EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING COMMUNITY BRIDGES OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

HON. JIMMY PANETTA
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 40th anniversary of Community Bridges of Santa Cruz County, which has acted as a catalyst for a brighter future by opening doors, offering hope, and providing a hand up to the people of Santa Cruz County, California, since 1977.

Community Bridges’ family of ten vital programs meets the needs of more than 22,000 children, families and seniors each year. Its programs empower seniors to live with independence and dignity, increase access to medical care and good nutrition, and provide education and family support.

Throughout the years, Community Bridges has helped launch more than ten nonprofit programs, saved five from closing their doors, and gained the respect of countless community initiatives. Every day, they work collaboratively to build on the safety net in our community and discover solutions to emerging issues across a broad spectrum of stakeholders. Community Bridges effectively engages a broad base of support to carry on their important mission that touches every part of our community for the benefit of all who live and work here.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize Community Bridges for 40 years of strengthening our diverse community by providing innovative human services.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF JUSTICE KATHRYN WERDEGAR

HON. JARED HUFFMAN
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of California Supreme Court Justice Kathryn Werdegar on her retirement after 23 years of exceptional stewardship on the court and 55 years of public service.

A resident of Marin County, Justice Werdegar received her Bachelor’s degree with valedictorian of her class. She showed clear determination and initiative, working directly with Attorney General Robert Kennedy and writing a brief that pressed for the release from jail of Martin Luther King, Jr. After moving back to California in 1963, Justice Werdegar took on a number of academic and legal challenges before going to work as a research attorney for the State Court of Appeal in 1981. Showing a voracious work ethic and attention to detail, she went on to become a senior staff attorney for the California Supreme Court only four years later.

Justice Werdegar’s career as a judge began in 1991, when Governor Wilson appointed her to the State Court of Appeal, only ten years after becoming a staff member for that body. Shortly thereafter, in 1994, Justice Werdegar was appointed by the Governor to the California Supreme Court where she has been ever since.

During her tenure on the California Supreme Court, Justice Werdegar strove to understand the real world impacts of each case brought before her. In doing so, she went beyond politics and ideology to prioritize the rights of people in both her majority and dissenting opinions. Some notable examples of this include her majority opinion in California’s three strikes law, her 2008 ruling that bans on same-sex marriages are unconstitutional, and her single dissenting opinion that gun manufacturers have a responsibility for the weapons they sell to the public. Because of her clear dedication to the law and rigorous approach to each case, Justice Werdegar is well regarded by her colleagues on and off the bench.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing deep appreciation for Justice Werdegar’s extraordinary service to the legal profession and the public at large by extending to her best wishes on her retirement.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA RIVERA CHAVIS

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.
OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues here in the House of Representatives to join me as I rise to pay tribute to Martha Rivera Chavis, and the many contributions she made as a dedicated resident of Montclair, New Jersey, and to countries abroad.

Born and raised in the Dominican Republic, Mrs. Chavis was an astounding woman who loved caring and providing service to people. She completed her studies at San Pedro Apostol Catholic School in the Dominican Republic and received her degree in French Civilization from Sorbonne University in Paris, France in 1987. Following her graduation she served as a French to Portuguese translator for the Republic of Angola’s Ambassador to the United Nations. It was during this time she met the love of her life, Rev. Dr. Benjamin Franklin Chavis. The couple married in September, 1988.

Mrs. Chavis was a beloved mother and fierce advocate for freedom, justice, and equality in the United States, Africa, and the Dominican Republic. She was an astounding First Lady of the National Newspaper Publishers Association, and First Lady of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Her service, however, far expanded from her First Lady roles. After her husband, Rev. Dr. Chavis, visited Angola, the couple cared for nine Angolans including six children with missing limbs as a result of the civil war in Angola, in their home in Montclair, New Jersey. Due to the Chavis’ unwavering care, when the nine Angolans returned to Africa, they were able to go back with prosthetics.

Mr. Speaker, I know my fellow members of the U.S. House of Representatives agree that Mrs. Chavis deserves to be recognized for a job well done, and for many years of service to her local and international communities.

ONGOING EFFORTS TO SUPPRESS THE VOTE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL
OF ALABAMA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to bring awareness to the Trump Administration’s nefarious voter suppression campaign. On June 28, a letter from the Presidential Advisory Commission on Election Integrity asked states to hand over personal information of voters ranging from Social Security numbers to party affiliation.

As I have stated before, these so called “election integrity” efforts are a sham, and a “solution” that is in search of a problem. The Administration’s ridiculously inaccurate claim “solution” that is in search of a problem. The Administration’s ridiculous case of millions of undocumented immigrants illegally voting is just another false and misleading statement. There are no facts that back up the Trump Administration’s claims. Unfortunately, these false claims are now being used as a justification to illegally collect voter information and suppress Americans’ sacred right to vote.

