

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. SCOTT H. PETERS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 17, 2016*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Chair, I oppose Sec. 1094 of this bill.

The language included in the underlying bill is dangerously vague, and allows contractors, or any entity that receives federal funds, to discriminate based on the faulty guise of religious exemption.

Since “religious corporation” is undefined by the bill or by courts, this provision applies too broadly.

Let’s be clear—a “religious corporation” could range from a religious institution like a church to a corporation with a religious CEO.

Therefore, any vaguely religious organization or corporation receiving federal funds could legally discriminate against LGBT Americans if they feel like hiring them violates their religious beliefs.

A corporation with a religious CEO could decide not to hire, or to fire, LGBT people. A religious university could fire employees with no religious job requirement, such as a scientist or custodial worker, simply because they are LGBT.

Tax-payer dollars should not be used to fund discrimination.

Last year, I offered an amendment to the Transportation Appropriations Bill that affirmed President Obama’s executive order prohibiting federal contractors from discriminating based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

My amendment passed with a near supermajority, including 60 Republicans.

I believe all of my colleagues can agree on these two things—the federal government should not infringe on religious freedom, nor should we do business with groups that discriminate.

No American should be fired, denied a job or a place to live because of who they are or who they love.

I urge my colleagues to stand on the side of equality and against discrimination and oppose this provision.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 17, 2016*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the amendment to H.R. 4909, the Fiscal Year 2017 National Defense Authorization Act offered by Mr. CALVERT. This amendment requires the Department of Defense to report on the structure and size of its civilian and contractor workforce. This reporting requirement is a continuation of misguided assaults on the federal workforce which delivers capabilities needed to build back readiness and support operations. Furthermore, it adds an unneeded layer of bureaucracy with redundant reporting requirements. The information called for in this provision is already provided in eight separate statutes and this additional burden is unjustifiable.

Not only is the report duplicative and unnecessary, the “findings” section is littered with misinformation and subjective clauses. It is yet another transparent attempt to attack civilian and contracted personnel, who have borne a disproportionate share of the fiscal burden levied on the Department of Defense. The first “finding” states in no uncertain terms that the civilian workforce has reduced the Department’s capabilities, a statement that is maliciously inaccurate. Civilian personnel provide a cost-effective workforce and contribute unique capabilities to our national security at home and abroad, particularly in key areas such as intelligence and cyber operations.

For these reasons I am strongly opposed, as is the Department of Defense, to the inclusion of the reporting requirement and hope to work with my colleagues in conference to address this biased and unnecessarily punitive amendment.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 18, 2016*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize

appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer a bipartisan amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017. I am proud to have my colleagues, Representatives SAM JOHNSON of Texas and DAN LIPINSKI of Illinois, supporting this amendment. Our amendment seeks to expand access to on-the-job training programs for service members transitioning out of the military. Specifically, the amendment directs the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness to study the success of the relatively new Department of Defense (DOD) program known as Job Training, Employment Skills Training, Apprenticeships, and Internships, or JTEST–AI, which is an initiative pursuant to DOD Instruction No. 1322.29. The amendment also requires the Undersecretary to issue guidance to unit commanders encouraging them to allow more service members separating from the armed forces to participate in a JTEST–AI initiative—provided, of course, that unit readiness is not impaired.

One particular initiative formed pursuant to JTEST–AI is the SkillBridge Initiative. Although SkillBridge and all other JTEST–AI initiatives are still nascent, they are already showing promising results. According to preliminary DOD statistics, more than 4,500 service members have successfully participated in SkillBridge training; there are approximately 40 programs currently in operation; and almost all graduates have received jobs as a result of participation in these initiatives. In fact, 18 SkillBridge training programs have a hiring rate of 100 percent of graduates, and another 8 programs have a hiring rate of more than 85 percent.

Organizations participating in these programs span every sector of the workforce. Sponsoring entities include private companies, labor unions, and even government agencies. These programs are popular with transitioning service members, and currently there are more applications from service members than can be accommodated. Our amendment simply seeks to have DOD conduct a comprehensive study so that the initiatives may be improved and access may be expanded, as appropriate.

Our outgoing service members have skill sets that are unique but that can easily be honed and adapted to a certain field or application if given access to on-the-job training. Given the sacrifices our women and men in uniform have made for us all, we should strive to make their transition to civilian life as smooth and successful as possible.

I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan amendment designed to help our transitioning service members gain meaningful employment.

● 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.

HONORING FLORENCE SHUTSY-REYNOLDS AND THE WOMEN AIRFORCE SERVICE PILOTS

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute the service of Florence Shutsy-Reynolds, who served her country with great honor and distinction in World War II as a member of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs). The WASPs stepped up and answered the call of duty at a time when their country needed them most, with no expectation of praise or recognition.

When the U.S. military needed more male pilots, these women signed up to fly noncombat missions so that their male counterparts could be deployed in combat. Florence Shutsy-Reynolds was one of these brave women who stood up to serve her country.

When she was still in grade school in Dunbar, Pennsylvania, she told her parents she wanted to learn how to fly. Her parents laughed at the time, but in 1941, Shutsy-Reynolds became the first woman to earn her pilot's license at the local Connellsville airport. Not yet old enough to meet the minimum age requirement of 21, she wrote letter after letter to the director of the WASPs until the age requirement was lowered to 18 and she was permitted to apply. She then took the military oath, endured six rigorous months of training, and flew aircraft that were damaged in the war, at times pieces of her planes falling off mid-flight. These brave women flew more than 60 million miles, trained male pilots for combat, test piloted aircraft, and 38 gave the ultimate sacrifice to our country, perishing in the line of duty.

After the war ended, Shutsy-Reynolds remained committed to her comrades by helping lead the charge for WASP members to receive veteran status, and later, a Congressional Gold Medal. She also assisted with designing the WASP flag, which has 38 stars in memory of the 38 women who died serving our country.

Ms. Shutsy-Reynolds has never stopped advocating for the respect she and her fellow WASPs are due for their critical role in the war effort. Even to this day, at 92 years of age, Shutsy-Reynolds is still fighting for recognition and military benefits for the WASPs.

Mr. Speaker, Florence Shutsy-Reynolds and the Women Airforce Service Pilots truly lived in the wind and sand, with their eyes on the stars, and I thank them for their service to our country.

CELEBRATING THE COMMERCIAL BANK OF GRAYSON'S 125TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. HAROLD ROGERS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the leaders of The Commercial Bank of Grayson on 125 years of financial service to the people of Carter County and the surrounding area.

The Commercial Bank of Grayson began business in early 1891, filling a void as Grayson had no financial institution. On May 1, 1891, the bank's first available statement of condition showed total assets of over \$15,000. The need for the bank and its acceptance by the community was demonstrated by its early success. The first cash dividend was paid to stockholders in 1894. Since that date, a cash dividend has been paid every year. No additional stock has ever been sold; increases have come through retained earnings.

Twenty-six local citizens invested in the original capital stock of the bank. Dr. John Wilson Strother was the principal stockholder and became the chairman of the bank's first Board of Directors and the bank's first president. He was also an active physician, farmer and lay preacher. Dr. Strother served as bank president until his death on January 8, 1935. Today, his great-great-grandson, Mark Strother serves as the bank's president and chief executive officer. This fifth-generation banker and his executive team works with a staff of 70 professionals whose top priority remains the same as it was in 1891—quality service for their customers and communities.

