

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JUSTICE MARSHA
SLOUGH

HON. PETE AGUILAR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. AGUILAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Justice Marsha Slough, who earlier this week was sworn in to serve on the Fourth District Court of Appeal. Prior to this landmark achievement, Justice Slough served as Presiding Judge and Court of Appeal Justice Appointee of the San Bernardino County Superior Court. I speak with the utmost confidence that Justice Slough will continue to serve the people of the Inland Empire proudly in her unwavering commitment to carrying out justice in our community.

A graduate of Ottawa University and Whittier Law School, and a seasoned attorney in the Inland Empire, Justice Slough has devoted her life and career to our community and residents for decades. Justice Slough is a resident of Redlands and has honorably served the people of San Bernardino County on the County Superior Court since 2003 when she was appointed by Governor Gray Davis before becoming Presiding Judge of the San Bernardino County Superior Court in 2012.

As a fellow public servant and as her representative in Congress, I commend Justice Slough on her latest achievement and am grateful to see someone of her integrity and leadership attain such a prestigious position in our community.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR MICHAEL F.
COPELAND OF THE FRANKLIN
COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR
49 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Major Michael F. Copeland. He is retiring from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office after 49 years of dedicated service.

Major Copeland began his service in the Franklin County Sheriff's Office during his high school years. He graduated from Union High School in 1969 and continued dispatching through his college years. Major Copeland graduated from Meramec Community College with an Associate of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice in 1971. Major Copeland was the first civilian dispatcher in Franklin County. In 1997, he was a National Academy graduate from the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The leadership and commitment Major Copeland has shown throughout the years is evident by the positions he has held. From 1971 to present, he has served as Deputy

Sheriff (Detective Sgt.—1975, Captain—1981, and Major/Chief Deputy—1989). In 1975, Major Copeland, was the first K-9 handler, his partner was "Smokey", for the Franklin County Sheriff's Office.

Major Copeland is a member of the St. Louis Major Case Investigations Squad and was the Lead Investigator starting in 1975 to 1983. He also served as a Death Investigator with the St. Louis County Medical Examiner's Office from 1993 to 2015. Major Copeland led the Missouri Deputy Sheriff's Association as its President starting in 2000 until 2002. Starting in 1975, he was the Coordinator for the Franklin County Law Enforcement Training Center and completed that position in 1983. During the years 1988 thru 1999, Major Copeland was the leader of the Franklin County "Emergency Response Team". In addition to the numerous positions he has held—since 1971, Major Copeland has worked on every major case and homicide case in Franklin County.

With this retirement, Major Michael F. Copeland can now spend more time with his family which includes: his wife Laura, son Jon, and his daughter Tamara.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Major Michael F. Copeland on his retirement of 49 years of service to his community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF HEATING, REFRIGERATING, AND AIR-CONDITIONING AND NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Anthracite Chapter of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) as they celebrate National Engineers Week. ASHRAE was originally formed in 1894 as the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers. With more than 50,000 members spanning the globe, ASHRAE aims to advance the arts and sciences of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and refrigeration to serve humanity and promote a sustainable world.

Established in 1951, National Engineers Week is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by promoting careers in engineering and technology. National Engineers Week represents a formal coalition of more than 70 engineering, education, and cultural societies, with over 50 corporations and government agencies dedicated to raising public awareness on the effect engineering plays in our daily life. National Engineers Week honors the parents, teachers, and mentors who instill the importance of a math, science, and technological literacy in students and motivate them to pursue careers in engineering.

Modern engineering has solved many of the major challenges we face in the modern world. From designing efficient building systems to rebuilding towns devastated by natural disasters, the efforts of our engineers contribute to our nation's well-being and quality of life. It is a great privilege to recognize these honorable men and women, who are committed to using their scientific skills and specialized knowledge to create and innovate in order to fulfill society's growing needs.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

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 \$19,053,381,143,534.21. We've added \$8,426,504,094,621.13 to our debt in 7 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING SHERIFF GARY F.
TOELKE OF THE FRANKLIN
COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR
41 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Sheriff Gary F. Toelke. He is retiring from the Franklin County Sheriff's Office after 41 years of dedicated service. In addition to his 41 years of service in law enforcement, Sheriff Toelke is also the longest serving sheriff in Franklin County history. He has served seven terms spanning 28 years. In 1969, Sheriff Toelke graduated from Union High School. A few years later, in 1991, he graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy.

Sheriff Toelke has worked in numerous leadership positions. He is the Past President of the Missouri Sheriff's Association and received the Sheriff of the Year award from the Missouri Deputy Sheriff's Association. Currently, he is a board member with the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis. During the years of 1970-1976, he served in the Missouri National Guard with the Military Police. In March 1975 until March 1977, Sheriff Toelke was the Deputy Sheriff in the Franklin County Sheriff's Office. Then starting in 1988 to present, Sheriff Toelke has been the Sheriff of Franklin County, Missouri.

● 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.

Most notably, during his time serving the people of Franklin County, Sheriff Toelke led the case when Abigale Woods “Baby Abby” was abducted. This case had national attention and ultimately ended with a successful recovery of Abigale Woods. Sheriff Toelke also successfully led the recovery of Ben Owenby “Missouri Miracle” which then led to the recovery of Shawn Hornbeck. These cases were emotional situations and Sheriff Toelke handled the situations with compassion and expertise which the families of the children will be forever grateful.

With this retirement, Sheriff Toelke can now spend more time with his family which includes: his wife Sandy, daughters Carrie and Holly.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Sheriff Toelke on his retirement after 41 years of commitment to his community.

IN MEMORIAM OF GEORGE RAY
WEST

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of my constituent Ray West, who passed away last week at the age of 89.

Ray was a U.S. Navy veteran who served during World War II.

He went on to have a successful career in the film industry, earning an Academy Award and GRAMMY for his work as a sound engineer.

Ray and his wife Jean were married in 1950.

The two honeymooned in Yosemite National Park, and celebrated each anniversary by returning there.

When Ray became ill, the Dream Foundation—a wish granting organization for terminally ill adults based in Santa Barbara, California—stepped in to ensure that Ray and Jean would be able to visit Yosemite for their 65th wedding anniversary.

I had the privilege of meeting Ray and his son David when they traveled to Washington, DC last September for the launch of the Dream Foundation’s “Dreams for Veterans” program.

I was honored to be able to recognize him for his outstanding military service and his extraordinary life.

My thoughts are with Ray’s family—I pray they find comfort as they celebrate the life of this remarkable man.

IN RECOGNITION OF DREXEL HILL
MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Drexel Hill Middle School on the awards earned by its seventh and eighth grade engineering team in the 2016 Future Cities regional contest this week.

The Future City competition engages students and teaches math, science and engi-

neering concepts by challenging them with issues engineers and city planners face every day: urban management, planning and environmental sustainability issues to name just a few. The theme for this year’s contest was “Waste Not, Want Not” and forced students to tackle complex waste management issues.

Drexel Hill Middle School’s team was selected by its peers for the People’s Choice Award, which is given to the best model city. It was also recognized with the Best Residential Zone award for the placement of residences in a way that would improve the quality of life for families.

Mr. Speaker, education in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields are crucial if our students are to be able to compete in the modern global economy. The Future City competition is an innovative way for students to learn these skills and their real world applications. I congratulate Drexel Hill Middle School’s students for their awards.

HONORING THE 2016 ACADEMY
NOMINEES OF THE 11TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT NEW JER-
SEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, every year, more high school seniors from the 11th Congressional District trade in varsity jackets for navy pea coats, Air Force flight suits, and Army brass buckles than most other districts in the country. But this is nothing new—our area has repeatedly sent an above average portion of its sons and daughters to the nation’s military academies for decades.

