

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MR. JACK HEARN

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2015

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Jack Hearn, a veteran of World War II, for his exceptional service to our country.

Beginning his service just after graduating high school, Mr. Hearn enlisted in the Texas National Guard in 1940. Soon after, the Army incorporated all guardsmen for active duty. From November 1940 to November 1945, Mr. Hearn served in the U.S. Army, initially as an enlisted man in the field artillery division of the 36th battalion. He was promoted to Staff Sergeant shortly after and ultimately received a direct commission to Second Lieutenant. During the twenty-five months he spent in the European theater, Mr. Hearn fought in many battles and helped fight the Germans through France to the Rhine River. He was wounded in action in December of 1944 after running over a land mine. For his exceptional and brave service, Mr. Hearn was awarded the Purple Heart, FAME ribbon with four battle stars, the Invasion Arrowhead, American Defense Ribbon, Good Conduct Medal and Distinguished Unit Citation.

Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Mr. Jack Hearn for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2015

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for the following votes on Thursday, June 4, 2015. I would like the record to show that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on roll call votes 301 and 308, and "nay" on roll call vote 307.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2015

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for a series of votes on June 2, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted:

On Roll Call # 268, I would have voted AYE.

On Roll Call # 269, I would have voted AYE.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE HONOR-
ABLE MARY H. MELFI

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2015

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the public service of the Honorable Mary H. Melfi, County Clerk of Hunterdon County, New Jersey who is celebrating her sixtieth birthday. Mary is currently serving in her second five year term as County Clerk, where she has built a reputation as a trusted resource for information, manager of public affairs and public servant.

Mary oversees a tremendous operation, managing numerous departments and programs that deliver community services at the speed of the 21st century. Her style brings dependability to this important constitutional office and her management has instituted greater accessibility and transparency of critical governmental functions for constituents. To the benefit of residents, businesses and taxpayers, public information is readily available and put to good use for County projects.

The County Clerk is the chief election officer and master pollworker in charge of overseeing the essential process of administering free and fair elections. This major undertaking includes the oversight of dozens of election districts, numerous polling machines and poll workers and thousands of ballots cast in each election—both in-person and through the mail.

Mary has lived her life in Hunterdon County, growing up in Lebanon Borough and graduating from North Hunterdon Regional High School. Her public service started with membership on the Flemington Borough Planning Board and Board of Adjustment. She was elected to serve on the Borough Council for 12 years.

I thank and congratulate the Honorable Mary H. Melfi for her work for the residents of Hunterdon County and wish her continued professional success, good health and happiness.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF
TEXAS SYSTEM FOR THEIR OUT-
STANDING ACHIEVEMENTS

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, graduation season is once again upon us, and congratulations go to all who have accomplished the outstanding goal of attaining a high school diploma or college degree. I also want to recognize the hundreds of thousands of teachers in my home state, the great state of Texas—from pre-K to post-grad.

One of the great higher education systems in the nation is the University of Texas Sys-

tem, which just happens to be headquartered in my district. Each year, UT System institutions confer more than one-third of Texas' undergraduate degrees and educate two-thirds of the state's health care professionals. Overall, the UT System includes more than 210,000 students across the state, a group of young Texans that includes first generation Americans striving to improve their place in society, engineers, computer scientists, historians, educators, inventors, and future doctors.

The UT System is also one of the largest employers in Texas. Across its fourteen campuses, the System employs more than 90,000 faculty, staff, and administrators, all focused on three aligned objectives: educate the future leaders of our nation, innovate and create the discoveries and tools of tomorrow, and advance scholarly knowledge beyond current boundaries.

The UT System family includes three of the nation's 68 National Cancer Institute cancer centers—one of which, the UT Health Science Center in San Antonio, is located in my district. In addition, the UT Health Science Center in San Antonio is one of the four UT System medical centers to have received continuous Clinical and Translational Science Awards from the National Institutes of Health for their proven success in quickly delivering to patients the drugs and therapies they discover.

UT San Antonio was the first university in Texas, and twenty-third nationwide, to be recognized by the NSA as a national leader in the emerging field of cybersecurity research and training and designated a Center for Academic Excellence.

UT's MD Anderson Cancer Center, located at the Texas Medical Center in Houston, is often recognized as the top cancer center in the world. It conducts more cancer clinical trials than any institution across the globe, receives more National Cancer Institute funding than any other institution, and is responsible for more than one-third of all new FDA-approved cancer drugs.

UT Austin is home to more than 200 members of the National Academies and 12 recipients of the National Medal of Science. And it has 43 academic programs considered to be in the Top 10 nationally; 50 in the Top 25.

The UT Medical Branch is home to the Galveston National Laboratory, the only operational BioSafety Level 4 National Lab on a university campus in the United States. Scientists there are playing a leading role in researching and developing treatments and vaccines for global infectious diseases, and were recently included in the group of Ebola fighters Time Magazine chose to represent their Person of the Year.

Last year, UT El Paso was selected by Washington Monthly as one of the top 10 universities in the nation, grouped with Stanford, Harvard, UC Berkeley, UCLA and UC San Diego and ranked #1 for the third consecutive year among all U.S. universities in the social mobility category for its success in helping students achieve the American Dream.

● 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.

The UT Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas is home to six Nobel Laureates—a distinction no other medical school in America can claim.

UT Arlington is the largest producer of baccalaureate educated nurses in Texas and the largest not-for-profit college of nursing in the nation, training nearly 8,000 on-line and in-person students.

The extraordinary emergency care doctors of UT Health Science Center Houston who manage the world's busiest Level 1 Trauma Center at Memorial Hermann Hospital were featured this year in the Lifetime Network series "Life flight: Trauma Center Houston."