Since the bank began business during the term of Benjamin Harrison, it has served its customers continuously. The doors of The Commercial Bank have remained open through recessions, money panics, and the Great Depression. The Commercial Bank has continued to provide its customers with a wide array of financial services. Times have changed and so have the products desired by, and made available to, customers. The Commercial Bank has remained at the forefront of the financial industry's modernization in order to better serve current customers and attract new ones. Today, the bank remains independent and locally-owned, as well as being Grayson's second oldest business.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the spirit of entrepreneurship, partnership, and achieving the American Dream. For 125 years, The Commercial Bank of Grayson has created jobs and supported local businesses in their effort to help make Carter County a better place to live. I commend the vision of the founders and those who continue to support the mission of this institution and their dedication to serve the people of Eastern Kentucky and the Appalachian region.

CHRISTIAN LIEHR

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Christian Liehr for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Christian Liehr is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Christian Liehr is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Christian Liehr for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOHN LAZARSKY UPON RECEIVING LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP WITH THE AMERICAN LEGION POST 473

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor Mr. John Lazarsky for receiving lifetime membership after his 50 years of involvement with the American Legion Post 473 in Freeland, Pennsylvania. The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 and has continually worked to advance core principles aimed at promoting the well-being of current and former service members, the communities in which they reside, and the next generation of patriotic Americans. John has time and again exemplified this spirit, and after 50 years of dedicated engagement, has become an integral part of Post 473's commitment to the service members, veterans, and civilians in my district.

After graduating from Freeland High School where he excelled as a two-sport athlete in basketball and baseball, John was drafted into the U.S. Army. John was stationed in Germany from 1964 to 1966, and upon his return to Pennsylvania, he joined Post 473. Having served at various levels within his local post, John knows firsthand the impact that the American Legion can have for service members and veterans. A strong sense of obligation to community, state, and nation are the underpinnings of all legionnaires, and John's service has provided innumerable contributions at each of these levels.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great admiration that I recognize Mr. John Lazarsky upon receiving lifetime membership in the American Legion Post 473 after 50 years of selfless engagement. The American Legion's success depends on active participation in the post and volunteerism in the community, both of which have been embodied by John's dedication to Post 473. I wish him all the best as he continues to work on behalf of all legionnaires and their communities.

STATEMENT RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CAP SERVICES

**HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 50th anniversary of CAP Services. For fifty years CAP Services has valiantly fought on the front lines of the war on poverty by empowering individuals to become economically and emotionally self-sustainable. To empower individuals, CAP Services has offered a rich variety of programs designed to

train and educate workers for higher employment, ensure equal childhood development opportunities, and foster environments suitable to entrepreneurship and homeownership.

In addition to providing educational and training opportunities to both adults and children, CAP Services also provides innovative programs to low income families so that they may better participate in the economy. One such example is their Work-n-Wheels program where CAP Services provides interest free car loans to individuals who need reliable transportation to get to work. Another innovative program CAP Services provides is their Home Weatherization program where they help low income families reduce heating costs and improve energy efficiency by enabling individuals to weatherproof their homes or apartments.

Empowering individuals to become financially independent through human, child, and business development is one of the most efficient ways to lift people out of poverty. I am proud to have this Stevens Point based community action agency in Wisconsin's Third Congressional District and I hope the great work they are conducting will serve as a model for the rest of the country.

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#### RESTORE THE VOTE

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to address the ongoing problem of voter suppression in this country. The Voting Rights Act was passed in 1965 and sadly today—over 50 years later, Americans continue to be blocked from the ballot box. This ongoing suppression absolutely must stop—now. Congress must lead the way in upholding democracy and equal rights in this great nation. This is why I'm so proud to join my colleagues and serve as co-chair of the first ever Congressional Voting Rights Caucus.

The importance and great need of the Congressional Voting Rights Caucus cannot be overstated. The purpose of the Congressional Voting Rights Caucus is to educate the public on local voter suppression tactics, inform constituents on their rights as voters and to create and advance legislations such as the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015 that help prevent current and future discriminatory and suppressive tactics that would deny American citizens the sacred right to vote.

This 2016 Election will be the first time in over 50 years—that a presidential election will occur without the full protections of the Voting Rights Act. As a daughter of Selma, Alabama, I am painfully aware that injustices suffered on the Edmund Pettus Bridge over 50 years ago have not been fully vindicated. Though we may not be counting marbles in a jar, in over 30 states such as Alabama, Arizona, North Carolina, Texas and Wisconsin—there remains example after example of modern day barriers that are keeping eligible Americans from the ballot box.

We are desperately in need to join together and restore the vote. These threats to our democracy and civil rights bar thousands of Americans from their right to the voting polls. Along with Representative MARC VEASEY and my fellow colleagues, I am committed to push

for improving and strengthening Voting Rights legislation that makes voting easier, not harder for the American people. I believe this Caucus is a symbol of great hope for change, however—I do look forward to the day it is no longer needed. This is America, this is a democracy and eligible voters should have full and free access to the polls.

I ask that not only members of this new Caucus, but that all my colleagues stand up and speak out in order to restore the vote. We all must fight against voter suppression and discrimination at the polls. We all must protect the principles of this great country and the integrity of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. We must restore the vote.

On this Restoration Tuesday, I give us all the charge to battle against the continued suppression of the American vote and stand strong by our principles of democracy, liberty and justice for all. Mr. Speaker, my Republican colleagues should join the 168 members of Congress and support H.R. 2867—the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015. Let's restore the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It is the right thing to do.

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#### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. SCOTT H. PETERS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 18, 2016*

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Mr. PETERS. Mr. Chair, today I rise to support a simple, but important effort that everyone in this chamber can agree on.

My amendment adds to this bill a Sense of Congress that when practical and cost-effective, the DoD should seek ways to maximize the number of veterans employed to build military construction projects.

Many members of this chamber, on both sides of the aisle, have stood on this floor and championed the cause of hiring veterans.

It's a policy that we've incentivized private corporations to do, and criticized employers for not doing it, or doing improperly.

It makes sense that if we are going to be good stewards of tax dollars, that we should encourage that money is used to hire veterans.

We're talking about good jobs here—jobs that take valuable skills, determined initiative, and produce pride in a job well done.

This is not intended to add any burden to the DoD or their military construction projects, but it's a reminder that oftentimes, we have skilled veteran laborers that live near these projects and are ideal candidates for the job.

If Congress is going to continue its efforts to support our veterans as they transition out of the military and back into the civilian world, then voting in favor of this amendment is a no brainer.

Support this amendment and join me in showing that our military readiness can often

best be built by those who know how important that readiness is when fighting for our freedom.

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#### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 18, 2016*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Ms. COMSTOCK. Mr. Chair, I rise today to offer a bipartisan amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017. My amendment seeks to protect our children and teens from access to opioids in hopes of reducing the number of individuals we see addicted to heroin and other drugs.

This amendment directs the Secretary of Defense to study the feasibility and effectiveness of dispensing opioid medications in vials using affordable technologies designed to prevent access to stored medications by anyone other than the intended patient.

Today, our prescription pill bottles use what are generally referred to as "child-resistant" standards but today's teens have remarkably easy access to pain medications that are stronger and more addictive than those of the past.

It is not unusual for today's youth to find these opioids in the medicine cabinets of family members or friends. Technologies like locking prescription vials (LPVs) are already on the market and are a cheap efficient way to reduce the likelihood that our children and teens start down the path to addiction.

The implementation of child-resistant standards generated a 45 percent reduction in mortality rates. It is my hope that a feasibility study conducted by the Department of Defense would show additional benefits stemming from the implementation of more advanced LPVs.

I urge my colleagues to protect our youth from this epidemic and support my amendment.