This fact should not come as a surprise. The educational excellence of area schools is well known and has long been a magnet for families looking for the best environment in which to raise their children. Our graduates are skilled not only in mathematics, science, and social studies, but also have solid backgrounds in sports, debate teams, and other extracurricular activities. This diverse upbringing makes military academy recruiters sit up and take note—indeed, many recruiters know our towns and schools by name.

Since the 1830s, Members of Congress have enjoyed meeting, talking with, and nominating superb young people to our military academies. But how did this process evolve? In 1843, when West Point was the sole academy, Congress ratified the nominating process and became directly involved in the makeup of our military’s leadership. This was not an act of an imperial Congress bent on controlling every aspect of Government. Rather, the procedure still used today was, and is, a further check and balance in our democracy. It was originally designed to weaken and divide political coloration in the officer corps, provide geographical balance to our armed services, and to make the officer corps more resilient to unfettered nepotism and handicapped European armies.

In 1854, Representative Gerritt Smith of New York added a new component to the academy nomination process—the academy review board. This was the first time a Member of Congress appointed prominent citizens

from his district to screen applicants and assist with the serious duty of nominating candidates for academy admission. Today, I am honored to continue this wise tradition in my service to the 11th Congressional District.

My Academy Review Board is composed of seven local citizens who have shown exemplary service to New Jersey, to their communities, and to the continued excellence of education in our area—many are veterans. Though from diverse backgrounds and professions, they all share a common dedication that the best qualified and motivated graduates attend our academies. And, as true for most volunteer panels, their service goes largely unnoticed.

I would like to take a moment to recognize these men and women and thank them publicly for participating in this important panel. Being on the board requires hard work and an objective mind. Members have the responsibility of interviewing upwards of 50 outstanding high school seniors every year in the academy review process.

The nomination process follows a general timetable. High school seniors mail personal information directly to the Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy once they become interested in attending. Information includes academic achievement, college entry test scores, and other activities. At this time, they also inform my office of their desire to be nominated.

The academies then assess the applicants, rank them based on the data supplied, and return the files to my office with their notations. In late November, our Academy Review Board interviews all of the applicants over the course of 2 days. They assess a student’s qualifications and analyze character, desire to serve, and other talents that may be hidden on paper.

This year the board interviewed over 40 applicants. The Board’s recommendations were then forwarded to the academies, where recruiters reviewed files and notified applicants and my office of their final decision on admission.

As these highly motivated and talented young men and women go through the academy nominating process, never let us forget the sacrifice they are preparing to make: to defend our country and protect our citizens. This holds especially true at a time when our nation is fighting the war against terrorism. Whether it is in the Middle East, Africa or other troubled spots around the world, no doubt we are constantly reminded that wars are fought by the young. And, while our military missions are both important and dangerous, it is reassuring to know that we continue to put America’s best and brightest in command.

ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 2016 11TH DISTRICT
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

AIR FORCE ACADEMY

John Dennehy, Rockaway, Morris Hills HS; Jason Kaynak, Pompton Plains, Pequannock HS; Pranay Malla, Chatham, Chatham HS; Michael Matarazzo, Cedar Grove, Cedar Grove HS; Garrett O’Shea, Butler, Morris Knolls HS; Jacob Scheidman, Wayne, Wayne Valley HS; Joshua Vinoya, West Orange, West Orange HS.

MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

Bryan Deterle, Nutley, Nutley HS; Ryan Griffin, Kinnelon, Kinnelon HS; Tanner

Grevesan, Boonton, Montville HS; Isaiah Rodriguez, Fairfield, West Essex HS; Megan Rudio, Byram, Lenape Valley HS; Christopher Schlegel, Mendham, West Morris Mendham HS.

NAVAL ACADEMY

Michael Corbett, Florham Park, Hanover Park HS; Matthew Critchley, Morristown, Morristown HS; Sofia Farrell, Nutley, Nutley HS; Matthew Gallo, Whippany, Whippany Park HS; Kristine Gurcan, Whippany, Whippany Park HS; Marisa Lakin, Verona, Verona HS; Adam Magistro, Morristown, Newark Academy; Courtney McKenna, Sparta, Sparta HS; Robert White, Pompton Plains, Pequannock HS; Alexander Wang, Parsippany, Parsippany HS.

MILITARY ACADEMY

Taylor Carmichael, Pompton Plains, Pequannock HS; William Gault, Verona, Verona HS; Mitchell Haddad, Fairfield, Eastern Christian School; Christopher Morgan, West Orange, West Orange HS; Christopher Papa, Chatham, Chatham HS; Ivan Peters, Boonton, Mountain Lakes HS, US Army; John Rogacki, North Caldwell, Seton Hall Prep; Justice Rooney, West Orange, West Orange HS; Sean Schoch, Sparta, Sparta HS; Alexander Zevits, Montville, Montville HS.

NAVAL ACADEMY PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Dean C. Caravela, West Caldwell; James Caldwell High School

TRIBUTE TO MR. SIMON PHILLIP
"PHIL" LEVETAN

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the leadership and service of Mr. Simon Phillip "Phil" Levetan; and

Whereas, Mr. Simon Phillip "Phil" Levetan served our nation with honor and valor in the United States Army Air Corps Division during World War II. He was responsible for maintaining the electrical and mechanical systems of B29 airplanes, which served as powerful tools for the Allies, aiding in the destruction of the Axis powers; and

Whereas, Mr. Levetan served and led our district in DeKalb County, as a steadfast pillar of our community, a business owner and operator of his family's scrap metal business, Dixie Iron and Metal Company. He was a community leader and First Gentleman of DeKalb County as he served the citizens by partnering with his wife former C.E.O. of DeKalb County and State Senator Liane Levetan. He was the wind beneath her wings for sixty one (61) years in marriage; and

Whereas, Mr. Levetan was a lifetime member of Ahavath Achim Synagogue and a member of Congregation Beth Jacob. He also planned weekly Lunch and Learn sessions for Chabad with Rabbi Yossi New for more than two decades. In addition, he was a member of the Jewish War Veterans and a member of the Elks 78 organizations; and

Whereas, he never asked for fame or fortune, nor found a job too small or too big; he gave of himself, his time, his talent and his life to uplift those in need by demonstrating unwavering commitment to protecting and serving the citizens of the United States of America; and

Whereas, he was a husband, a father, a brother and a friend; he was also a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting and service of my district; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Mr. Simon Phillip "Phil" Levetan as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby attest to the 114th Congress that Mr. Simon Phillip "Phil" Levetan is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor" by declaring Mr. Simon Phillip "Phil" Levetan U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 4th day of January, 2016.

IN RECOGNITION OF HOMES FOR
HEROES

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Homes for Heroes, the Mission First Housing Group's Fund for Veterans' fundraising event for housing for homeless veterans.

Homelessness among veterans is a tragic problem nationwide, and many veterans struggle with addiction and other issues that make keeping their own homes difficult. The federal government estimates that nearly 50,000 veterans are homeless on any given night, and another 1.4 million are at risk of homelessness. Seventy percent of homeless veterans face substance abuse issues.

And it's a problem that seems to be getting worse: Pennsylvania's homeless population increased by 46 percent from 2009 to 2013.

The service of our veterans should never be forgotten, and organizations like Mission First do much to ensure that those individuals and their families who have sacrificed so much for our country have a safe place to call home.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Mission First on its work to honor our nation's veterans. Working with groups like Mission First, we can help get veterans off the streets and into safe homes. We owe it to the many veterans who served and sacrificed.