UT Dallas was ranked 15th in the 2014 Times Higher Education magazine list of the world's most outstanding young universities. One of the criteria contributing to this ranking is the high standing of the university's students. The average SAT score for incoming freshman consistently is the highest among public universities in Texas.

UT Health Science Center Tyler, northeast Texas' only university medical center, is ranked by Axial and Becker's Hospital Review as one of the top 100 hospitals in the country for patient healthcare, including quality, patient satisfaction, and communication.

UT Tyler is a leading innovator for providing students with multiple options to complete a degree from remote locations. It is the only university in Texas to offer three distance-learning campuses where students can take classes close to home. In addition, the UT Tyler Houston Engineering Center provides a seamless pathway to a four-year degree in civil, electrical, or mechanical engineering in partnership with Houston Community College. Students can take lower-division courses at HCC and upper-division courses from UT Tyler at the Alief-Hayes Road Campus in Houston.

The University of Texas of the Permian Basin (UTPB) has created Early College High Schools with several West Texas school districts at which at-risk high school students have the opportunity to earn a high school diploma and up to sixty college credit hours. The first UTPB Early College High School within the Presidio Independent School District was the first in Texas where college courses are delivered online.

But, Mr. Speaker, the UT System is not resting on its laurels. In fact, it is preparing for the future on several fronts.

It is in the process of opening what will become the second-largest Hispanic-serving institution in the nation. UT Rio Grande Valley will incorporate multiple locations throughout South Texas and will have a transformative effect on the health, economy and overall well-being of the region. When UTRGV opens its doors, the UT System will also become the only university system in America to open a new university with a medical school in the 21st century.

In fact, the UT System is the only university system in the country currently building two new medical schools—in addition to UTRGV, the System is creating the new Dell Medical School as a part of UT Austin's growing presence.

Mr. Speaker, as you can see I am proud to represent the University of Texas System, which rightfully has been recognized as one of the great university systems in the U.S.

HONORING MR. JOSHUA RAY
JOHNSON

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2015

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Joshua Ray Johnson for his sacrifice and service to our country. Upon graduation from Eustace High School, Petty Officer 3rd Class Johnson enlisted in the Navy in October 2006.

Petty Officer Johnson served stateside in the Military Police before being deployed overseas. He was assigned to the MOB Accounting OPS unit. Petty Officer Johnson's assignment was part of NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) that was established after the regime change in Afghanistan in 2001. Initially, the ISAF was established to train the Afghan National Security Forces and assist Afghanistan in rebuilding key government institutions. When Josh arrived in the Middle East, the ISAF had expanded its operations to more intensive combat operations and part of this involved reconnaissance missions to evaluate, account and report on the status of residential occupants. Petty Officer Johnson was wounded in Iraq when an improvised explosive device detonated and he suffered a bullet wound in his arm. He was honorably discharged in April of 2010 and was the recipient of the Purple Heart.

While serving his country bravely and courageously, Petty Officer Johnson battled enemies and faced danger and possible death every day. Today, Petty Officer Johnson faces the toughest fight ever. He was diagnosed with Stage IV cancer that is inoperable and incurable in November 2014, on the day before Veterans Day. We will continue to keep him, his family and medical personnel in our prayers daily, that he will overcome this battle.

Humbly, I echo the words of President Ronald Reagan, "We will always remember. We will always be proud. We will always be prepared, so we will always be free." And humbly, I offer my sincere gratitude to Petty Officer Joshua Ray Johnson for his service and acts of bravery that allow us the freedoms we enjoy today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2015

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, on June 1, 2015, I was unavoidably detained due to inclement weather. Had I been present and voting, I would have voted Aye on Roll Call #264 (Dingell of Michigan Amendment), Aye on #265 (Lowenthal of California Amendment), Aye on #266 (Motion to Recommit) and NO on Roll Call #267 (Final Passage of H.R. 1335).

IN HONOR OF SANDRA VOGELSON

HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2015

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Sandra Vogelsson, for her achievements, contributions, and her service to the people of New Jersey as a community leader and a health advocate. Mrs. Vogelsson passed away at the age of seventy-three. Sandra was revered throughout her community and she will truly be missed.

Sandra graduated from my alma mater, Camden County Community College, with a degree in Art, and dedicated her life to the community of South Jersey. She served as a member of Cooper's Ferry Development Association, where she was always seeking new ways to improve the City of Camden.

Sandra founded a philanthropic event, "Pink Roses and Teal Magnolias." This event raises funds to continue the fight against breast and gynecologic cancers. Over the years, "Pink Roses and Teal Magnolias" became a staple within our community, by raising tens of thousands of dollars for research and other clinical programs at the MD Anderson Cancer Center at Cooper.

Furthermore, she took a keen interest in the education of New Jersey's young people. In 1992, Sandra established the Camden County College Foundation, and served on the board for the next two decades. Her leadership provided critical fundraising efforts for the college, allowing it to expand and serve as an exemplary educational institution for the students of Camden.

Mr. Speaker, Sandra Vogelsson was a pillar of society who lived a life full of virtue service. She left a great mark on South Jersey, and is survived three daughters, five grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren. I join the Camden County community and the state of New Jersey in honoring the achievements and the life of this extraordinary woman.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 2, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2578) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Chair, I rise today to support the Cohen amendment and urge the House to oppose the excessive cuts to the nonprofit and independent Legal Services Corporation.

Legal Services has a mission to "provide equal access to the system of justice" in America. It is the most important provider of civil legal aid for Americans who cannot afford high-priced legal counsel. In fact, legal representation often is out of reach for many