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#### TAIWAN PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on May 20, the 23 million people of Taiwan inaugurated their democratically elected president, Dr. Tsai Ing-wen. It was a nation-wide celebration.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating President Tsai on her election. I also congratulate the people of Taiwan for successfully conducting another presidential election. They continue to show that their country is a strong and vibrant democracy.

This latest presidential election is further proof of the Taiwanese people's enduring commitment to the ideas of freedom, self-determination and self-government. These principles are the foundation on which both our nations were built, providing the basis for long-term peace and prosperity.

Taiwan is also an important friend and strategic economic and security partner of the United States. We should celebrate the reaffirmation of the ties that bind our two countries.

I look forward to working together with Taiwan's new government to further strengthen the U.S.-Taiwan relationship.

DAYSIAH MCPHERSON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Daysiah McPherson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Daysiah McPherson is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Daysiah McPherson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Daysiah McPherson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

KARI'S LAW ACT OF 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 23, 2016*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4167, Kari's Law Act of 2015.

H.R. 4167 addresses a very serious problem. The bill requires Multi-Line Telephone Systems to provide direct dialing to 9-1-1. The bill is named after Kari Hunt who was tragically murdered by her estranged husband in a hotel room while her daughter tried and failed to dial 9-1-1 because the Multi-Line Telephone System required a prefix to be dialed first.

When you dial 9-1-1 from a hotel or office—when seconds matters—you shouldn't have to dial "9" or some other prefix to get help. I strongly support the overall goals of this bill.

However, location accuracy for Multi-Line Telephone Systems is just as important. First responders have to know exactly where an individual is calling from, especially if the caller is unable to communicate to the dispatcher, or the caller simply doesn't know where they are. If first responders have to spend time searching buildings, going door to door, that can be the difference between life and death.

During the subcommittee and full committee markups of H.R. 4167, I offered an amendment to require a location accuracy proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) within 180 days of enactment of the bill. Unfortunately, my Republican colleagues did not agree to accept my amendment, and instead proposed language requiring the FCC to conduct a Notice of Inquiry (NOI) to solicit public comment on requiring location accuracy for Multi-Line Telephone Systems. I did not accept this proposal because I do not think an NOI moves the ball forward. That view is shared by the FCC and the public safety community. Ultimately, I withdrew my amendment following a commitment from the Chairman of the Communications and Technology Subcommittee, Representative GREG WALDEN that he would work with me on location accuracy technology.

The FCC has studied location accuracy technology for Multi-Line Telephone Systems since 1994, and as recently as 2012 Congress directed the FCC to issue a Public Notice Seeking Comment on the feasibility of Multi-Line Telephone Systems to provide the precise location of a 911 caller. This was included in Section 6504(b) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 and was modeled on legislation I introduced with my colleague and fellow co-chair of the NextGen 9-1-1 Caucus, Representative SHIMKUS, known as the Next Generation 911 Advancement Act of 2012.

Despite the extensive history surrounding location accuracy, the FCC has failed to take action to require this essential technology in Multi-Line Telephone Systems. To wait any longer for action is simply an excuse and a costly one because lives are at stake.

I recently introduced H.R. 5236, the Requesting Emergency Services and Providing Origination Notification Systems Everywhere (RESPONSE) Act, which would require the Federal Communications Commission to complete a proceeding requiring all Multi-Line Telephone Systems to provide first responders with the precise location of a 9-1-1 caller. I'm hopeful my colleagues will work with me to pass this important bill.

Although H.R. 4167 does not address the critical issue of location accuracy, it is nonetheless a step in the right direction that will save lives and make real progress. For these reasons I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4167.

RECOGNIZING COLORADO'S  
FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT  
MILITARY APPOINTMENTS

**HON. KEN BUCK**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this year's Military Appointees from Colorado's Fourth Congressional district. America's brave men and women in uniform have always been our nation's greatest asset. These individuals make an incredible sacrifice for our country and they deserve our utmost support for their service. It is with great pleasure that I endorse the following individuals to attend some of our nation's most prestigious institutions.

To the United States Air Force Academy, I nominate Jack Beebe, Kelly Grier, Rebecca Kholos, and Andrew Voydat.

To the United States Merchant Marine Academy, I nominate Micah Grissom and Kyleigh Kappas.

To the United States Military Academy, I nominate Angus Pfister-Paradice and Levi Walters.

To the United States Naval Academy, I nominate Andriann Oakley.

Our nation owes no greater debt of gratitude than to those who fight to protect our freedom and liberty. They, and their families, should be commended. On behalf of the 4th Congressional District of Colorado, I extend my best wishes to these individuals.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize these appointees for their commitment to protect and serve our nation.

CONGRATULATING LISA NIEVES

**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lisa Nieves on earning the 2016 Illinois Mother of the Year award.

Over eighty years ago, a group of powerful moms, including Eleanor Roosevelt and Mamie Eisenhower, started American Mothers to champion the importance of motherhood and recognize mothers for their leadership at home, at work, and in the world.

Each year, American Mothers honors one outstanding mother in each state. This year, Lisa was chosen as the Illinois Mother of the Year. I am proud to represent Lisa and the many hard-working moms in my district.

As a mother of five, Lisa spends the majority of her time shuttling her children to and from dance lessons, music lessons, and tumbling classes. While she has very little time to spare, she selflessly uses her free time to help empower young women by putting on local pageants to teach girls the importance of self-confidence.

I am thankful for the many important contributions and sacrifices mothers like Lisa make every day. She is more than deserving of the Mother of the Year award and I wish her and her family many happy years to come.

H.R. 5003, "IMPROVING CHILD NUTRITION AND EDUCATION ACT OF 2016"

**HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, Chairman KLINE and Ranking Member SCOTT, I regret that I could not be present for the Education and Workforce Committee's full committee markup of H.R. 5003 on May 18th, 2016 due to the death of my nephew, a beloved minister who worked tirelessly to provide services to many struggling families across the Rio Grande Valley of South Texas.

As a senior member of the Education and Workforce Committee and a longtime champion of federal child nutrition programs, I believe that Congress must reauthorize federal

child nutrition programs through a strong bipartisan reauthorization bill. Signed into law by President Harry S. Truman in 1946, the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act created the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) “as a measure of national security, to safeguard the health and well-being of the Nation’s children.” Serving 7.1 million students annually in 1946, the program has grown to over 30 million students per day in 2015.

For many students in congressional districts like mine, having access to nutritious meals is extremely important. Today, approximately 15 million children live in households facing food insecurity and receive a majority of their calories for the day at school. The Community Eligibility provision in current law provides free, nutritious meals to 8.5 million low-income children in 18,000 higher-poverty schools and eliminates the burdensome application requirements for districts, schools, and families. Under this provision, high-poverty school districts are able to offer universal school meals to all students without the addition of complex paperwork for families, as long as the school district demonstrates that 40 percent of their students already qualify for other federally certified free meals programs, such as the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

Had I been present at the full committee markup, I would have joined my House Democratic colleagues in expressing concerns and opposing H.R. 5003, the “Improving Child Nutrition and Education Act of 2016.” This highly partisan bill contains harmful provisions that would make it more difficult for low-income schools to feed their students. We must keep in mind that nutrition programs for children and families impact our nation’s economy, national security, and classrooms. Our most vulnerable children and families deserve more from the federal government, which I have always believed has a responsibility to help those most in need.

To be sure, H.R. 5003 is a misguided piece of legislation that would weaken the nutrition safety net for our nation’s students and families. I am deeply concerned that this bill significantly alters the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), lacks meaningful investments for the Summer Electronic Benefit Transfer program, adds barriers to the school meals verification process, and rolls back important evidenced-based criteria to school nutrition standards.