Fortunately, these voter suppression efforts by the Trump Administration have received bipartisan opposition. When asked if he would release his constituents’ private information, the Secretary of State from Mississippi, Mr. Delbert Hosemann, said that “they can go jump in the Gulf of Mexico, and Mississippi is a great state to launch from”. The Secretary of State from my home state of Alabama, Mr. John Merrill, has also refused to turn over private information. The opposition to this commission is so strong that 44 states have refused to turn over this private information.

If the Trump Administration were truly concerned about the integrity of our elections, he would join Congress in condemning Russia for interfering in our election and work with our intelligence community to prevent future election-related cyber threats.

• 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.
This year, I introduced an amendment to the 2017 Intelligence Authorization Act that provides our lawmakers, election officials, campaigns, and the public with additional information and resources to defend our democracy against emerging cyber threats. Our intelligence community warns that if we do not act on this issue, our democracy will fall victim to Russian cyber-threats. The cybersecurity of our elections shouldn’t be a partisan issue, and I was proud to see the House Intelligence Community take a step forward together by passing my amendment.

We have come too far to allow for voting barriers to be resurrected, or to allow our electorate process to be hijacked by a foreign entity. We have no choice but to move forward and unite to ensure that every citizen of the United States has the opportunity to vote. I call on all of my colleagues to condemn the malicious Election Integrity Commission created by this administration, and support my bill, H.R. 2978—The Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2017 to restore the protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

What we all owe to Liu Xiaobo

Hon. Christopher H. Smith
of New Jersey
in the House of Representatives
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, Liu Xiaobo’s premature death was a jarring shock to everyone who admired this champion of freedom and democracy. We mourn his loss because it is a tragic loss for his wife, family and friends and a catastrophic loss for China and the entire world.

We owe Liu Xiaobo a debt of gratitude because he demonstrated that the noble ideas of democracy and due process, liberty and the rule of law are not foreign ideas in China.

These are universal principles that beat strongly in the hearts of people everywhere from New Jersey to the Nineveh plains of Iraq, from Poland to Peru, and from Burma to Beijing.

We owe Liu Xiaobo a debt of gratitude because he reminded us that the desire for democracy and human rights is shared by everyone because each person is endowed by the Creator with inalienable rights.

The Chinese Communist Party has tried to curtail his ideas, they call them dangerous and subversive, and they seek to silence, censor, and repress them. Yet, they live on in the hearts of untold millions of Chinese people.

With Liu Xiaobo’s death, we are also reminded of the words of Dr. Martin Luther King who said “injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.” We should all agree that what was done to Liu Xiaobo and his wife Liu Xia was a grave injustice.

Liu Xiaobo’s imprisonment in 2009 became a death sentence. The blame for this should lie squarely on the Chinese government and for his death they alone should be held accountable.

Liu Xiaobo was the first Nobel Peace Prize winner to die in state custody since Carl von Ossietzky died after being held in a Nazi concentration camp.

The Chinese government complained that it was “stabbed in the back” by those expecting it to deal quickly with its client state in North Korea. How shameful it is to play the victim card while a victim of their own repression lay dying.

No nation should be judged entirely by crimes of the past, but this crime—the death and silencing of Liu Xiaobo—should follow the Chinese Communist Party like an unwashable, permanent stain.

We must never forget Liu Xiaobo’s enduring contributions—whether during the Tiananmen Massacre where he helped save the lives of many students, or when China 08—the treaty urging political and legal reforms in China based on constitutional principles.

We must not forget Liu Xiaobo; we must advance and preserve his legacy, and repeatedly confront the Chinese Communist Party with his ideas and memory.

In this time of need we must signal the Congress’s unanimous support for Liu Xiaobo’s family, his wife Liu Xia, and all those bravely standing up for human rights and liberty in China.

I was invited by Liu Xiaobo’s family to attend the 2010 Nobel Peace Prize ceremony. It was a moving ceremony; the now famous empty chair spoke volumes about the Chinese Communist Party’s abiding fear that human rights and democracy will undermine its power.

I will always remember the words of Liu Xiaobo’s speech that day about the importance of pressing for human rights: “Freedom of expression is the foundation of human rights, the source of humanity, and the mother of truth. To strangle freedom of speech is to trample on human rights, stifle humanity, and suppress truth.”

And he also expressed his hopes for China’s future: “. . . I firmly believe that China’s political process will not stop, and I, filled with optimism, look forward to the advent of a future free China. For there is no force that can put an end to the human quest for freedom, and China will in the end become a nation ruled by law, where human rights reign supreme.”

