

Hoosiers and frequently worked pro bono legal cases for the less fortunate. I never met someone who had anything but positive comments about Mark. He was active in the Rotary Club of Lafayette Indiana and in the Tippecanoe Republican Party, where he served as Party Secretary. Just last summer Mark arranged for me to speak with the Rotary Club where he graciously introduced me before my remarks.

Mark leaves Mary Kay, his beloved wife, four daughters, and eight grandchildren to carry on his legacy of service to fellow Hoosiers. Anyone who knew him well knows what a great loss his passing is for our community and the State of Indiana. May Mark rest in peace. He will not be forgotten.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RO KHANNA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2017*

Mr. KHANNA. Mr. Speaker, due to a scheduling miscommunication, I missed Roll Call vote 136 in the House yesterday afternoon of Wednesday, March 8th. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on roll call No. 136, H.R. 1301, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2017.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LYNN JENKINS**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2017*

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for roll call votes 133 through 137 on the evening of March 8, 2017. I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 174 which would provide for consideration of H.R. 1310, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2017. I would have voted against roll call votes 134 and 135 to adjourn. I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1310. Lastly, I would have voted in favor of roll call vote 137 to adjourn.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 133, NAY on Roll Call No. 134, NAY on Roll Call No. 135, YEA on Roll Call No. 136, and YEA on Roll Call No. 137.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2017*

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, due to my attendance at an event off the Capitol Hill campus, I was unable to make Roll Call vote No. 135. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

RECOGNIZING THE LIBRARIAN OF  
CONGRESS CARLA HAYDEN

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2017*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize the historic appointment of Ms. Carla Hayden to the post of Librarian of Congress. This is so significant because although more than eighty percent of librarians nationwide are females, the position of Librarian of Congress has been held exclusively by men, until Carla Hayden was appointed by Barack Obama in 2016.

Carla Hayden was enamored by books and reading from an early age, and began her career as a librarian in Chicago at the Museum of Science and Industry and the Chicago Public Library. It was during her time in Chicago that she met Barack and Michelle Obama.

After her impressive time in Chicago, Ms. Hayden left the windy city to take the position of Director at the Enoch Pratt Free Library, the public library system in Baltimore, Maryland. It was here that Ms. Hayden showed her true leadership as she improved and maintained an enormous public library operation. After the death of Freddie Gray, Ms. Hayden made the difficult decision to keep the Baltimore public libraries open in order to encourage people to use safe spaces and avoid violence. It is strong leadership like this that made her an excellent choice to become Librarian of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, yesterday, we celebrated International Women's Day, and I cannot think of a better way to acknowledge this day than by recognizing Carla Hayden, a pioneering woman of color whose very job will allow stories like hers to be told forever.

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IN MEMORIAM OF LAURA HOGAN

**HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2017*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a native Arizonan, a tireless community organizer and a valued member of the Southern Arizona political community. Laura Hogan passed away on February 24 in Tucson, Arizona. Laura was born in the small border town of Douglas, Arizona and she loved rural Arizona. She attended Michigan State University but returned to Arizona after graduation to work with former Superintendent of Public Instruction Carolyn Warner on educational policy and consulting.

Laura's passion was the working families of Arizona. She served as Field Director for the Pima Area Labor Federation, helping to organize and mobilize the labor community in Tucson to support candidates at the local, county, state and federal levels. She took that experience to Arizona List in 2007 where she served as the Political Director since. She simply loved to train and support women in their run for elected office. She has mentored countless young women and helped them plan and achieve their dreams of public service.

Laura was also active in the local Democratic Party, serving as the Chair of Legislative

District 30 and a Vice-Chair of the Arizona Democratic Party. She was inducted into the Arizona Democratic Party Hall of Fame in 2016.

I considered Laura a friend and a colleague in the Arizona political community. She was widely respected and admired for her hard work and dedication to her values. She will be greatly missed. I join the Arizona labor community, Democratic Party and Arizona List family in remembering Laura and working to ensure her legacy lives on through our work.

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INTRODUCTION OF SEAT EGRESS  
IN AIR TRAVEL (SEAT) ACT

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2017*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced, along with my colleague Rep. ADAM KINZINGER, the Seat Egress in Air Travel (SEAT) Act, which would direct the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to establish minimum seat size standards necessary to ensure the safety and health of airplane passengers. The bill would also require each airline to display the space available (size, width, and distance between rows) for each passenger on the airline website. The bill was introduced in the Senate today by Senator RICHARD BLUMENTHAL, Minority Leader CHUCK SCHUMER and Senators ED MARKEY and BOB MENENDEZ.

Consumers are tired of being squeezed. The average seat distance between rows of seats has dropped from 35 inches before airline deregulation in the 1970s to about 31 inches today. The average width of an airline seat has also shrunk from 18 inches to about 16½.

This isn't just a matter of comfort. It is about safety and health. The FAA requires that planes be capable of rapid evacuation in case of emergency. Furthermore, doctors warn of deep vein thrombosis which can afflict passengers who don't move their legs enough on longer flights.

Moreover, average seat sizes have been shrinking while the average size of Americans has been growing. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the average man in 1960 weighed 166 pounds, and the average woman weighed 140 pounds. Now the average man is 196 pounds and the average woman is 166 pounds, and both are about an inch taller.

This just doesn't make any sense.

I hope that Congress will quickly act on this bill to direct the FAA to establish minimum seat size standards to protect the safety and health of airline passengers.

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INTRODUCTION OF NO TRUMP ACT

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2017*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, the presidency should not be a get-rich-quick scheme. No president or presidential family should be able to exploit the Oval Office to get rich or become even wealthier.