

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 5, 2015*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (S. 1356).

The agreement reached in the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 was an important step towards adjusting the caps on defense and non-defense discretionary spending. It provided for more stable investments in both national security and domestic programs, and I commend President Obama and Congressional leaders for their bipartisan efforts to provide a more appropriate level of funding. The Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 mitigated some of the funding concerns surrounding the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (S. 1356) and made this an improved bill. However, the revisions in the bill did nothing to alleviate my concerns regarding detainees at Guantanamo Bay or excess military facilities.

S. 1356 still prevents the responsible transfer of detainees from Guantanamo Bay and the closure of the detention center. Instead, Guantanamo Bay will remain an extremist propaganda tool that undermines our national security. The closure of this facility is long overdue. S. 1356 also continues to ignore testimony from senior leaders in the Department of Defense, Department of the Air Force, and Department of the Army regarding the closure of surplus military facilities. An authorization of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) is the best way to address this problem and would save money that could be invested in other national security priorities.

While I recognize that the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 provided a measure of funding stability for our Defense leaders, S. 1356 continues to include provisions that are detrimental to our national security and undermines the safety of the women and men who put themselves at risk to defend our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016 (S. 1356).

IN HONOR OF CAPITOL BOOK & NEWS

**HON. MARTHA ROBY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Capitol Book & News, one of Alabama's oldest independent book stores, who will be closing their doors after 65 years of business.

Founded in 1950 by Victor Lavine, Capitol Book & News has been a staple in Mont-

gomery, Alabama's community providing books and recommendations to customers. Thomas and Cheryl Upchurch, owners for the past 37 years, are known for their trusted advice and suggestions on what books to read.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to acknowledge Capitol Book & News' positive impact on Montgomery's community and to thank them for their loyal and dedicated service to their customers.

IN RECOGNITION OF ASSEMBLY-WOMAN SHEILA Y. OLIVER

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend, Assemblywoman Sheila Y. Oliver. Ms. Oliver is a proud class of 1970 graduate of Weequahic High School in Newark, New Jersey. This year, she will be honored at Weequahic's 45th class reunion for her many accomplishments and contributions to her school, community, and state of New Jersey.

Ms. Oliver has served in the New Jersey General Assembly since 2004, where she represents the 34th legislative district. From January 2010 to January 2014, she served as the Speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly. She was the second woman to serve as Speaker in New Jersey history, and the second African American to hold this post.

Currently, she serves in the Assembly on the Higher Education Committee, the Labor Committee, and the Human Services Committee, as its chair. She also served on the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders from 1996–1999.

Assemblywoman Oliver was one of the founders of the Newark Coalition for Low Income Housing, an organization that successfully sued the Newark Housing Authority and the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development in federal court to block the demolition of all publicly subsidized low-income housing in Newark, as there was no plan in place for the construction of replacement housing for low-income Newark residents. As a result, the Newark Housing Authority was directed by a federal consent order to build one-for-one replacement housing for low-income residents.

Ms. Oliver's colleagues in political and public life honored her with a place for debating and building consensus, naming the 14th floor conference room in the LeRoy F. Smith Jr. Public Safety Building the "Sheila Y. Oliver Conference Center." It is fitting that Sheila Oliver be recognized for the historic figure that she is. She understands the human condition and understands government can play an integral role in improving the lives of all people.

Ms. Oliver's leadership abilities have consistently been recognized by her peers, and she has often been described as a resource-

ful, dependable individual who is always willing to assist when needed. She attended Lincoln University and continued her education in graduate school at Columbia University. She once told a crowd of constituents that she never set out to run for office, but her conviction that government can improve lives guided her course. Congratulations to my friend, Assemblywoman Sheila Y. Oliver, on this outstanding honor.

FAIRNESS TO VETERANS FOR INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 16, 2015*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Fairness to Veterans for Infrastructure Investment Act of 2015 (H.R. 1694).

H.R. 1694 as drafted would undermine the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program to promote women- and minority-owned small businesses and provide them with the opportunity to compete for federal highway construction contracts in an equitable manner. H.R. 1694 would force women- and minority-owned small businesses into the same pool of competition with veteran-owned small businesses to the detriment of everyone the DBE program was intended to help.

The best way to help our veteran-owned small businesses is to establish a separate and specific program to achieve the aim of ensuring veteran-owned businesses receive fair consideration for federal highway contracts. That is why I am a cosponsor of H.R. 3997, which would create a Veteran-owned Business Enterprise program within the Department of Transportation. This program would guarantee that at least 10 percent of federal highway contracts go to veteran-owned small businesses. It would maximize assistance to both veteran-owned and women- and minority-owned small businesses, and would not force competition between them.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing the Fairness to Veterans for Infrastructure Investment Act of 2015 (H.R. 1694).