Liu Xiaobo will, sadly, never see a free China. Chinese authorities have gone to great lengths to stifle his ideas and those who followed him. In recent years, the government of President Xi Jinping has engaged in an extraordinary assault on the rule of law, human rights, ethnic minority groups, and civil society.

As China’s economic and military might grows, more and more countries will be afraid to raise subjects that the Chinese Communist Party wants to make taboo.

The U.S. stands alone—inadequate as its efforts are at times—in its willingness to keep the pressure on as Chinese authorities have gone to great lengths to stifle his ideas and those who followed him. In recent years, the government of President Xi Jinping has engaged in an extraordinary assault on the rule of law, human rights, ethnic minority groups, and civil society.

As China’s economic and military might grows, more and more countries will be afraid to raise subjects that the Chinese Communist Party wants to make taboo.

The U.S. must not shy away from meeting with China’s other Nobel Laureate, the Dalai Lama, or other dissidents. We must use Congressionally authorized sanctions to hold Chinese officials accountable for torture and gross abuses. We must connect Internet and press freedoms as both economic and human rights priorities. And we must demand, repeatedly and clearly, that the unconditional release of political prisoners is in the interest of better U.S.-China relations.

I believe that someday China will be free. Someday, the people of China will be able to enjoy all of their God-given rights. Someday, a nation of free Chinese men and women will honor and celebrate Liu Xiaobo as a hero. He will be honored along with all others like him who have sacrificed so much, and so long, for freedom.

Recognizing the Service of Commander Harold Chapman

Hon. Lee M. Zeldin
of New York
in the House of Representatives
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mr. ZELDIN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Harold Chapman, a resident of New York’s First Congressional District and the 73rd AMVETS National Commander. Commander Chapman’s unyielding work for both his country and fellow veterans exemplifies public service, and should be approached and respected for the entirety of his years of distinguished service to the United States and her people.

I am proud to offer this statement in honor of Commander Harold Chapman.

Commander Chapman is an honorably discharged veteran of the United States Air Force, with his Vietnam War-era service including 18 months in the Pacific Theater, as well as postings at air bases in California and Texas. Following his honorable discharge, Commander Chapman began his service at the AMVETS Department of New York, taking command of AMVETS New York Post 18 in 1995. Remarkably, Commander Chapman went on to hold each chair in sequence at the AMVETS Department of New York before taking command of the entire department and its more than 70 posts in 2002.

Following his two terms as New York’s representative to AMVETS’ National Executive Committee, in 2008, Commander Chapman became the head of AMVETS District I. This impressive next step saw Commander Chapman oversee all AMVET members and Posts in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. While in command of District I, Commander Chapman’s admirable efforts to grow AMVETS membership throughout his district merited him an award from AMVETS National Headquarters and respect in light of his years of distinguished service in New York’s AMVET of the Year.

Today, Commander Chapman travels the nation to hear directly from AMVETS members on a variety of issues and deliver their important concerns directly to the White House, Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and Congressional leaders in both the Senate and House of Representatives. As an essential voice in Washington for veterans
across the United States, Commander Chap-
man insists that aiding and protecting our vet-
erans should always be one of our top prior-
ities.
Mr. Speaker, Commander Harold Chap-
man’s dedication to public service and com-
mitment to helping our nation’s veterans must be commended. Commander Chapman has always put his country before himself, and it is both an honor and privilege to serve as his Representative in Congress.

IN HONOR OF MAJOR GENERAL ROBERT D. CARLSON

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Major General Robert D. Carlson, who departed from his role as Commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Transatlantic Division, on July 14, 2017. Major General Carlson has dedicated his life to keeping this nation safe, and I am grateful for not only his outstanding service to our great nation, but also to the citizens of Virginia’s 10th Congres-
sional District in his capacity as commander of the Transatlantic Division, located in Win-
chester, Virginia.

At a young age, Major General Carlson chose to pursue a career in service in defense of the freedoms that we cherish. This led him to attend the United States Military Academy, where he earned a Bachelor of Science in general engineering. Upon graduation, Major General Carlson was commissioned into the Engineer Regiment and later received a Mas-
ter of Science in engineering management from the University of Missouri and a Master of Arts in strategic studies from the United States Army War College (USAWC) at Car-
lisle, Pennsylvania.