HONORING BUFFALO MANUFACTURING WORKS FOR RECEIVING THE INNOVATION AWARD FROM THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Buffalo Manufacturing Works as the Amherst Chamber of Commerce presents the organization with the Innovation Award. Their cooperative and supportive mission plays an important role in bolstering Western New York's manufacturing community.

Buffalo Manufacturing Works is a collaborative organization that exists to serve the needs of the Buffalo Niagara manufacturing community. Previously known as the Buffalo

Niagara Institute for Advanced Manufacturing Competitiveness, it was established with \$45 million from the Buffalo Billion Investment Plan.

Working with their operational partner EWI, Buffalo Manufacturing Works has met with over 150 local manufacturers and business officials to gather input and develop a shared vision. A critical piece of their model is the Buffalo Manufacturing Works Founders Council, a dedicated group of local manufacturing companies that represent the industry and focus on fostering long-term sustainability.

Buffalo Manufacturing Works enables local manufacturers and businesses to grow and develop through a strong network of support from industry, research, and academic partners. Their partners include the University at Buffalo for fundamental research, Insyte Consulting for process excellence, EWI applied research and development, and the World Trade Center Buffalo Niagara for market expansion.

In addition, Buffalo Manufacturing Works provides insight into workforce development practices to companies. To help companies manufacture products in the most efficient way possible, the organization also develops its own new technologies.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to recognize Buffalo Manufacturing Works as they receive the Innovation Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. I wish the organization continued success and commend their commitment to building a strong present and future for Western New York's economy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 84, I was absent on account of attending a funeral.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yes.

HONORING THE NICHOLAS COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL CHEERLEADERS

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a very special group of young people. The Nicholas County High School Cheerleaders, coached by Jessica Letcher Hamilton, recently won the Universal Cheerleaders Association's National High School Cheerleading Competition.

This event is very competitive and involves young women from across the nation. Like any successful endeavor, the victory was won by dedication, hours of practice, determination, and teamwork. The young women worked very hard for this accomplishment and they learned lessons that will benefit them as they become adults.

Nicholas County High School is a small but proud high school in Carlisle, Kentucky. The community was very supportive of this group

of young women. The girls represented themselves and their county very well at the national competition in Orlando, Florida. I congratulate the students and their coaches on the national championship and I am proud to honor them before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING BRIAN HAYDEN UPON
THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT
FROM THE CITY OF BUFFALO

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Brian Hayden as he retires from the City of Buffalo. Brian's career with the City spanned over forty years.

Brian was born on February 8th, 1954 at Our Lady of Victory Hospital in Lackawanna, New York to his beloved parents John & Dorothy (Norton) Hayden. He has two siblings, Dennis and Susan.

Growing up, Brian graduated from Holy Family Grammar School in 1968, one of several Catholic schools in the close-knit community of South Buffalo. He went on to attend Father Baker High School, becoming Senior Class President for the class of 1972. Brian attended Brockport College.

Brian first worked as a pool attendant at the Boone Street Playground during the summer of 1973, transitioning into a rink guard at Cazenovia Ice Rink. The next year, he started as a Laborer with the Carpenters for the Buffalo Board of Education. In 1979 he became co-owner of the Ounce and a Half, a favorite neighborhood gathering spot on Abbott Road in South Buffalo.

In 1983 Brian became a Building Inspector for the City of Buffalo. As an inspector, he ensured structures were safe and compliant with local, state, and federal regulations. Working his way up through the ranks, in 1990 he moved to the role of Director of Building Safety & Health for the Buffalo Board of Education. In 1993 he began his service as the Director of Building Inspections for one year, continuing to serve as a Building Inspector afterwards.

A family man, Brian is married to Jean Ann Kalec, with whom he has 2 sons, Matthew and John. He is also known for his community involvement, and volunteers for many races, organizations, and groups. He is a founding member of the Connors, Kait, Harrity Memorial Race, which went on for twenty-five years. Brian won the prestigious Irishman of the Year award in 1995 and the St. Thomas Aquinas Parishioner of the Year in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor Brian Hayden upon the occasion of his well-deserved retirement. His service to the City of Buffalo and our community are worthy of recognition. I wish him all the best in his future endeavors and a fulfilling, relaxing retirement.

U.S. LNG EXPORTS TO THE BLACK
SEA

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of U.S. Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) exports.

U.S. LNG is of vital importance to our friends around the world, specifically those in the Black Sea.

Currently, our European allies are stuck in a struggle for energy independence from Russia.

More critically, the burgeoning democracies in Ukraine, Bulgaria and Romania are largely dependent on Gazprom for their crucial gas supplies, and we are all well aware Russia is seeking to influence its neighbors' political process by threatening their gas supply.

American LNG could give Ukraine and the other Black Sea nations a real alternative.

In fact, there are Texas companies already engaged in negotiations with the Ukrainian state gas companies to build Ukraine's Black Sea LNG receiving terminal and supply U.S. LNG to Ukraine.

There exists a concern that an impediment to Ukraine receiving U.S. LNG is the uncertainty surrounding the passage of LNG tankers through the Bosphorus Straits.

Under the 1936 Montreux Convention, which controls how the Bosphorus Straits are to be used in peacetime, the LNG tanker issue should already be resolved.

Article 1 provides that "The High Contracting Parties recognize and affirm the principle of freedom of transit and navigation by sea in the Straits."

Article 2 states that "In time of peace, merchant vessels shall enjoy complete freedom of transit and navigation in the Straits, by day and by night, under any flag with any kind of cargo."

Even with the clear language of the Treaty, debate continues as to governmental authorities over the waters of the Bosphorus.

It is time to bring clarity to this important issue and open the Black Sea to U.S. LNG exports.

U.S. LNG exports will play an important role in the future of our allies.

It is my hope we can develop a reasonable, consensus approach to allow LNG to pass through the Bosphorus Straits.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT
OFFICERS FELLED BY GUN
VIOLENCE

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a deep sadness and a heavy heart that I rise today to pay tribute to the individuals in law enforcement who have fallen in the line of duty while serving and protecting their communities.

It is important to acknowledge that no one is immune from gun violence, including our law enforcement officers stepping in the line of danger to protect us.

While overall rates of officers killed by gun violence have declined over the years, we continue to see and hear about horrific cases of officers falling victim to gun violence.

Since 2005, shooting-related deaths account for approximately 37 percent of officer fatalities in the line of duty.

In the past five years, 259 police officers have died by gunfire across the nation.

Thirteen of those deaths were accidental.

Sadly, Texas had the highest number of fatalities, losing 12 officers in 2015.

This year, we have already lost nine officers to senseless gun violence across the nation in Utah, Oregon, Colorado, North Dakota, Ohio, Georgia, Mississippi and two in Maryland.

Five of these shootings occurred in just three days in February.

The recent incident that occurred on February 10, 2016, in Harford County, Maryland, accounting for two of five officers killed in less than a week is particularly alarming and egregious.

Senior Deputy Patrick Dailey and Senior Deputy Mark Logsdon of the Harford County Sheriff Department were killed upon approaching a troubled and wanted man in a local restaurant.

They were the first Harford County Sheriff's deputies to be shot and killed in the line of duty since 1899.

The suspect, who legally purchased the weapon used in shooting these officers, had a history of domestic violence including stalking and a suspected shooting of his estranged wife, substance abuse, and a criminal record including assault on an officer.

Awarded Medals of Honor, Deputy Dailey and Deputy Logsdon paid the ultimate sacrifice for responding to a call of need, and encountering an individual who should have never been in legal possession of a firearm.

Mr. Speaker, this tragic event highlights the desperate need for mental health and common sense gun reform in this country.

We do not need any more first tragedies for communities and law enforcement agencies, and we do not need to repeat history as this year sets a shocking pace for increased officer killings by gunfire.

There is no place in a civilized society for such senseless and preventable acts of violence in this country.

