Juris Doctor from the Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University, where he later served as an Adjunct Professor.

As a student at Texas Southern, Randy was elected Class President at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law and was the first African American to be selected Law Student Director for the Texas Young Lawyers Association, representing all law students in the State of Texas.

Randy later founded the law firm of Bates & Coleman, PC, which specializes in Public Finance Law.

His many accomplishments include being named Outstanding Texan in the field of Education by the Legislative Black Caucus, the Mayor’s Distinguished Award from the City of El Paso and the Excellence in Achievement Award from Texas Southern University for years of outstanding service to education and the community.

Randy is a lifelong member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and is married to the former Glenda Underwood. They are the proud parents of three sons, Lamont, William and Jonathan.

In recognition for his years of service to the Lone Star College System, the central building on the Lone Star College—Victory Center Campus will be named in his honor.

Randy—I congratulate you on your distinguished service to the Lone Star College System and I offer my sincere appreciation for your many contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING SUQUAMISH TRIBE
CHAIRMAN, MR. LEONARD
FORSMAN, FOR HIS NOMINATION
TO THE PRESIDENT’S ADVISORY
COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESER-
VATION

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a long-time leader in Kitsap County and the Suquamish Tribe, Chairman Leonard Forsman. His service to the Suquamish Tribe and Greater Puget Sound Region of Washington State has positively impacted the environment and community.

Mr. Forsman has been nominated by the President to serve as a member of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, an independent agency that advises the President and Congress on national historic preservation policy.

Mr. Forsman has served on the Suquamish Tribal Council for over 20 years and has served as Tribal Chairman since 2005, where he has been an advocate for tribal education, cultural preservation, gaming policy, and habitat protection.

As Chairman, Mr. Forsman has supported preserving the cultural identity of the Suquamish Tribe. He remains committed to educating both his tribe and the larger community on their history, including usage of Suquamish names throughout the Puget Sound. He also travels as a puller on the Tribe’s traditional canoe on the annual Tribal Canoe Journey, legging hundreds of miles on the Salish Sea. The Tribal Canoe Journey brings together many tribes from the Pacific Northwest to celebrate native art, culture, and history. Mr. Forsman’s work has ensured that the history of the Suquamish Tribe will continue to be part of our region’s shared heritage.

Whether it’s his degrees in both Anthropology and Historical Preservation, his career as a research archaeologist, or his service as a member of the Washington State Historical Society Board since 2007, it’s clear that Mr. Forsman’s educational and professional background will bring a high degree of expertise to the Advisory Council.

As I close, I can say with confidence that Leonard Forsman’s dedication to his tribe’s history and cultural identity has enriched the Greater Puget Sound area. I am pleased to recognize that dedication today in the United States Congress.

HONORING PHILIP NELSON

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Philip Nelson of the Illinois Farm Bureau (ILFB) and to recognize his years of service to the state and national agriculture community.

Mr. Nelson began his career in agriculture in his youth and was awarded the prestigious Illinois FFA Star Farmer of the Year award in

1977 as well as the American Farm Bureau Federation's National Outstanding Young Farmer Award in 1984. He has continued to operate his family's fourth generation farm near Seneca, Illinois where he and his wife grow corn, soybean, alfalfa, and have a cow-calf operation.

Philip has served five consecutive two-year terms as president of the ILFB which is the maximum he can serve under ILFB rules. Under his leadership, the ILFB has become an even more important voice in informing local, state, and national elected officials about the issues confronting the agriculture industry. His first-hand knowledge of farming has been instrumental to the organization in identifying and advocating on major challenges. In addition to his tenure as President of the ILFB, Mr. Nelson has served as President of the Illinois Soybean Association, President of the LaSalle County Farm Bureau, Vice President of the American Soybean Association, and Chairman of the American Farm Bureau Federation's Swine Advisory Committee.

While he is leaving his post at the ILFB, I am confident his expertise and leadership on agriculture issues will continue to be put to good use. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 16th District of Illinois, I wish to express our deepest thanks to Philip Nelson for his exemplary efforts to advocate for the Illinois agriculture community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF CORPORAL GEORGE CONKLIN

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, service, and sacrifice of a constituent, Corporal George Conklin. Mr. Conklin of Phelps, New York, enlisted in the United States Army in 1949 at the young age of seventeen to answer our nation's call to service during the Korean War. Tragically, it took sixty-four years for him to return home.