Throughout his distinguished career, Major General Carlson has served in numerous command and staff positions from company-to-
division-level units. Before assuming his cur-
rent position, some of Major General Carlson’s assignments include commanding the 372nd Engineer Brigade and the Contingency Re-
spoon Unit, 416th Theater Engineer Com-
mand, and serving as the Chief of Staff, U.S. Agency for International Development. The co-
lossal amount of prestigious awards and deco-
rations that he has attained are illustrative manifestations of his heroic service and devo-
tion to this nation. These honors, among oth-
ers, include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal, Defense Superior Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Army Achievement Medal with three Oak Leaf Clus-
ters, Department of State Meritorious Honor Award, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with Bronze Service Star, and Afghanistan Cam-

Under his esteemed leadership as com-
mander of the Transatlantic Division, he oversaw both the USACE Contingency Con-
struction Program and the Associated Foreign

Military Sales Construction Programs, which provided vital facilities for U.S. Forces and our allies throughout the Middle East. Additionally, Major General Carlson has also been a pro-
ponent of increasing awareness of and ex-
panding opportunities for today’s youth in the Science, Engineering and Technical career fields, as well as STEM-related events, such as National Engineer Week and TAM-sponsored STEM events in the Win-
chester area.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire 10th District, I would like to express my gratitude to Major General Carlson for his dedicated ca-
reer of service, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing such a truly commend-
figure. I wish him and his wife, Valerie, and their three children, Cody, Chad, and Cammie, all the best as he moves on to his next assignment.

IN HONOR OF CONSUL GENERAL DR. ANDY DAVID

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2017

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the efforts of Dr. Andy David, Israel’s Consul General to the Pacific Northwest, who has worked tirelessly to deepen the ties be-
tween our two nations, as he completes his tour of duty at the Consulate General of Israel in San Francisco.

Dr. Andy David began his appointment as Consul General in August 2012. He has fo-
cused his work on relationship building with essential organizations such as the American Jewish Committee and promoting the special relationship between Israel and the U.S.

Throughout his career in public service, Dr. David has focused his work to advance U.S.-
 Israeli relations in the areas of economic de-
velopment, business ties and trade opportuni-
ties.

Dr. David helped launch a cultural exchange with Israeli artists and the City of San Fran-
cisco, developing a strong exchange program with San Francisco-based artists and their Israeli counterparts.

Under Andy’s guidance, the University of California system signed a new cooperation agreement with Israeli designed to foster tech-
nological innovation, research, and develop-
ment. This collaboration is aimed at helping American and Israeli companies increase competitiveness and improve the commercial success of both countries in global markets.

In 2014, after a series of anti-Israel rallies cropped up throughout San Francisco, Dr. David and fellow pro-Israel supporters orga-
nized a rally to show solidarity for continued U.S. support of Israel and increase morale for Israeli soldiers fighting against terrorist groups in Gaza.

Today, a strong U.S.-Israeli relationship is more important than ever. Without the selfless dedication of public servants like Dr. David, the pace and security of both nations would suffer.

The United States knows no greater friend than Israel, and Dr. David has done an ex-
tordinary job of fostering an understanding among Americans of the importance of Israel to the security of the United States. I hope the

accomplishments made by Dr. David will in-
spire a future generation of public servants to deepen the ties between our countries.

Mr. Speaker, the partnership between the United States and Israel will continue to reap Dr. Andy David’s contributions for years to come, and I rise to express my profound grati-
dRepublic.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT STANLEY W. TALBOT AND THE RENAMING OF CENTENNIAL BRIDGE

HON. CHERI BUSTOS
OF ILLINOIS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2017

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the renaming of the Centennial Bridge in Rock Island to the Stanley Talbot Memorial Bridge in honor of Master Sergeant Stanley W. Talbot. After serving our commu-
nity for decades—and after being taken from us far too soon—it is fitting that we honor Master Sgt. Talbot and his family for his dedi-
cation, selflessness and public service.

Every day we rely on men and women in uniform to protect our families, as they bravely risk their lives for our safety. We must never forget that these men and women are moth-
ers, fathers, sons, daughters and friends. As the wife of a Sheriff, I sympathize with the family, friends and colleagues of Master Sgt. Talbot. He was a beloved member of the com-
munity and a member of the Illinois State Police deserves to be honored in a pub-
lic and lasting way.

Memorials and dedications like these help us to remember his sacrifice and the brave sacrifices of those that come after him. Once again, I want to honor Master Sgt. Talbot, and support law enforcement within our commu-
nity.

Honoring the Contributions of Mrs. Anita Johnson to the House of Representatives

HON. MAXINE WATERS
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 17, 2017

Ms. MAXINE WATERS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Finan-
cial Services Committee, its Chairman, Mr. HENSARLING, and the U.S. House of Rep-
resentatives, as I pay tribute to one of the hardest working and dedicated employees this House has ever known.

Mr. Speaker, for over 30 years Anita L. Johnson has served this chamber with distinc-
tion, undeniable integrity, humility, kindness, grace, and skill. For the past several years, she has worked ably and diligently as the Chief Administrative Officer for the Democratic Staff of the Financial Services Committee.

