

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HIRE MORE HEROES ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 4, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 22) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act:

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Chair, I thank Chairman SHUSTER and Ranking Member DEFAZIO for working with me on both of my amendments.

The amendment I offer would require the Department of Transportation to submit a report to the House Transportation Committee and the Senate Commerce Committee on research managed by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) to develop a system to measure vertical track deflection caused by a moving railroad car.

Such a system should be able to identify a combination of factors that, individually, may not be able to cause a train derailment but that, together, could endanger safe train operations, such as deteriorated cross ties, fouled ballast, and other deficiencies in the structures that support rail tracks.

The amendment authorizes the Department of Transportation to develop a plan for using quantitative inspection criteria to identify poor track support systems if such an approach is supported by the FRA's research.

The amendment also authorizes the Department to develop a plan to install instruments to measure track deflection on its Automated Track Inspection Program geometry cars within 3 years of the date of enactment of this bill, if this approach is supported by the FRA's research.

I developed this amendment in very close consultation with the families of Rose Louese Mayr and Elizabeth Conway Nass, who were tragically killed in a coal train derailment that occurred in Ellicott City, Maryland, in my district, in 2012.

These families have worked tirelessly to understand the technical circumstances that led to the 2012 train derailment and to identify specific steps that can be taken to prevent future tragedies. I am deeply honored to have worked with them on this amendment.

According to the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) report on the Ellicott City accident, "the point of derailment was a rail fracture several hundred feet" before a bridge. After extensive laboratory analysis, the NTSB concluded that the broken rail segment, "showed evidence of rolling contact fatigue, a gradual breakdown of the rail-head surface."

The Ellicott City accident is one of several recent accidents that have involved rail-head

wear and drawn attention to the ways in which the presence of multiple individual defects can eventually lead to a rail break.

While track conditions are addressed in current Federal Track Safety Standards, there are no quantitative inspection criteria. Consequently, these conditions are rarely cited as defects to be remediated.

I hope that we can build on the research foundation that my amendment requires and eventually develop rules that will address specific track conditions.

### HIRE MORE HEROES ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 3, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 22) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt employees with health coverage under TRICARE or the Veterans Administration from being taken into account for purposes of determining the employers to which the employer mandate applies under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, it is a sad commentary on the state of this House that the highway bill we are considering is being called a victory, and that the mere act of bringing a bill to the floor is a major step forward.

As a nation with a D+ grade on infrastructure from the American Society for Civil Engineers, we need an ambitious plan to rebuild and modernize. We need to invest in transit, fix structurally-deficient bridges, connect people to jobs, and move goods across the country. We need to put people to work in every community bringing our transportation system into the 21st century. That's why I introduced a version of the President's GROW America Act that would have invested more in our infrastructure.

Instead, we are considering a very modest proposal. It's a six year bill at current funding levels adjusted for inflation, with only three years of funding. The pay-fors include bad and inefficient policies like hiring private debt collectors to harass taxpayers. It dramatically cuts the TIFIA loan program and fails to provide adequate funding for transit. And it needlessly erodes environmental and community review of projects.

This bill does have some positive provisions providing resources for major projects, continuing funding for bike-ped and Safe Routes to School, and strengthening Buy American requirements. I appreciate that my amendment to allow communities to protect consumers from predatory towing has been included in the bill. And I strongly support reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank to open up international markets for American goods.

But I am disappointed that this bill does not go farther to improve and transform our trans-

portation networks. As we begin conference negotiations with the Senate, we must significantly boost investments, eliminate problematic offsets, and restore meaningful project review.

### ROTARY CLUB OF WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. MAC THORNBERRY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Rotary Club of Wichita Falls, Texas, on its milestone of providing 100 years of service inside and outside of our community.

The Rotary Club of Wichita Falls consists of 90 dedicated men and women who make a difference on the local, national, and international level. The Club's motto is "Service Above Self," and this organization certainly abides by this statement with its many service projects and support for numerous organizations throughout the Wichita Falls area and beyond.

The wide variety of organizations supported by the Club includes the Boy Scouts, YMCA, Youth Leadership, and the Boys and Girls Club. In fact, the Boys and Girls Club has maintained a connection to the Rotary Club for an impressive 86 years and continues to flourish with its support. These programs provide needed growth and leadership opportunities for developing future leaders. The Club also plays a key role in a variety of adult programs, which includes the Adult Literacy Council, The Food Bank, American Red Cross, Habitat for Humanity, and the Salvation Army, just to name a few.

Additionally, the Wichita Falls Rotary Club provides many services and support for Sheppard Air Force Base (AFB), a base that plays a key role in training and equipping U.S. Air Force personnel. A highly notable program is the Squadron Adoption Program with the goal to establish and maintain exemplary relations between the permanent party military stationed at Sheppard AFB and the proactive leadership of the communities throughout Wichita County. Units from both the 82nd Training Wing and the 80th Flying Training Wing participate in this program. Groups like the Rotary Club play an important role in ensuring our military receives the support and gratitude they deserve. The Rotary Club also helps remind us that our country remains strong because of the sacrifice made by our men and women in the military.

Another important program the Rotary Club has adopted is the flag project, which consists of Rotary members placing American flags around the City of Wichita Falls. With this project alone, the Club has managed to raise and donate approximately \$700,000 to local and worldwide Rotary projects. These services

• 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.

are proof that the dedicated men and women of the Wichita Falls Rotary Club can make a difference.

Serving others is one of the highest callings for any of us. For 100 years the Rotary Club of Wichita Falls has been serving and contributing in important ways. They deserve our congratulations and our appreciation as they move to their next 100 years of service.

THE 25TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF REVEREND ANTHONY L. TRUFANT

### HON. HAKEEM S. JEFFRIES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. JEFFRIES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 25th pastoral anniversary of Reverend Anthony L. Trufant, senior pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church. During his tenure, Pastor Trufant has overseen the church's exponential growth, community engagement, and raised its profile as one of the most innovative churches in the country. In recognition of his pastoral anniversary and invaluable service to our community Reverend Trufant was honored on November 13, 2015 at the Liberty Warehouse in Brooklyn, NY.

Rev. Trufant became the Pastor of Emmanuel Baptist Church in Brooklyn's Clinton Hill neighborhood in 1990. Under his leadership the ministry stretches from New York to New Orleans, from Haiti's hovels to the townships of South Africa. Rev. Trufant has not only worked to improve the quality of life for our communities in Brooklyn but has partnered with Global Faith Works in Johannesburg, Pretoria and Cape Town. Emmanuel Baptist Church hosts their annual Mission of Thanks to South Africa where they support women entrepreneurs and Thaba Primary, a school for the local youth. These programs have helped countless individuals over the past 25 years and continue to aid people today.

Reverend Trufant was raised in Chicago, Illinois and earned a Bachelor of Arts from Morehouse and a Master of Divinity from Colgate Rochester. Rev. Trufant was licensed to preach in July 1981 and ordained in May 1988 by the Third Baptist Church in San Francisco, California. Rev. Trufant has also received a diploma in pastoral counseling from the Post Graduate Center for Mental Health and has completed coursework towards a Doctor of Ministry at Hebrew Union College.

Pastor Trufant is married to Muriel Lynette Goode Trufant, Esq. and is the father of two wonderful daughters, Sharise Emmanuelle and Toni Niara.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in celebrating Reverend Anthony L. Trufant on his 25th Pastoral Anniversary. For his commitment to the people of Brooklyn and his service to the least of those among us, he is worthy of the highest praise.

RECOGNIZING NDI NEW MEXICO FOR ITS WORK EDUCATING NEW MEXICO'S CHILDREN

### HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize NDI New Mexico as a leader in excellent educational programming in the performing arts for New Mexico's children.

NDI New Mexico was founded in 1994 in Santa Fe. Over the last twenty years, NDI New Mexico has grown from serving 100 children in one school to reaching almost 10,000 children through in-school, after-school, summer, and advanced training classes in communities across the state. NDI New Mexico's mission is to provide inspirational programming in the arts that have a unique power to engage and motivate children. These programs have lasting effects on developing positive self-esteem and motivating students to learn inside and outside of the classroom. A recent long-term analysis of NDI's programming shows that students have on average a 1.0 higher GPA and higher standardized test score results than their non-participating peers. These results show the incredible impact that NDI has on its students' educational successes.

After-school and outreach programs are an important part of kids' educational opportunities. NDI's program gives students lessons in artistic expression, self-esteem, a strong work ethic, and a commitment to health and fitness. With over 90 programs in 34 communities across New Mexico, NDI works to improve educational outcomes and bridge opportunity gaps for New Mexico's students through the performing arts.

The strengths and impacts of NDI on New Mexico's children has been recognized throughout our communities, as it has been awarded Albuquerque Business First's Non Profit of the Year award in the Arts, Culture and Humanities category and Russell Baker, its Executive Director, was named Top CEO in the Non-Profit category. These awards celebrate NDI's outstanding, distinctive programs that aim to help children develop discipline, a standard of excellence, and a belief in themselves that will carry over into all aspects of their lives.

Once again, I congratulate NDI New Mexico for its quality educational programming, and thank the entire team for its exceptional work for New Mexico's children.

RECOGNIZING NORTHWEST INDIANA'S NEWLY NATURALIZED CITIZENS

### HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate thirty individuals who took their oath of citizenship on Friday, November 13, 2015. This memorable occasion, presided over by Magistrate Judge Paul R. Cherry, was held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On November 13, 2015, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, took their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Lenka Krstevska, Bertha Esthela Corral, David Tugba Tom, Raul Alonso Moreno Gonzalez, David Alarcon Hernandez, Yulia Yurevna Abair, Serena Taisir Ibrahim, Donna Ruth Ajayi, Hayet Adjerid, Celestino Olivares Manzo, Mijoon Lee, Thuy Thi Hong Le, Ezekiel Attah, Catherine Marjorie Charles, Francisco Alonso, Astrid Mariela Arnold, Chao Jung Chou, Maria Rosario Franco, Nancy Fuentes, Mayra Nancy Martinez, Jeff Nguetack Mbeleke, Maria Clemencia Mireles, Duncan Kanyi Nganga, Agnes Hop Nguyen, Veronica Giovana Perez, Mario Renteria, Oscar Martinez Ruiz, Yareli Sandoval, Perla Villanueva, and Dilcia Victoria Young.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who became citizens of the United States of America on November 13, 2015. They, too, are American citizens, and they, too, are guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

CONGRATULATING THE DALLAS TEXANS U-14

### HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Dallas Texans U-14 on their success in World Youth Cup of 2015.

The United States sent 43 teams to compete at this year's Gothia Cup, the world's largest and most international youth football tournament. The Gothia Cup prides itself on its participants' diversity and understands football as a global, unifying force. The Dallas Texans U-14 team, one of 215 teams competing in the U-14 boy's age group, was the only winner from the United States this year. In the final play off, the Dallas Texans won 3-

0. There were 38 countries represented in the U-14 age bracket.

The Dallas Texans won 9 games over the course of 6 days. The boys on the Dallas Texans U-14 team were Logan Brown, Triston Edgington, Evan Hu, Anthony Perea, Seth Weprin, Omar Thompson Jr., Donovan Praslin, Arthur Ramirez, Tristan Robles, Noah Adames, Matthew Santos, Caleb Young, Benedict Lube, Cade York, Jorge Amaya-Gonzalez, Andrew Moore, and Joseph McGee. They are represented by their coach Hassan Nazari.