George Conklin was serving in the 7th Infantry Division's 31st Regimental Combat Team as a Private First-Class in Korea when he disappeared on December 2, 1950. Wounded in the leg, he was loaded onto a transport truck for evacuation, but soon thereafter, he and his colleagues went missing. It was not until the conclusion of the war in 1953 that Corporal Conklin was formally classified as "Killed In Action." The U.S. Army posthumously promoted him to the rank of Corporal and awarded him the Purple Heart.

Corporal Conklin's family never gave up hope that one day he would return home. The family waited for over sixty years until this past September, when his niece, Karen DesCamp, finally received the news that she and George's other relatives had waited a lifetime for. After one of George's brothers donated a DNA sample to the Pentagon, Corporal Conklin's remains were positively identified at a laboratory in Hawaii.

It is with humble appreciation that I acknowledge Corporal George Conklin's return home to Ontario County. Hundreds of civilians and military veterans joined a military honor guard to give him a final welcome home as the plane carrying his casket touched down in Roch-

ester. He was then laid to rest next to his predeceased parents and two brothers in upstate New York.

I cannot begin to imagine the feelings and emotions that have afflicted his family over the past six decades, but I am relieved to know that Corporal Conklin is finally back where he belongs, resting peacefully beside his loved ones. His ultimate sacrifice for the good of our nation and preservation of our freedom will never be forgotten.

HONORING FRED MEURER ON 27
YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE CITY
OF MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career of a truly remarkable public servant who I am proud to call a friend. Fred Meurer is retiring from the position of City Manager for the City of Monterey, California after holding the job since 1991. That is a remarkably long tenure in any job. In the field of city management, it is unheard of. But for those of us who have had the honor and pleasure of working with Fred over the years, those twenty-two years are a testament to his tremendous ability and professionalism.

Fred joined the City of Monterey in 1986, initially as the Special Projects Manager in the City Manager's office, and then as the City's Public Works Director for the next five years. In July of 1991, the City Council appointed Mr. Meurer to the position of City Manager. Since his appointment, Mr. Meurer has been actively involved in fostering working relationships between business districts, residential districts and City Hall. He has overseen the re-development of the City's residential neighborhoods and business districts. Neighborhood policing, waterfront acquisition, the main street program, tourism development, historic preservation programs and development of the education and research economic clusters have been instrumental in diversifying Monterey's economy. The success in this effort has financed the City's program for developing "preventive" programs in policing, fire protection, community services, recreation, public works and other public services.

Fred has been actively involved in developing cooperative relationships between the City and the Department of Defense (DoD) activities in Monterey in an effort to further increase DoD mission effectiveness while reducing their operating costs. Fred was responsible for germinating an idea—which Congress enacted in 1994 as a pilot program—of allowing military installations in Monterey County, California, to purchase a range of maintenance and municipal services from local government agencies in the County. Over the subsequent years, the Army Audit Agency has consistently validated cost savings to the Army and "the Monterey Model," as it became known in the Pentagon, became a permanent national program in 2013.

In conceiving this program, Fred's goal was to provide the same high quality municipal services to DoD activities and personnel as the City provides its civilian neighborhoods, while saving the City money by spreading its

overhead over a larger base. Similar cooperative service agreements have been negotiated with other cities in the region. These inter-governmental partnerships have also helped broaden the economic base of the City.

Recognizing the value of integrated municipal services between military installations and the city brings not only financial benefits to both parties but strengthens the town-base relationship. Fred nourished that relationship and looked for ways for the town and the military to interact seamlessly. This inter-relatedness was especially evident during the 1995 and 2005 BRAC rounds when the BRAC Commission determined that, because of the inherent value of the community contribution to the functioning of the local installations, there was no way to reproduce those functions elsewhere and those installations had to remain open and in Monterey.

Fred graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1966, and received graduate degrees from Stanford University in Water Resources Planning and Civil Engineering in 1971. He served overseas assignments in Germany, Viet Nam and Korea. His final active duty tour was as Director of Public Works and Housing at the former Ft. Ord. He retired as a Colonel from the Army in 1986.