By passing the Republican proposed 2016 CNR legislation, the CEP threshold would be raised to 60 percent and cause too many vulnerable students, including up to nearly 47,000 students in my district, to potentially lose access to free school meals. These districts do not have the framework, funding or capacity to deal with the considerable amount of administrative work that comes with increasing the CEP.

For these reasons, I will continue to urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 5003 in its current form and instead work to ensure that children and families have access to robust federal nutrition programs. My Democratic colleagues and I strongly believe that Congress must work to address food insecurity and hunger in America by making it easier for more needy children to access federal child nutrition programs. Our nation’s most vulnerable children deserve nothing less.

RECOGNIZING MARINE CORPORAL  
JASON HALLETT

**HON. KEN BUCK**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and sacrifice made by Marine Corporal Jason Hallett.

On October 23rd, 2010, Corporal Hallett was serving as part of the 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine in Sangin, Afghanistan. While clearing a compound of IEDs, a device detonated, severely injuring Corporal Hallett. In the explosion he lost both legs above the knees, his right arm above the elbow, and suffered severe damage to his left hand. Under heavy fire from insurgents, Corporal Hallett was carried across an open field and transported back to the closest Forward Operating Base (FOB) where life-saving measures were performed.

During medical treatment and rehabilitation, Corporal Hallett never lost the motivation and dedication to succeed. Since returning to his home in Colorado, Corporal Hallett has begun studying finance at Colorado State University, a passion he developed during his recovery.

It is inspiring to see the dedication Corporal Hallett shows to helping fellow veterans. Corporal Hallett embodies the values that make America exceptional. He has shown true leadership in his community, and the impact of his story has been profound. He is an inspiration to us all. I would like to extend my sincerest thanks for his service and continued efforts to improve the lives of veterans.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Marine Corporal Jason Hallett for his commitment to family, community, and the United States of America.

HANNAH HOFFMAN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Hannah Hoffman for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Hannah Hoffman is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Hannah Hoffman is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Hannah Hoffman for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes on Monday, May 23, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay” on roll call vote 229 and “yea” on roll call vote 230.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT HURT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote Number 229 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill (H.R. 4889), the Kelsey Smith Act. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

RECOGNIZING STUDENTS  
ENTERING OUR ARMED FORCES

**HON. RICHARD L. HANNA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to honor high school graduates from the Broome-Tioga Board of Cooperative Educational Services area who are entering the United States Armed Forces. These young men and women have made an admirable decision to defend our country. I join the Conklin Kiwanis Club in honoring them.

The Conklin Kiwanis Club will hold a special celebration to honor these graduating high school seniors. “The First to Say Thank You” event will take place on Tuesday, May 24th at Susquehanna Valley High School in Conklin.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask you join me in honoring the following students entering the Army National Guard: Sabrina Robinson, Afton; Cydney Mallory, Chenango Valley; Jonathan White, Downsville; Tyler Festa, Dryden; Debick Wilson, Harpursville; Chris Thornton, Oneonta; Jacob Johannessen-Butler, Roscoe; Kaitlyn Howard, Sherburne-Earlville; Rebecca Urda, Trumansburg; Dan Spring, Tully; Zach Abdullah, Windsor; Zach Emmons, Windsor.

Honoring the students entering the United States Air Force: Katherine M. Colwell, New Milford, PA; Ryan T. Simmons, Chenango Forks.

Honoring the students entering the United States Army: Sean Sousa, Binghamton; Dylan Bean, Candor; Dylan Jumper, Chenango Forks; Izaiah Cabello, Chenango Valley; Michael Doan, Chenango Valley; Nicholas Mace, Chenango Valley; Donald Moore, Chenango Valley; Robert McDowell, Hancock; Ashlyn Dudek, Harpursville; Tyler Lavergne, Harpursville; Joshua Wagoner, Johnson City; Sydney Aleba, Whitney Point; Nytice Saunders, Whitney Point; Mr. Isaac Hyde, Windsor; Mr. Jeffrey Colwell, Windsor.

Honoring the students entering the United States Marines: Joseph Cardenas, Afton; Ray Zukowsky, Bainbridge; Rebecca Wlasiuk,

Bainbridge; Dylan Frey, Chenango Forks; Shawn Hurd, Binghamton; Cordell Deperiis, Chenango Forks; Nathan Deordio, Chenango Forks; Alex Lent, Cortland; Jacob Gombas, Dryden; Chris Lum, Greene; Derek McWeeney, Franklin; Ian Stoddard, Homer; Zachary Hulbert, Homer; Dylan Bush, Homer; Daniel Sager, Maine-Endwell; Stephanie Wales, Marathon; Alex Wilcox, Newark Valley; Kasimeir Card, Newark Valley; Raymond Wright, McGraw; Nicholas Murphy, Norwich; Robert Meek, Oxford; Tyler Phillips, Roxbury; Robert Kozak, South Kortright; Samuel Cohen, Sidney; Michael Pelicci, Susquehanna High School (PA); Trevor Passeti, Susquehanna High School (PA); Cody ODell, Susquehanna High School (PA); Lucian Derzanovich, Susquehanna Valley; James Fish, Susquehanna Valley; Drake Winnicki, Unadilla Valley; Dwight Cook, Unadilla Valley; Dominic Spinelli, Union-Endicott; Lauryl Pheil, Union-Endicott; Anthony Johnson, Union-Endicott; Alex Gaskin, Union-Endicott; Michael Kakusian, Vestal; Zachary Simerson, Whitney Point; Dante Pultz, Windsor.

Honoring the students entering the United States Navy: Abigail Proppe, Binghamton; Robert Crisell, Deposit; Ian Scaglione, Groton; Isaiah Brand, Johnson City; Mark Nicosia, Johnson City; Kevin Finkbeiner, Maine-Endwell; Benjamin Judkiewicz, Maine-Endwell; Shea Osovski, Maine-Endwell; Austin Fiske, Marathon; Matthew Harrington, Norwich; Samuel Rickenback, Vestal.

Honoring the students entering the United States Coast Guard: Liam Cornell, Union-Endicott.

## NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. SCOTT H. PETERS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 18, 2016*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4909) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2017 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Chair, Iran is a chief sponsor of international terrorism and regularly threatens to obliterate Israel, our most important ally in the region. Those who supported the agreement last year to keep Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon understood that the JCPOA does not eliminate all of Iran's threats to the United States and our partners in the Middle East.

My amendment would take further steps to support our allies in the region and crack down on Iranian aggression.

By vocalizing our support for working with Israel, the Gulf Cooperation Council, Jordan, and Egypt to build an integrated missile defense system, we can build off of the success of Israel's existing missile defense network.

I support the funding authorizations included in this year's defense budget that will continue to support Israel's missile defense program.

Through a smart, targeted approach with our partners, we can continue to counter Ira-

nian aggression and promote security. I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

## HONORING THE EL PASO YOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

**HON. BETO O'ROURKE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of the 23rd Anniversary of the El Paso Youth Symphony Orchestra (EPYSO), presided over by Maestro Phillip Gabriel Garcia of my district in El Paso, Texas. I am pleased to recognize EPYSO as an innovative youth group dedicated to serving the El Paso community through their hard work and musical talents.

Since 1993, EPYSO has provided young El Pasoans who are passionate about music an opportunity to perform in El Paso and communities throughout the United States with the intention of raising awareness about social justice issues. EPYSO has performed at various El Paso venues, including the Child Crisis Center, the Battered Women Shelter, Fort Bliss, and the La Fe Community Health Center. Most recently, EPYSO performed at the University of Texas at El Paso's Sun Bowl stadium during Pope Francis' historic February 2016 visit to Ciudad Juarez, Mexico. This summer, EPYSO will embark on the "America United Tour", where they will perform in New York City and in Washington, D.C.