When the Gothia Cup started in 1975, it included 275 teams from 5 nations. In 2015, it attracted 1,754 teams from 74 nations. Overall, the Cup hosted 40,200 players. The Gothia cup has a long, rich history that continues to expand as more countries send young, active players.

**PADGETT STRATEMANN & CO.'S  
70TH ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 70th anniversary of Padgett Stratemann & Co., a newly selected Texas Treasure Business Award recipient. Run by the Texas Historical Commission, the Texas Treasure Business Award Program pays tribute to the state's well-established businesses and their historical contributions to the state's economic growth and prosperity.

Founded in 1945 by Sidney Padgett, Padgett Stratemann & Co. focuses on accounting and business advisory services. It has been a thriving member of the Central and South Texas business community. With over 200 employees in San Antonio, Austin, and Houston, the company is committed to the communities through financial and in-kind support of numerous non-profit organizations. By displaying professionalism, service, and quality, Padgett Stratemann & Co. exemplifies what it means to be an award-winning Texas-based business enterprise.

**HONORING NESHANNOCK  
VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY**

**HON. MIKE KELLY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today, I congratulate the Neshannock Township Volunteer Fire Company on 75 years of faithful service to their community. Since 1940, the Neshannock Township Volunteer Fire Company has provided fire protection, emergency medical response, and technical rescue services to the nearly 10,000 citizens of Neshannock Township, as well as the surrounding communities of Lawrence County, Pennsylvania. The fire company, made up entirely of volunteers, responds to around 400 incidents per year, including structure fires, car accidents, medical emergencies, and hazardous material incidents. The volunteer responders complete at least 70 hours of train-

ing each year, with many members undertaking more than 100 hours of training annually.

I commend these volunteer responders for donating their time and efforts, especially for selflessly putting themselves in harm's way to keep their friends and neighbors safe. Communities across America rely on the generosity and courage of men and women like volunteer firefighters to maintain the safety and security of their farms, neighborhoods, towns, and villages. I congratulate the Neshannock Township Volunteer Fire Company for reaching this significant milestone and I wish them many more successful years of service.

**IN CELEBRATION OF ANN WEST  
ON HER YEARS OF SERVICE TO  
PINKERTON ACADEMY**

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many contributions Ann West has made to Pinkerton Academy and their performing arts program over the past 56 years. Ann is directing her last play with the Pinkerton Players on November 15, 2015 and I am pleased to join with Pinkerton Academy and the Stockbridge Theatre in recognizing the many contributions she has made to both the school and performing arts in her community.

Ann founded the Pinkerton Players, Pinkerton Academy's own performing arts group in 1988. Since that time she has directed dozens of plays and musicals such as *Our Town*, *The Pink Panther* and *A Christmas Carol* to name just a few. She was also instrumental in building both of the school's auditoriums—the Shephard Auditorium in 1963 and the Stockbridge Theatre that was built to replace the auditorium in 2002.

In addition to her time with the Pinkerton Players, Ann has served as an educator in many subjects at Pinkerton Academy, and heading up the English department at the school. She is a past president and active member of the board for the New Hampshire Council for Teachers of English, and an Executive Board Member for the New England Association of Teachers of English.

I am proud to join with my fellow Granite Staters in recognizing the many contributions Ann West has made to both Pinkerton Academy and her community over the last 56 years, and I wish her the best in all future endeavors.

**IN TRIBUTE TO MR. THOMAS P.  
HOLIAN**

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to pay tribute to an outstanding civil servant and constituent of mine, Thomas P. Holian, Deputy Chief Counsel of the Federal Highway Administration, FHWA, who is retiring after 37 years of Federal service.

Tom is a graduate of Fordham University and received his juris doctor from New York Law School. Tom joined the FHWA as an Attorney Advisor in the Office of the Chief Counsel in 1978. From 1978 to 1982, he worked in the Chief Counsel's Office of Legislation and Regulations on such matters as the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1978, the Motor Carrier Act of 1980, and the Surface Transportation Assistance Act of 1982. Tom also served as a Trial Attorney in the Chief Counsel's Motor Carrier and Highway Safety Law Division where he handled motor carrier safety enforcement cases and regulatory and litigation work associated with driver qualification requirements, the Americans With Disabilities Act, and controlled substance and alcohol testing of commercial motor vehicle drivers. Tom also served as the first Executive Director of the FHWA's National Motor Carrier Advisory Committee.

Tom joined the Senior Executive Service in December 1999 when he was selected to serve as the Deputy Chief Counsel for Legislation and Regulations in the Office of the Chief Counsel. In this position through February 2008, Tom was responsible for directing a staff in providing legal advice and services on all aspects of the FHWA's legislative and regulatory programs. In this role, he greatly contributed to the implementation of the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21) and the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act—A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). Tom also led the team responsible for drafting much of the TEA-21 reauthorization bill that became SAFETEA-LU. Prior to this appointment, Tom was an Associate Chief Counsel and served as the FHWA's Regulations Officer responsible for leading the comprehensive review of FHWA's regulations in response to Presidential directives in 1992 and 1995, as well as FHWA's ISTEA and TEA-21 regulatory implementation.

Tom became the Deputy Chief Counsel, the senior career attorney in the FHWA, in March 2008. As Deputy Chief Counsel, Tom supervises and coordinates the activities of a staff comprised of 60 employees, of whom 50 are attorneys responsible for providing legal services regarding all aspects of the FHWA's programs. The Office of Chief Counsel consists of three headquarters divisions and five field divisions, four of which provide services to Federal-aid Division Offices and the Resource Center, and one that provides services to the Federal Lands Highway. Tom directly advises the most senior officials in the FHWA and the U.S. Department of Transportation. Tom and his staff work with State and local government transportation attorneys and other customers to enhance their understanding of Federal laws and procedures relating to transportation.

Tom will be retiring this month after 39 years of Federal service. After his long career and especially his seven and a half years as Deputy Chief Counsel, Tom leaves FHWA a well-respected, dedicated public servant, who has used his knowledge and skills throughout his 37-year FHWA career to make significant contributions to the advancement of transportation law.

I am proud to represent Tom and so many other Federal workers. We are fortunate to have dedicated, talented, creative, hard-working, and patriotic public servants like Tom. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Tom

for serving the American public with such distinction and devotion and wishing him much success as he leaves Federal service. We also need to thank his wife Ginny and their three children for supporting him in his public career.

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING  
VICKIE FISH ON HER RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GUAM GIRL SCOUTS, INC.

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mrs. Vickie Fish on her retirement as the Executive Director of Guam Girl Scouts, Inc. Vickie joined the Guam Girl Scouts in 1996.

Vickie was born in Milton, Wisconsin and received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Art Education from Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin. She left the mainland in 1974 after college to begin her service in the Peace Corps as a teacher and trainer in the Kingdom of Tonga, and she has made the Pacific her home since. She went on to be an acculturation counselor for Pacific Island students at Kahuku Elementary and High School in Hawaii and a program coordinator and trainer in Saipan before making Guam her home.

During her nearly 20 years of service with the Guam Girl Scouts, Inc., Vickie has served as the Chairman of the USA Girl Scouts Overseas Delegation during the Girl Scouts of the USA National Council Session. She is also a member of the Community Board of Directors for Sugar Plum Tree, a local organization that arranges an annual Christmas present drive.

During her time with Guam Girl Scouts, Vickie was able to develop positive relationships between the local Guam chapter and the national staff, as well as with local businesses, government agencies, organizations and individuals. Vickie led the Guam Girl Scouts with clean annual audits and full compliance with government reporting requirements. She also established a wide base of individual and corporate financial support within the community. Vickie and her team were credited for growing the membership in the Guam Girl Scouts to nearly 1,000 members and increasing awareness of what the Girl Scout program offers to all girls.

Additionally, Vickie helped expand many program activities throughout her time with the Guam Girl Scouts. These programs encouraged girls to seek higher education, develop leadership skills, respect and enjoy cultural differences, live healthy lives, and volunteer their time to others, among many other things. Vickie helped young girls understand the needs of others regardless of age, income or resources. She coordinated relief drives and programs for those facing hardship caused by natural disasters and other life-changing events. She always did her best to improve and honor, not only Guam Girl Scouts, but Girl Scouts of the USA with special celebrations and events.

Vickie worked diligently throughout her time on Guam and demonstrated true and genuine

care for the people she served. I congratulate Vickie Fish on her retirement as Executive Director of Guam Girl Scouts, Inc. I join the people of Guam in commending her for her service and thanking Vickie for her many contributions to our island community.

TRIBUTE TO ALUMINUM INDUSTRY  
IN CONNECTION WITH AMERICA  
RECYCLES DAY

**HON. DAVID LOEBSACK**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. LOEBSACK. Mr. Speaker, we celebrate America Recycles Day on November 15. I rise today to pay tribute to the aluminum industry, which has a prominent role in my district, indeed throughout Iowa, and which probably does more than any sector of our economy to advance the cause of recycling.

Before recounting the many ways in which aluminum, perhaps more than any other material, contributes to the success of recycling programs across the country, let me make clear why we in Iowa benefit so much from the aluminum industry and its hard-working employees.

The aluminum industry is an integral part of the economy of Iowa. The industry operates over 20 facilities, handling all aspects of aluminum manufacturing, throughout Iowa. All told, these facilities employ thousands of workers, and thousands more indirectly and through suppliers. Estimates are that the economic output, between the manufacturing and wholesaling operations in the aluminum industry in Iowa, are around \$2.0 billion. Over one billion dollars more in economic impact in the state derives from suppliers and other indirect contributions to the aluminum industry.

Thankfully, these are good-paying jobs. Estimates are that wages paid are close to \$800 million annually in Iowa as a result of the aluminum industry's footprint in Iowa, taking into account direct and indirect employment. And the state and local governments as a whole benefit, to the tune of well over \$100 million in revenue from the aluminum industry.

With that backdrop, I am pleased to salute the impact of the aluminum industry on recycling. The list of ways in which recycling pays huge dividends to our nation is long. First, recycling aluminum saves more than 90 percent of the energy that would be needed to create a comparable amount of the metal from raw materials. Think of it this way: by recycling a single aluminum can, you are saving enough energy to power a large screen television for more than 2 hours. Rather than the expense and energy consumption associated with mining and processing raw materials to make aluminum products, recycling used aluminum can be done at a tiny fraction of the energy utilization.

That is why recycling is a core business of the aluminum industry. In the U.S., the industry collects nearly 12 billion pounds of aluminum each year for recycling, almost all of which goes back into North American supply. In fact, more than 70 percent of U.S. aluminum production today is in recycled metal—

an exact reversal of the trend in 1980. What's more nearly 75% of all aluminum ever produced around the world is still in use today.

A used aluminum can is recycled and back on the shelf as a new can in as few as 60 days—something that happens over and over again. And last year, the domestic aluminum industry recycled nearly 60 billion cans—that saved the equivalent energy of taking 1 million cars off the road for a year.

Aluminum saves energy in other ways as well. It can be a tremendous factor in enabling buildings to achieve modern energy efficiency standards. The first LEED-certified building in California, for instance, received this recognition in part because of creative uses of aluminum that cools the building naturally.

But energy savings are only part of the story. Companies across the country are incorporating environmental and sustainability objectives into corporate commitments, and aluminum is a major piece of their ability to meet their goals.

Perhaps the best aspect of aluminum's recycling story is its role in job creation. No matter our political persuasion, Mr. Speaker, each of us is committed to the creation of U.S. jobs, and aluminum has a wonderful story to tell here. The collection of aluminum at the curb or in the alley creates thousands of jobs around the country, as does the sorting of aluminum at processing centers. Even more jobs are created at plants that receive recycled aluminum, and turn it into new product. More than 157,000 workers are directly employed in the industry, and for each aluminum industry job, an additional 3.3 employment positions are created elsewhere.