Mr. Speaker, Fred Meurer is the epitome of a model public servant who brought wisdom, professionalism, creativity and problem solving skills to the job of City Manager of Monterey and leaves a legacy of accomplishments that not only benefit the residents of Monterey but also serve as a model of sound civic management for others to learn from and emulate. In his 1961 State of the Union address to Congress, President John F. Kennedy commented on his administration's commitment to civil service and the following words, "Let the public service be a proud and lively career," struck me as the embodiment of Fred Meurer's stellar career.

Fred along with his wife Phyllis will now begin a new journey in life. An avid Oakland A's fan, Native American art collector and delicious ice cream maker, new adventures await this dedicated husband, father and grandfather. I wish Fred and his wife all the best in their well-deserved retirement years.

CONGRATULATING HELENE COMBS
DREILING

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Helene Combs Dreiling on her election as President of the American Institute of Architects (AIA). This distinguished position is well deserved and reflective of her many professional achievements in the field of architecture.

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) is the professional membership organization for American architects, with more than 80,000 members across the country. In addition to her new position as President, Ms. Dreiling has served the AIA in numerous leadership roles.

Currently, Ms. Dreiling serves as Executive Director of the Virginia Center for Architecture, a Richmond-based non-profit that develops

the public understanding of architecture through a broad array of outreach programs. She is also a past member of the board of trustees of the American Architectural Foundation and a past president of the Virginia Society, AIA and AIA Blue Ridge.

Ms. Dreiling received her Bachelor of Architecture degree from the College of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA. She is a resident of Roanoke, VA, which is located in the Sixth Congressional District.

Throughout the ages architecture has been at the very foundation of our society, representing the greatness of our past and the promise of our future. It can be seen in the pyramids of Ancient Egypt, the coliseums of the Roman Empire, and the monuments that grace our nation's capital today. Architecture plays an ever-important role in ensuring the structural foundations of our communities and our legacy for future generations.

It is an honor to recognize Ms. Dreiling. I am certain that the AIA will benefit greatly from her leadership, and I wish her the best of luck during her tenure as President.

HONORING MAYOR DICK PASCO

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a community leader and friend, Mayor Dick Pasco of Greenfield, Indiana.

Dick Pasco was a dedicated public servant who spent the better part of his life serving the people of Greenfield. Dick's work for the city began in 1972 when he was appointed to the Greenfield Park Board. He was later elected to the city council where he would serve for twenty years. Dick would go on to hold a variety of positions on the Greenfield Planning Commission, Council for Economic Development, Hancock Boys and Girls Club, United Way, and Kiwanis International. Dick Pasco served on the Hancock County Council before being elected Mayor in 2011.

The City of Greenfield has lost a pillar of the community and a dedicated civic leader. Mayor Pasco set an example we can all aspire to. His life, including four years in the United States Navy, has been dedicated to serving others and making his community a better place to live. His commitment to Greenfield will be forever appreciated. I will forever appreciate his friendship and ask the citizens of the 6th Congressional District to join me in keeping his wife Joan, daughters Jennifer Pasco-Beck and Patricia Pasco and son Richard Pasco II in your thoughts and prayers.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,230,345,583,111.52. We've added \$6,603,468,534,198.44 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.6 trillion in debt over our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO ANDREW J. LEWIS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and pay tribute to Mr. Andrew J. Lewis, a pillar of the Columbia, South Carolina community. As an elementary school teacher, assistant principal, and principal, Mr. Lewis touched the lives of countless students over many decades.

Mr. Andrew Jackson Lewis was born on June 2, 1917 in Sumter County, South Carolina, the oldest of eleven children of Sam and Rosa Lewis, Sr. He married Margaret Pearson Lewis on Valentine's Day 1942; they remained married until her death this past April. He leaves behind a daughter, Andrea Lewis Jones, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Educated in Sumter County Public Schools, Mr. Lewis was valedictorian of his class at Lincoln High School. He graduated cum laude from Benedict College with a degree in mathematics. At Benedict, he was a member of Omega Psi Phi fraternity, which means I am proud to call him a brother. He went on to receive a Master of Science degree from my alma mater, South Carolina State University. He also served honorably in the U.S. Army Air Forces, earning the rank of Technical Sergeant.