HONORING SISTER JOSETTE PARISI ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AS MANAGER OF SEARLES CASTLE AFTER 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Sister Josette

• 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.

Parisi on her retirement after 25 years as the manager of Searles Castle, and thank her for the outstanding work she did during her career.

Sister Josette's continuous effort to improve Searles Castle exemplifies her intelligence, positive attitude, and generous spirit, and because of her commitment, Searles Castle is now available for the public to utilize and enjoy.

Sister Josette's compassion for helping people through difficult times is exceptional, and she leaves an example of strong leadership and compassion for others to emulate in her wake.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Sister Josette Parisi on her retirement, and wish her the best on all future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE SUCCESS OF  
WAYNESBORO COMMUNITY THEATRE  
PROJECT, INC., AND THE REOPENING  
OF THE WAYNESBORO THEATRE

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Waynesboro Community Theatre Project, Inc. and highlight the successful campaign to rebuild and reopen a long treasured local cinema.

Following an inspired beginning, the Waynesboro Community Theatre Project, Inc. maintained a determined campaign to raise the money necessary to renovate and reopen the Waynesboro Theatre. Thanks to its persistent efforts and generous donors, the historic theatre will again fulfill its roles as a local economic generator and a quality entertainment venue for the Waynesboro community.

Additionally, I believe this project represents a community effort in the truest sense, as many have worked together to see this effort through to completion. The theatre will reopen with impressive renovations, including new seats, an upgraded lobby and concession area, and modern sound and visual technologies. The project will provide fundamental support in keeping downtown Waynesboro vibrant and welcoming.

The Waynesboro Theatre is beloved by the community and I commend all who have put time, effort, and donations into bringing the theatre back to the public. Today I congratulate the Waynesboro Community Theatre Project, Inc. for the completion of this impressive effort to improve the Waynesboro community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DINA TITUS**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Ms. TITUS. Mr. Speaker, had I been present on the following roll call votes, my votes would have been:

631 (HR 1694)—NO  
632 (HR 3114)—YES  
633 (HR 511)—NO

HONORING BRUCE KARSTADT

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, Minneapolis is fortunate to be the home of the American Swedish Institute (ASI). It is a non-profit organization that serves as a museum and a cultural center. Bruce Karstadt has served as the President and CEO of the American Swedish Institute for the past twenty-five years. He is also the Honorary Counsel General of Sweden for the State of Minnesota.

Mr. Karstadt has helped promote trade, diplomacy, and he serves as a conduit between Minnesota and the nation of Sweden. His steadfast leadership has led to several significant and positive changes at ASI. The campus and museum have nearly doubled in size since his tenure began and it has become a favorite destination for residents and tourists to Minneapolis. He has transformed ASI into an influential organization with an inclusive atmosphere that works to involve all cultures in the Twin Cities area. Located in a very diverse neighborhood on the South side of Minneapolis, ASI teaches visitors about the past, and how early Swedish immigrants lived in Minnesota, while serving as a modern gathering place for all in our increasingly diversified community. Today, ASI focuses on the future and provides much inspiration to recent immigrants to our community.

Mr. Karstadt and his staff draw visitors to the historic Turnblad Mansion and motivate them to think about connecting the past with the bright future of Minnesota. I congratulate Mr. Karstadt on his twenty-five years of service to the American Swedish Institute, to Minnesota, our increasingly diversifying community and our visitors from Sweden and the Nordic region.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 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 \$18,660,490,153,278.25. We've added \$8,033,613,104,365.17 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MARK TAKAI**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, November 17, I was absent from the House due to illness. Due to my absence, I am not recorded on any legislative measures for the

day. I would like the record to reflect how I would have voted had I been present for legislative business.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 629, ordering the previous question on providing for consideration of H.R. 1737, the Reforming CFPB Indirect Auto Financing Guidance Act; providing for consideration of H.R. 511, the Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act of 2015.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 630, providing for consideration of H.R. 1737, the Reforming CFPB Indirect Auto Financing Guidance Act; providing for consideration of H.R. 511, the Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act of 2015.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 631, the Fairness to Veterans for Infrastructure Investment Act of 2015.

I would have voted "yes" on Roll Call 632, to provide funds to the Army Corps of Engineers to hire veterans and members of the Armed Forces.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 633, the Tribal Labor Sovereignty Act of 2015.

CONGRATULATING RUDY FARBER

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rudy Farber, Chairman of the Board of Community Bank and Trust in Neosho, on being awarded with the Neosho Exchange Club's Book of Golden Deeds for his contributions and service to the Neosho community.

In 1957, at the age of 16, Rudy Farber began working in the bookkeeping department at the Bank of Neosho. He took over as president of the bank in 1979 and in 1997 he was appointed chairman of the board. He introduced an employee stock ownership plan in 1987 and unveiled a plan to make the bank entirely employee owned in 2012. Throughout his time at Community Bank and Trust, Rudy has worked diligently to forge the bank into a safe, stable, and valuable cornerstone of the local community.