With over 250 concerts performed and 3,500 musicians hosted, EPYSO instills a sense of pride and confidence in young individuals through their personal achievements as musicians. I am proud that programs such as EPYSO exist in my district, and I am confident that EPYSO will serve as a positive role model in helping to inspire youth to serve their communities.

## CONNOR DENNY

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Connor Denny for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Connor Denny is an 8th grader at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Connor Denny is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Connor Denny for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SISTER JEANNE FELION AND THE 5TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CARL R. HANSEN TEEN CENTER

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 40th anniversary of Sister Jeanne Felion as Executive Director at the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center. Additionally, I rise today to recognize the 5th anniversary of the Carl R. Hansen Teen Center and of Erika Elizarrarás, a social worker who is celebrating her 5th anniversary working at the Teen Center. As the friends and supporters of Sister Jeanne Felion and the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center gather to celebrate these milestones, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring her leadership in the Sacramento region.

It is a great pleasure to recognize Sister Jeanne Felion. Thanks to her leadership and vision over the past four decades, Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center continues to be a valuable community resource providing social services to thousands of people in our North Sacramento communities. Programs offered benefit the health and well-being of all and include senior and children services, neighborhood outreach, and emergency assistance.

The Sisters of Social Services began the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center 80 years ago when they took charge of the former residence of Governor Leland Stanford. The Sisters later moved their programs to the Gardenland Northgate area. Their work was instrumental in obtaining City water, parks, street lights, sidewalks and gutters for the area. The facility grew to include both the Sister Jeanne Felion Senior Center and the Carl R. Hansen Teen Center.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Sister Jeanne Felion and to the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center as they celebrate Sister Jeanne's 40th anniversary as executive director. While Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center's staff, supporters, and friends gather together to celebrate Sister Jeanne and the 5th anniversary of the Carl R. Hansen Teen Center, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring her outstanding work in providing the community with much-needed social services.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call 229, I would like to be recorded as voting Yea. On Roll Call 230, I would like to be recorded as voting Yea.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present in the House chamber for certain roll call votes this past week. Had I been present on May 17 through 19, 2016, I would have voted 'aye' for roll calls 198, 203, 204, 210, 212, 213, 215, 221, 223, 226 and 228 and 'nay' on roll calls 196, 197, 199, 200, 201, 202, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 211, 214, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 222, 224, 225, and 227.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TIM HUELSKAMP**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. HUELSKAMP. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, May 23, 2016, I was not present for roll call vote numbers 229 and 230 due to a family obligation. If I had been in attendance, I would have voted yes on the Kelsey Smith Act, roll call vote 229. On the Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act, roll call vote 230, I also would have voted yes.

## HAILEY INNES

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Hailey Innes for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Hailey Innes is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Hailey Innes is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Hailey Innes for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING RAY AND  
KAYSE PAUL ON THEIR 50TH  
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sense of joy that I rise today to congratulate Ray and Kayse Paul, two esteemed citizens of Farmers Branch, Texas, on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary.

Ray and Kayse met while at Jerry's restaurant in Louisville, Kentucky. This fateful encounter grew into a blossoming relationship and the two were married on June 11, 1966, at Holy Name Catholic Church in Louisville.

Early in their marriage, Ray worked as an accountant, and Kayse as an administrative assistant and bookkeeper. They have lived in several states throughout the country, including Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, and Texas. The two currently reside in Farmers Branch, where Ray still works part-time as an accountant and Kayse serves as a grant administrator for a non-profit in Dallas.

Their half-century of marriage has provided a lifetime of memories and a beautiful family. During their time together, Ray and Kayse have had one son, David, who has given them two grandchildren, Alexander and Elizabeth.

As Ray and Kayse's journey together continues to unfold, may their commitment and devotion to one another continue to serve as an example of how true love and dedication may enrich our lives through the blessings of family and companionship.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing this truly noteworthy milestone, the 50 year wedding anniversary of Ray and Kayse Paul.

IN RECOGNITION OF RIVERGATE  
TERRACE FOR SERVICE TO OUR  
COMMUNITY**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Rivergate Terrace on their 45th anniversary and celebrating the milestone of having served twenty five thousand residents. The accomplishment of this long-standing senior care facility exemplifies the importance and strength of healthcare partnerships in our communities.

Founded in 1971, Rivergate Terrace and the Rivergate Health Center has become a pillar of service and support in the Riverview community. It has grown throughout the years, and today the combined facility houses over five hundred beds and is the largest employer in the city of Riverview. Rivergate has a strong track record of giving back to the wider community. The Rivergate staff provides educational programming throughout the community on a wide array of health care topics, volunteer at local churches, community centers, and hospitals, and host the annual Downriver Arthritis Walk which attracts hundreds of walkers and raises critical resources for Arthritis research each year. Serving the community is at the heart of what Rivergate does, both on the clock, and off the clock.

Since its founding, Rivergate has held itself to the highest standards of excellence to ensure that our community continues to have a high quality skilled care facility to turn to. They offer twenty four hour a day, seven day a week, three hundred and sixty five day a year high quality individualized services and programming. The services offered at Rivergate run the spectrum of challenges that our seniors face today, with the goal of getting residents the care they need to lead the fullest and most productive lives imaginable. The

Rivergate team takes pride in the fact that over two hundred and fifty patients return home after rehabilitation services each year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in honoring Rivergate Terrace and the Rivergate Health Center on serving twenty five thousand people on their 45th Anniversary. We wish them many years of continued success and service in our community.

TRIBUTE TO THE BRIDESBURG  
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bridesburg Boys & Girls Club which opened its doors in 1941. Originally built as a Boys Club by Otto Haas and the neighboring Rohm and Haas Plant as a place where boys could socialize, it included a game room, a wood shop, a leather crafts shop, a boxing room and a gymnasium. Sports were the main activity. There was a baseball field adjacent to the building and an iron fence surrounded the property. Girls were not permitted.

Girls were invited to become members in the mid 70's and the name was changed to Bridesburg Boys & Girls Club. The club has become one of the best youth service agencies in Philadelphia. In the late 70's a capital campaign for funds resulted in a new, larger gymnasium being built. Rohm & Haas deeded the property to the Boys & Girls Club in 1984. Gone is the baseball field, replaced in the mid 80's by a regulation size outdoor hockey rink and parking lot. In 1997 the vegetable garden was tended for the last time and the Lil' Clubhouse was built adjacent to the existing facility. During the summer of 1998, in a combined effort with KABOOM and Nike—and a lot of help from the employees of Rohm and Haas and Sunoco—a preschool playground was built in two days. The summer of 1999 had the club building again—this time it was a skate park, complete with eleven ramps for skateboards, bikes and rollerblades. Riverside Skate Park opened in September, 1999, closing in the spring of 2002. This would not have been possible if Rohm and Haas had not leased the ground, formerly an employee parking lot, to the Boys & Girls Club.

Many changes have taken place at the Club over the years, the most recent with Samsung and HDTV performing a complete makeover in the original wood shop, a/k/a art room, teen lounge and conference room, turning it into an exciting teen center, complete with new windows, furniture, tablets and a flat screen. Thanks to Comcast Cares, the art room was moved into a newly renovated space on the ground level, the teen center was freshly painted and the lavatory facilities have been expanded and improved. The gym and hallway received a complete makeover and the Cymbala Literacy Center was remodeled, complete with new computers, furniture, windows and air conditioning.