Mr. Lewis's professional career began at Celia Saxon Elementary School in 1946. He later became Assistant Principal at W.A. Perry Middle School and then Principal at Greenview Elementary School, a position he held for 16 years until his retirement in 1982. My three daughters attended Greenview Elementary School, and I saw firsthand the positive impact he had on them and all of the students under his charge. He was held in such high regard at Greenview that after his retirement, the school was renamed the A.J. Lewis Greenview Elementary School.

A devoted member of Chappelle Memorial AME Church, Mr. Lewis served on the Steward Board under three different pastors, worked diligently on the Budget and Finance Committee, and chaired the Men's Day programs for ten years. With this level of dedication, Mr. Lewis was given the well-deserved honor of "Man of the Year" by the church in 1985.

Mr. Lewis was widely involved in the broader Columbia community as well. He was a member of the Capital City Lodge #47 (Price Hall F&A Masons), the Columbia Transportation and Advisory Committee, the Columbia Municipal Elections Committee, and the Richland County and South Carolina Retired Educators Associations. He served as chaplain of the Benedict Columbia Alumni #2 Club, president and vice president of the Columbia Luncheon Club, president of the United Martin Family of South Carolina, as vice president of the Shandon Neighborhood Council, and as a member of the committee that renamed Valley Park the Martin Luther King, Jr. Park.

In recognition of this impressive record of service to the community, Mr. Lewis received the O.P. Taylor Humanitarian Award and the Living the Legacy Award as an outstanding educator from the National Council of Negro Women. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in remembering this distinguished educator and community leader. Mr. Lewis will be sorely missed, but his contributions will live on in perpetuity.

CONGRATULATING ERIE FOODS INTERNATIONAL ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Erie Foods International in Erie, Illinois, on the occasion of their 75th anniversary.

Erie Foods International manufactures ingredients that are used in many different brands of nutritional beverages and bars, dairy products, sports drinks, coffee and more. Founded as Erie Casein Dryers in 1938 by Arden and Marjorie Reisenbigler, Erie Foods is truly a family business. The company is currently run by their son, David Reisenbigler, whose older brother was CEO for five years beginning in 1977 and whose son and sister also work for Erie Foods. In the past 75 years, Erie Foods has grown to a global company, with 194 employees worldwide, including 33 in Erie.

Additionally, Erie Foods makes it a point to buy from local dairies at many of their plants and donates a portion of their profits to charitable organizations. CEO David Reisenbigler explains that "we want to be more than a company that just takes profits. We want to improve the communities where we are."

Mr. Speaker, I want to again congratulate Erie Foods International for reaching this impressive milestone and I wish them even more success over the next 75 years.

HONORING DOROTHY BARKER

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the outstanding career of Dorothy Barker.

On November 26, 2013, Dorothy retired after an incredible career in sales and real estate. She began working with me at Billy Long Auctioneers and Realtors in 1988 and has been with Murney Associates, Realtors since 2002.

Dorothy is a beloved member of the community. She has been very active in her church, the Evangel Temple in Springfield, Missouri. She is also a proud and loving mother to three and grandmother to eight.

I am extremely proud of the work that Dorothy has accomplished. I am honored to have been able to work side by side with her for so many years, and anybody that has worked with Dorothy would be sure to agree with me. Dorothy has truly brightened the lives of many throughout her successful career.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF SERVICE OF THE LINKS, INCORPORATED, MORRIS COUNTY CHAPTER

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Morris County Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, located in Morris County, New Jersey, as it is celebrating 30 years of community service.

Established in 1946, The Links, Incorporated is a not-for-profit organization that combines the ideals of friendship and community service to focus on civic, cultural, and educational endeavors. The Morris County Chapter of The Links, Incorporated (The Links) was chartered in May, 1982, under the guidance of Elizabeth Quick. One of the organization's first projects was the Open Door program, established to provide newly relocated minorities with an orientation and welcoming committee, often catering to particular needs. Around the same time, The Links also began the Hands Across Generations program to help establish and build relationships between senior citizens and the younger generations.

As new technologies were brought into society's everyday life, the organization developed the Digital Divide. The Digital Divide partners with Morristown High School and its students to help teach senior citizens how to use computers.

The organization also maintains a strong commitment to the arts through various events and exhibits. One very special program, the Literary Teas program, utilizes forums to promote African American authors within the community.