As Members of Congress we have a solemn obligation to pass legislation that improves the safety and respect between every law enforcement officer and the communities they serve to protect.

I ask the House to observe a moment of silence in memory of the fallen police officers in this nation.

HONORING MATTHEW PELKEY FOR
RECEIVING THE EMERGING
BUSINESS LEADER AWARD FROM
THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Matthew Pelkey as he is presented with the Emerging Business Leader Award by the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. Matthew,

through his extensive and distinguished work, has proven to be a leader in his community.

Matthew is an attorney and recent partner with Colligan Law LLP. Matthew's practice relates to counseling startups, entrepreneurs and businesses. His practice includes land use, commercial real estate and regulatory compliance for businesses and political groups.

An active member of the Western New York startup community, Matthew was co-founder and co-director of the Buffalo Chapter of Start-up Grind. In that role, he also co-founded the monthly #LaunchHour entrepreneur Twitter chat in partnership with Launch NY. He serves as a member of FIKA Buffalo and the 43 North WeMakeBuffalo Team.

Additionally, Matthew sits on the advisory board of the ECIDA Venture Capital Fund, a board responsible for making recommendations to the ECIDA Board of Directors on how to form and operate a ten year, multi-million dollar early stage venture fund focusing on local emerging companies with high growth potential. An entrepreneur himself, Matthew is a co-founder and Chief Financial Officer of Black Squirrel Distillery, a New York State craft distillery. In that role he also co-founded the WNY Craft Beverage Alliance, Inc.

Outside of the startup community, Matthew is a strong advocate for sustainable development and has served as a member of the Smart Growth Work Group of the WNY Regional Economic Development Council and the One Region Forward Land Use & Development Working Team.

As the former Chair of The Emerging Business Leaders, Matthew served on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Amherst Chamber of Commerce, as well as the Chamber's Public Policy Committee. He volunteers for B-Team Buffalo and the Parkside Community Association. Matthew also serves as a member of the Professional Panel for the Cancer Legal Resource Center, and as an advisory board member for WomenElect.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor Matthew Pelkey as he receives the Emerging Business Leader Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. His personal contribution of time and effort towards the progress and enhancement of our community is admirable, and I wish him much continued success in all his future endeavors.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF PAUL
TRANBARGER

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a heroic individual, Mr. Paul Tranbarger, of Flemingsburg, Kentucky.

Mr. Tranbarger served in World War II as part of what we consider the Greatest Generation in our nation's history. Please join me today in honoring a man who has displayed selflessness, courage, commitment, and dedication to our beautiful country.

Paul Tranbarger was born in Bristol, Virginia in 1926. He left home at the early age of 17 when he enlisted in the United States Navy.

As a Seaman First Class aboard the aircraft carrier USS *Shamrock Bay*, he participated in the Philippines Campaign: Phase 2, the Battle of Iwo Jima, and the Okinawa Campaign. He was part of a crew that earned the USS *Shamrock* three battle stars. As if the military battles were not enough, he and his crew endured a typhoon while onboard the ship.

After his military service, Paul returned home in 1946 to Virginia where he began working for Crosley Refrigeration. It was there he met and married his first and only love, Sadie. The two moved to Kentucky in 1952. Determined to live the American dream, Mr. Tranbarger fell in love with farming and owned and operated his own service station.

Paul and his late wife Sadie have three children. He is an elder at the Mt. Pisgah Christian Church and is still very active in his community. He attributes his faith in God and love of family as the reason for his existence at age 90.

Words can never express our gratitude or convey the honor so richly deserved. His service and sacrifice will be remembered and honored for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. JENNIE McIVOR
RICHARDSON CAMPBELL

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, the lives of many in my district have been touched by the life of one—Mrs. Jennie McIvor Richardson Campbell; and

Whereas, she was born January 15, 1926 in Mount Vernon, New York, and today she celebrates a milestone in her life, her 90th Birthday; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents for the betterment of our community and our nation through her tireless works, words of encouragement and inspiration; and

Whereas, Mrs. Campbell is a warrior for those in need, a woman of compassion, a fearless leader, a mother, a grandmother, an aunt, a servant to all and truly a friend; her dedicated service is present throughout my district, she is an unwavering caregiver; and

Whereas, she is a blessing to us all. She gives advice on life, sewing and culture. She is a member of her beloved Greenforest Community Baptist Church in Decatur, Georgia; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mrs. Jennie McIvor Richardson Campbell on the anniversary of her birth and for her outstanding leadership and service to our District; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim January 15, 2016 as Mrs. Jennie McIvor Richardson Campbell Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 15th day of January, 2016.

HONORING BENJAMIN T. JEALOUS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mr. Benjamin T. Jealous as he is the keynote speaker for the Canisius College Academic Talent Search Black History Month event. Mr. Jealous and his years of experience in civil and human rights will bring invaluable insight to the students of Canisius College and to the Buffalo community, and we are honored to have him with us today.

The Academic Talent Search (ATS) Program at Canisius College identifies and provides services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, helping students progress through the academic pipeline from middle school through post-baccalaureate programs. The program serves approximately 600 youths recruited from area schools and community service organizations, giving educational, social, and career support as well as co-curricular and cultural enhancement.

Mr. Jealous has previously served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of the NAACP. He recently began working in the Silicon Valley venture capital firm Kapor Capital, where he plans to continue his goal of growing opportunities for minorities in the tech economy. A Rhodes Scholar, Mr. Jealous was named by both Forbes and TIME magazine to their "Top 40 under 40" lists, as well as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum.

The youngest president in the NAACP's history, Mr. Jealous began his career at 18 opening mail at the NAACP Legal Defense Fund. Under his leadership, the NAACP grew to be the largest civil rights organization online and on mobile, and became the largest community-based nonpartisan voter registration operation in the country. In addition, the NAACP experienced their first multi-year membership growth in over 2 decades. A builder of robust coalitions, Mr. Jealous's leadership included bringing environmentalist organizations into the fight to protect voting rights, and convincing several well-known conservatives to join the NAACP in challenging mass incarceration.

Prior to leading the NAACP, Mr. Jealous spent 15 years as a journalist and community organizer. Throughout his entire career, he has been the leader of successful state and local movements to ban racial profiling, defend voting rights, secure marriage equality, and free multiple wrongfully incarcerated people. Mr. Jealous has built a legacy on fighting for justice, and has made a career out of helping the disadvantaged and less fortunate.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor Mr. Benjamin T. Jealous for all of the work that he has done. The ATS Program and Canisius College is honored to have such a distinguished and honorable speaker for their event. His personal contribution of time and effort towards the progress of justice in our nation is admirable, and I am grateful for his unwavering commitment to such noble causes. I wish him much continued success in all his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 83, I was absent on account of attending a funeral.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yes.

HONORING THE ESTILL COUNTY
HIGH SCHOOL BAND**HON. ANDY BARR**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a very special group of young people. Members of the Estill County High School Marching Engineers won the Class AA Kentucky Music Educators Association state competition. The band is directed by Jason Bowles.

This event is very competitive and involves young men and women from across Kentucky. Like any successful endeavor, the victory was won by dedication, hours of practice, determination, and teamwork. The young people worked very hard for this accomplishment and they learned many lessons that will benefit them as they become adults.

Estill County High School is a small but proud high school in Irvine, Kentucky. The community was very supportive of this group of students. The young people represented themselves and their county very well at the state competition. I congratulate the students and their director on the Class AA KMEA state championship and I am proud to honor them before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING NEW ERA CAP CO, INC.
FOR RECEIVING THE COMMIT-
MENT TO EXCELLENCE AWARD
FROM THE AMHERST CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor New Era Cap Co, Inc. for receiving the Commitment to Excellence Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. For nearly a century, New Era has helped people express their unique passion, pride, and style.