Mrs. Johnson began her career on Capitol Hill in 1985 as the Office Manager, and Per-
sonal Assistant to then-Congressman Harold Ford, Sr. In 1986 she became Office Manager and Personal Assistant to Congressman SANDY LEVIN.
Although her husband’s transfer relocated Mrs. Johnson away from Capitol Hill and back to her home town of Memphis, Tennessee, for three years, she returned to the Hill in 1989. For the next decade, she served as Executive Assistant and Clerk for the Education and Labor Committee Democrats. In 1999, she became the Chief Administrative Officer and Clerk for Democrats on the Judiciary Committee—a position she held for twelve years.

In 2013, Mrs. Johnson joined the Financial Services Committee and has remained the Chief Administrative Officer and Clerk until her retirement today.

From my time on the Judiciary Committee and as Ranking Member of the Financial Services Committee I have personally come to know Anita Johnson. She is a tireless and relentless worker, an excellent multi-tasker, doing whatever it takes to accomplish tasks both large and small. When everyone else is stressed because of the pressure, she remains calm.

She is a true professional, whose expertise, integrity, dedication and commitment have served as an example to her peers and colleagues. Her willingness to go the extra mile, her insights and opinions have been extremely valuable to the successful undertakings of each office she has served—especially my own.

She has flawlessly maintained budgets totaling millions of dollars, ensured the smooth running of each office in which she worked; skillfully clerked dozens of markups, and provided valuable assistance to myself, other Members, and staff.

Prior to her time on the Hill, Mrs. Johnson was an educator teaching at Wooddale Senior High School (Memphis, TN); Hazelwood Senior High School (St. Louis, MO); Ivanna Eudora Kean High School (St. Thomas, USVI); and, Savannah Area Vocational Technical School (Savannah, GA). Additionally, Anita has been a member of the Washington Performing Arts Society Men and Women of the Gospel for years; and, has performed at the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall; TNT’s “Christians in the City of Washington”; and, the Kennedy Center Honors. With the Trinity Choir at Alfred University College of Law, she began her judicial career at the Vermilion County Courthouse as an associate judge.

She served dutifully and responsibly as a judge in the Fifth Judicial Circuit Court from 1986 to 1996. After that, her dedication and perseverance led her to become an Illinois State Appellate Court Judge. In February 2001 she was appointed to the Illinois Supreme Court, and she went on to serve as Chief Justice from 2013 to 2016. She continues to serve the people of Illinois as a member of the Supreme Court.

I have come to know Justice Garman over the last few years and applaud her for many years of dedication to upholding the law and pursuing justice. I want to personally congratulate her for this recognition by Vermilion County as they rename The Rita B. Garman Vermilion County Courthouse.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2018
SPEECH OF
HON. EARL BLUMENAUER
OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Wednesday, July 12, 2017

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2810) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2018 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. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, I will vote against the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2018 (Roll no. 378). I commend the House Armed Services Committee for tackling some difficult issues, but I remain concerned about several components of the bill, including its lack of fiscal discipline and use of budget gimmicks.

There are provisions of this legislation that I support. I am pleased this bill includes a provision expressing the sense of Congress that climate change is a direct threat to the national security of the United States. The bill would also support a 2.4 percent military pay raise and would require the Pentagon to report to Congress any attempts by Russian actors to hack the Defense Department’s system.

However, by authorizing a total of $621.5 billion in base budget authority, exceeding the $549 billion cap set in the 2011 Budget Control Act, and using $10 billion in Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding for base defense requirements, Congress and the administration are misusing budget mechanisms to pad their accounts in an era of fiscal uncertainty. The bill puts off making tough decisions about defense spending.

The legislation also keeps intact funding for several unnecessary weapons programs and undermines key international nuclear non-proliferation efforts. The bill authorizes full funding for the Air Force’s next generation air-launched cruise missile, known as the Long-Range Standoff weapon (LRSO), even though Secretary of Defense Mattis has stated numerous times that he is skeptical we actually need it. I offered an amendment to keep funding for the LRSO at FY17 levels until the administration submits a Nuclear Posture Review to Congress, but it was unfortunately not accepted.

The bill also requires the Department of Defense to develop a missile system that, if tested or deployed, would violate U.S. obligations under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. I offered an amendment to prohibit this system’s development until military experts, diplomats and our NATO allies certify that they agree with this approach, but this amendment too was rejected.

Additionally, the legislation caps funding for nuclear weapon dismantlement at $56 million for FY19 through FY21, making us less safe. Beyond nuclear weapons and treaties, the legislation maintains a prohibition on transferring detainees in Guantanamo Bay detention facility to the United States con- struction or modification of facilities within the U.S. to house detainees for another year. It’s past time that we closed this military prison. We can safely and securely imprison anyone we need to without the extraordinary expense of this recruiting tool for ISIS.