Rudy Farber has also accumulated a long list of achievements as a community leader. He has served as Chairman of the Neosho Area Chamber of Commerce Industrial Development Committee and Chairman of the Freeman Southwest Family YMCA Finance Committee. He has served as board member on Missouri Highways and Transportation Commission, multiple City of Neosho and Newton County Committees and is the former president of the Neosho Rotary Club, the Neosho Area Chamber of Commerce, the Neosho Land Development and the Neosho Area Business and Industrial Foundation.

Mr. Speaker, Rudy Farber deserves this body's utmost respect for his lifelong dedication to improving the Neosho Community, and I extend to him my deepest appreciation for his impressive leadership. His efforts have not only contributed greatly to Southwest Missouri, but have made me ever-prouder to serve the people of Missouri's seventh Congressional District.

HONORING BROWNSTOWN  
ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY

**HON. TODD C. YOUNG**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, many Hoosier small businesses across my district power the economic engine of the state, while also playing a critical role in the civic life of their communities. Today it is my honor to highlight one such small business. Brownstown Electric Supply Company, based in Brownstown, Indiana, is a privately-owned electrical supply company that has provided utility companies with technical expertise and electrical supplies for over four decades.

Carl Shake founded Brownstown Electric Supply Company in 1970 after a long career in the electrical supply and utility service industry. Brownstown Electric has grown from a small business in Jackson County, Indiana to a regional company that has expanded its reach as far as Illinois, Kentucky, and Ohio. Brownstown Electric is now run by Carl's son-in-law, Gregg Deck, who stewards the company with the same principles that has made Brownstown Electric a staple of Southern Indiana.

In addition to their economic contribution to the area, Brownstown Electric is an active member of their local community. They regularly sponsor local high school sports teams, participate in the Brownstown High School school-to-work program, and contribute to the Jackson County History Center of Indiana. This heart for service is exemplified in their organization of the Zach Pickard Pelican Run, a 5K run event dedicated to raising awareness for Hutchinson-Gilford progeria syndrome. Employees of Brownstown Electric organized the fundraiser in honor of the son of an employee who lives with the genetic condition.

Brownstown Electric Supply Company is emblematic of the Hoosier ethic. They are a family-owned and operated small business that not only delivers quality products and service, but also maintains a strong commitment to improving their community.

It is an honor to represent businesses like the Brownstown Electric Supply Company. I hope their example serves to inspire other would-be entrepreneurs, and I am pleased to highlight their good work today in this installment of Indiana's 9th District Small Business Spotlight.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, due to a flight delay on July 27, 2015, I was unable to attend House Roll Call Vote numbers 467, 468 and 469. If present, I would have voted yes on S. 1482, H.R. 1656, and H.R. 2770.

TRIBUTE TO KATHY AZEVEDO

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the career of Kathy Azevedo; a dedicated public servicewoman, community pillar, and local advocate. On Wednesday, November 18, 2015 Azevedo will celebrate her retirement from the Norco City Council after 12 years of service.

For over 45 years, Kathy has been a resident and supporter of the Norco community. Before beginning her public service work, Kathy opened her own Jazzercise studio. Azevedo has been a member of the Norco City Council since 2003. In addition to the Norco City Council, she also served as Mayor in 2005, 2009, and 2013. She has also served with the Norco Chamber of Commerce, as a member of the executive committee of the Western Riverside Council of Governments, and as a board member of the YMCA of Corona-Norco.

Preservation of Norco's rural and natural environment issues have been at the center of Azevedo's time in office. Her service work has helped lead to the establishment of the Horsetown, USA brand for Norco, establishing the largest city-wide residential zoning codes in the state of California, and the creation of Silverlakes Park, a 144-acre equestrian and recreational land space for the enjoyment of future generations.

In addition to her passion for preservation, Councilwoman Azevedo has also been a large champion of women's health and fitness issues. As a cancer survivor, Azevedo brings complexity and depth to these issues through her unique perspective.

Kathy serves as a member of the National Grant Review Board for the American Cancer Society. In addition to the American Cancer Society, Azevedo also was an original member of United Norconians for Life Over Alcohol and Drugs (Unload) and the founder of the nonprofit group Support Sisterz. Support Sisterz is a group of cancer survivors who help to provide assistance and support to individuals battling the disease.

Outside of her public service, Azevedo is an avid horseback rider and dedicated family woman. She married her high school sweetheart, Danny, and together they have two children and three grandchildren. Her family is her passion and she can often be found on the sidelines of her grandchildren's sporting events. I am proud to call Kathy a fellow community member, American and friend. I add my voice to the many who will be congratulating her on the celebration of her career of serving the city of Norco.

IN RECOGNITION OF STRUGGLE  
FOR FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY  
DAY

**HON. ROD BLUM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. BLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of Struggle for Freedom and Democracy Day.