This story will be enhanced by the commitment of car and truck manufacturers to the widespread use of aluminum in vehicle bodies and parts in the interest of increasing fuel economy by lightweighting vehicles. As these vehicles are no longer in use, rather than being thrown on the scrap heap, they too can be recycled, thereby creating even more jobs.

The aluminum industry is a major economic driver in my state and district. In recognition of America Recycles Day, it is appropriate to tip our hat to an industry that has such a positive influence on our nation's economy, and its people.

HONORING IDA SCHWARTZ IN  
CELEBRATION OF HER 100TH  
BIRTHDAY

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Ida Schwartz in celebration of reaching her 100th birthday.

As she reflects on the great memories that have highlighted the past hundred years, I know she will think fondly on all that she's accomplished and the positive impact she's had on New Hampshire.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Ms. Schwartz on achieving this wonderful milestone, and wish her the best on all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO LISA RAWLINS

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lisa Rawlins, who is retiring as Senior Vice President, Public Affairs for Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. after twenty-five years of exemplary service.

Ms. Rawlins, who holds a degree in cinema from the University of Southern California, began her career in story development for Ransohoff Productions and NBC. While working on film production issues and handling the press in former Governor George Deukmejian's office, Lisa saw the need to help combat the problem of runaway film and television production in California. In 1984, she established the California Film Commission, and in 1985, became the first Director of the California Film Commission, and served in that capacity for six years. During her time at the film commission, she wrote film-based legislation, streamlined the film permit process for state agencies, and developed a municipal filming ordinance for cities throughout California. In addition, Lisa founded the Film Liaisons in California, Statewide (FLICS), a network of dozens of local film offices throughout the state.

Lisa joined Warner Bros. Entertainment Inc. in 1990 as Vice President of Production and Studio Affairs, where she focused on local and state government relations and successful advocacy for television and feature film productions, balanced with consideration of production impact on local communities. During her tenure at Warner Bros., she created their environmental sustainability program, leading the industry in green production and building, conservation, and waste reduction. In her capacity as Senior Vice President, Public Affairs, she managed community affairs, corporate responsibility, government affairs, environmental sustainability and philanthropy.

A selfless and generous volunteer in the Burbank community, Lisa has served on the boards of several non-profit organizations including the Burbank Chamber of Commerce, Burbank YMCA, Project Restore, Coalition for Clean Air and the Burbank Unified School District's Partnership Advisory Council. An advocate for the creation of a one-stop film office for Los Angeles City and County, which ultimately became FilmLA, Ms. Rawlins currently serves as a member of FilmLA's Board of Directors.

A visionary in the television and motion picture industry, Lisa Rawlins has been an invaluable asset to the film and television field and has left a legacy that will be enjoyed and utilized by generations to come. I ask all Members to join me in thanking Lisa Rawlins for over three decades of distinguished service to the motion picture and television community and the greater Burbank region.

RECOGNIZING THE DREAM FOUNDATION'S "DREAMS FOR VETERANS" PROGRAM AND MR. GEORGE "RAY" WEST

**HON. LOIS CAPP**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Dream Foundation's new "Dreams for Veterans" program. As we pause to commemorate Veterans Day, I would like to acknowledge their unique and invaluable service to terminally-ill military veterans.

Dreams for Veterans is dedicated to serving terminally-ill veterans during their time of greatest need. They are the first national program specifically serving and honoring these individuals by fulfilling their final dream. Over the past year, Dreams for Veterans granted more than 100 dreams to veterans and are on track to double that number this year.

This spring, the Dream Foundation, which is based in my Congressional district, helped my constituent George "Ray" West realize his final dream of traveling with his family to Yosemite National Park. I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. West at the "Dreams for Veterans" inaugural ceremony in Washington, DC earlier this year.

Mr. West is a U.S. Navy Veteran who served between 1944 and 1946. He was stationed first in Sampson, NY and later in Utah and Nevada. He eventually settled with his family in my hometown of Santa Barbara, CA.

Mr. West and his wife Jean first visited Yosemite on their honeymoon in 1950. The couple loved Yosemite so much that they have celebrated each anniversary by returning to the park. Ray had been diagnosed with heart disease and leukemia when he contacted the Dream Foundation to help his family travel to Yosemite at least one final time.

Each day, more than 1,800 of our nation's heroes die, accounting for nearly one-quarter of all American deaths. In addition to giving dream recipients and their families the opportunity to make the most of the time they have left, a final dream also improves their end of life care by addressing the emotional and psychological needs of terminally ill patients and those of their loved ones and caretakers.

The Dreams for Veterans program allows recipients the opportunity to reconnect with their former military service and provides a unique chance to reconcile memories and achieve a sense of closure. This one-of-a-kind program engages the military community by providing opportunities to refer applicants, contribute resources, or volunteer as Veteran Dream Hosts—volunteers who participate in Veteran-to-Veteran Dream deliveries.

The Dream Foundation is a leader in our community and has touched and inspired so many during its 21-year history of delivering final dreams to terminally ill adults. They fulfill more than 2,500 final dreams every year, working with hundreds of volunteers and more than 600 hospices and health care organizations nationwide.

RECOGNIZING THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY AS THEY MARK 31 YEARS OF THE RELAY FOR LIFE

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the American Cancer Society as they mark 31 years of the Relay For Life and bringing hope to communities across the country in the face of cancer. The American Cancer Society does lifesaving work and I join the organization in celebrating the progress it has made in the fight against cancer.

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life was first started in 1985 when Dr. Gordy Klatt ran and walked for 24 hours around a track in Tacoma, Washington to make a statement about cancer awareness. Dr. Gordy Klatt's efforts helped the American Cancer Society fight the nation's biggest health concern, and now, the Relay movement includes 3.5 million people around the world. The Relay For Life is now in more than 5,200 communities and 20 countries around the world. The Relay For Life brings together cancer survivors, caregivers, and all those touched by cancer. It gives everyone a chance to remember those who have lost their battle with cancer and empowers those who must continue the fight.

The Relay For Life began in Guam in the early 1990s and has steadily grown with most teams returning every year. 79 teams made up of families and businesses, and 280 cancer survivors and caregivers participated in the 2015 Guam Relay For Life. Together, the teams raised \$470,000 and Guam Relay For Life was recognized for raising the second highest amount in the High Plains, South Territory which includes Guam, Hawaii, Texas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Nebraska. Though Guam is a small community, it continues to be recognized on the national level based on its achievements and commitment to the fight against cancer.

Cancer does not discriminate. It touches all of our people, young and old, and the people of Guam stand behind the American Cancer Society, and has taken an active commitment to join the cause of fighting cancer. The Relay For Life is celebrated annually throughout the world and survivors and caregivers proudly wear the color purple to symbolize royalty as they are honored during the Relay For Life. This year, the Guam community is beginning its 2016 Relay For Life festivities with "Paint Guam Purple" week from November 8 to November 13, 2015. The goal of the "Paint Guam Purple" campaign is to make a visual statement of how the Relay For Life brings hope to a community and help increase participation, fundraising and volunteerism. Groups and individuals are encouraged to wear purple, decorate the town purple, and participate in activities to engage others to become involved.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I join the American Cancer Society in honoring cancer survivors, caregivers, those who have lost the battle to cancer and all those touched by the disease by pledging to "Paint Guam Purple" through the week of November 8 to November

13, 2015. I congratulate the American Cancer Society Relay For Life and I look forward to their future contributions and success.

HONORING JEWISH WAR VET-  
ERANS, MAURICE KUBBY  
POST 749

**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize the Jewish War Veterans, Maurice Kubby Post 749, as a distinguished Veteran Service Organization in El Paso, Texas. The Post has been active in our community since April 1965 and was named in honor of fellow El Pasoan, Maurice Kubby. Kubby was an Army veteran and founding member of Post 749, and served several times as the organization's Commander.

As one of six posts in Texas, Post 749 serves El Paso and Las Cruces area veterans of the Jewish faith. One of the most important efforts undertaken by the Jewish War Veterans is their dedication to combatting anti-Semitism and bigotry. The organization works diligently to eradicate these negative sentiments and foster a stronger American-Israeli relationship through sponsored trips to Israel each year.

The organization is well recognized in our community for supporting veteran, civilian and Jewish religious activities. Jewish War Veterans Post 749 works to provide assistance to all veterans and their families in our area. The Post volunteers with local organizations such as the Fisher House to help veterans and their families and participates annually in Fort Bliss's Veterans Week, which aims to raise awareness for Veteran Service Organizations throughout the country. Post 749 also offers scholarships to students and is actively involved in youth outreach through the Boy Scouts.

Jewish War Veterans, Maurice Kubby Post 749 is an asset to our community and I thank them for their commitment to honoring our veterans and promoting tolerance as one of their core values within our El Paso community.

HONORING TYLER DODD

**HON. JASON SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tyler Dodd of Rolla, Missouri on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. This award is the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America, with only a small percentage of its members reaching this achievement.

Tyler has demonstrated a true enthusiasm towards service and spent countless hours helping others as he advanced through the ranks of the Boy Scouts. Tyler has held several leadership positions, such as Patrol Leader, during which he used his skills and knowledge to help younger scouts with their own progression through the Boy Scouts. His achievements extend outside of the Boy Scouts as well; Tyler is a member of the Na-

tional Honor Society—Rolla Chapter and a section leader in the Rolla High School Marching Band.

Tyler possesses the important values such as honesty, loyalty, and civility that inspire others. His commitment to good citizenship, physical fitness, and education is an asset to our community, as well as the nation. Tyler is a role model for young and old alike, and it is my pleasure to recognize his achievements before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING THE GRAYSLAKE CENTRAL BOYS CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

**HON. ROBERT J. DOLD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Grayslake Central's boys cross country team on their first place finish at the 2A state championship. This victory marks the first time in the school's history that the boys cross country team has won state.

Consistently strong all year, the Rams won conference, regional, and sectional championships. This hard work culminated at the state championship, where, led by Coach Jimmy Cantella, six out of seven runners achieved their personal best time. Junior Jack Aho won the race with a time of 14:25, followed by junior Matt Aho in seventh place. Other all-state athletes include senior John Girmscheid who came in twenty third and sophomore Eli Minsky who rounded out the top twenty five. The final three competitors who helped Grayslake cinch the title were seniors Jack Battaglia who came in twenty sixth, Danny Vincent at fifty first, and Alden Aaberg at one hundred and eighth.

Mr. Speaker, the Grayslake Central boys cross country team is an inspiration to the school and community, and I am proud to recognize these young men for demonstrating the power of teamwork and perseverance.

HONORING DANNY TRULL, SR.

**HON. MARC A. VEASEY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Danny Trull, Sr., on his retirement as the United Auto Workers Union's (UAW) Assistant Director for his service to the men and women of the United Automobile Workers, and for his years of service on the Texas State Democratic Executive Committee. Mr. Trull's well-deserved retirement comes after a forty-two year tenure in organized labor. During this time, Mr. Trull has been dedicated to advocating for worker's rights, promoting the values of the Democratic Party, and supporting the local, state and national labor movement.

