

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MRS. EILEEN HIGGINS
MEEGAN

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the remarkable Mrs. Eileen (nee Higgins) Meegan on the occasion of her 95th birthday, Tuesday, July 1st, 2014. The daughter of proud Irish South Buffalo residents, Eileen is the last surviving sibling of five children.

In 1939, Eileen fell in love with and married a fellow native of South Buffalo, Ray Meegan. Eileen has always been the consummate caregiver. She had the difficult role of wife to a soldier and police officer. Ray served the people of the United States in the First Cavalry during World War II, and the citizens of the City of Buffalo as a Buffalo Police Officer; in all of this, Eileen was by his side. Economically, many people at the time struggled. Mrs. Meegan held her family together and thrived.

The couple was together for 39 years, until Ray's death. They raised four happy and successful children—Celine, Daniel, Sean, and Dorothy Delores (Dee)—all of whom have remained important members of the Western New York community. Their sons Dan and Sean have even followed in their father's footsteps, serving in the Buffalo Police force.

At age 94, Eileen is in great health and continues to have a very strong mind. She has many special talents. Mrs. Meegan created and sewed her own wedding gown from scratch. She still enjoys cultivating a beautiful garden, and loves baking and cooking for her family. I am inspired by the resilience and continued spirit of this great woman—a true example of a loving wife and mother.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few moments to speak on the behalf of this momentous occasion in the life of a proud Western New Yorker, Mrs. Eileen Meegan. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the legacy of Mrs. Meegan, and wishing her many more years of good health and full life experiences.

HONORING CHIEF OF POLICE
MICHAEL ALSUP

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a distinguished member of the law enforcement community from the Sixth Congressional District of Illinois, Chief of Police Michael Alsup at William Rainey Harper College in Palatine, Illinois.

Chief Alsup has faithfully served the public for over 42 years. Currently, he works as Chief of Police at Harper College, where he

has spent the past 14 years ensuring the safety and improving the lives of students, teachers, administrators, and parents alike. While Chief Alsup is set to retire at the end of the month, his legacy of service will live on at Harper's thriving campus.

Mr. Alsup's tenure began as a Deputy Sheriff and Detective for Kendall County in 1972. He has since then served as the Chief of Police of the Sandwich Police Department and as Lieutenant at the College of Dupage in Glen Ellyn, Illinois. After leaving the College of Dupage, he began working for Harper College, where he serves as both the Chief of Police and a member of the College's Adjunct Faculty in the Criminal Justice Program in addition to serving as the College's Emergency Management Coordinator.

Chief Alsup can proudly conclude a distinguished career having made an impact on the lives of thousands of students. I know I join his family, colleagues, students and friends in wishing him much success in this next chapter.

Mr. Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in commemorating Chief Alsup and his many years of service.

IN HONOR OF JIM KIRACOFE UPON
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jim Kiracofe on the occasion of his retirement as the District Program Administrator for the Licking Soil and Water Conservation District.

Jim can be very proud of his service to the people of Central Ohio. His steady commitment to his duties and the well-being of the residents of Licking County inspires everyone around him. The current state of the district stands as a significant affirmation of his role as a guardian of our vital resources. For consistent and outstanding achievement in his management practices and conservation philosophy the people of the district express their gratitude. Such recognition honors him and reflects well on our entire community.

I have enjoyed working with Jim over the last fourteen years and consider his leadership to have been an asset to our community. His advice, professional opinion and effectiveness in achieving success provided invaluable assistance to me and my staff on many occasions. I have relied on his guidance more than once, and he has always provided me with his wisdom.

His leadership and administrative abilities will be sorely missed, and his expertise and experience will be very difficult to replace. However, Licking County will reap the benefits of his stewardship of the Soil and Conservation District for many years into the future.

Therefore, his friends and colleagues wish to recognize him and his achievements by

holding a ceremony in his honor at the Agriculture Service Center in Newark, Ohio, and I am very pleased to wish him well and much success as he embarks on many new challenges.

IN SUPPORT OF THE VOTING
RIGHTS AMENDMENT ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3899, the Voting Rights Amendment Act, and urge the full House to vote on this legislation without delay. Voting is one of our most fundamental rights as Americans, and any attempts to limit this right on a discriminatory basis must be struck down.

The constitutional right to vote existed for nearly a century, but millions of Americans were still routinely denied the right to vote based on the color of their skin. In 1965, Congress passed the Voting Rights Act and our country made incredible strides to eliminate voter suppression and discrimination.

Discrimination at the polls is still a fact of life in many parts of our country. Congress recognized this when it passed the most recent reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act in 2006 by a unanimous vote in the Senate and a 390–33 margin in the House. Despite this overwhelming bipartisan support in Congress and a voluminous record detailing the ongoing need for this legislation, one year ago this week, the Supreme Court struck down the heart of the Voting Rights Act in *Shelby County v. Holder*.

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg wisely stated in her dissent of the Court's decision that to strike down the Voting Rights Act "when it has worked and is continuing to work to stop discriminatory changes [to election laws] is like throwing away your umbrella in a rainstorm because you're not getting wet." With efforts across the country to restrict the ability of individuals to register and vote, it's clear that we still need the "umbrella" protection that the Voting Rights Act has provided for nearly 50 years.

The Voting Rights Amendment Act is a bipartisan measure that will restore the critical voting protections that were struck down by the Supreme Court in *Shelby*. This bill will ensure that states and localities that have a recent history of voting rights violations will be subject to the same strong oversight that has been so successful since 1965.

On the day he signed the Voting Rights Act, President Lyndon Johnson stated: "Today is a triumph for freedom as huge as any victory that has ever been won on any battlefield." Congress has a similar opportunity to ensure that the all-important protections of the Voting Rights Act remain in place. Let's join together and ensure that this "triumph for freedom" is not lost forever.

• 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.