Today is a day celebrated by our Czech and Slovak friends to commemorate the difficult road to independence and democracy.

On this day, seventy-six years ago, soldiers from Nazi Germany mercilessly murdered nine Czech students and professors celebrating the independence of the Czechoslovak Republic.

Fifty years later, on November 17, 1989, a peaceful student demonstration honoring those that lost their lives to the Nazis was terminated by riot police, igniting the Velvet Revolution which ended the Communist control in Czechoslovakia and subsequently, the eventual establishment of independent, democratic Slovak and Czech Republics.

Today, we honor and remember those who sacrificed to fight tirelessly against oppressive regimes. The journey to establishing republican governments is perilous and we, as a people, must continue to support democratic institutions in Central Europe and around the world. As a co-chair of the Slovak Caucus and a member of the Czech Caucus, I am proud to support continued political, economic, and cultural ties between the United States, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, due to a flight delay on May 18, 2015, I was unable to attend House Roll Call Vote number 240. If present, I would have voted yes on H.R. 91.

RECOGNIZING RON BROWN UPON  
HIS RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR OF SAVE MOUNT DIA-  
BLO

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Ron Brown of Walnut Creek, California upon his retirement after his fifteen years of service to Save Mount Diablo and over forty years as an advocate in the nonprofit sector. Through his service with Save Mount Diablo, Ron has made significant contributions that have improved both the day-to-day operations of the organization and the conservation field at large.

Mount Diablo is the most significant natural landscape in our region, and serves as the landmark that unites much of the 11th Congressional District. Save Mount Diablo has worked since 1971 to preserve the land on and around Mount Diablo to promote healthy ecosystems and continued access for people and wildlife.

Under Ron's leadership, Save Mount Diablo has raised over \$25 million to preserve thousands of acres of land, preserved several dozen properties, including the group's largest and most expensive acquisition—the 1,080 acre Curry Canyon Ranch—and has indirectly helped to protect thousands of additional acres throughout the area.

Ron was instrumental in attaining voter-approved "Urban Limit Lines" of every city in

Contra Costa County, helping to maintain the most important wildlife habitat areas in the East Bay. Thanks to Ron's leadership, Save Mount Diablo has grown its programs and capacity, increasing from a modest staff of three to eighteen staff members. Save Mount Diablo has become a leader on issues of land-use advocacy, land purchase for inclusion in parks, and relationship building with local governments and developers.

I applaud Ron's efforts to restore the historic "Eye of Diablo" beacon on Mount Diablo's summit, which commemorates the attack on Pearl Harbor. I am honored to have worked with Ron on many of these endeavors, including his efforts to improve various state park roads prior to the Tour de California bicycle race.

I am grateful for Ron's many accomplishments and for the many partnerships he built during his time with Save Mount Diablo. I wish Ron all of the best in his retirement, where I'm told he hopes to spend his time with his grandchildren, enjoying the land he has worked so hard to protect.

Congratulations, Ron, on a remarkable career that has preserved the ecosystems and the icon of the East Bay.

DEFERRED ACTION FOR PARENTS OF AMERICANS AND LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENTS AND CHILDHOOD ARRIVALS (DAPA/DACA)

**HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice support for President Obama's Executive Actions on immigration. These initiatives—namely, the Deferred Action for Parents of Americans and Lawful Permanent Residents (DAPA) and an expansion of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)—could provide as many as 5 million immigrants with temporary relief from deportation.

President Obama has courageously led in the face of a Republican Congress that is derelict in its duty. A legislative solution is the only long term fix to our broken immigration system. Yet, despite the support of the American people, a bipartisan majority in Congress, business groups and the faith community—the Republican leadership has fallen prey to xenophobia and the politics of fear.

Now it appears the Fifth Circuit—in denying the Federal Government's appeal of the preliminary injunction that blocked implementation of President Obama's initiative—is playing politics instead of performing its constitutionally mandated role of interpreting the law.

The Constitution is clear on the powers of the Executive Branch. Prosecutorial Discretion is a well-established principle.

I applaud the Administration's decision to appeal this decision and vigorously defend its executive action on immigration before the Supreme Court. My hope is that the Court takes this important case, and I expect that it would rule in favor of justice and the President's action.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GLENN THOMPSON**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 631 I was absent during passage of H.R. 1694 the afternoon of November 17, 2015 because I was meeting with constituents from Pennsylvania's Fifth Congressional District. Had I been present, I would have voted yes.

RECOGNIZING JOSEPH H. BOER

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joseph H. Boer, owner of Lake Ozark Missouri's Blue Heron Restaurant, for his service to our nation and entrepreneurial spirit, which has broadened the economic foundations of his community.