During his years of work with the labor movement, Mr. Trull has made a direct impact on his community through his numerous roles at UAW and with the Democratic Party of Texas. Mr. Trull began his career at UAW on

July 9, 1973, when he started working for Tyler Refrigeration and became a member of Local 514. Upon the closing of Local 514, he became a member of Local 276 and went on the International Staff in 1987, working in the Time Study Department. In 1996, he transferred to Region 5 as a Service Representative based in the Dallas office and continued to serve Region 5 out of the Dallas office when he was transferred to the National CAP Department in 2007. He was appointed to his current position of Assistant Regional Director in 2012, from which he is retiring at the end of this year.

Aside from his work with UAW, Trull has continued to be a community leader as a delegate to state and national Democratic Conventions, and as a State Democratic Executive Committee member in 2002. Mr. Trull is a well-known champion for Texas jobs and workers, coordinating UAW political activity in the state and region and fighting for higher wages and benefits for hardworking Americans. The automobile industry is a powerful economic engine in the 33rd Congressional District and will continue to be for years because of Mr. Trull's lifelong commitment to his community and the people who live and work there. I wish him all the best.

In honor of Mr. Trull's retirement and his dedication and leadership within the public service community, this statement will be submitted on Monday, November 16, 2015.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PFC.  
MARK JOSEPH ALLSTOTT

**HON. TODD C. YOUNG**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pfc. Mark Joseph Allstott, of French Lick, Indiana.

I ask you all to join me in honoring the life of a fellow Hoosier veteran.

Allstott enlisted in the United States Army two short months after high school graduation. As a United States Infantryman, Allstott personified bravery and dignity while serving with his fellow Wolfhounds in the 27th Infantry Regiment.

Before deploying to South Vietnam, Allstott told his sister of foreboding premonitions that indicated he would not return home from the war. Rather than respond with fear, Allstott gave away all of his earthly possessions and went to serve his country.

Fellow Wolfhounds developed a great level of respect for Allstott's fearlessness. In correspondences to his family, soldiers spoke of Allstott's bravery in the face of peril, his easy-going manner, and his warmth to fellow comrades.

Allstott's true character is best summarized by one Wolfhound brethren who wrote, ". . . his mind was always on another buddy and the job to be done for the honor of his country instead of his own being. Not only did your son not turn his back on any of us in any fire-fight. All of us knew we could depend on him"

Allstott was a true American hero and it is a privilege to stand here today in celebration of his noble life, which ended on the battlefield in South Vietnam in February of 1968.

On that day in February, as the Wolfhounds maneuvered to capture an enemy position, it

is said Allstott's final actions saved a member of his unit from capture. As a United States soldier, there is no greater honor than laying down one's life to save a brother-in-arms.

While more than forty years have passed since Allstott gave his last measure of devotion, the cause he fought for lives on in the ripples throughout history his heroic efforts will have caused.

It is a privilege to honor Pfc. Mark Allstott's bold and courageous life. Such distinguished service to the United States of America continues to serve as an inspiration to us all.

LETTER FROM GOVERNOR GREG  
ABBOTT

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter from Governor Greg Abbott:

NOVEMBER 16, 2015.

Hon. BARACK OBAMA,  
*President of the United States,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR PRESIDENT OBAMA: As governor of Texas, I write to inform you that the State of Texas will not accept any refugees from Syria in the wake of the deadly terrorist attack in Paris.

Further, I—and millions of Americans—implore you to halt your plans to accept more Syrian refugees in the United States. A Syrian “refugee” appears to have been part of the Paris terror attack. American humanitarian compassion could be exploited to expose Americans to similar deadly danger. The reasons for such concerns are plentiful.

The FBI director testified to Congress that the federal government does not have the background information that is necessary to effectively conduct proper security checks on Syrian nationals. Director Comey explained: “We can query our database until the cows come home, but there will be nothing show up because we have no record of them.”

The threat posed to Texas by ISIS is very real. ISIS claimed credit last May when two terrorist gunmen launched an attack in Garland, Texas. Less than two weeks later, the FBI arrested an Iraqi-born man in North Texas and charged him with lying to federal agents about traveling to Syria to fight with ISIS. And in 2014, when I served as Texas attorney general, we participated in a Joint Terrorism Task Force that arrested two Austin residents for providing material support to terrorists—including ISIS.

Given the tragic attack in Paris and the threats we have already seen in Texas, coupled with the FBI director's acknowledgment that we do not have the information necessary to effectively vet Syrian nationals, Texas cannot participate in any program that will result in Syrian refugees—any one of whom could be connected to terrorism—being resettled in Texas.

Effective today, I am directing the Texas Health & Human Services Commission's Refugee Resettlement Program to not participate in the resettlement of any Syrian refugees in the State of Texas. And I urge you, as president, to halt your plans to allow Syrians to be resettled anywhere in the United States. Neither you nor any federal official can guarantee that Syrian refugees will not be part of any terroristic activity. As such, opening our door to them irresponsibly ex-

poses our fellow Americans to unacceptable peril.

Respectfully,

GREG ABBOTT,  
*Governor.*

RECOGNIZING CHRISTIAN LIFE  
CENTER

**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Christian Life Center on its 25th anniversary.

With the prayers and planning of a small, but committed, group of Christians, the Christian Life Center was born in 1990. In the years since, the Center has continued to grow in faith and mission at its beautiful complex in Bensalem Township, Bucks County.

Through its tireless work, the Christian Life Center has taken the Gospel into homes and hearts throughout its community while growing a welcoming place of worship for Christian families and individuals dedicated to their faith, each other.

My best wishes for ongoing devotion and continued growth in the coming years.

RECOGNIZING VETERANS DAY

**HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN  
RADEWAGEN**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, as we come together today to recognize the service of all who have served in our nation's armed forces, let us take a moment to remember those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in defense of our freedoms and could not be here today to join in the celebration. Let us also remember those young men and women who at this very moment are in far off lands, standing between the forces of oppression and freedom loving people everywhere.

We must also not forget the sacrifices made by the families of our service members, who go long periods of time without seeing their loved ones, and often have to perform the duties of two parents, while the other willfully places themselves in harm's way for our grateful nation.

As you know, our beautiful island, while small geographically in comparison to other states and territories, has the highest rate of enlistment into our nation's armed forces, a fact that I persistently remind Congress of. In fact, it is 10 times that of the states. This means that in American Samoa, today is just a little more special, and I want to personally salute all from our island who have served.

May God continue to bless the United States and those who stand to protect her.

RECOGNIZING THE TEXAS VET-  
ERANS COMMISSION OF EL  
PASO, TEXAS

**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand today in recognition of the Texas Veterans Commission offices located in El Paso, Texas. Created in 1927, the Texas Veterans Commission has a longstanding tradition of honoring Texas Veterans.

Working as a state appointed advocate, the Texas Veterans Commission represents Texas and its veterans before the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. The commission operates in four areas: claims representation and counseling services for veteran's benefits; educational benefits; employment assistance; and grant services for veteran service organizations, charities, and government agencies. The El Paso offices have extended these important services to veterans in my district and have been helpful in getting these individuals the benefits they deserve.

The local offices are well known for their work in the community. Specifically, the Commission has dedicated itself to combatting veteran unemployment with fairs such as “Hiring Red, White and You!” Since the first job fair in 2012, the Commission has been able to connect over 1,500 job seeking veterans with potential employers and information on opportunities in the El Paso community.

The El Paso Texas Veterans Commission offices have improved the quality of life for our community's veterans and their families. I am grateful for the work of Bruce S. Biegel, Karen L. Rooks, Frances Holden and the entire staff for their unyielding advocacy and assistance to our veterans.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF REVEREND  
ALBERT E. CHEW, JR.

**HON. MARC A. VEASEY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Reverend Albert E. Chew, Jr. for his service to Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church after 56 years of service to the church and his community. His passing on November 6, 2015 leaves a void in the Fort Worth community, and I join in giving our condolences to the Chew family.

Born in Bremond, Texas, Reverend Chew was the son of a Baptist preacher. He attended high school in both Bremond and Waco, Texas before pursuing a college education at Bishop College and Prairie View A&M and completing seminary studies at Brite College of the Bible in Fort Worth, Texas.

Reverend Chew served as a pastor at numerous Texas churches since 1946, but for the last fifty-six years, he served the community at Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church. During his time at Shiloh, he not only impacted the Northside neighborhood, but also the greater Fort Worth community through his community involvement.

Chew was a charter member of the Fort Worth Human Relations Commission, an organization that combated discriminatory practices

in the city. Alongside former City Councilman Bert Williams, Chew played a significant role in integrating Colonial Country Club, becoming one of its first black members.

Reverend Chew served as Moderator Emeritus and the Treasurer of the Missionary Baptist General Convention of Texas, a position that he held for the past thirty-five years. He was also the first Vice-President of the National Baptist Convention of America, Inc. Until his passing, he served as the head of the Black Ecumenical Leadership Alliance, an organization he helped found that brings Christian ministers together in an effort to impact and change the lives of people throughout Fort Worth, Texas and the world.

Reverend Chew not only gave back to his church community, but also served his country during World War II. As a troop coordinate in the United States Army, Reverend Chew demonstrated an unwavering commitment to his country. He was also committed to bettering the conditions of the African American community and played an active role in his local NAACP chapter.

In honor of Reverend Albert E. Chew, Jr., for his lifelong commitment to both his local and church communities; this statement will be submitted on Monday, November 16, 2015.

RECOGNIZING DR. CAROL GOMEZ SUMMERHAYS' ELECTION AS PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

**HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Carol Gomez Summerhays, an accomplished dentist who recently was elected as the first Filipina President of the American Dental Association, a first the 156-year history of the ADA. Her election is a tremendous accomplishment for women and the Filipino-American community.

It is my honor to commend Dr. Summerhays on a lifetime of service and commitment to the field of dentistry and community service. Involved in a number of professional and civic organizations, she is a great choice to head this prestigious organization.

A graduate of the University of Southern California on a full scholarship through the Armed Forces Health Professions Act, she's owned a respected private practice for 32 years. Dr. Summerhays is a past president of the California Dental Association and a current member of the American College of Dentists, Academy of General Dentistry, the American Association of Women Dentists, the Hispanic Dental Association, and the Pankey Institute.

In addition to her numerous professional accomplishments, Dr. Summerhays served on Active Duty as a lieutenant in the United States Navy Dental Corps for four years.

Dr. Summerhays' time in the military was part of her life-long commitment to community service. As a board member of Rotary International Thousand Smiles, she helped establish a dental clinic in Ensenada, Mexico. She's also provided charitable dental services to St. Vincent De Paul's Homeless Shelter, Regional Access Medical LA, and USC's East LA Dental Clinic.

Her community involvement extends to the San Diego County Dental Society, the Salvation Army Women's Auxiliary Board, and the American Cancer Society-La Jolla League.

I commend Dr. Summerhays for her 37 years of distinguished leadership. I am proud to be a part of the Asian American community where our professionals go beyond what is required in order to make a positive impact on others.

I rise today to offer her my most heartfelt congratulations for her exceptional achievements in the field of dentistry and her continued commitment to community service.

RECOGNIZING THE SIKH MASSACRE OF 1984

**HON. JERRY McNERNEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I want to honor those who were killed during the November 1984 anti-Sikh pogroms and massacre in Delhi, India. I also want to bring attention to the current desecration of the Sikh's Holy Scriptures. Sikhs are a minority group that should be officially recognized and I ask that this Congress support the plight of the Sikh people to gain recognition in India and halt the persecution against the Indian Sikh community.

TRIBUTE TO SWEET ALICE HARRIS

**HON. KAREN BASS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize and celebrate 50 years and community improvement in Watts and South Los Angeles, California, under the inspiration and leadership of Sweet Alice Harris.