Now a brand recognized around the world, New Era came from humble beginnings. In 1920, Ehrhardt Koch founded the company out of the back room of a rented company on Genesee Street in Buffalo, New York. The company is family-owned to this day.

Each generation of the Koch family has embraced and grown New Era's legacy. The company started with a focus on making a high-quality men's fashion headwear, entering the market with a cap known as the "Gatsby." After a few years, Ehrhardt Koch and his son

Harold developed their next business venture, the baseball cap. Under Harold's leadership, New Era built relationships with baseball teams from Little League to college and professional leagues.

Harold Koch's son David continued to develop the baseball cap, growing New Era from a company supplying a few teams with caps to providing almost every Major League Baseball (MLB) and their Minor League affiliates with its 59FIFTY fitted cap. It was David's dedication to building relationships with partners like MLB that helped create the reputation New Era has today.

Chris Koch, David's son and the fourth generation Koch to lead the company, picked up where his father left off. With his knowledge of New Era's uniqueness, he secured a partnership with the National Football League in 2010. With the addition of apparel and accessories to its portfolio and having New Era products sold in over 70 countries has transformed New Era from a manufacturing company to a global lifestyle brand.

A search for a new headquarters in 2005 led the company to the ex-Federal Reserve Bank building in downtown Buffalo. Today, the company has 1100 employees and 17 offices, producing 50 million caps per year to be sold in 81 countries.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating New Era on their accomplishment of Commitment to Excellence award and their continuous dedication and contributions to the community at large.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF DR. BERNADITA "BENIT"
CAMACHO-DUNGCA**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Bernadita "Benit" Camacho-Dungca. Benit was a daughter of Guam, passionate advocate of the Chamorro language and culture, and a dedicated life-long educator. She passed away on February 15, 2016 at the age of 74.

Benit was born and raised in Dededo, Guam and was the eldest daughter of ten children of Ignacio Rivera Camacho and Maria Pocaigue Rosario. She was married to the late Vicente Taitingfong Dungca and together they had one son, John. Benit graduated from George Washington High School and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Linguistics and Anthropology from the University of Hawaii at Manoa. She went on to receive her Master of Arts degree in Education in Reading from the University of Guam, and her Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Oregon.

Benit began working at the University of Guam in 1973 after creating the books, "Chamorro Reference Grammar" and the "Chamorro-English Dictionary." Both books are crucial resources for teaching and revitalizing the Chamorro language. She was also an associate professor at the University of Guam's School of Education. She taught Chamorro and trained bilingual, bicultural teachers from the Guam Department of Education, the Commonwealth of the Northern

Mariana Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia. Benit initiated the Bilingual Bicultural Teacher Education Program and brought distance education to the University of Guam. She was the recipient of the University of Guam Faculty Award for Excellence in Service. Benit also served as a government representative for various international conferences on language. Most notably, Benit was the author of the Inifresi, or Guam Pledge, which is recited in many schools, public events, and meetings.

In addition to work at the University of Guam, Benit was also very active in the community. She hosted a television program on KGTF Public Television called Fino' Chamorro. Benit also served as a Girl Scout leader, Tamuning Youth Program summer camp director, was a member of the Tamuning Community Council, and was involved in her parish as a Confraternity of Christian Doctrine teacher and a member of various church ministries.

I am deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. Bernadita "Benit" Camacho-Dungca, and I join the people of Guam in celebrating her life, and recognizing and remembering her dedicated service to Guam. I thank her for sharing her knowledge and tirelessly passing down all she could for our future generations. I extend my condolences to her son, John and his family. My thoughts and prayers are with her family, loved ones and friends. She will be missed, and her memory and legacy will live on in the hearts of the people of Guam.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 83, I missed the vote as I was unavoidably detained due to traffic getting on to the Capitol Grounds.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yes.

HONORING WEST HERR AUTO-
MOTIVE GROUP FOR RECEIVING
THE RETAIL AWARD FROM THE
AMHERST CHAMBER OF COM-
MERCE**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor West Herr Automotive Group for receiving the Retail Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. West Herr's history of and dedication to good corporate citizenship as well as their continued success is worthy of recognition and praise.

West Herr Automotive Group, established in 1950, is the largest automotive group in New York State and the 24th largest in the nation. West Herr is a long-time contributor and supporter of many worthwhile organizations in Western New York, demonstrating their generosity and commitment to giving back to the community that supports them.

With 21 locations in Erie, Niagara, and Monroe Counties, West Herr has 23 franchises and over 1,900 employees. In 2015, the company sold more than 46,000 new and used vehicles. West Herr prides itself on dealing honestly and fairly with customers and employees, a philosophy shared throughout all levels of the organization. West Herr builds their reputation on excellence, customer satisfaction and an understanding of their roots. All owners live in Western New York and actively manage the 21 locations on a daily basis.

Their customer and employee satisfaction efforts have earned them countless awards. West Herr has received Business First of Buffalo "Best Place to Work in WNY" Award for eleven consecutive years and the Better Business Bureau's "Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics" six times. In 2012, the group was recognized nationally as one of the "Best Dealerships to Work For" through Automotive News. Additionally, the Buffalo News recognized West Herr as a Top Workplace in its inaugural year for the program.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating West Herr on receiving the Retail Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. Their contributions to Western New York and commitment to quality service is commendable and I wish them continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF DANA NESSEL

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dana Nessel, whose commitment to justice and equality has impacted the people of Michigan and citizens across the United States.

Dana is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Wayne State University Law School and spent more than a decade working as an assistant prosecuting attorney for Wayne County, serving much of her tenure in special assignment units. She specialized in domestic homicides, child physical and sexual abuse cases, and investigations into police shootings and in-custody deaths of civilians. She is currently managing partner at Nessel and Kessel in Detroit, where she specializes in criminal defense and family law.

In 2012, Dana championed the cause of marriage equality by initiating the case which challenged Michigan's ban on same-sex second party adoption, the case which would ultimately bring this important issue before the Supreme Court. The landmark decision of this case granted the dignity so many sought for so long: the right to commit to the person they love. Today, Dana continues to defend the rights of the LGBT community by pushing for protections against discrimination in state law across the country.

Dana is this year's recipient of the Honorable Kaye Tertzag Purple Sport Coat Award. Given to those, who, like Judge Tertzag, show devotion and service to our Michigan community, Dana exemplifies his well-known motto: "Be Prompt. Be Prepared. Be Polite."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Dana Nessel for her service to Michigan and our nation and wish her many years of success.

HONORING LESLIE ZEMSKY FOR RECEIVING THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE WOMAN OF DISTINCTION AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Mrs. Leslie Zemsky as she receives the Amherst Chamber of Commerce's Woman of Distinction Award. An artist, community leader, and Director of Fun for Larkin Square, Leslie has played an instrumental role in revitalizing the Larkin District and the City of Buffalo.

As Larkin Square's Director of Fun, Leslie partners with her husband Howard Zemsky and Joe Petrella to lead the Larkin Development Group. The group has renovated a number of former warehouse buildings which were once part of the Larkin Soap Company.

Since 2002, the Larkin Development Group's renovations include more than 800,000 square feet of office space, more than a half mile of streetscape improvements and a public gathering space for events called Larkin Square. Thanks to their creative vision, the Larkin District, now known fondly as Larkinville, has returned to its roots as a vibrant, mixed-use neighborhood, home to offices, residences, restaurants, parks and public gathering spaces like Larkin Square.