Born in Holland, Boer attended culinary school and apprenticed in distinguished restaurants including the Hof Ragaz Spa Hotel in Switzerland before becoming a sous chef at the Belgian Embassy in Den Haag, Netherlands. He was later drafted for service in the Dutch Armed Services where he became skilled in cooking for entire battalions of anti-aircraft personnel.

After surviving World War II and qualifying to be included with a special quota for displaced persons, he immigrated to the United States of America in 1956. Upon his arrival, he worked in Littleton, Colorado but soon moved to Kansas City, MO. There, he went on to work at the Terrace Grill at the Muelbuch Hotel and the Colony Steak House before earning his U.S. citizenship in 1961.

After gaining citizenship, Boer served two years in the U.S. Army. He spent time in Fort Leonard Wood, Fort Smith, Fort Devens, Puerto Rico, and West Point. Because of his knowledge of the German language, he was selected to be a part of the NATO exercise "Crescendo" in Germany, which demanded his unique skills as a linguist.

Through these experiences he gained the skill and confidence he needed to open his first restaurant, the Top Deck at Mai Tai, near the Lake of the Ozarks. He went on to work at Lefty's Little Chef Steak House and the Potted Steer Restaurant at Westgate Lanes in Jefferson City before buying the Potted Steer Restaurant at Lake of the Ozarks and purchasing what would become the Blue Heron Restaurant in 1984. Sitting atop the highest point above Lake of the Ozarks, the Blue Heron Restaurant has become known for providing fine quality cuisine as well as an elegant, romantic atmosphere since opening July 4th, 1984.

Mr. Speaker, Joseph H. Boer deserves this body's utmost respect for his incredible life story and dedicated entrepreneurial spirit. I extend to him my deepest appreciation for his impressive efforts, which have contributed greatly to the Lake of the Ozarks community.

SUMMARY OF PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU REMARKS IN MEETING WITH CHINESE LEADER XI JINPING

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my sincere appreciation for the Republic of China (Taiwan) President Ma Ying-jeou's leadership in pursuing long-term peace and stability across the Taiwan Strait. President Ma met with Chinese leader Xi Jinping in Singapore on November 7. This meeting was historic and paved the foundation for future prosperity and peace in the East Asia region. On the same day, our State Department expressed the view that the United States welcomes the meeting between leaders on both sides of the Taiwan Strait and noted the historic improvement in cross-strait relations in recent years.

I particularly took notice of President Ma's remarks on the importance of consolidation of the "1992 Consensus" and the maintenance of peace across the Taiwan Strait.

Below is the summary of President Ma's remarks in meeting with mainland Chinese leader Xi Jinping, which explains clearly the origin and the meaning of the Consensus and shows how it is consistent with the Constitution of the Republic of China. For the full text, please visit the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of China: <http://www.mofa.gov.tw>.

Summary of President Ma's remarks:

Sustainable peace and prosperity is the common goal in the development of cross-strait relations, and the "1992 Consensus" is the fundamental basis for achieving this goal. On Aug. 1, 1992, our National Unification Council passed a resolution on the meaning of "one China," which said that both sides of the Taiwan Strait insist on the "one China" principle, but they differ as to what that means. The consensus reached between the two sides in November 1992 is that both sides of the Taiwan Strait insist on the "one China" principle, and each side can express its interpretation verbally; this is the 1992 Consensus of "one China, respective interpretations." For our part, we stated that the interpretation does not involve "two Chinas," "one China and one Taiwan," or "Taiwan independence," as the Republic of China Constitution does not allow it. This position is very clear, and is accepted by the majority of the people of Taiwan . . . The two sides have together created a model for the peaceful resolution of disputes that should be further consolidated until it becomes the normal state of affairs.

Another goal is the reduction of hostility and the peaceful handling of disputes. Taiwan's people, especially civic leaders, have a negative impression of situations such as our tourists being refused admission to the United Nations Headquarters because of their passport, frustrations our experts have had in participating in NGO meetings, and interventions we have faced when engaging in bilateral or multilateral cooperation on trade. The two sides ought to begin by reducing hostility and confrontation on these fronts. Those participating in these activities are mostly intellectuals or members of our middle class, and this affects our work pertaining to cross-strait ties, and

also the impression our citizens have of the mainland.

We hope for expansion of cross-strait exchanges and mutual benefits. The two sides should move quickly to deal with issues that are currently still under negotiation, including the trade-in-goods agreement, reciprocal establishment of representative offices, and flight transfers in Taiwan for mainland Chinese travelers. We are currently applying to join the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), and hope to join the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) in the future. Because these two mechanisms would account for approximately 70 percent of our external trade, we cannot afford not to participate in them. We believe there should be no issue as to which side joins first and which side later.

We proposed establishment of a cross-strait hotline to handle important or urgent matters. There is no contact mechanism between the heads of MAC and TAO. We should take this opportunity to establish one. Of course, further adjustments could be made to raise the level of contact should the need arise in the future. It will be beneficial for both sides to be able to promptly handle important unexpected or crucial matters.