Sweet Alice, as she is universally known, began speaking up against the health disparities and lack of access to services that she saw in her neighborhood five decades ago. She founded the organization Parents of Watts to give voice to those who were no longer willing to accept the circumstances in which they found themselves and their children after decades of civic neglect. Parents of Watts provided a platform for community organizing and self-empowerment.

Watts and greater South Los Angeles might be a very different place without Sweet Alice Harris. Fifty years ago she began clearly and effectively insisting that her children, her neighbors and her community should have the same access to education, health care, safety and employment that others have. Through her unrelenting, focused advocacy, her effective story-telling, and her development of relationships with both the neediest and the most powerful in Los Angeles, she has improved the quality of life for people well beyond her immediate reach.

I offer my personal thanks and congratulations to Sweet Alice on 50 years of service. I remember the founding of Parents of Watts, an organization that has grown to provide an array of services to a diverse segment of the

community, including emergency food and shelter for the homeless, college preparation for teenagers, drug counseling, health seminars and parenting classes. I am pleased that this work has been recognized over the years, including by Essence Magazine, the California Lieutenant Governor's Woman of the Year Award, the Minerva Award from the California Governor & First Lady's Conference on Women, President George H. W. Bush's #702 Points of Light Award, and an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of Southern California.

With a list of accomplishments too lengthy to list here, her greatest success is that her work will continue to benefit Watts and South Los Angeles for the foreseeable future. It is an honor to recognize her work.

HONORING VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA, LUCIO G. MORENO, CHAPTER 574

**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chapter 574 of the Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA) for their service to our country and support of Vietnam War Veterans, including those in El Paso. The Lucio G. Moreno Chapter has worked to assure that these veterans and their families are not forgotten in my district.

Named in honor of lifelong El Pasoan and United States Marine Corps Veteran Lucio G. Moreno, Chapter 574 expanded under Mr. Moreno's fifteen years of leadership as President. The chapter is now the second largest in Texas and has advocated for improved healthcare access for our service members and veterans.

Chapter 574 is an active force in our local community and the State of Texas. The Lucio G. Moreno Chapter held the Texas State Council convention for 37 VVA state chapters earlier this year, providing a space for Veterans to gather and discuss current issues facing veterans today such as reform efforts within the VA and access to benefits. The organization regularly performs color guard duty at my Town Hall meetings and volunteers their time to support local high school ROTC programs throughout El Paso.

The chapter has also worked to create a more welcoming environment for service members returning home. These Vietnam Veterans felt that their own homecoming and re-adjustment was difficult; they strive to ensure that "never again will one generation of veterans abandon another."

I am honored to recognize the Lucio G. Moreno Chapter 574 of Vietnam Veterans of America and their work to diligently serve our community and our veterans.

HONORING CPL. ARNOLD ABEL

**HON. TODD C. YOUNG**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Cpl. Arnold Gordon Abel, of French Lick, Indiana.

I ask you all to join me in honoring the life of a fellow Hoosier veteran.

Cpl. Abel entered the military at the age of 19 and served in South Vietnam. As a United States Infantryman, Abel personified bravery and dignity while serving with his fellow Chargers in the 196th Infantry Brigade.

At home in Indiana, family and friends share fond memories of Abel and the character he embodied.

Abel was renowned for his steadfast work ethic. In the months leading up to his initial deployment in October of 1967, Abel spent much of his leave time working for his former employer at the Hayden Jones construction company. His former employer praised the young man for exhibiting a maturity and dedication well beyond his years.

Abel was cherished by his parents, Grace and Carl, and by his sisters, Brenda and Kathleen. He was a true American patriot and it is a privilege to stand here today in celebration of his life, which ended on the battlefield in South Vietnam on January 10th, 1968.

Each year on Veterans' Day, Americans around the world join together to pay tribute to all who served and to the soldiers who gave their last full measure of devotion fighting for the freedoms for which their nation still stands today.

While over four decades have passed since Cpl. Abel laid down his life in service to the United States of America, his noble sacrifice lives on in the memories of family, friends, and the many people whose lives are better for having crossed his path.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

#### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

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 \$18,649,024,795,838.78. We've added \$8,022,147,746,925.70 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS IN AMERICA

#### HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding landmark to community health and welfare. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the nation's Community Health Center program. Community Health Centers (CHC) are the family doctor to over 23 million Americans and, as such, are the largest network of primary care providers in the country. The CHC model is distinguished by its comprehensive range of health services, recognizing the particular needs and charac-

teristics of the communities they serve. Community Health Centers are located in medically underserved areas, providing needed care for communities and populations that do not have adequate access to care. Community involvement in CHCs is guaranteed by the requirement that Federal Qualified Health Centers must have governing boards of directors that have patients of the center holding at least 51% of the board seats.

In Massachusetts we are particularly proud because the nation's first community health center opened in December 1965 on Columbia Point in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood. Drs. Jack Geiger and Count Gibson of Tufts Medical School founded the Columbia Point Health Center in order to meet the needs of the residents of an isolated public housing project, cut off from the City's health resources. Drs. Geiger and Gibson opened a rural center shortly thereafter in the Delta region of Mississippi. From that start, the community health center program expanded throughout the country. In 1966, the esteemed late Senator Edward M. Kennedy visited the Columbia Point Health Center and immediately understood its mission and its value. He became the greatest champion health centers have ever known. Over the next 50 years, with his leadership and support, the Community Health Center program expanded tremendously.

Mr. Speaker, there are now over 1,270 community health centers providing services at 9,000 sites across the country. CHCs have become the primary source of medical, dental, behavioral health, substance abuse treatment, social services and other community health services for neighborhoods and rural communities that would otherwise be inadequately served. CHCs have also provided employment and career opportunities for thousands of local residents.

Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago it all began here, in Massachusetts. I am proud to rise today to recognize and honor what has become a national model for providing services to our country's underserved areas and urge my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the efforts of our Community Health Centers.

#### HONORING WILLIAM S. MORIARTY

#### HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William S. Moriarty from Carter County, Missouri for his exemplary service to not only his community, but also his country.

Bill began serving his country in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. His heroic actions were acknowledged when he received the Silver Star, one of the highest military awards. After a long and successful career in the military that spanned over 22 years, he retired at the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. However, his impact on the military did not end there as Bill has since spent countless hours helping other veterans in our area register for benefits.

Bill has proven to be an invaluable asset to the community through his numerous volunteer efforts. He makes a direct impact on the lives of others by lecturing on the dangers of

drugs at local schools, donating his time at his local senior center, and working with the Meals on Wheels Program. Bill also volunteers through broader forums by serving on a branch of the University of Missouri Extension Council and as part of the Disaster Response Commission for Missouri.

Bill is an exceptional model of a true American who serves others and it is my pleasure to recognize his efforts and accomplishments before the United States House of Representatives.

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. ROBERT J. BEALL

#### HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work and achievements of Dr. Robert Beall, who recently stepped down as president and chief executive officer of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. In his 35 years with the Foundation, Dr. Beall's efforts to advance cystic fibrosis research and treatment have had an extraordinary impact. When Dr. Beall began work with the Foundation in 1980, the median predicted life expectancy of a patient with cystic fibrosis was 18 years. Today, it is more than 40 years.

In 1976, Dr. Beall was first introduced to the disease when he attended the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's meeting outside of San Diego. There, he was shocked to see how little scientific understanding there was about the disease. In the words of Dr. Beall, "the foundation was so small at that point that the parents were bringing all the food and operating the projector—and I met the parents . . . Kids were dying then at a very young age. After I met the parents, I went back to the National Institutes of Health and said: 'I want to do this.'" Dr. Beall went on to manage the National Institutes of Health's cystic fibrosis program. There, he earned a National Institutes of Health Merit Award for his significant contributions to the field.

In 1980, Dr. Beall joined the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation where he served first as their executive vice president for medical affairs and, beginning in 1994, as their president and CEO. During Dr. Beall's time with the Foundation, medical awards for cystic fibrosis research grew from \$4 million to over \$85 million and supported groundbreaking research including the discovery in 1989 of the genetic defect responsible for the disease. Further, under Dr. Beall's oversight, the Foundation established 114 care centers and cutting-edge research facilities. We also have Dr. Beall to thank for developing and advancing the innovative concept of venture philanthropy. With this practice, Dr. Beall created the Therapeutics Development Program to connect researchers with biotech companies. Thanks to Dr. Beall's work, many children diagnosed with cystic fibrosis have lived into adulthood and it is no longer a pediatric disease. Today, more than 50 percent of patients are over 18 years of age.

As co-chair of the Cystic Fibrosis Caucus, I have had the privilege of working with Dr. Beall and seeing firsthand his passion and commitment to finding a cure for cystic fibrosis. His steadfast leadership and innovative

thinking has improved the lives of thousands of people with cystic fibrosis and their families.

Today, I ask all Americans to join me in thanking Dr. Beall for his tireless dedication to helping people with cystic fibrosis and in wishing him the best in his new endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SPC.  
CHARLES BEALS

HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Spc. Charles Beals, of French Lick, Indiana.

I ask you all to join me in honoring the life of a fellow Hoosier veteran.

Spc. Beals enlisted in the United States Army five months after high school graduation. By January of 1970, he had been assigned to Advanced Infantry Training and deployed to Vietnam the following spring. As a member of the renowned 506th Infantry Regiment of the 101st Airborne Division, Beals personified bravery and dignity while serving with his fellow Screaming Eagles.

A friend to all, Charles is said to have brought laughter with him wherever he went. He was a cherished son and a loving brother to his nine siblings.

Charles Beals gave his last full measure of devotion fighting on the hilltops of Vietnam. He sacrificed for his platoon, his brothers and sisters, and for every American who knows freedom today.

Like too many young American men who deployed, Spc. Beals's remains have yet to be recovered. I join his family, friends, and brothers-in-arms in praying for closure. I pray for his eventual return to rest alongside his family and loved ones in Indiana.

Each year on Veterans' Day, Americans around the world join together to pay tribute to all who served and to the soldiers who gave their lives fighting for the liberties for which their nation still stands today.

It is a privilege to honor Spc. Charles Beals's courageous life and recognize his distinguished service to his country.

HONORING THE 2015 DISTINGUISHED  
CITIZEN AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I take this time to recognize the 2015 Distinguished Citizen Award recipients, presented annually by the Boy Scouts of America Calumet Council. To commemorate this special occasion, the organization hosted a celebratory event on Tuesday, November 10, 2015, at Gamba Ristorante in Merrillville, Indiana. Since 1992, the Boy Scouts of America Calumet Council has presented the Distinguished Citizen Award to individuals who have made a significant positive impact on their community in Northwest Indiana and across the state. This year, the Boy Scouts of Amer-

ica Calumet Council honored Mamon and Cynthia Powers.

Mamon and Cynthia Powers were born and raised in Gary, Indiana. Mamon graduated from Froebel High School as an honors student, and Cynthia was valedictorian of her class at Gary's Tolleston High School. Following High School, Mamon graduated from Purdue University with a bachelor's degree in civil engineering. Cynthia earned her bachelor's and master's degrees in English and college administration at Indiana State University. Soon after graduating from college, Mamon and Cynthia began working with Mamon's father at Powers & Sons Construction Company, while both maintained other full-time jobs. In 1970, they formed Powers Realty, Incorporated. Eventually, they purchased a Century 21 franchise which Cynthia began managing and proved to be immensely successful in every aspect of the business. Already making their mark in the business world, the couple wed in 1972. Over the years, Mamon has served as secretary and treasurer of Powers & Sons Construction Company. In 1987, he was named president and was later named the company's chairman and chief executive officer. Under his leadership, Powers & Sons changed its focus from residential to commercial and industrial construction and has become one of the largest African American owned construction companies in the world.