Under Leslie's leadership Larkinville has become a destination. Nearly every day of the week, thousands gather in Larkin Square for events such as Food Truck Tuesdays, Live at Larkin Wednesdays and the Larkin Square Author Talks. The neighborhood continues to evolve and grow with the opening of Flying Bison Brewery and Hydraulic Hearth Restaurant & Brewery, run by Leslie's son Harry.

The rebirth of Larkinville has played a leading role in the rebirth of Buffalo. Larkinville has gained national attention, from the Congress for New Urbanism to earning praise from journalist Katie Couric during her recent visit to Buffalo.

My Buffalo District office is located in the Larkin at Exchange Building, and we've witnessed an incredible transformation due in no small part to Leslie. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating her for receiving the Woman of Distinction Award, expressing our deepest gratitude for her vision and efforts, and wishing her all the best in her future endeavors.

CALLING UPON THE SENATE TO FULFILL CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY TO VOTE ON JUSTICE SCALIA'S SUCCESSOR

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, ten days ago, on February 13, 2016, the nation was saddened to learn of the death of Justice Antonin Scalia, the senior Associate Justice of the Supreme Court.

Justice Scalia, who loved the Court, served it ably for nearly 30 years and was involved in some of the most consequential cases in history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge those who revered Justice Scalia, cherish his memory, and wish to do honor to the work of his life, to join me in calling upon the Senate, and every senator, to discharge their constitutional duty to advise and consent (or not consent) to the nomination that will be put forward by the President by holding an up or down vote.

Mr. Speaker, those who claim there is an 80 year precedent against confirming a Supreme Court nominee during an election year and that there is not sufficient time to fill the vacancy are incorrect.

The most recent instance where there was a vacancy on the Supreme Court in an election year occurred not 80 but 28 years ago, in 1988, during the administration of President Reagan.

That vacancy was filled on February 3, 1988 by the appointment of Justice Anthony Kennedy who was confirmed 97-0 by a Democrat-controlled Senate.

The Kennedy nomination is the controlling precedent, as Justice Scalia would recognize.

In fact, Justice Scalia would say to anyone claiming otherwise, "Leges posteriores priores contrarias abrogant," which is Latin for the canon of judicial interpretation that "the last expression of the people prevails."

There are 332 days left in President Obama's term, which is more than sufficient time for the President to nominate, and for the Senate to consider and vote to confirm or reject his nominee.

Since 1900, there have been 60 Supreme Court vacancies.

The average time taken to fill these 60 vacancies is 73 days, which is less than 25% of the time remaining in the President's term.

The average time to fill each of the 13 vacancies since 1975 is a mere 67 days.

And of the current members of the Supreme Court, the average time is 74 days, the longest being the 99 days taken to confirm the controversial nomination of Justice Clarence Thomas in October 1991.

Mr. Speaker, as is often noted, elections have consequences.

They also impose responsibilities and duties.

And one of the most important duties imposed by the Constitution on the President is to nominate persons to fill vacancies on the Supreme Court and for the Senate to consider those nominations with dispatch.

The Supreme Court is the nation's highest court and its essential and indispensable role in our constitutional system is to provide definitive interpretations of American law and the Constitution.

Its decisions are the law of the land binding in every state and territory.

It is the only judicial tribunal capable of providing the legal clarity and certainty required for the legal system to function and give meaning to the rule of law.

President Obama has announced that he intends to fulfill the responsibility devolved upon him by the Constitution and will submit to the Senate a nominee to fill the large shoes left by the late Justice Antonin Scalia.

The Senate should fulfill its constitutional duty to advise and consent, or withhold its consent, by casting an up or down vote on that nomination.

That is the way to pay fitting tribute to Justice Scalia, to honor the Constitution, and to keep faith with the American people.

HONORING PEGULA SPORTS AND ENTERTAINMENT FOR RECEIVING THE BUSINESS OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Pegula Sports and Entertainment for receiving the Business of the Year Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce. Created in 2014, Pegula Sports and Entertainment is a management company streamlining the Pegula family's business endeavors across sports and entertainment, including the Buffalo Bills, Buffalo Sabres, Buffalo Bandits, Rochester Americans, HARBORCENTER, and Black River Entertainment.

On February 22, 2011, a new era in Buffalo sports history began when Terry and Kim Pegula purchased the Buffalo Sabres and Buffalo Bandits. That summer, the Pegulas acquired the Rochester Americans, and resuming the team's long time relationship with the Sabres as their American Hockey League affiliate.

In 2012, the Pegulas purchased the 1.7 acre Webster Block across from First Niagara Center, which became the HARBORCENTER complex. HARBORCENTER features two NHL-size rinks, the Academy of Hockey, (716) Food and Sport, IMPACT Sports Performance, a destination Tim Hortons Cafe & Bake Shop, 750-space parking ramp, and full-service Marriott Hotel.

The Pegulas' dedication extends beyond reinvigorating the Sabres and their arena. On Friday, October 10, 2014, Terry and Kim became owners of the Buffalo Bills, after the passing of Ralph Wilson, Jr. The Pegulas are only the second owners of the beloved 55-year old National Football League organization.

To show their commitment to our region, on Sunday, October 12th, 2014, coinciding with the Pegula's first game as owners of the Bills, Pegula Sports and Entertainment officially launched the "One Buffalo" campaign. The "One Buffalo" campaign provides an association and link between the Bills, Sabres, the Pegulas, and the City of Buffalo. The campaign is a celebration of the future of sport in Western New York and the family who has invested so much into the city, and seeks to bring the community together as a representation of teamwork and a deeper connection between Buffalo sports teams and their fans.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Terry and Kim Pegula as they receive the Business of the Year Award. I am deeply grateful for their incredible investment and belief in Western New York, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors, and many championships for the Bills and Sabres under their leadership.

TRIBUTE TO MR. LEWIS "LEW" BELCHER

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the leadership and service of Mr. Lewis "Lew" Belcher, Jr.; and

Whereas, Mr. Lewis "Lew" Belcher served our nation with honor and valor in the United States Air Force. He demonstrated unquestionable leadership and courage as an Airman devoted in protecting our nation; and

Whereas, Mr. Belcher served and led our district in Rockdale County as a steadfast pillar of our community by being ever so watchful of issues that would hinder constituents. He was a community advocate on the front line of fighting for equality and justice. He was the voice for the voiceless and the pulse of the grassroots machine in Rockdale County; and

Whereas, Mr. Belcher advised many elected and appointed officials on issues concerning the public, he also promoted supporting local small businesses; and

Whereas, he never asked for fame or fortune, nor found a job too small or too big; he gave of himself, his time, his talent and his life to uplift those in need by demonstrating unwavering commitment to protecting and serving the citizens of Rockdale County; and

Whereas, he was a husband, a father, a grandfather, a great grandfather and a friend; he was also a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting and service of my district; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Mr. Lewis "Lew" Belcher, Jr., as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby attest to the 114th Congress that Mr. Lewis "Lew" Belcher, Jr., is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor" by declaring Mr. Lewis "Lew" Belcher, Jr. U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 18th day of January, 2016.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF PEDRO PALOMO ADA, JR.

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Pedro Palomo Ada, Jr. Pedro was a son of Guam, icon in our business community, and philanthropist. He was born on July 7, 1930 and passed away on February 12, 2016 at the age of 85. Pedro was the Chairman of Ada's Trust & Investment, Inc., a real estate and investment holdings company.

Pedro followed in the footsteps of his parents Maria Palomo Ada and Pedro Martinez Ada who were also successful business people and generous philanthropists in the local community. Pedro began his business career at a young age while attending school at Saint

Thomas Military Academy in Saint Paul, Minnesota. He would find shoes and other items at great bargains and send them home to Guam to be sold at his parents' retail business. He graduated from St. Thomas College in Saint Paul, Minnesota in 1953 with a degree in Business Administration.