The Club offers a wholesome environment in a friendly setting, enhancing the quality of life of the members by providing educational support, physical fitness programs, cultural

and recreational activities, vocational development and guidance. It instills a feeling of importance in the members while helping build character and leadership abilities.

After-school child care and preschool day care support the needs of working parents. Our preschool program is committed to promoting quality child care that contributes to increased social and emotional development, learning skills and school readiness. The Summer Career Exploration Program provides on-the-job experience to teenagers for a six week period. All teenagers are invited to apply for summer employment, beginning with the completion of job applications and being called in for an interview. The interview process itself teaches teens valuable life skills in obtaining employment, especially how to present oneself at an interview. It also provides self-esteem and self-awareness. Leadership abilities are enhanced when a youth is placed in a job, has a say in decision making and becomes responsible for their performance. A sense of pride is established when a teenager can say "I did a good job today." Adult participants act as mentors for the teens. The youth involved in this program attend workshops covering topics such as peer pressure, conflict resolution and substance abuse prevention, to name just a few.

Summer camp is a well-rounded, ten-week program offering each child opportunities that may not be afforded to them if they stayed home with a babysitter. Campers receive breakfast, lunch and a snack each day and all go on one trip a week to places like the FunPlex, The Academy of Natural Sciences, The Franklin Institute and the Brunswick Zone. The Club offers a computer program, arts and crafts, environmental education and other activities designed to instill creativeness and pride in our children. Anti-violence workshops teach the youngsters to respect themselves and others. Children are taught that they can make the world a better place by believing we are all members of the same race—the human race. They learn to protect the environment by recycling, to improve literacy by reading and to help others by performing club related community service.

The Club also has a scholarship program which provides small financial gifts to college bound members. Keystone and Torch encourages children to stay in school and guides them in career and vocational choices. The Club is also a worksite for the Juvenile Justice System and many youth perform court-ordered community service there.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the Bridesburg Boys & Girls Club, an organization that has been proudly serving the youth of Philadelphia's neighboring communities for over 75 years, demonstrating in so many ways that they are an organization that truly lives up to their motto, Great Futures Start Here.

IAN DONALDSON

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ian Donaldson

for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ian Donaldson is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ian Donaldson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ian Donaldson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for votes taken last Wednesday and Thursday, May 18–19, due to a family health emergency. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call Vote Number 200 (Passage of H. Res. 735): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 201 (Adoption of the Previous Question on H. Res. 736): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 202 (Passage of H. Res. 736): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 203 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1014 to H.R. 4909 offered by Rep. DAVID MCKINLEY): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 204 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1016 to H.R. 4909 offered by Rep. JERROLD NADLER): YES.

Roll Call Vote Number 205 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1019 to H.R. 4909 offered by Rep. TED POE): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 206 (Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 207 (Passage of H.R. 5243, the Zika Response Appropriations Act, 2016): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 208 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1029 to H.R. 4909 offered by Rep. KEN BUCK): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 209 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1030 to H.R. 4909 offered by Rep. JOHN FLEMING): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 210 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1033 to H.R. 4909 offered by Rep. BARBARA LEE): YES.

Roll Call Vote Number 211 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1034 to H.R. 4909 offered by Rep. JARED POLIS): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 212 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1036 to H.R. 4909 offered by Rep. KEITH ELLISON): YES.

Roll Call Vote Number 213 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1037 to H.R. 4909 offered by Rep. KEITH ELLISON): YES.

Roll Call Vote Number 214 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1041 to H.R. 4909 offered by Rep. MARK SANFORD): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 215 (Motion to Recommit H.R. 4909): YES.

Roll Call Vote Number 216 (Passage of H.R. 4909, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 217 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1057 to H.R. 4974 offered by Rep. MICK MULVANEY): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 218 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1058 to H.R. 4974 offered by Rep. MICK MULVANEY): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 219 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1059 to H.R. 4974 offered by Rep. MICK MULVANEY): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 220 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1060 to H.R. 4974 offered by Rep. MICK MULVANEY): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 221 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1062 to H.R. 4974 offered by Rep. EARL BLUMENAUER): YES.

Roll Call Vote Number 222 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1063 to H.R. 4974 offered by Rep. JOHN FLEMING): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 223 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1064 to H.R. 4974 offered by Rep. JARED HUFFMAN): YES.

Roll Call Vote Number 224 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1075 to H.R. 4974 offered by Rep. PAUL GOSAR): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 225 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1076 to H.R. 4974 offered by Rep. SCOTT PERRY): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 226 (Passage of H. AMDT. 1079 to H.R. 4974 offered by Rep. SEAN PATRICK MALONEY): YES.

Roll Call Vote Number 227 (Engrossment and Third Reading): NO.

Roll Call Vote Number 228 (Passage of H.R. 4974, the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2017): YES.

IN HONOR OF GTI'S 75TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. TAMMY DUCKWORTH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Ms. DUCKWORTH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Gas Technology Institute (GTI) on its 75th anniversary. Located in the heart of Illinois' 8th District, GTI is a large part of our community and a pillar of our country's energy sector.

Every day, GTI researchers develop protocols, processes, technologies, tools and training solutions which enhance our energy products worldwide. Starting with only a dozen staff and barely enough space to conduct a few experiments, GTI quickly grew. Utilizing their robust technical expertise, currently GTI holds over 1,300 patents; including more than 80 patents for fuel cells technology.

I have had the opportunity to visit GTI and see firsthand their state-of-the-art facilities and learn about their developments in advanced biofuels. For 75 years, GTI has provided innovative solutions to critical energy challenges and improved the way we produce, transport and use energy.

I applaud GTI's success and congratulate them on 75 remarkable years of innovation, leadership and expertise in our energy sector. Illinois is fortunate to be home to such a renowned institution.

IN HONOR OF MR. E. DALE WORTHAM

**HON. AL GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, my colleague the Honorable GENE

GREEN and I would like to honor the memory of a distinguished labor leader: Mr. E. Dale Wortham. Throughout Mr. Wortham's life, he held a variety of positions, including President of the Harris County Labor Assembly for over 20 years, Vice President/Organizer of IBEW Local 716, and as delegate at many national and state conventions. In these positions, he was on the frontlines in the fight for a living wage and fair working conditions.

Mr. Wortham was not only a notable labor leader, but also served on the Harris County Board of Managers for the Harris Health System, earning the distinction of the body's longest-serving labor representative. Mr. Wortham will be especially remembered for his passion for helping people through the political process, especially working people.

Mr. Speaker, we are blessed to say farewell to a dear friend who is gone but not forgotten. He will be missed dearly by a multitude of family and friends. This family includes Melinda Wortham; son, Stephen Dale Wortham; his sisters, Becky Rogers (George), Leslie Broussard (Jimmy), and Lisa Persky (Ronnie); as well as his brother, Jason Krieg.

MARIANA MARQUEZ-CASTELLANO

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mariana Marquez-Castellano for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Mariana Marquez-Castellano is an 8th grader at North Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Mariana Marquez-Castellano is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mariana Marquez-Castellano for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF FATHER EDWARD ARTHUR REESE, S.J., PRESIDENT OF BROPHY COLLEGE PREPARATORY

**HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Father Edward Arthur Reese, President of Brophy College Preparatory, one of the most prestigious and successful Jesuit educational institutions for young men in Arizona. For the past 20 years, Father Reese has been the anchor and backbone of this school and the larger Catholic community in

Phoenix. He retires at the end of this academic year and leaves behind a legacy of educational excellence, community service and true dedication to his faith.