Aside from their work, Mamon and Cynthia give an extraordinary amount of their time and efforts to charitable endeavors. With over forty-five years of service to the community and to their alma maters, Purdue and Indiana State University, they are to be commended. Mamon serves as the chairman of the Methodist Hospitals Board of Directors. He is a member of the Fifth Third Bank—Chicago Regional Board of Directors, and he is also a member of the World Presidents' Organization and Chief Executives' Organization. In addition, Mamon is a former member and vice chairman of the Board of Trustees of Purdue University.

Cynthia is a member of Indiana State University's Alumni Association Board, a member of the Indiana University Northwest Board of Advisors, treasurer of The Friends of Emerson School for the Visual and Performing Arts, a member of the Northern Indiana Chapter of the Links, Inc., and a Golden Life Member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, to name a few. Cynthia is also the former chairperson and member of the YWCA of Northwest Indiana. In addition, and most significant to both Cynthia and Mamon, is their service to the NAACP of Gary and the First AME Church, where Mamon serves as trustee and Cynthia is a long-time choir member and past youth choir director. Mamon and Cynthia have been honored and awarded many times for their outstanding work throughout Northwest Indiana and beyond. They serve as an inspiration to us all and have helped lead Northwest Indiana toward a new and bright future. To be their friend is a blessing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the Boy Scouts of America Calumet Council and its 2015 Distinguished Citizen Award recipients, Mamon and Cynthia Powers. For their lifetime of leadership and tireless dedication to their community and to those in need, Mamon and Cynthia are worthy of the highest praise.

HONORING ELEANOR MAGERA ON  
HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ROBERT J. DOLD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Eleanor L. Magera on her 100th birthday. Eleanor has lived in Lake Villa Township for many years, spending the last 12 years at Cedar Village in Lake Villa. Maintaining a youthful persona, Eleanor is known for her positive and independent attitude, positively influencing everyone who has the pleasure of making her acquaintance.

Eleanor was born in Beachwood, Michigan on November 15, 1915. One of 11 children, Eleanor would go on to have her own big family with her husband of 60 years, Richard "Dick" Magera, who passed away in May of 2000. Together they had two children, Martin and Dorothy, six grandchildren, many great grandchildren, and a great great grandchild. Eleanor remains active not only by walking the floors of Cedar Village on a daily basis, but by leading a group exercise class three days a week. She also keeps her mind sharp through her love of board games, even earning the title of the "Queen of Scrabble."

Mr. Speaker, Eleanor L. Magera is a neighbor and friend to all those who reside in Lake Villa Township, and I am proud to recognize her for the continued service and inspiration she brings to the community.

CALLING UPON THE CFPB TO PROTECT  
OUR NATION'S VETERANS  
BY ISSUING A STRONG PAYDAY  
LENDING RULE

HON. LOUISE MCINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor our nation's veterans by asking the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to issue a strong rule protecting our former servicewomen and men from predatory payday lending schemes. The CFPB should ensure that the federal rule leaves no room for the payday lending industry to circumvent laws in states like New York that have set strong, enforceable prohibitions on payday lending.

Payday lenders have long targeted members of the military with promises of quick cash but realities of triple digit interest rates and even more debt. While the Obama Administration recently addressed many of these issues by closing loopholes in the 2006 Military Lending Act, our veterans are left vulnerable—and vulnerable they are indeed. The Department of Housing and Urban Development estimates that nearly 50,000 veterans are homeless on any given night, and the National Coalition for Homeless Veterans estimates another 1.4 million veterans are at risk of homelessness due to poverty and a lack of community support networks. We must do better by those who risked their lives in service to this country.

It is because of financial challenges like those faced by our veterans—the struggle to find affordable housing, health care and a living wage—that payday lending has thrived

where it is permitted. But where it has not been permitted, such as in New York, people have found ways other than abusive, unfair, and predatory payday loans to address their financial needs. The rules issued by the CFPB must uphold the strong protections states like New York have in place. At a minimum, the CFPB should:

Require a meaningful “ability to repay” standard, without exceptions or safe harbors;

Provide that a violation of state usury law is an unfair, deceptive and abusive act and practice (UDAAP);

Provide that payday loans are subject to the law of the state where the borrower resides;

Prohibit abusive bank account access by payday lenders; and

Include enforceable protections against abuses by lead generators and other third-party marketing affiliates that sell people’s sensitive personal and financial information to payday lenders.

On the battlefield, our military pledges to leave no servicemember behind. Our promise to them must be no less when they return home. They promised to protect and defend this nation, and we owe the same to them. I urge my colleagues to join me in asking the CFPB to issue a strong rule that is fair and that honors those who served this country.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I was necessarily absent from the House on February 26, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted NO on H. Res. 125, the rule for H.R. 5, Roll Call 93.

#### CONGRATULATING CATHY WHITEHEAD

### HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and recognizing the extraordinary work of Chester County teacher Cathy Whitehead. Cathy’s leadership skills among her colleges and her ability to tailor her instruction to each student’s needs have led her to be named the 2015–16 Tennessee Teacher of the Year.

Cathy Whitehead has dedicated the past six years to teaching Middle Tennessee youth at West Chester Elementary School. Over those years she has earned a shining reputation for delivering high-quality personalized instruction, including creating project-based opportunities for advanced students.

Cathy’s devotion to education spans beyond her classroom. She has served in several leadership positions in her district and regularly leads professional development classes for her peers.

When receiving the state’s top teaching honor during the annual Teacher of the Year banquet, Cathy said, “Every student can learn, and every student can grow, the potential is

there. It’s up to us to help them see it.” I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Cathy Whitehead’s dedication, passion, and commitment to helping tomorrow’s leaders learn their potential today.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF PFC. RICHARD WOLFINGTON, JR.

### HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pfc. Richard Wolfington, Jr. of Indianapolis, Indiana.

I ask you all to join me in honoring the life of a fellow Hoosier veteran.

Wolfington was a fellow United States Marine. He enlisted at the age of 20 and deployed to South Vietnam in 1967. He served with great distinction and valor alongside fellow members of the renowned Fighting Third.

During his tour, Wolfington suffered combat injuries while defending a Vietnamese village. After weeks of hospitalization, Wolfington returned to the exact battlefield where he was wounded to rejoin his brothers-in-arms.

Wolfington was a true American hero. It is a privilege to stand here today in celebration of his life, which tragically ended upon his return to battle.

Each year on Veterans’ Day, Americans around the world join together to pay tribute to all who served and to the soldiers who gave their lives fighting for the liberties for which their nation still stands today.

Like so many young American men of his generation, Wolfington endured the realities of war with noble dignity and gave his last full measure of devotion in service to his country. Oorah Marine.

It is a privilege to honor his courageous life and recognize Pfc. Richard Wolfington, Jr. for distinguished service in the United States Marine Corps.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF PENNSYLVANIA’S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the National Federation of the Blind who celebrate 75 years of service for the vision impaired. Established in November 1940 by Jacobus tenBroek, The National Federation of the Blind has prided itself for the better part of a century as being the voice of the blind Americans.

The Federation’s initial convention took place in Wilkes-Barre, PA, uniting organizations of the blind from across seven states under one constitution. Once established, the NFB advocated for financial security, equal employment opportunity and equal access to housing, transportation and places of public accommodation.

Today, the National Federation of the Blind is America’s largest organization of the blind

with affiliates in all 50 states and over 50,000 members. Within the Federation are dozens of subsidiaries, such as the National Association of Blind Students, the National Association of Blind Lawyers, The National Association of Blind Merchants, the National Association of the Blind in Communities of Faith, and the National Association of Guide Dog Users. This vast network helps to educate the general public as well as legislators and policy makers at the local, state, and national levels. In addition, the NFB facilitates mentoring relationships, provides Braille certification courses, and has a division dedicated to educating the public about the use of guide dogs.

It is an honor to recognize the National Federation of the Blind for celebrating their 75th Anniversary. I congratulate them on the great strides they have made to advance the welfare of men and women with vision impairments. May they continue their honorable work promoting and defending the interests of the blind in America.

#### CELEBRATION OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUDIATION ACT IN FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the Sergeant Lawrence Everhart Chapter of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Frederick and Carrollton Manor Chapters of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution on their collaboration in celebrating the 250th anniversary of the Repudiation Act in Frederick County, Maryland. This event was a defining moment in our nation’s history and established a critically-important precedent in our judicial system.

On November 23, 1765, the twelve justices of the Frederick County Court took the bold and unprecedented step to repudiate “taxation without representation.” The British had passed the Stamp Act on March 22, 1765, which was to take effect on November 1st of that year. The new tax was imposed on all American colonists and required them to pay a tax on every piece of printed paper. This was the first internal tax levied directly on American colonists by the British government. Obviously unpopular, the Stamp Act raised the constitutional question of taxation without representation and the extent of the legislative powers of Parliament over the colonies.

The most significant reaction to the Act was expressed in Frederick County. The Frederick Court unanimously ordered that “all proceedings shall be Valid and Effectual without the use of Stamps” because, first, a “Legal Publication” had not been made “of any Act of Parliament” and, second, there was no stamped paper in “the province and the Inhabitants have no means of Procuring any.” They further wrote “that it would be an Instance of the most wanton Oppression to deprive any person of a Legal Remedy for the Recovery of his property for omitting that which it is Impossible to perform.”

This decision came to be known as the Repudiation Act and earned the justices the

honor of being called the “Twelve Immortals.” Thanks to this extraordinary ruling, the constitutional principles of representative government and political self-determination, critical to the success of the coming American Revolution, became engrained throughout the colonies. Indeed, it is noteworthy that these early jurists established through their bold ruling the principle of judicial independence, striking down the decree of Parliament and reinforcing the obligation of courts to protect the rights and liberties of people.

The judges’ ruling set off great rejoicing in the streets of Frederick. A parade was held through the streets highlighted by a funeral procession. The community was so thankful for this decision that they covered a coffin in anti-Stamp Act slogans and symbolically laid the Stamp Act to rest.

This year, on the 250th anniversary, the celebration will include a reenactment of the parade that carried the coffin containing the now-deceased Stamp Act through the streets of Frederick. The current Clerk of the Frederick County Court, Sandra Dalton, will read the words that were recorded in 1765. A new sign will be dedicated on the grounds of the City Hall, recognizing the courage of the twelve judges who protected the rights and liberties of all people.

Mr. Speaker, Frederick County, Maryland has a proud history of patriotism and standing up against tyranny. I am proud that the community is gathering to celebrate this defining moment in our history.

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TROOP 395 EAGLE SCOUTS

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate three outstanding young men who have earned the rank of Eagle Scout with Missouri City Boy Scout Troop 395.

These three Scouts are among less than five percent of all Boy Scouts to earn such a prestigious rank by dedicating countless hours towards organizing and working on service projects with Troop 395. For his Eagle Scout project, Ethan Spendlove, a senior at Ridge Point High School, built a shade canopy for a local community garden. Matheus Meneses, a senior at Elkins High School, built a corral trap for wild hogs at an area nature preserve. Tyler Echard, a sophomore at Ridge Point High School, built bat houses in his neighborhood to help lower the mosquito population. These Eagle Scouts exemplify the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership. We are extremely proud of their selfless dedication to our community and for demonstrating such strong leadership.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Ethan, Matheus, and Tyler for earning Eagle Scout. They have bright futures as community leaders ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NOHEMI GONZALEZ

**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to honor the life of Nohemi “Mimi” Gonzalez, a 23-year-old senior at California State University, Long Beach, who was killed in the senseless terrorist attacks in Paris on Friday, November 13, 2015. Nohemi, a native of the San Gabriel Valley, was in the Petit Cambodge restaurant with another Long Beach State student when she was fatally shot by the Islamic State group, also known as ISIS. Nohemi was in Paris studying at the Strate College of Design during a semester abroad program.