After finishing college, Pedro served as one of the first Chamorro commissioned officers in the United States Air Force. He later returned to Guam to help with the family business. He was able to improve and expand Ada's Market into a household name and then into a real estate holding company, and soon became a real estate visionary who was responsible for many changes and improvements in Guam's capitol city of Hagåtña. Pedro created opportunities in the private sector and expanded the potential for residential and commercial real estate developments during times of emerging economic markets in the island. Pedro was inducted into the Guam Chamber of Commerce's Guam Business Hall of Fame in 2003.

Pedro led a long life with both business and community involvement. He served as a member and board chairman of the University of Guam Board of Regents in the 1970s and 1980s. He was also instrumental in establishing the University of Guam's Reserve Officer's Training Corps (ROTC). Pedro was an active member of the Air Force's Civilian Advisory Council, and supported groups such as the Guam Boy Scouts and KGTF Public Television. Additionally, he served on numerous boards including the Guam Blue Ribbon Education Committee, the Guam Memorial Hospital, the Guam Retirement Fund and the Guam Visitors Bureau.

Pedro dedicated his life to improving our island and community. He was an active member and supporter of the Saint Anthony-Saint Victor Parish of Tamuning, Guam and a dedicated family man. I am deeply saddened by the passing of Pedro and I join the people of Guam in celebrating his life and remembering his contributions to our island community. My thoughts and prayers are with his family, loved ones and friends. I extend my condolences to his wife of 57 years, Fe; his children Maria A. Bonnie, Pedro "Sonny" and Jennifer Ada, Dr. Frances A. and Jaime Purviance, Patricia P. Ada, Therese and David John, and Carla P. Ada; and his eleven grandchildren. He will be missed, and his memory will live on in the hearts of the people of Guam.

HONORING AMHERST YOUTH HOCKEY FOR RECEIVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD FROM THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Amherst Youth Hockey for receiving the Community Service Award from Amherst Chamber of Commerce.

The Amherst Youth Hockey Association was established in 1964, when the Audubon rink was first built. The cost to participate when established was \$5.00 to register and 25 cents every time one went on the ice.

Those who worked to first develop the program were William E. Russell, Barney March,

Bob Westphal, Bud Aschbacher, Frank Sykes, Gary Mitchell, Don Satchell, Harvey Rogers, H. Jarvis (Jerry) Turner, Bob Sacha, Jim Wurzer, Danny Guynn, Skip Harrington, John Brownschidle, Thomas Burke, Charles Kramer, Richard Johnston, Drury Williford, Ray Cotter, H. Hamilton, W. Leahy, Leo Lynett, Phil Boudreau, Frank Mathewson, R. Weisenborn, Robert Carver and many more.

During its second year of existence, the organization had the opportunity to host the New York State Peewee Championship during March of 1965. Familiar players in that tournament include Kevin McGuire, Chuck Sykes, Terry Brownschidle, Terry Sykes, Bill Bush, Mark Aschbacher, Pete Hunt, Sean Mccrossan, Ed McGuire, Keith Metzger, Brian Cavanaugh, Gary Hill, Ray Weil, Bill Graf, Mike Hanretty, David Smith, Mike Caruana and Jay Hill.

Presently, the Amherst Youth Hockey now operates out of the Northtown Recreation Center. It is a youth hockey organization for boys and girls ages 4 through 18, offering house programs, travel programs, and a spring session.

The Amherst Youth Hockey Association is committed to giving back to the community and providing a tremendous experience for all members. Dedicated to enriching the community's youth through sport, the association provides children with the opportunity to learn the fundamentals of hockey, find enjoyment in the sport, and become young athletes.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Amherst Youth Hockey on receiving the Community Service Award and recognizing their continuous dedication and contributions to Western New York.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND
MICHELLE THOMAS AND HER
WORK ON THE LOUDOUN FREE-
DOM CENTER

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, today, February 24, 2016, a very special ceremony took place at which the brave Foot Soldiers who participated in the civil rights marches from Selma to Montgomery half a century ago were honored with the Congressional Gold Medal. Among the witnesses to this ceremony were a group of my constituents from the Lansdowne community of Loudoun County who are taking affirmative steps to build a new church and multi-purpose community center on 4.4 acres of land that includes an unmarked cemetery in which more than 40 slaves who lived and worked on the former Belmont Plantation are buried.

To honor those slaves, Reverend Michelle Thomas, senior pastor at Holy and Whole Life Changing Ministries International, has joined with other Loudoun County residents to form The Loudoun Freedom Center, a non-profit that will use science and technology to explore the cultural history of Loudoun, including African-American slaves who helped build plantations in the area.

Among the projects planned for The Loudoun Freedom Center are: A visitors' center that will tell the story of the African-Amer-

ican communities of Loudoun County; Belmont and Coton (Lansdowne) African burial grounds that will preserve, protect and restore the sacred burial grounds on the former Belmont and Coton plantations; a Loudoun-specific genome project; a virtual DNA extraction laboratory; a research library and genealogy hub; and the Loudoun Freedom Chapel, a place to reflect and meditate.

Just as it was divine inspiration that caused so many faithful Americans of different races and backgrounds to join together in unity and in hope at the Edmund Pettus Bridge last year, so too, it is divine inspiration for this diverse group of citizens in Loudoun County to join together in unity and in hope on the site of an unmarked slave cemetery on Belmont Ridge Road.

Reverend Thomas has said of the ambitious project that it is a crusade to reclaim the property under a banner of unity. "No matter what your race, your color, your creed . . . we all want the same things. We all want to be honored. We all want to have hope for the future."

I pray that they will be successful in their endeavors and that they will inspire the residents of Loudoun County and my Congressional District for years to come.

H.R. 3442 AND H.R. 2017

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be in Washington, D.C. on the afternoon on February 11th and on February 12th because I was attending a memorial service and I missed votes in the House. If I had been present, I would have opposed final passage of H.R. 3442, the Debt Management and Fiscal Responsibility Act, and H.R. 2017, the Common Sense Nutrition Disclosure Act.

The Debt Management and Fiscal Responsibility Act may sound like a common-sense bill, but it is a misguided effort that creates duplicative burdens and reporting requirements on the executive branch. The bill would require the Secretary of the Treasury to appear before Congress when the country nears the statutory debt limit and provide a written report on the Treasury's debt-reduction proposals. The Administration, however, already provides Congress with an outline of its debt-reduction proposals in the President's annual budget. The President presented his final budget—which includes numerous debt-reduction proposals—to Congress just two days ago, but House leaders denied the opportunity for the director of the Office of Management and Budget to testify about these proposals. Instead, we are considering a bill that would create more requirements for the Administration by making them duplicate efforts they already undertake. For those reasons, I would have voted against H.R. 3442.

I would have also opposed H.R. 2017, the Common Sense Nutrition Disclosure Act. This bill would have allowed certain restaurants and food retailers to limit the nutritional information they provide to consumers. The nutrition disclosure requirements this bill seeks to roll back became law as part of the Affordable Care Act. Preparing to comply with those requirements has been a substantial undertaking

for many retailers, but Congress has already delayed implementation of this rule as part of the FY2016 omnibus and given retailers an additional year before the rule would go into effect. Making nutrition information available empowers consumers to make healthy and nutritious choices, and this bill would have further undermined that effort. For that reason, I would have voted against H.R. 2017.

HONORING 360 PSG, INC. FOR RECEIVING THE TECHNOLOGY AWARD FROM THE AMHERST CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor 360 PSG, Inc. for receiving the Technology Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce.

Founded in 2005 by 360 PSG partners Joel Colombo, Matthew Whelan, and Ben Shepard after their previous employer closed its doors. With no capital and grueling 20 hour work days, by the end of the first year they had built three websites to start the company.