Father Reese will be remembered for his bold vision, bringing a culture of innovation to the entire Brophy community. The highlights of his vision are reflected in his founding of the Loyola Academy, a 6th, 7th and 8th grade middle school on the Brophy campus which offers a Jesuit education to underserved students with academic and leadership potential at no cost to them.

Additionally he is leaving for St. Ignatius of Loyola High School in San Francisco and taking his legacy of technology in the classroom with faculty and students free to experiment, leaning forward to learn while preparing for the future without fear. We wish Father Reese the very best as he takes on a new challenge and we thank him for his tremendous contribution to our community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 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 \$19,209,816,164,726.68. We've added \$8,582,939,115,813.06 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO DONELLA BROWN WILSON

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Donella Brown Wilson, a trailblazing educator and community leader. Today is her 107th birthday.

Born May 24, 1909, in Fort Motte, South Carolina, Mrs. Wilson grew up on the land where her great-grandparents had worked as slaves. As a young girl, she realized that she wanted to teach others to read. She started by teaching herself, studying the pages of the Sears & Roebuck catalog by the light of an oil lamp.

Mrs. Wilson achieved this goal in 1933 when she earned her teaching credentials from Allen University in Columbia. She embarked on a long teaching career, mostly in rural parts of the state, retiring in 1971.

In 1931, she married Reverend John R. Wilson, Sr., who was also an educator. They purchased a home in the historic Waverley community of Columbia, where they became community institutions. Mrs. Wilson is a life member of the NAACP, South Carolina Education Association, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and Union Baptist Church. She is a past national superintendent in the United Order of Tents,

Inc. In recent years, Mrs. Wilson has become the unofficial historian of Waverley, and her willingness to recount her life experiences has enriched many of us of subsequent generations.

The changes Mrs. Wilson has seen over the last 107 years have been remarkable. She played a big part in bringing them about when she was involved in the landmark case *Elmore v. Rice* in 1947, which successfully challenged the legality of the whites-only Democratic primary in South Carolina. Treasuring this victory and fully understanding the crucial importance of the ballot, she has voted in every election since. Six years ago, I honored Mrs. Wilson's request that I accompany her as she cast her first vote for me after turning 100. She said in 2012, "Those of us that live to see how you graduated from and came up the ladder makes us feel that our days, that our prayers and our working in the fields and what not, was not in vain."

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in wishing Mrs. Wilson a very happy 107th birthday. It is a remarkable milestone befitting a remarkable woman. I wish her good health and Godspeed.

SPENCER LITTEL

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Spencer Littell for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Spencer Littell is a 12th grader at Faith Christian Academy and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Spencer Littell is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Spencer Littell for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF THOMAS GARVEY

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Thomas Garvey, a native of Ridley Park, Delaware County, Pennsylvania who served as an Army Ranger and Special Forces officer during the war in Vietnam.

A graduate of St. James High School in Chester, Thomas Garvey enlisted in the Army in 1965 in Philadelphia. He volunteered to serve as a paratrooper and eventually entered Officer Candidate School. He earned his Ranger tab and led a Special Force "A-

Team" detachment along the Vietnam-Cambodian border in 1968.

Just last year, Garvey completed a book that drew from his experiences in Vietnam. Nearly 50 years in the making, Garvey's "Many Beaucoup Magics" is his account of the dangers and costs of war as he saw them firsthand.

Mr. Speaker, Thomas Garvey will be honored next week at the Ridley Park Memorial Day Ceremony, where he will serve as keynote speaker. I congratulate him on this honor and thank him for his service to our country.

HONORING MAYOR WILLIAM E. TROXELL OF GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

**HON. SCOTT PERRY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I honor William E. Troxell on his May 31, 2016 retirement as Mayor of the Borough of Gettysburg.

Mr. Troxell was born in Gettysburg and is a direct descendant of John Troxell, the first settler of Gettysburg. He is a World War II Veteran and served 12 years in the United States Army Reserve. He returned home to serve in the private sector for many years, and then served for 29 years with the Lincoln Intermediate Unit 12 as a teacher, football coach, athletic director, among other positions.

Mr. Troxell's dedication to Gettysburg and its surrounding community is unmatched. He was a member of the Gettysburg Country Club, American Legion Post 202, the Gettysburg Good Samaritan Masonic Lodge No. 336 and the Fraternal Order of the Eagles Arie 1562. Mr. Troxell is a Licensed Battlefield Guide at Gettysburg National Military Park, served on the National Park Advisory Commission and is a member of both the Adams County Historical Society and the U.S.S. Gettysburg Association.

William is best known, however, as Mayor Troxell of Gettysburg; a position he's held since 1997 and performed with zeal, professionalism and class. His dedication to duty as Mayor of "America's Most Famous Small Town" has earned him the respect of countless officials and citizens with whom he's interacted. William has left an enduring legacy of service to Gettysburg and our Nation.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District and a grateful Nation, I'm proud and humbled to congratulate William E. Troxell on his retirement and wish him great health, happiness and prosperity in his future adventures.

COMMENDING THE FBI'S KIRK YEAGER FOR BEING NOMINATED A FINALIST FOR THE 2016 SAMUEL J. HEYMAN SERVICE TO AMERICA MEDAL

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend my constituent, Mr. Kirk Yeager, on his

commitment to government service and his nomination as a finalist for the 2016 Samuel J. Heyman Service to American Medal.

Service to America Medals, or Sammies as they've become known, are presented annually by the nonprofit, nonpartisan Partnership for Public Service to honor outstanding federal employees who have made significant contributions to our nation. In recognizing their achievements, we not only pay tribute to our dedicated federal workforce, but also promote a culture of innovation and achievement in our government.

When there is a terrorist bombing or a new type of explosive poses a threat to the U.S., the FBI primarily turns to one man: Kirk Yeager. Kirk is the FBI's resident bomb expert; anything that deals with explosives that comes to the FBI, goes to Kirk.

Yeager doesn't just respond to crises. In his daily work, he oversees the bureau's research focused on getting a better understanding of the explosives terrorists use. He also developed the FBI's advanced training material on terrorist explosives.

As a chemist and an engineer, as well as one of the FBI's five senior laboratory scientists, Kirk has been studying bomb-making for more than 20 years. His goal is to understand what ingredients are used, how bombs are made, and how they can be detected. He seeks to use this knowledge to trace devices to specific terrorist organizations or known bomb-makers around the world.

As part of his work, he helped start a training program and developed information for bomb technicians across the country, including those employed by private companies. In one instance, the training materials helped a shipping company successfully stop a "lone wolf" plot, according to Kirk. He says his biggest challenge is trying to keep up with the evolving nature of the terrorist threat. He will continue to "reproduce everything that the bad guys do," he said, so he can save lives and "make a difference and contribute to the broader community."

I would like to personally thank Kirk Yeager for his service to our country and for his tireless work to protect the people of the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me once more in recognizing the tremendous contributions of Mr. Kirk Yeager. He is but one of many dedicated federal employees performing extraordinary work through the federal government in communities across America each and every day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TOM COLE**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for the following votes; however, if I had been present, I would have voted "YEA" on the following bills:

H.R. 4889—Kelsey Smith Act

H.R. 4167—Kari's Law Act of 2016, as amended

H.R. 3998—Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act, as amended

H.R. 2589—To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to require the Federal Commu-

nications Commission to publish on its Internet website changes to the rules of the Commission not later than 24 hours after adoption.