The bill also prohibits a new round of base realignment and closure (BRAC), rejecting the Department of Defense’s request for flexibility to implement BRAC for the sixth year in a row. The best way to support our troops is to fight for common-sense budgeting and spending these sums out properly.

IN RECOGNITION OF NANCY HUBBARD FOR HER LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE DEARBORN COMMUNITY
HON. DEBBIE Dingell OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Monday, July 17, 2017

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Nancy Hubbard for her service and dedication to the City of Dearborn. As one of the city’s longest serving City Council members, Ms. Hubbard was a tireless public servant who left a legacy of achievement and will be missed.

Ms. Hubbard began her career as a secretary with Ford Motor Company and later worked for the Dearborn Department of Public Works and Dearborn Department of Building and Safety. She was elected to the Dearborn City Council in 1990 and compiled a distinguished record of success during her 24 years on the council. Ms. Hubbard has spent 16 years serving as the Council President Pro Tem, where she used the leadership position to advocate on behalf of the city’s residents. She played a key role in the establishment of the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center and in expanding the greenway trail system in the city. She was also involved in economic development initiatives, including the establishment of the Dearborn Town Center and the redevelopment of the Warren Avenue and Dix-Vernor business corridors. As a result of her work, Dearborn has been transformed.
into a thriving community that effectively serves the needs of the city’s residents.

Ms. Hubbard’s commitment to public service and the City of Dearborn helped improve the quality of life for the community while driving economic development in the area. As a lifelong resident of Dearborn, Ms. Hubbard’s deep connection to the area allowed her to effectively engage with her constituents and address pressing issues facing the city at large. She was a tireless advocate during her career with the City Council who remained personally engaged with city’s residents throughout her life, and her passion for public service will be missed. It is my hope that the city will continue to build on Ms. Hubbard’s outstanding legacy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Nancy Hubbard for her public service with the Dearborn City Council. Ms. Hubbard lived a life dedicated to public service and well-being of others.

IN HONOR OF SERGEANT MAJOR RONALD E. JOHNSON

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Sergeant Major Ronald E. Johnson, who departed from his role as Command Sergeant of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Transatlantic Division, on July 14, 2017 and will be an integral part of the United States Army for over thirty years of honorable service. Sergeant Major Johnson has dedicated his career to keeping this nation safe, and I am grateful for not only his exemplary service to our nation, but also his service to the residents of Virginia’s 10th Congressional District in his position as Command Sergeant of the Transatlantic Division, located in Winchester, Virginia.

Sergeant Major Johnson entered the Army in November of 1986 from Terre Haute, Indiana. Over the course of his illustrious career, he has served in a plethora of different capacities, including as a team leader, squad leader, platoon sergeant, drill sergeant, Equal Opportunity adviser, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of Directorate of Public Works, first sergeant and command sergeant major. Additionally, Sergeant Major Johnson has completed a multitude of tours of duty abroad, including in Germany, Honduras, Thailand, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, Operation Iraqi Freedom I and Operation Enduring Freedom IX and XI. His steadfast commitment to defending this nation and courageous service are evident by the immense amount of awards and decorations that have been bestowed upon him. These honors, among others, include two Legions of Merit, three Bronze Stars, three Army Commendation Medals, three Southwest Asia Service Medals, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, three Afghanistan Campaign Medals, United Nations Medal, NATO Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, four NCO Professional Development Ribbons, Overseas Service Ribbon, two Meritorious Unit Citations; Combat Action, Drill Sergeant, and ParaChatist Badges; Bronze Order of the de Fleury Medal, and the German Physical Fitness Proficiency (Sportsman) Badge.

Mostly recently, under his guidance as Commander Sergeant of the Transatlantic Division for the past three years, Transatlantic Division organizations have completed more than $1.7 billion in construction projects in the combat regions of Afghanistan. These efforts have included large scale military installations and utility projects, which have been vital to training and operating forces by providing the area with a reliable source of power. In addition to his work crucial to enhancing our national security, Sergeant Major Johnson has always been solicitous about the welfare and professional development of his soldiers and established a formal military professional development program and a very active mentoring program.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire 10th District, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Sergeant Major Johnson for his dedicated career of service, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a highly venerable figure. I wish him all the best as he moves on to the next phase in his life.

RECOGNIZING DEPUTY SILVIO DEANGelo IV AND OFFICER MATTHEW CAVANAGH

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY
OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Silvio DeAngelo IV of the Delaware County Sheriff’s Office and Officer Matthew Cavanagh of the Glenolden Borough Police Department. These men saved the life of my staffer and friend Joseph Campisi when he suffered a heart attack on April 19th.

