

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

SPEECH OF

#### HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 2, 2016*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call upon the people of our nation to re-double the effort to pass the Equal Rights Amendment—an amendment to make real the promise of equal rights, equal justice and equal opportunity for women. Given the continuous assaults on women's health care and reproductive rights and the persistent wage gap, there is no better time for this Amendment to become enshrined in our constitution. This is long overdue and it is shameful that we continue to be three states short of ratification. The Constitution must guarantee and protect women's rights.

In recognition of Women's History Month, I encourage my colleagues to take up this issue and fight for the Equal Rights Amendment.

### IN RECOGNITION OF MARCH AS BLEEDING DISORDERS MONTH

#### HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 3, 2016*

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize March as the first Bleeding Disorders Awareness month. As my colleagues may know, bleeding disorders are a group of diseases which affect more than three million Americans and which have no known cure. These diseases, which include hemophilia, Von Willebrand disease or VWD, and other rare disorders, can take a heavy toll on their sufferers' standard of living and finances. However, despite these troubling realities, by raising awareness, it is my hope that through earlier diagnosis, we might prevent more complications, unnecessary procedures, and disabilities so often caused by these diseases.

The most common bleeding disorders, hemophilia and VWD, are hereditary and caused by disorders in blood proteins meant to clot and stop bleeding. According to the Centers for Disease Control, as many as 400 babies are born with hemophilia each year. For hemophilia sufferers, their illness means that they require lifelong infusions of replacement clotting factor therapies. The financial burden for individuals with severe hemophilia are often \$250,000 a year or more. While the affordable care act limits annual out-of-pocket expenses to \$6,850 for individuals and \$13,700 for families, the high cost of clotting factor therapies means that those afflicted with the disease often pay these full amounts each year.

In the past we have seen just how vulnerable sufferers of bleeding disorders are to

complications. When the nation's blood supply became contaminated with HIV during the 1980's, almost 90% of severe hemophilia sufferers became infected. Of those cases of HIV transmission, over 50% have since died of the disease.

Despite these tragic outcomes, there is reason for optimism. Thanks to federally funded Hemophilia Treatment Centers (HTCs), originally authorized by Congress in 1974, as many as 70% of hemophilia sufferers take advantage of specialized treatment through the multidisciplinary, comprehensive care in a network of HTCs. According to the CDC, mortality rates and hospitalization rates for bleeding complications from hemophilia were 40% lower among Americans who received treatment at HTCs. I am proud to say that Georgia hosts a total of four HTCs.

In addition, organizations such as the National Hemophilia Foundation have made it their mission to continue to raise awareness about rare bleeding disorders in the United States and abroad. So Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize those who suffer from bleeding disorders and those who continue to work to create greater awareness of bleeding disorders.

### HONORING A CHAMPION FROM THE STATE OF HOCKEY

#### HON. RICHARD M. NOLAN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 3, 2016*

Mr. NOLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, and Elyite, Lt. Col. David Merhar for his many athletic achievements, service to his country, and passion for helping others pursue their goals.

On February 6th his West Point number 7 jersey was retired—one of the first three jerseys to ever be raised to the rafters of Tate Rink—in honor of his many accomplishments while playing for West Point's hockey team. During his senior season, he became the first NCAA hockey player to surpass 100 points in a season. The 57 goals and 50 assists that season made him the highest scoring NCAA hockey player at the time and today his 107 points in one season remains 6th all-time in NCAA history.

After graduating from West Point, Dave went on to a fulfilling 35 year career in government service, including 23 years in active military duty and serving as a special assistant to then General Alexander Haig stationed at NATO headquarters in Belgium. Dave's hard work and dedication helped to keep our country safe.

Today Dave continues in public service by helping me select candidates for service academy nominations. I truly appreciate the time he sets aside every year to help me nominate students to service academies, such as West Point, so they can pursue their goals just like Dave.

Once again thank you Dave for your service to our country, and congratulations on this historic achievement.

### RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIVE DAUGHTERS OF THE GOLDEN WEST PARLOR 210 IN FORT BRAGG, CALIFORNIA

#### HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 3, 2016*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the Native Daughters of the Golden West Parlor 210 in Fort Bragg, California.

On March 2, 1916, twenty-seven women were initiated as charter members of the newly formed parlor of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, a statewide fraternal and patriotic organization that has served the community and helped preserve the town's history for one hundred years.

Over the years, the Native Daughters of Fort Bragg Parlor has played an important role in raising awareness of Fort Bragg's unique history and in honoring important historical locations through plaques, volunteer work, and sharing the living history of the town with visitors and locals alike. They have helped Fort Bragg students further their education as well as countless other philanthropic efforts.

The longstanding dedication and commitment of the Fort Bragg members of the Native Daughters of the Golden West has created a legacy of service and historic preservation in Fort Bragg and Mendocino County. Please join me in acknowledging and expressing gratitude to the Native Daughters of the Golden West Parlor 210 in Fort Bragg, California, for a century of service.

### HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DORIS YOUNG HURLEY

#### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 3, 2016*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Mrs. Doris Young Hurley. A beloved wife, sister, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother, as well as an irreplaceable member of the community, Mrs. Hurley passed away on February 28th, 2016 at the age of 94.

Born in Buffalo, New York on May 27, 1921, Mrs. Hurley was raised on Humboldt Parkway on the East Side of Buffalo. One of nine children, she was a graduate of St. Mary Magdalene as well as St. Mary's Seminary. In her scholastic career she was extremely proud of an essay she wrote in 1933 titled "Why I am Proud to be an American" which won an Americanism Essay award.

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