A proud independent and energetic first-generation Mexican-American, Nohemi was born on October 19, 1992, in Whittier, where she grew up. She graduated early from Whittier High School and became a first-generation college student. Gonzalez was studying Industrial Design, paying her way through school with help from an on-campus job in the school’s design shop. Nohemi was full of life. Her classmates called her a firecracker and a rabbit—hopping around the Cal State Long Beach campus’s design school eager to help anyone who needed it. She loved life and was eager to learn and partake in our American dream.

Nohemi is survived by her mother, Beatrice and step-father, Jose Hernandez, residents of El Monte. Beatrice wanted her daughter to be remembered as a young Latina who worked hard to get ahead. I wish to express my sincere sympathy to her parents as well as her extended family, friends, and the entire Cal State Long Beach community, who have all been devastated by the loss of one so loved. I ask that all of my colleagues join me to honor the life of Nohemi Gonzalez and remember all those who lost their lives in Paris.

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EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO THE VICTIMS OF THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN PARIS AND SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF FRANCE

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in sorrow over the loss of so many innocent lives cut short by the outrageous and heinous acts of terrorism that shocked and rocked the people of Paris last Friday and earned the lasting enmity of peaceful and freedom loving people around the world.

Right now, our prayers are with the victims and their families at this terrible time.

And we stand in unyielding solidarity with the people of France, which like the United States, is one of the most welcoming nations in the world.

Mr. Speaker, for centuries Paris has been known to the world as the City of Light.

The title is richly deserved because Paris has been a world leader in the march of

human progress in the arts, culture, science, democratic theory and governance, and embraces the challenges and opportunities of the modern world.

Those who think that they can terrorize the people of France or the values that they cherish underestimate a nation that has faced and prevailed against far more sinister and lethal adversaries.

And they will again, but they will not confront these adversaries alone.

They will be joined by the United States and the other countries of the civilized world.

The French are justly proud of their national motto, “Liberte, egalite, fraternite,” (liberty, equality, fraternity) and no act of terrorism by cowardly perpetrators will succeed in leading them to renounce their heritage of freedom and justice.

It is a heritage that we here in the United States share.

And that is why the civilized world must and will rededicate itself to combating and defeating radical jihadism.

And as has been done many times throughout the long and special relationship between the United States and France, we will face and overcome threats to our way of life together.

We will not bow and will never break; we will not falter or fail.

We will respond. We will endure. We will overcome.

The terrorist attacks in Paris on Friday were horrific acts on innocent civilians perpetrated by depraved individuals who misuse the peaceful religion of Islam for their own misguided purposes.

Their horrible and heinous acts are their responsibility, and theirs alone, and for which they can be assured that they alone will be held accountable.

But that will come another day; today I ask a moment of silence for the victims killed and injured in the terrorist attacks last Friday in Paris.

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HONORING MICHAEL FITZGERALD AND FINER FOODS FOR THEIR THANKSGIVING GENEROSITY

**HON. ROBERT J. DOLD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. DOLD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Michael Fitzgerald of Finer Foods. Since 1934, Finer Foods and the Fitzgerald family have put food on tables of Chicagoland’s restaurants, grocery stores and cafeterias. Finer Foods is truly one of Chicago’s iconic family businesses.

For the last five years, Michael and Finer Foods have graciously donated and delivered turkeys and Thanksgiving fixings for families in North Chicago, Waukegan and Zion, Illinois. I have personally witnessed how this generosity has impacted the lives of people suffering temporary economic hardship during the Thanksgiving season.

On behalf of the people of the 10th Congressional and the hundreds of families who enjoyed Thanksgiving dinner, I want to offer our sincere and heartfelt thank you.

JOSHUA OKOLO CAN THINK

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Joshua Okolo of Katy, Texas for winning the Texas Summer THINK Challenge.

Joshua, a student at Fielder Elementary, dedicated his summer to keeping his mind sharp. Over the course of the summer, he completed over 2,000 math problems—approximately 52 hours of math. What a great way to spend a summer. Thank you to his parents and teachers for encouraging Joshua to love and excel in math. We are all proud of your hard work.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Joshua for winning the Texas Summer THINK Challenge. What a way to strengthen your math skills.

RECOGNIZING COMMUNITY  
FOUNDATION WEEK

**HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor community foundations all across the country that embody the generosity of spirit that is such an important American value. Community Foundation Week was founded in 1989 and every November 12th–18th it honors the tremendous contributions of these organizations made up of Americans voluntarily working together to improve their communities. Since the first community foundation was founded in my home state of Ohio in 1914 these groups have filled a unique place in American society and provide assistance and inspiration to millions of people.

Today there are more than 750 community foundations in the United States, with 84 in Ohio, and several who serve communities in the 12th District such as the Delaware County Foundation, the Dublin Foundation, the Granville Foundation, the Licking County Foundation, the Morrow County Foundation, the Muskingum County Community Foundation, the Richland County Foundation, and the Columbus Foundation. These foundations work with their communities to make meaningful contributions in many areas like education, the arts, social services, and healthcare, and have provided millions of dollars over the years to these causes.

As just one example of the huge impact these foundations can have, the Licking County Foundation is working to transform a parking lot in downtown Newark into the Canal Market District through a \$4 million fund established by the Evans Foundation. The district will feature new walkways and green spaces centered around the Canal Market Plaza, three new structures that will form an open air farmer's market and provide a venue for many different events from the spring through the fall. This project would not be possible without years of working with local leaders, business owners, and the citizens of the community. Since the project was announced

last year, Denison University, Licking Memorial Health Systems, the City of Newark, Bon Appétit Management, USDA Rural Development and the Ohio and Licking County Farm Bureaus have all come forward to help with the district. This project will provide economic benefits to Newark, as well as increased access to fresh food.

The Columbus Foundation, the seventh largest community foundation in the nation, provides other great examples of the importance of community foundations. Recently, the Columbus Foundation set up a trust using a generous gift by David and Nanci Gobey that will allow graduates of Columbus City Schools to keep the instrument they have been using in high school. As a member of the marching band in high school and at The Ohio State University, I personally experienced how the arts can have an everlasting impact on one's life. The arts and art education are important for personal and intellectual growth of students and people of all ages. Music programs have been shown to increase academic performance, and programs like the one the Columbus Foundation facilitated help keep music in our schools and our students' lives despite a tough budgetary environment.

These examples merely hint at the outstanding work done by community foundations in central Ohio and all across the nation. I am honored to recognize Community Foundation Week this year, and acknowledge the tireless philanthropic efforts of these organizations to improve communities all across the country.

NLRB REFORM ACT

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, for too long, the partisan bias of the National Labor Relations Board—has caused instability in how the NLRB will interpret labor policy rules, harming employees and destroying jobs. The President's 'Big Labor Bully' has constantly abused its authority by overregulating and restricting right-to-work states.

Today, I have introduced the NLRB Reform Act to end the bias in the NLRB by adding a sixth member—establishing equal representation for each political party. It will benefit employers and employees and will help create jobs by reining in the unfair general counsel and enforcing timely decision-making.

A non-partisan board would restore fairness to promote new jobs. Last week, I announced my introduction of this legislation at Nephron Pharmaceuticals in Lexington County with CEO Lou Kennedy, Representative Todd Atwater, President of the South Carolina Manufacturer's Alliance Louis Gossett, and former CEO of the South Carolina Chamber of Commerce Otis Rawl; and at CommuniGraphics in North Augusta, with owners Mark and Tracy Cook, and Representative Bill Hixon.

In conclusion, God Bless Our Troops and may the President by his actions never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism. Our sympathy for America's First Ally, France, as the latest target in the Global War on Terrorism.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF ARC OF YATES

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arc of Yates on its 40th anniversary.

Arc of Yates is a non-profit organization located in Penn Yan, New York. Since 1975, it has provided services to individuals with developmental disabilities, empowering them to lead "self-directed" and "meaningful" lives.

Arc of Yates serves more than 400 children, adults, and seniors across the Finger Lakes region. It provides a wide range of services, including day habilitation, residential living, employment training, and various educational opportunities. In addition, Arc of Yates offers several clinical programs, focusing on social work, nursing, and nutrition.

Last month, Arc of Yates reopened its facility in Penn Yan, less than eighteen months after it was badly damaged by devastating floods. This resiliency is a testament to their commitment to serving our local families and communities.

I commend the staff and volunteers of Arc of Yates on everything they have achieved in the past forty years, and I look forward to their continued efforts to empower our neighbors with disabilities to live independent and inclusive lives.

TEXAS REAL ESTATE COMMISSION  
APPOINTMENT

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Rayito Stephens of Pearland, Texas on her appointment to the Texas Real Estate Commission by Governor Greg Abbott.

Mrs. Stephens is a licensed realtor and broker with over twenty-one years of experience. Throughout her career, she has been involved in almost every aspect of the real estate industry from home construction to real estate negotiation. She shows her big, Texas-sized heart by dedicating her time to helping veterans and people with disabilities become homebuyers. Rayito's appointment is a reflection of her impressive career and dedication to others.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Rayito Stephens on her appointment to the Texas Real Estate Commission. Governor Abbott made a great decision in selecting you.

H.R. 1694

**HON. CHERI BUSTOS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, earlier today I asked unanimous consent that my name be removed as a co-sponsor of H.R. 1694.

I urged a change in the language to strengthen support for our veteran business

owners by establishing a dedicated funding stream. Unfortunately the bill sponsor declined to make this change.

I urge my colleagues to instead support H.R. 3997 which would much more effectively ensure that our veteran business owners have the opportunity to compete and succeed.

#### TRIBUTE TO DEB WEILAGE

### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Deb Weilage of Council Bluffs, Iowa, for being named a Parent Educator of the Year. She was honored recently at the Parents as Teachers Conference in Dallas, Texas.

Deb, along with four other parent educators from around the country, accepted the award before 1,300 conference participants. Each of them there were representing early childhood, child care, health, mental health, social services, and government agencies from across the nation and around the world. The Parent Educator of the Year award is intended to honor those individuals and affiliate programs whose practices exemplify the mission of Parents as Teachers.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent leaders like Deb in the United States Congress, and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud her for utilizing her talents to better the state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating her on receiving this esteemed designation, and wishing her the best of luck in all her future endeavors.

#### INTRODUCTION OF EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING THE VICTIMS OF TERROR PROTECTION FUND—HOUSE RESOLUTION 528

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, the past 36 hours have been a very trying time for the world family as we grapple with the reality of terrorists wreaking havoc in our world.

One only needs to look at the current news events across the globe to appreciate the imperative of countering violent extremism, empowering and protecting victims of terror, refugees and displaced persons.

In the past three months alone, ISIS has claimed responsibility for crimes, atrocities and terroristic attacks, claiming lives in Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Egypt, Beirut and Paris.

Daesh-ISIS and other terrorist networks that have pledged allegiance to ISIS today pose the gravest extremist threat faced by our generation and those of our children.