Joe had just finished a game of basketball at the L.A. Fitness in Springfield, PA when he suddenly collapsed. Fortunately, Deputy DeAngelo and Officer Cavanagh happened to be finishing a workout at that very moment. Despite being off-duty and having never used a defibrillator on a live person before, they immediately sprang into action. Their training came through in the clutch and they were able to resuscitate him before the EMTs arrived. Thanks to their heroism and decisive action, Joe’s heart was beating again in less than two and a half minutes.

After 8 days in a coma, open heart surgery, five weeks in the hospital, and another six months of recovery, Joe was once again able to rejoin my staff. Now, more than two years since his heart attack, I am happy to say that Joe has made a full recovery. Looking at him today, you would never know he came within an inch of death.

Without the bravery and quick-thinking of Officer Cavanagh and Deputy DeAngelo, my friend Joe would not be here today. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in thanking these two law enforcement officers. They represent the very best the First District of Pennsylvania has to offer.

IN MEMORY OF WILLIAM W. "Hootie" Johnson

HON. JOE WILSON
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, July 17, 2017

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on July 14, 2017, South Carolina lost an esteemed businessman and dedicated public servant with the death of William W. “Hootie” Johnson. He made a positive difference with his philanthropic efforts and I am grateful for his lifelong service as Chairman of the Executive Committee at Bank of America and Chairman of Augusta National Golf Club. On July 17, 2017, a memorial service will be conducted at Eastminster Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina.

The following thoughtful obituary was appropriately published in The State on July 15, 2017.

Mr. Johnson died Friday, July 14, 2017, at the age of 86. Hootie Johnson was a former chairman of the Executive Committee of Bank of America’s Board of Directors. He had also served on the boards of Directors of Alltel Corporation, Duke Energy Corporation, Liberty Corporation and Stephens, Inc. He was the husband of the late Mary Johnson and was a son of the late Dewey H. and Mabel Woodward Johnson. He was born in Augusta, Georgia. Mr. Johnson held a B.S. degree in business administration from the University of South Carolina as well as an Honorary Doctor of Law degree. Honorary Doctor of Humanities degrees were also conferred upon him by the Medical University of South Carolina and Lander University. He served as chairman of both the South Carolina Ports Authority and the South Carolina Research Authority, as well as a member of The South Carolina State Development Board. Mr. Johnson also served as chairman of the Committee to Develop a Plan of Desegregation of the National Urban League. He was a Laureate of the South Carolina Business Hall of Fame. The State newspaper named Mr. Johnson as one of South Carolina’s most influential figures of the 20th Century. Mr. Johnson, an independent, was active in politics serving as finance chairman for Governor Robert McNealy, Governor Carroll Campbell, Governor David Beasley, Senator Strom Thurmond, Senator Bob Dole and President George H.W. Bush. Mr. Johnson was chairman of Augusta National G.C. and chairman of the Masters Tournament from 1998–2006 and chairman emeritus from 2006–present. He held memberships in Biltmore Forest Country Club, Forest Lake Club, the Palmetto Club, the Flamoeno Club and the Centurion Club. Memorials may be made to the USC Moore School of Business, Dunbar Funeral Home, Devine Street Chapel, is assisting the family. In addition to his wife, Pierrine. Mr. Johnson is survived by daughters and sons-in-law, Jennifer and Chuck Townsend, and Marie and John Fairley, all of Columbia, Sally and Ronnie Wrenn of Charlotte, and Jane and Dan Breeden of Spartanburg; grandchildren, Charlie Todd, Pierrine Todd Thomas, Josie Fairley, Jr., Harriett Fairley Gilmer, William Fairley, Holt Wrenn, Sarah Wrenn, Mary Breeden, Sally Breeden and Anne Breeden Pitt; great- grandchildren, Lou Mabel Prince, Anna Mabel Marie Gilmer, Florence Elizabeth Wrenn and Elsie Fairley; great-grandsons, Robert Gilmer, John Gilmer, John Fairley III, William Cavanagh, Gage Thomas, Charles Todd IV and Dewey Wrenn. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death.
by his sister, Dorothy Ellington, and his brother, D. Wellsman Johnson.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 18, 2017 may be found in the Daily Digest of today’s RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 19

9 a.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Susan M. Gordon, of Virginia, to be Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence, Robert P. Storch, of the District of Columbia, to be Inspector General of the National Security Agency, Department of Defense, and Isabel Marie Keenan Patelunas, of Pennsylvania, to be Assistant Secretary for Intelligence and Analysis, Department of the Treasury.

SH–216

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold hearings to examine illicit cigarette smuggling in the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe region.