360 PSG hired its first employees in 2006. Over the next two years, the company continued to hire, launched over 150 new websites, and developed automated tools and platforms to help small business owners take full advantage of internet marketing. In the following two years another 300 websites. By 2011 the staff had grown to almost 20 full-time members.

The company focuses its business on two flagship products that have been programmed and developed in-house, Fission CMS and 360 CMS. With over \$2.5 million dollars of operating capital invested, these innovative products provide website management tools with modern design elements to support the small business community across the country.

Having come a long way from their humble beginnings, 360 PSG, Inc. serves over 1,000 customers from nearly every state and Canada. Their solid core values and a dedication to treating clients like partners allows them to develop strong, lasting relationships with high retention, remain profitable every year in business, and continue regional employment growth. 360 PSG's internal divisions now include all aspects of digital and internet marketing.

Employing 30 full time team members specialized in their respective fields of web design, software engineering, social media advertising, search optimization and marketing, and service/support departments, 360 PSG continues to evolve as a single-stop hub of services supporting our region by bringing in national revenue, creating full-time technology jobs.

I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating 360 PSG, Inc. on receiving the Technology Award from the Amherst Chamber of Commerce, and wish them the best as they continue to provide innovative services to small businesses and contribute to Western New York's revitalization.

CONGRATULATING 100 YEAR ANNI-
VERSARY OF ROSECRANCE
HEALTH NETWORK

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the Rosecrance Health Network as they celebrate 100 years of serving children, adolescents, adults, and families in Northern Illinois and beyond.

In 1916, Dr. James Rosecrance kept the memory of his late wife, Franny, alive by creating the Rosecrance Memorial Home for Children at the couple's homestead in New Milford, Illinois. Incorporated by the state of Illinois as a home for children on August 11, 1916, the staff continued to care for needy children from New Milford and surrounding communities before expanding and relocating to Rockford, Illinois, in 1953.

Continually adapting to the changing needs of the community, in 1982, Rosecrance transformed into an innovative and groundbreaking chemical dependency treatment center for teens struggling with drug and alcohol addiction and abuse. In 1992, this mission expanded even further as Rosecrance began treating adults with substance abuse disorders. Today, their Harrison Campus in Rockford offers a number of substance abuse services including outpatient programs and maintains specialized units for young adults, veterans, firefighters, and paramedics.

In 2011, Rosecrance merged with the Janet Wattles Center, a leading mental health service provider, to truly integrate substance abuse and mental health services and better serve patients at their many locations throughout Illinois and Wisconsin. Today, Rosecrance operates more than 40 locations and serves more than 22,000 people annually.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Sixteenth Congressional District, I would like to sincerely thank the hardworking men and women who have dedicated themselves to providing quality substance abuse and mental health care services. Without question, our communities and families are healthier and stronger thanks to the service and care provided by Rosecrance throughout their 100 year history.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL
MARVIN R. "BUD" KILTON

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2016

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Lieutenant Colonel Marvin R. "Bud" Kilton and his service to our nation in the United States Air Force. He passed away on February 9, 2016 at the age of 90.

Born in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, Lt. Col. Kilton joined the Air Force in 1943 and trained to become a B24 and B25 pilot in the final years of World War II. At the conclusion of the war, he became an active reservist and earned a Bachelor's of Science and a Master's Degree at the University of Wisconsin. Lt. Col. Kilton rejoined active service from 1950 to 1970 where he served at Air Force Bases

across the Western Hemisphere in Biloxi, Mississippi; Goose Bay, Labrador, Canada; and Bogotá, Colombia. Throughout his twenty-six year military career, he accrued over 2000 total hours of flight time as a pilot and also headed the ROTC program at The Ohio State University for three years. He was Honorably Discharged with a total of six medals and commendations, including the Air Force Commendation Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster, the National Defense Service Medal with one Bronze Service Star, the Air Force Reserves Medal, the Air Force Longevity Service Award with four Oak Leaf Clusters, the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, and the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

After his service, Lt. Col. Kilton remained active in his community as the Director of Education for the Credit Union National Association and worked as a tax preparer in Madison, Wisconsin and Orange County, California. He was married for 64 years to the late Carol M. Hansen and is survived by his two daughters, Megan Minarik and Stacey (Kilton) Winker, and his two grandchildren, Kelsey Lee Minarik and Ryan Andrew Minarik.

I thank Lt. Col. Kilton for his courage and dedication to the United States and my thoughts are with his family in this difficult time.

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, February 25, 2016 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 1

- 9:30 a.m.
Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine United States European Command. SD-G50
- 10 a.m.
Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine the multi-employer pension plan system, focusing on recent reforms and current challenges. SD-215
- 2:30 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine the state of the farm economy. SD-116

Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2017 for the Transportation Security Administration. SD-138

Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on State Department and USAID Management, International Operations, and Bilateral International Development
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development. SD-419

3 p.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Legislative Branch
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2017 for the Senate Sergeant at Arms and the Capitol Police. SD-192

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Airland
To receive a closed briefing on the Air Force Long Range Strike-Bomber. SVC-217

MARCH 2

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine S. 2446, to amend subtitle D of the Solid Waste Disposal Act to encourage recovery and beneficial use of coal combustion residuals and establish requirements for the proper management and disposal of coal combustion residuals that are protective of human health and the environment, S. 1479, to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to modify provisions relating to grants, and an original bill entitled, "Good Samaritan Cleanup of Orphan Mines Act of 2016". SD-406

10 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission. SR-253

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Patrick Pizzella, of Virginia, to be a Member of the Federal Labor Relations Authority, and Julie Helene Becker, Steven Nathan Berk, and Elizabeth Carroll Wingo, each to be an Associate Judge of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia. SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine EB-5 targeted employment areas. SD-226

Committee on Veterans' Affairs
To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. SD-G50

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Defense
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for

<p>fiscal year 2017 for the Navy and Marine Corps. SD-192</p> <p>2:30 p.m. Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2017 for the Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation. SD-138</p> <p>Joint Economic Committee To hold hearings to examine the Economic Report of the President. SH-216</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARCH 3</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Committee on Armed Services To hold hearings to examine the posture of the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2017 and the Future Years Defense Program. SD-G50</p> <p>10 a.m. Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Health and Human Services. SD-138</p> <p>Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Subcommittee on Securities, Insurance, and Investment To hold hearings to examine regulatory reforms to improve equity market structure. SD-538</p>	<p>Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Business meeting to consider S. 2555, to provide opportunities for broadband investment, the nomination of Thomas F. Scott Darling, III, of Massachusetts, to be Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, and routine lists in the Coast Guard. SR-253</p> <p>Committee on Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Energy. SD-366</p> <p>Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs To hold hearings to examine the dogs of the Department of Homeland Security, focusing on how canine programs contribute to homeland security. SD-342</p> <p>Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship To hold hearings to examine the impacts of Federal fisheries management on small businesses. SR-428A</p> <p>Committee on Veterans' Affairs To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of multiple Veterans Service Organizations. CHOB-345</p> <p>10:30 a.m. Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for</p>	<p>fiscal year 2017 for the Department of Commerce. SD-192</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARCH 8</p> <p>10 a.m. Committee on Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2017 for the Forest Service. SD-366</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARCH 9</p> <p>2 p.m. Committee on the Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights To hold an oversight hearing to examine the enforcement of the antitrust laws. SD-226</p> <p>2:15 p.m. Committee on Indian Affairs To hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2017 for Indian Country. SD-628</p> <p style="text-align: center;">MARCH 16</p> <p>10 a.m. Committee on Veterans' Affairs To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of multiple Veterans Service Organizations. SD-G50</p>
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