But we must not be moved by their evil ways, for eventually, the arc of the moral universe always tips on the side of justice of peace of equity of the rule of law.

This is why I remain steadfast in my commitment to combatting violent extremism and protecting victims.

Today, I introduced legislation expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the creation of a Victims of Terror Protection Fund.

I urge support of this legislation.

As a result of terrorism in the region and Boko Haram in particular in Nigeria, recent reports inform us that Nigeria has the highest number of displaced persons in Africa and the third largest in the world, following Syria and Columbia.

As we know, the recent coordinated attacks in Paris, following military interventions by at least two United Nations Security Council permanent members: Russia and France highlights the fact that we are dealing with an enemy of humanity and compels us to launch an international and coordinated strategy to diminish ISIS to protect our children and our children's children.

Moreover, the recent events underscore the importance of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism to degrade and permanently destroy ISIS and its vitriolic ideology that is inflicting pain on innocent people.

As we all know, humanitarian crises triggered by sectarian and ideological violence has plagued our world at a disheartening rate.

According to one United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR's) annual Global Trends report, which is based on data compiled by governments and non-governmental partner organizations, and from the organization's own records, over 60 million people have been forcibly displaced across the globe.

Moreover, according to a report by the International Displacement Monitor Center, an estimated 3,300,000 persons have been displaced and 5,500 killed as a result of the violence wreaked by Boko Haram.

One United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) report asserts that as the most populous nation in Africa with 174,000,000 persons, 1,500,000 people have fled their homes to escape Boko Haram.

In April, 2014, 276 girls were terrorized and kidnapped from their dormitories in Chibok by Boko Haram.

In addition to the still missing Chibok girls, approximately 3,300,000 persons are displaced in the Lake Chad Basin which sits on the edge of the Sahara which encompasses Chad, Cameroon, Niger and Nigeria.

We must not forget these girls or displaced persons and must work to provide the support they will need to recover from the trauma they have suffered.

The victims will be in dire need of humanitarian assistance which the Victims of Terror Protection Fund can provide.

The Victims of Terror Protection Fund should be modeled after the cases of Khazistan and Equatorial Guinea where prior kleptocracy initiatives have been created to benefit communities and victims in need of support.

A kleptocracy is when a government in power exploits or steals national resources, which unfortunately has happened all too often across the globe.

Here, the United States Department of Justice through its Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative has identified the forfeited "Abacha Funds," funds stolen by former Nigerian dictator Sanni Abacha.

Indeed, the "Abacha Funds" is the largest kleptocracy forfeiture action ever brought in

the United States resulting in a \$450,000,000 judgment of the forfeited assets facilitated by Justice's remarkable Kleptocracy Asset Recovery Initiative.

The Abacha Administration embezzled Nigerian public funds under other false claims, that the Administration was investing in national security measures to protect Nigeria and the Nigerian people.

As we all see now, as a result of or in part because of the Abacha Administration's failure to invest in and implement security measures, the security in Nigeria and the region is tenuous, with the country and region currently under continuous threat by the ISIS affiliated group Boko Haram.

Indeed, Boko Haram and other sectarian terrorists have trafficked, kidnapped, murdered and caused the displacement of millions of children, women and men.

Recovered victims displaced by terrorist activity as well as refugees, migrants and internally displaced persons fleeing for their lives will be in dire need of protection and support.

A Victim of Terror Protection Fund can supply health aid, educational support, employment training, economic empowerment, dignity and overall improved social welfare of these victims.

I continue to have a deep appreciation of the patriotism, resilience, and commitment of the Nigerian people under the leadership of their newly democratically elected President Muhammadu Buhari.

As an emerging democracy, Nigeria is a country that has faced its set of challenges, conflicts, and contradictions analogous to the human condition itself.

Yet, resiliency flows through the veins and into the hearts of the Nigerian people.

That is why I urge my colleagues to support the victims through the protection fund to protect, support and address the unprecedented migrant and refugee crisis across the Mediterranean triggered by violent extremism, conflict and natural disasters.

Boko Haram is an existential threat to the human rights, well being and security of the Nigerian people and their regional neighbors with its relentless drive to commit genocide.

Part of the strategy to help address the scourge of Boko Haram's atrocity should be through the creation of a Victim of Terror Protection Fund and accessibility of military technical assistance to Nigeria and its regional neighbors pursuant to the UN Security Council and neighboring African countries call for accelerated military collaboration to combat this extremist group.

This is why I commend the U.S. Administration's announcement that it is deploying 300 U.S. troops to Africa to set up a drone base to track fighters from Boko Haram, which continues to seek to destabilize Nigeria and neighboring countries during its blood thirsty assault on innocent people.

The U.S. forces' presence will be critical to combatting Boko Haram, which now appears to continue to wage its vicious insurgency in Nigeria and now spilling into neighboring Cameroon, Chad and Niger and leaving an estimated 20,000 people dead.

In light of these atrocities and its pleading of allegiance to the Islamic State (ISIS), we must remain vigilant of Boko Haram, since both groups are fighting to establish a caliphate across the Middle East and in Africa.

Our global strategy for ending the suffering, preventing displacement and creating solutions for displaced persons in Africa requires a

multi-pronged strategy which would involve a sustained humanitarian response, government and civil society capacity building, and the creation of resilient political and security infrastructures and landscapes.

This proposed Victims of Terror Protection Fund is one of the strategies for addressing the growing African migrant and refugee crisis.

I commend President Buhari's commitment to Nigerian security and his directive to local authorities to tighten vigilance in vulnerable places.

I hope we continue to build a stronger alliance with President Buhari and Nigeria.

To succeed at all our objectives, Nigeria must have continued U.S. support in protecting victims of terror, technical training, logistical and infrastructural capabilities and professionalizing its military force to battle Boko Haram.

Nigeria has emerged from so many trials and tribulations stronger, more united, more focused, and committed to reestablishing the stability, peace, security, growth, and development of the country.

I invite all Members including those who have supported previous efforts, letters and resolutions related to combatting terrorism and Boko Haram and the promotion of U.S. Nigeria relations to join me in sponsoring this resolution expressing a sense of the House of Representatives regarding the Victims of Terror Protection Fund.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 18

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on SeaPower

To receive a closed briefing on undersea critical infrastructure protection.

SVC-217

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the international climate negotiations.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider H.R. 2820, to reauthorize the Stem Cell Thera-

peutic and Research Act of 2005, S. 1719, to provide for the establishment and maintenance of a National Family Caregiving Strategy, and the nominations of Victoria A. Lipnic, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission for a term expiring July 1, 2020 (Reappointment), and Michael Herman Michaud, of Maine, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine National Adoption Month, focusing on stories of success and meeting the challenges of international adoptions.

SD-226

11 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 571, to amend the Pilot's Bill of Rights to facilitate appeals and to apply to other certificates issued by the Federal Aviation Administration, to require the revision of the third class medical certification regulations issued by the Federal Aviation Administration, S. 1143, to make the authority of States of Washington, Oregon, and California to manage Dungeness crab fishery permanent and for other purposes, S. 1518, to make exclusive the authority of the Federal Government to regulate the labeling of products made in the United States and introduced in interstate or foreign commerce, S. 1685, to direct the Federal Communications Commission to extend to private land use restrictions its rule relating to reasonable accommodation of amateur service communications, S. 1886, to reauthorize the Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observation System Act of 2009 and for other purposes, S. 1916, to include skilled nursing facilities as a type of health care provider under section 254(h) of the Communications Act of 1934, S. 2044, to prohibit the use of certain clauses in form contracts that restrict the ability of a consumer to communicate regarding the goods or services offered in interstate commerce that were the subject of the contract, S. 2206, to reduce the incidence of sexual harassment and assault at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to reauthorize the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002, and to reauthorize the Hydrographic Services Improvement Act of 1998, the nominations of Anthony Rosario Coscia, of New Jersey, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors for a term of five years (Reappointment), and Derek Tai-Ching Kan, of California, to be a Director of the Amtrak Board of Directors for a term of five years, and routine lists in the Coast Guard.

SR-253

2 p.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine millennial voices on advancing the American dream.

SD-106

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

Business meeting to consider S. 817, to provide for the addition of certain real property to the reservation of the Siletz Tribe in the State of Oregon, and S. 818, to amend the Grand Ronde Reservation Act to make technical correc-

tions; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine S. 410, to strengthen Indian education, S. 1163, to amend the Native American Programs Act of 1974 to provide flexibility and reauthorization to ensure the survival and continuing vitality of Native American languages, and S. 1928, to support the education of Indian children.

SD-628

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine pending calendar business.

SR-418

NOVEMBER 19

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Alissa M. Starzak, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Army, Franklin R. Parker, of Illinois, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Navy, John Conger, of Maryland, to be a Principal Deputy Under Secretary, and Stephen P. Welby, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary, all of the Department of Defense.

SD-G50

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider S. 329, to amend the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to designate certain segments of the Farmington River and Salmon Brook in the State of Connecticut as components of the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, S. 556, to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, S. 782, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to establish a bison management plan for Grand Canyon National Park, S. 1583, to authorize the expansion of an existing hydroelectric project, S. 1592, to clarify the description of certain Federal land under the Northern Arizona Land Exchange and Verde River Basin Partnership Act of 2005 to include additional land in the Kaibab National Forest, S. 1694, to amend Public Law 103-434 to authorize Phase III of the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project for the purposes of improving water management in the Yakima River basin, S. 1941 and H.R. 2223, bills to authorize, direct, expedite, and facilitate a land exchange in El Paso and Teller Counties, Colorado, S. 1942 and H.R. 1554, bills to require a land conveyance involving the Elkhorn Ranch and the White River National Forest in the State of Colorado, S. 2046, to authorize the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to issue an order continuing a stay of a hydroelectric license for the Mahoney Lake hydroelectric project in the State of Alaska, S. 2069, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to modify provisions relating to certain land exchanges in the Mt. Hood Wilderness in the State of Oregon, S. 2083, to extend the deadline for commencement of construction of a hydroelectric project, H.R. 373, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture to expedite access to certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of each Secretary for good Samaritan search-and-recovery missions, H.R. 1324, to adjust the boundary of the Arapaho National Forest, Colorado, and the nominations of Suzette M. Kimball, of West Virginia, to be Director of the United States Geological

Survey, Department of the Interior, and Victoria Marie Baecher Wassmer, of Illinois, to be Under Secretary, John Francis Kotek, of Idaho, to be an Assistant Secretary (Nuclear Energy), and Cherry Ann Murray, of Kansas, to be Director of the Office of Science, all of Department of Energy.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations  
Subcommittee on East Asia, the Pacific, and International Cybersecurity Policy  
To hold hearings to examine democratic transitions in southeast Asia.

SD-419

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To hold hearings to examine human trafficking.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 247, to amend section 349 of the Immigration and Nationality Act to deem specified

activities in support of terrorism as renunciation of United States nationality, and S. 1318, to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for protection of maritime navigation and prevention of nuclear terrorism.

SD-226

2 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine lessons from the Paris terrorist attacks, focusing on ramifications for the homeland and refugee resettlement.

SD-342

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing on certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

## DECEMBER 1

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Well Control Rule and other regu-

lations related to offshore oil and gas production.

SD-366

## DECEMBER 3

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine implementation of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980, including perspectives on the Act's impacts in Alaska and suggestions for improvements to the Act.

SD-366

## POSTPONEMENTS

## NOVEMBER 18

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine United States refugee resettlement and the intersection of foreign and domestic policy.

SD-419