

They would improve safety by permitting manufacturers to deliver newer and safer technology to the market more quickly.

Yet this legislation omits most of those reforms. That is a critical and unfortunate omission, in my view.

In addition, this legislation fails to synchronize flight attendant rest rules with pilot rest rules. Synchronizing these rules would enable flight attendants to receive the rest they need and further improve the safety and security of the flying public.

And while it falls outside the jurisdiction of the Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, I have serious concerns about expanding the look-back period to fifteen years for current and prospective airport employees.

I said back in February, when T&I marked up a controversial long-term FAA reauthorization, that I feared we were in for more serial extensions.

All Democrats and two Republicans voted against that bill because of its science experiment with air traffic control privatization. But the rest of the bill had strong bipartisan support, and instead of enacting another extension, we could be here to enact meaningful reforms that aviation stakeholders need.

So it is with disappointment that I am here to support a temporary extension.

HONORING MS. NANCY WATT

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Watt for her 19 years of public service with Napa County, California, including 12 years as the Napa County Executive Officer, as she moves onto the next stage of her career.

A native of Los Gatos, California, Ms. Watt earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Southern California, and then returned to the Bay Area and graduated with a Master's in Public Administration from Sonoma State University.

Ms. Watt began her career with Napa County as a Management Analyst in 1997, before becoming the Assistant County Administrator in 1999. Her success and leadership in these roles led to her appointment as County Executive Officer in 2004, making her the first woman to hold that position in Napa County.

Throughout her career, Ms. Watt has been an outstanding and inspiring public servant. As Executive Officer, she has led Napa County through challenging times including the Great Recession, the South Napa Earthquake, and the Valley Fire. Her integrity, keen judgment, and commitment to fairness kept the county moving and ensured its government met the needs of our community.

Mr. Speaker, Nancy Watt has dedicated nearly two decades to serving Napa County and has set an inspiring example of devoted public service. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

HONORING THE LIFE OF YILMARY RODRIGUEZ SOLIVAN

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Yilmery Rodriguez Solivan, a resident of my district who lived in Kissimmee, Florida. Yilmery's life was cut short during the tragic shooting at Pulse nightclub in Orlando, June 12, 2016.

Yilmery was married to race-car driver Juan Borges and was a mother of two, including a three-month-old son, Sergio. She worked at a Wendy's in Puerto Rico before moving to Florida.

Yilmery was enjoying a night out at Pulse with her friend Jonathan Camuy and her brother-in-law, William Borges. The group decided to go to a gay club because they believed them to be safer after an incident at another club. Before a gunman opened fire, Yilmery had smiled into a camera, posing for a photo with her brother-in-law and friend. Jonathan died trying to protect his friend Yilmery. She was 24 years old.

Yilmery Rodriguez Solivan will never be forgotten in our pursuit of a more just and loving world. Her memory and acts of kindness will live forever in the hearts and minds of those who knew her.

May her family, relatives and friends eventually find solace and comfort, and may she rest in eternal peace.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORLD ABSOLUTE SPEED RECORD SET BY THE SR-71

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of the World Absolute Speed Record flight by the Lockheed SR-71 'Blackbird,' one of the greatest achievements in aviation history. Even today, the 2,193 mph record set by the SR-71 'Blackbird' is still recognized by the World Air Sports Federation as the fastest humans have travelled during a sanctioned world record flight.

As the Representative from Georgia's Eighth Congressional District, I am deeply honored that a machine as magnificent as this aircraft rests alongside the Global Hawk and the U2 at the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins, Georgia. The SR-71 'Blackbird' flew for the first time on December 22, 1964. This aircraft, which could fly faster than the speed of a bullet at altitudes greater than 80,000 feet, remained the fastest and highest flying aircraft for the duration of its thirty five year career. The SR-71 'Blackbird' served crucial roles in the areas of combat, reconnaissance, and research for the United States. Due to its unmatched speed, altitude, and state-of-the-art stealth capabilities, the SR-71 'Blackbird' was integral in providing strategic advantages during the Vietnam War, the Yom Kippur War, and the Cold War. It also enabled the United States to conduct vital surveillance missions

over countries such as Libya, Lebanon, Yemen, North Korea, and China during periods of unrest.

I would like to thank the crew of the record breaking flight, Captain Eldon Joersz and Major George Morgan Jr., for their service to the United States and their role in marking the SR-71 'Blackbird's' place in history. I would also like to thank the Museum of Aviation in Warner Robins, Georgia for making it possible for visitors from around the country to see this great symbol of American innovation.

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF MR. NEAL W. ALLEN, III

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated public servant who has significantly contributed to Maine and our communities for more than forty years.

This July, Neal W. Allen will be retiring as the Executive Director of the Greater Portland Council of Governments after 18 years. In this role, he has led a regional planning organization that provides support to communities across Southern Maine around municipal services, transportation & land use, economic development, sustainability, housing, and many other issues that impact people in their daily lives.

At the Council of Governments, Mr. Allen led major initiatives around sound governance of the organization, along with the establishment of its Sustainability Principles. Those Principles opened new opportunities for the region, including a federal HUD Sustainability grant that involved more than 40 partners from Kittery to Brunswick. The Sustainability Principles also formed a basis for the Council's energy planning, electric vehicles initiatives, and designation in the U.S. Commerce Department's Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership.

Following service in the Coast Guard during the Vietnam era, Mr. Allen's career in Maine began in the 1970s, as an Assistant City Manager in Portland. Among other contributions to the City, he played a key role in establishing Portland's ambulance service, Medcu, the first of its kind in Maine. He then went on to serve the City through a variety of challenging issues as Acting City Manager and later, as the first Executive Director of the waste management organization that is now named Eco Maine. That program resulted in the closing of numerous open burning landfills and the establishment of a regional system for managing solid waste. Along the way, Mr. Allen served a Governor and U.S. Senator in various roles, and was the co-recipient, along with former Governor Joseph Brennan, of the State of Maine Award in 1983.

This is just a small sampling of the many ways that Neal Allen made our region better. This career is reflective of his commitment to public service and to the notion that practical, local collaboration can make a big difference in the daily lives of people in our communities. I doubt that this retirement will be the last word on his contributions to our community.

Mr. Speaker, I truly admire Mr. Allen for his long and devoted service to Maine, and would