Three years ago, The Links began Working with the Morristown Neighborhood House, an organization that supports our low-income community and fosters cross-cultural acceptance, and developed a program called Rhythms for Life: Music Matters in Morris County, which offers instructor-led violin lessons to grammar and middle school students.

The Links has directed many of its programs and activities towards the youth of Morris County. The organization provides and sponsors various mentoring and educational programs. The Film Workshop, a recent mentoring program, teaches students the phases of film making. So far the program has produced three films that have won national recognition. The Links also recognizes the importance of education, and has awarded more than \$100,000 in scholarships to deserving college students in Morris County.

The Links, Incorporated looks forward to facing the challenges ahead and plans to continue promoting and maintaining civic, educational, and intercultural activities to help enrich the members of the Morris County community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Morris County

Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, as they celebrate 30 years of community service.

RECOGNIZING TOYOTA MATERIAL HANDLING, U.S.A., INC.

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Toyota Material Handling, U.S.A., INC. which recently moved its North American headquarters to Columbus, Indiana in my congressional district.

Toyota Material Handling, U.S.A., INC. (TMHU) has been operating in North America for 45 years and in 1990 began lift truck production at the Toyota Industrial Equipment Manufacturing facility in Columbus. The company has been producing the number-one selling lift truck in the U.S. since 2002. The majority of all Toyota lift trucks sold in the U.S. are manufactured in Columbus.

Recently Toyota celebrated the official grand opening of their multi-million dollar investment in their new campus and the line-off of the first large capacity Toyota 8-Series lift truck. The same event also marked the 450,000th lift truck produced at the Columbus plant. By moving their headquarters to Columbus TMHU continues its investment in South-eastern Indiana and support for the community's economic vitality.

I ask the entire 6th Congressional District to join me in recognizing Toyota Material Handling, U.S.A., INC. Their leadership and economic impact on our state has been invaluable. TMHU is a great community partner, and I look forward to working with them often in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. JOHN E. PICKELMAN

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding leader in higher education in my district. Chancellor Emeritus Dr. John E. Pickelman became the second chancellor of North Harris County College in 1991 and served until his retirement in 2007.

During his service as chancellor, enrollment increased from 14,000 to over 49,000 and grew from three colleges—LSC—North Harris, LSC—Kingwood and LSC—Tomball to five colleges, with the addition of LSC—Montgomery and LSC—CyFair, the first community college to open in the 21st century.

Under his strong commitment to provide access to quality education for all citizens, LSC's boundaries expanded from five to eleven independent school districts and added six satellite centers.

Dr. Pickelman expanded the dual credit program and created early college high schools in partnership with local school districts which allowed qualified high school students to earn college credit while still in high school.

He established The University Center, an innovative, highly successful multi-university teaching facility in The Woodlands, providing students and the community the opportunity to earn a bachelors or master's degree from six public universities.

Dr. Pickelman was also credited with establishing a university-level sabbatical program for the benefit of Lone Star College System faculty and administrators to continue professional work in their respective fields.

He served as a tireless advocate and leader for higher education at the local, state and national level and championed the college's role in economic development, establishing the center for Business and Economic Development, the Chamber Alliance and Leadership North Houston.

Some of his leadership roles in numerous national, state and local organizations include chairman of the board of directors of the Southern Association Colleges and Schools, chairman of the board of the Texas Association of Community Colleges and president of the Association of Texas Colleges and Universities.

Dr. Pickelman earned a bachelor's degree in English from Albion College and a master's degree in education from the University of Missouri at Kansas City. He received his Ph.D. from The University of Texas at Austin, where he received a distinguished graduate award from the College of Education.

Dr. Pickelman and his wife, Barbara, are proud parents of two sons, Matthew and Jason; and four grandchildren. He is an excellent chef and he has personally raised over \$100,000 for student scholarships auctioning off his culinary evenings.

In recognition for his years of accomplished service in higher education, the Lone Star College System will rename the student center at the Lone Star College—Kingwood campus the Dr. John E. Pickelman Student Center.

Dr. Pickelman, I congratulate you on this honor and I want to thank you for your years of service to higher education and for your generous commitment to serving others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 10, 2013

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 612, I was unavoidably detained off of the House floor due to unforeseen travel circumstances. Therefore, I was unable to cast my vote for H.R. 3547, the Space Launch Liability Indemnification Extension Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."