Joint cooperation leads to cross-strait prosperity. I want to reiterate that the people of both sides are Chinese, descendants of the emperors Yan and Huang, sharing a common lineage, history, and culture. The two sides should cooperate to promote cross-strait prosperity. History has bequeathed the two sides a convoluted relationship, and cross-strait exchanges have led to new problems. These issues cannot be resolved overnight. In exchanges and consultations, the two sides need to face the issues squarely, move forward step by step, and build mutual trust.

The peace and prosperity achieved over the last seven years is proof that the two sides have beaten their swords into plowshares, becoming models for stability in the East Asia region as a whole. The two sides need to be confident of this. We hope the mainland Chinese side fully understands this, and realizes that cross-strait relations should be built on the foundation of dignity, respect, sincerity, and good will, for only this will lead to deeper mutual trust, and enable us to go the distance.

Mr. Speaker, there is much to be done to ensure peace and freedom of navigation in the South China Sea and in the Taiwan Strait. But, this historic meeting will go a long way towards a peaceful future for East Asia and for the world.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, due to a flight delay on March 23, 2015, I was unable to attend House Roll Call Vote numbers 130 and 141. If present, I would have voted yes on H.R. 360 and H. Res. 162.

IN RECOGNITION OF ROC ARNETT,  
PRESIDENT OF EAST VALLEY  
PARTNERSHIP

### HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Roc Arnett, (Roc) President of the East Valley Partnership, a coalition of business and community leaders dedicated to the sustainable development of the East Valley of the Greater Phoenix Area—one of the fastest growing areas in our great nation. For the past 11 years, Roc has been the anchor and backbone of this important organization and at the end of 2015, Roc retires from his official role as President and CEO of the East Valley Partnership.

Roc is a visionary leader, whose belief in the potential of the East Valley has helped shape the vibrant business and residential communities that now flourish in the area. Roc is a native Arizonan who has lived and worked in the East Valley for his entire life. His love for the area and belief in the unique character of each community within the East Valley has been the motivation behind his work. Mesa, Chandler, Gilbert, Tempe, Ahwatukee, Apache Junction, Queen Creek, San Tan Valley, Guadalupe and Scottsdale are all part of the East Valley; each has its own distinct character and all have benefited from the ingenuity and vision of the East Valley Partnership, under the leadership of Roc Arnett.

It has been my honor to work with Roc for several years. His generosity, his infectious enthusiasm, tenacity and genuine belief in the good in people inspire everyone he touches. He is a master of negotiation and has built enduring business and community partnerships throughout the years. Members, please join me in thanking Roc Arnett for his many years of service to the diverse communities of the East Valley, as President and CEO of the East Valley Partnership. His many contributions have helped to create the East Valley of today and have laid the groundwork for the East Valley of tomorrow.

RECOGNIZING MRS. MEGAN CLUBB,  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF  
BAKER BOYER NATIONAL BANK  
ON HER RETIREMENT

### HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mrs. Megan Clubb, the Chief Executive Officer of Baker Boyer National Bank for her years of service to Eastern Washington. As a banking executive, Mrs. Clubb faithfully served Walla Walla, Washington and the entire Inland Northwest for twenty-five years as part of the team at Baker Boyer. Mrs. Clubb is retiring at the end of December and I am pleased to recognize and celebrate her accomplishments and contributions to our great community in Eastern Washington.

As the state's oldest community bank, Baker Boyer has been a distinguished institution in

Eastern Washington for more than one hundred and forty-six years. During her notable career, Mrs. Clubb served for fourteen years as President and thirteen years as Chief Executive Officer at Baker Boyer National Bank. Under her leadership, Baker Boyer has ranked in the top two hundred community banks for financial performance each of the last six years, including being ranked at number fourteen this year. Additionally, she led the bank through an innovative new branding transformation and guided Baker Boyer to be honored for 11 straight years as one of the best companies to work for by Seattle Business magazine.

Named one of the 10 Women of Influence by Seattle Magazine, outside of Baker Boyer National Bank, Mrs. Clubb is a recognized leader across the state and spends countless hours mentoring fellow women in the banking industry. She currently serves as a trustee at Whitman College, and is completing a three-year term as an elected member of the Board of Directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. Mrs. Clubb has also served on the Portland branch of the Federal Reserve Bank. Pioneers in the Washington state wine industry, she and her husband, Marty Clubb, are co-owners of L'Ecole No. 41 Winery, and continue to build upon their family's legacy. Even after her retirement, she will continue to devote herself to these important endeavors.

Mrs. Clubb is a passionate advocate for small businesses and a champion for all of Eastern Washington. Following her retirement, Mrs. Clubb will continue to serve as chairman of the Baker Boyer Bancorp Board of Directors. A devoted member of our community, Mrs. Clubb truly redefined what a community bank can accomplish, and profoundly demonstrated the impact one person can have on the lives and legacies of customers and families in those communities.