PAUL STONE

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Paul Stone for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Paul Stone is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Paul Stone is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Paul Stone for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

DR. JIM W. CAIN

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the fine career and outstanding public service of Dr. Jim Cain, superintendent of Klein ISD. Dr. Cain has devoted over 47 years to the education of our youth, serving as a teacher, coach, assistant principal, principal, instructional officer for technology, director of school administration, assistant superintendent and superintendent. He has devoted his life to education and bettering our community, and it is with great pleasure that I express my admiration and gratitude. I offer him my utmost congratulations for his long and successful career.

Dr. Cain began his career as a teacher, in his home state of Illinois, after graduating from the University of Illinois in 1969. He then made one of the best decisions of his life, he moved to the great state of Texas and in 1978 he took his first job at Klein ISD at Benfer Elementary. He has served in many different roles during his 36 years with the district, 12 of those as superintendent. Dr. Cain has achieved recognition and numerous awards at the local, state and federal level for his leadership and hands on involvement in the success of the students at Klein ISD. Last Thursday, at the Klein ISD staff banquet, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award. His dedication has earned him the respect and admiration of the teachers, staff and students under his supervision as well as the community. His intellect, eagerness, and vision will be sincerely missed by not only Klein, but the many other communities that he has touched.

Dr. Cain is a dedicated family man, having been married to his wife Susan for 39 years,

and the proud father of two adult children; Ross and Ashley. Dr. Cain and Susan are looking forward to traveling and spending time with their four grandchildren.

On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I commend this remarkable leader for his exemplary service and dedication to the State of Texas. I thank him for a job well done and I wish him the best of luck in the future as he enters into this new phase of life.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on May 18, 2016, due to a family emergency I was absent for recorded votes 206 through 216.

I would like to reflect how I would have voted if I were here:

On Roll Call Number 206 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 207 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 208 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 209 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 210 I would have voted yes,

On Roll Call Number 211 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 212 I would have voted yes,

On Roll Call Number 213 I would have voted yes,

On Roll Call Number 214 I would have voted no,

On Roll Call Number 215 I would have voted yes, and

On Roll Call Number 216 I would have voted no.

#### TOM RICE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

##### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful that Congressman TOM RICE of South Carolina, with his accounting and legal background, was recognized for his role in determining the unlawful implementation of Obamacare. The following article by Emma Dumain was published May 13, 2016, in the Charleston Post and Courier:

WASHINGTON—A federal judge on Thursday ruled the Obama administration was improperly funding a subsidy program of the Affordable Care Act, a victory for House Republicans who took the unprecedented action nearly two years ago to sue the White House.

U.S. Rep. Tom Rice argues that he's partially to thank.

The South Carolina Republican doesn't get much, if any, public credit for being the first member of Congress to broach the idea of filing a lawsuit against President Barack Obama on the grounds he was overstepping the limitations of the executive branch on health care, immigration and other issues.

But as Rice tells it, the seeds of the Obamacare lawsuit began with the resolution he introduced in December 2013 at the end of his very first year on Capitol Hill.

Rice became bothered by Obama's alleged circumventing of Congress that summer when the U.S. Supreme Court determined the penalties the health law places on individuals who don't buy insurance are protected by the Constitution, because they count as taxes.

Around that time, Rice, like other Republicans, was also reeling over Obama's decision to delay implementation of the so-called "employer mandate" which requires business owners to provide health insurance for their employees.

"I'm a tax lawyer," Rice told The Post and Courier, "so I knew that cannot be right. If the president can just willy nilly choose to waive a tax or enforce a tax, then his power is unlimited. He can say, 'well, I'm not gonna apply the highest tax rate this year. I'm not gonna apply the capital gains tax this year. I'm not gonna apply whatever.'"

So Rice consulted legal experts on what legislative remedies might exist to hold Obama accountable short of impeachment, which even the staunchest critics of the administration knew was a political minefield.

The result was the STOP Act, short for "Stop This Over-Reaching President Act." It authorized the House of Representatives to sue the Obama administration in any of the following areas: The delay of the employer mandate, the stays of deportations for certain children of undocumented immigrants, and changes in criteria for receiving welfare.

Rice took the resolution to then-House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio.

"I asked him to read it and to my surprise he came back to me within two hours," Rice recalled. "And he said, 'a lawsuit against the president? That's kind of radical, isn't it?' So I knew it wasn't going anywhere fast."

But momentum grew, with more co-sponsors signing onto the STOP Act every time Obama said or did something that perturbed the Republican base.

"I filed it right before Christmas of 2013. And over December the president said, 'I got a pen and a phone and if you all don't do what I want you to do I'm gonna do it myself.' And I got like 50 co-sponsors the next day," said Rice. "And then in January he gave the State of the Union address and he said, 'if you don't enact my agenda then I'm gonna do it myself.' I got 15 more co-sponsors."

As 2014 wore on, the pressure was growing on Boehner to allow the House to act.

"He was getting a lot of calls," said Rice, "so he called me in and said, 'I need you to help me market this but I'm going to re-file this resolution under my name.' So he did. He put my resolution aside and filed an entirely new resolution."

By July, the House voted to authorize a lawsuit in federal court challenging Obama's delay in implementing the employer mandate. It also targeted the cost-sharing program between the administration and insurance companies which Republicans say Congress never approved.

On Thursday, a federal district judge in Washington, D.C., ruled in the House's favor on that second point. The Justice Department has appealed the ruling, which sets up a prolonged legal battle. Rice said he still feels "vindicated."

"I'm happy that it moves towards restoration of the balance of powers that the framers set up in the Constitution," he said. "I'm sorry we had to go through this great lengths to make that happen."

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately on May 23, 2016, I missed roll call votes 229 and 230 due to travel delays caused by inclement weather in traveling from Columbus, Ohio to Washington, D.C. On roll call vote 229, had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on final passage of the Kelsey Smith Act, H.R. 4889. On roll call vote 230, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on final passage of the Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act, H.R. 3998.

#### TAMILA BUTS

##### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tamila Buts for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Tamila Buts is a 12th grader at Nationwide Academy (Home Schooled) and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tamila Buts is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Tamila Buts for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

#### PEARLAND HIGH SCHOOL'S FRED ARMSTRONG CELEBRATES 35 YEARS OF COACHING

##### HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pearland High School Coach, Fred Armstrong for his 35-year career of coaching track and field.

Armstrong graduated from Beaumont French High School and Lamar University, where he attended school on a track scholarship. His first job was at Beaumont Charlton-Pollard High School, he then shifted to Clear Lake and Clear Brook High Schools. Eventually working his way to Pearland High School, Armstrong coached multiple state champions. Over his 35 year career in Track and Field, Armstrong has seen the sport evolve firsthand.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to recognize Fred Armstrong for his 35 years as a track and field coach and mentor to our area's

young athletes. Thank you for coaching some of the state's finest athletes.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CARLOS CURBELO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. CURBELO of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on May 23, I missed votes on account of a family commitment in the district. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call 229: I would have voted Yea: H.R. 4889—Kelsey Smith Act.

Roll Call: 230: I would have voted Yea: H.R. 3998—Securing Access to Networks in Disasters Act.

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ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST CELEBRATES THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 24, 2016*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the St. John's United Church of Christ for providing faith and fellowship to the Rosenberg community for 75 years.

St. John's United Church of Christ congregation has been a place of worship for generations. St. John's United Church of Christ had its beginnings in 1941 when Reverend William Luthe met in City Hall to develop plans for the beginning of an Evangelical and Reformed Church in Rosenberg. Since the church opened its doors, there have been six ministers and four interim ministers guiding their congregation in worship.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, I want to congratulate St. John's United Church of Christ on its 75th anniversary. Thank you again for bringing faith, fellowship and worship to our community; we look forward to another 75 years.