I would like to thank Mrs. Megan Clubb for her years of dedication and service to Walla Walla and to all of Eastern Washington. I applaud her commitment to our citizens and to the banking community, and wish her the best of luck in the next chapter of her life.

IN HONOR OF THE 5TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF JILL'S HOUSE

### HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2015

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 5th Anniversary of a truly great institution in Virginia's 10th Congressional District, Jill's House.

Jill's House is a home away from home for children with a variety of disabilities. It gives the hard-working and caring parents of children with disabilities an overnight respite in order to provide parents the time to focus on their marriage and family, rest, and get ahead on work and refresh their lives. Their children spend the night at Jill's House, where they have highly trained staff to provide care.

Lon and Brenda Solomon were two caring parents who had three children and were living a normal life. Brenda then became pregnant with their fourth child, Jill, the daughter they had always wanted. When Jill was just three months old, she began to have seizures. As the seizures grew more and more frequent

and severe, Lon and Brenda were becoming overwhelmed. At their wit's end, they received what appeared to be a sign from God, a call from a woman named Mary. This woman, whom the Solomon's had never met, organized caregivers for Jill in order to allow Lon and Brenda time to rest and renew themselves. They were able to catch up on sleep, spend quality time with their other children, and improve the quality of care Jill received. From this respite grew the idea for Jill's House, a special residential facility where parents of children with special needs can bring their children to stay in a safe and secure environment with professional care.

Jill's House currently serves over 500 families raising children with disabilities. Their facility offers a range of activities for the children including having an on-site moon bounce, a handicapped accessible playground, and a handicapped accessible pool. I have been privileged to work with Jill's House since they opened in 2010 and they have enriched our community and given peace of mind to many parents. This year marks the 5th year Jill's House has been open to help those who need it and I hope there will be many more anniversaries celebrating this blessed place.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, due to a flight delay on January 12, 2015, I was unable to attend House Roll Call Vote numbers 17, 18 and 19. If present, I would have voted yes on H.R. 203, H.R. 33 and the Journal.

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#### 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BRIA FUND FOR FELINE INFECTIOUS PERITONITIS

### HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, today is the 10th anniversary of the Bria Fund for Feline Infectious Peritonitis. The Bria Fund is a worthy organization created on November 18, 2005, by two of my constituents, Susan Gingrich and James Shurskis, who worked together with the Winn Feline Foundation.

Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) is a disease that is considered to be the predominant cause of death for young cats under the age of two, but it can affect cats of any age, including senior cats. FIP remains a terminal disease, with no effective vaccine to prevent it, or treatment to cure it.

Despite these ongoing obstacles, the work of the Bria Fund has resulted in new interest and research into the little known disease of FIP. Since 2005, the Fund has supported 16 FIP research projects, leading to important knowledge in multiple aspects of FIP. The information gained about the FIP virus has led to improvements in testing, diagnosis, and treatment, and better understanding of caring for cats with FIP.

This is an exciting time for FIP research. Despite the lack of a definitive cure, better

testing and treatment methods are helping some cats live well despite having FIP. There are also more opportunities for veterinary professionals to learn about FIP in their continuing education programs.

Ms. Gingrich and Mr. Shurskis were inspired by personal experiences to establish the Bria Fund. In early 2005, they lost their nine month old Blue Lynx Point Birman kitten Bria to suspected FIP. They had never heard of FIP before Bria developed it. They soon learned that little was known about this disease, that there were no clinical trials involving FIP, and no treatment for it, except for steroid prescriptions to somewhat ease the pain and suffering of cats with the disease.

After Bria's passing, they were determined to do everything they could to spare future cat owners from the experiences they and Bria had to endure. The Gingrich family is well known for its love of animals. Ms. Gingrich's sisters, Candace Gingrich and Roberta Gingrich Brown, worked hard with their sister to establish the Bria Fund. Her brother, former Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, encouraged the organization he created, the Center for Health Transformation, to provide a generous contribution to the Fund.

The Gingrich's could not have picked a more worthy ally in the Winn Feline Foundation. The WFF was established by the Cat Fancier's Association, Inc., to support health-related research benefiting cats. To date, Winn has funded over \$5 million in health research for cats at more than 30 partner institutions worldwide. Since the WFF was established in 1968 feline medicine has become a major veterinary specialty. Cats are no longer viewed as small dogs. Today, cat owners expect and receive state-of-the-art medical care.

As the Bria Fund celebrates its 10th anniversary, I encourage my colleagues to pause for a moment in honor of National Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) Awareness, Research, and Education Day and think of all the pets and pet owners in this Nation, especially cats such as Bria.

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#### THE UNAFFORDABILITY OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

### HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the millions of Americans—including many in my home state of Louisiana—who are being forced to bear the cost of president Obama's flawed healthcare law.

The negative impacts of the so-called affordable care act have been felt by people of all walks of life. In many cases, the law has disproportionately hurt the very people it claimed it would help—hardworking, middle-class families.

Five years of Obamacare implementation has produced higher premiums, higher deductibles, higher co-payments and reduced access to care for those who need it most.

In fact, a study published just last week revealed that increases in 2016 premiums for health insurance coverage will once again be in the double digits, exceeding last year's double digit hikes. At least one state could see as much as a 130 percent rate hike next year.

Across the board, the projected hikes for the lowest-priced options in each tier of coverage—bronze, silver, gold and platinum—will surpass the increases we saw last year.

The median cost of the bronze plans, one of the most popular offerings because of its relatively low premiums, will rise by 13% in 2016. As for the high-end insurance coverage options, gold's median premium will jump 15% and platinum's rate will rise by 12%.

Mr. Speaker, these cost increases are simply unworkable for the majority of Americans. I'd like to share the situation of a constituent of mine who recently reached out to me, begging Congress to take action to fix this broken law.

Unable to afford the \$1200/month it would cost him to get the family plan through his employer, he turned to the exchange in search of a high deductible plan to provide health insurance for his wife and girls.

He recently received a renewal notice in the mail informing him that his monthly bill will increase 21% in 2016. 21 percent. Despite the fact that he provides 95% of his household's income as his wife finishes school, he is above the income threshold to receive any subsidy to offset the cost.

The first \$11,000 of his pre-tax income will go toward government mandated health insurance in 2016—coverage that will still require him to pay a copay and coinsurance on a very high deductible to use it. His alternative is to pay the 2.5% fine and to have no coverage in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Speaker, I am now going to ask you what this man asked me: what's his incentive to work harder? What's his reward for working since age 15, for spending 6 years pursuing an advanced degree in college?

All he can show for it is an irresponsible and unaccountable government that takes a larger portion of his income every year to pay for government programs that punish those who work hard and reward those who don't.

It's time for the president to acknowledge that his signature legislation is fundamentally flawed. It's time we turn the page on Obamacare and provide better solutions. Americans deserve a healthcare system that drives efficiency through competition and places healthcare decisions in the hands of consumers and taxpayers—not the federal government.

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#### TRIBUTE TO MS. JEANETTE LAMAR

### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have never known a more gracious, generous, efficient, engaged, well-liked, admired, respected and beloved person than Ms. Jeanette Lamar.

She and her family became known to me when I was a young block club organizer and they lived in the community of North Lawndale in Chicago, a neighborhood undergoing change. Their home was always immaculate, a place for block club meetings, for neighborhood discussions and a place where you just simply enjoyed being.

She and her husband Rev. William Lamar raised their children to be productive, successful and outstanding citizens who have contributed significantly to society.

Family, church, community engagements are the hallmarks of Ms. Lamar's long and well-lived life.

I count myself blessed and fortunate to have known one of the most delightful ladies known to humankind, Ms. Jeanette Lamar.

IN RECOGNITION OF MILITARY  
FAMILY MONTH

**HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 18, 2015*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of November as Military Family Month.

Established in 1993 to honor the sacrifices made every day by the families of the men and women serving in our Armed Forces, the President of the United States signs a proclamation every year to mark this month long recognition.

Since the birth of our nation, members of the Armed Forces have answered the call of duty, unselfishly leaving everything they know and their loved ones at home to protect our freedom. This is a sacrifice and responsibility shared among an entire family. It is the dedication and bravery of our military families that we salute this month.

It is said that the strength of a nation is only as strong as the bonds of family. This could not be truer than of our military families. Time and time again, they demonstrate their commitment, spending much of their lives relocating every few years—spouses must put their careers on hold during deployments and children have to make new friends at every new school. Our military families not only

spend extended periods of time away from their loved ones deployed, they are also there for our returning heroes—supporting their recovery and transition back to civilian life.

Every day I am inspired by the resilience and patriotism of our military families both at home and abroad. I am proud of the programs in my district that help our heroes on the home front—including, but not limited to, Falmouth Military Support Group, Pembroke Military Support Group, Military Friends Foundation and Otis Civilian Advisory Council. Their dedication to providing family services, counseling, educational assistance, and financial support is a testament to our strength when we come together as a community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in highlighting this important issue. We have an obligation to care for our servicemembers and their families. Together we can make a difference.

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 Thursday, November 19, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

DECEMBER 1

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Well Control Rule and other regulations related to offshore oil and gas production.

SD-366

DECEMBER 2

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense personnel reform and strengthening the all-volunteer force.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine agriculture's role in combating global hunger.

SR-328A

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Tribal Law and Order Act (TLOA), focusing on whether the justice systems in Indian country have improved.

SD-628

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