SD–106

10 a.m.
Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Ajitt Varadaraj Pal, of Kansas, Jessica Rosenworcel, of Connecticut, and Brendan Carr, of Virginia, each to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission.

SD–G50

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on National Parks
To hold hearings to examine S. 257, to clarify the boundary of Acadia National Park, S. 312, to redesignate the Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site as the “Saint-Gaudens National Historical Park”, S. 355, to amend the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to provide for a lifetime National Recreational Passport for any veteran with a service-connected disability, S. 391, to establish the African Burial Ground International Memorial Museum and Educational Center in New York, New York, S. 841, to designate the Veterans Memorial and Museum in Columbus, Ohio, as the National Veterans Memorial and Museum, S. 926, to authorize the Global War on Terror Memorial Foundation to establish the National Global War on Terrorism Memorial as a commemorative work in the District of Columbia, S. 1073, to authorize Escambia County, Florida, to convey certain property that was formerly part of Santa Rosa Island National Monument and that was conveyed to Escambia County subject to restrictions on use and reconveyance, S. 1202, to modify the boundary of the Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, S. 1403, to amend the Public Lands Corps Act of 1963 to establish the Conservation Service Corps to place youth and veterans in national service positions to conserve, restore, and enhance the great outdoors of the United States, S. 1498, to redesignate the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial in the State of Missouri as the “Gateway Arch”, S. 1581, to establish Fort Sumter and Fort Moultrie National Park in the State of South Carolina, and S. 1522, to establish Every Kid Outdoors program.

SD–366

Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine S. 1514, to amend certain Acts to authorize those Acts and to increase protections for wildlife.

SD–406

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Marvin Kaplan, of Kansas, and William D. Brown, of California, both to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board.

SD–430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to consider the nomination of David P. Pekoske, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the Postal Service’s actions during the 2016 campaign season, focusing on implications for the Hatch Act.

SD–342

Committee on the Judiciary
To hold an executive hearing to examine the Department of Justice’s enforcement of the Foreign Agents Registration Act.

SD–226

1:30 p.m.
Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Thomas G. Bowman, of Florida, to be Deputy Secretary, Brooks D. Tucker, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary (Congressional and Legislative Affairs), and James Byrne, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs, and Michael P. Allen, of Florida, Amanda L. Meredith, of Virginia, and Joseph L. Toth, of Wisconsin, each to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims.

SD–419

JULY 20

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kay Bailey Hutchison, of Texas, to be United States Permanent Representative on the Council of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, with the rank and status of Ambassador, Kelly Knight Craft, of Kentucky, to be Ambassador to Canada, and Robert Wood Johnson IV, of New York, to be Ambassador to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, all of the Department of State.

SD–419

Committee on the Judiciary
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Christopher A. Wray, of Georgia, to be Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Geoffrey Bossert Clark, of Virginia, and Beth Ann Williams, of New Jersey, both to be an Assistant Attorney General, and John W. Huber, to be United States Attorney for the District of Utah, all of the Department of Justice, and Trevor N. McFadden, of Virginia, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia.

SD–226

10 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine housing finance reform, focusing on maintaining access for small lenders.

SD–538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, Innovation, and the Internet
To hold hearings to examine an update on FirstNet.

SR–253

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Brenda Burman, of Arizona, to be Commissioner of Reclamation, and Susan Combs, of Texas, and Douglass W.
Select Committee on Intelligence
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife
To hold hearings to examine innovative financing and funding, focusing on addressing America’s crumbling water infrastructure.

10:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations

2 p.m.
Select Committee on Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Sea Power
To hold hearings to receive testimony on options and considerations for achieving a 355-ship Navy from naval analysts.

JULY 26
10 a.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining
To hold hearings to examine S. 32, to provide for conservation, enhanced recreation opportunities, and development of renewable energy in the California Desert Conservation Area, S. 90, to survey the gradient boundary along the Red River in the States of Oklahoma and Texas, S. 357, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain public lands in San Bernardino County, California, to the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District, and to accept in return certain exchanged non-public lands, S. 436, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to retire coal preference right lease applications for which the Secretary has made an affirmative commercial quantities determination, to substitute certain land selections of the Navajo Nation, to designate certain wilderness areas, S. 467, to provide for the disposal of certain Bureau of Land Management land in Mohave County, Arizona, S. 468, to establish a procedure for resolving claims to certain rights-of-way, S. 614, to require the Secretary of the Interior to establish a pilot program for commercial recreation concessions on certain land managed by the Bureau of Land Management, S. 785, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to provide for equitable allotment of land to Alaska Native veterans, S. 837, to provide for the conveyance of certain land to Washington County, Utah, to authorize the exchange of Federal land and non-Federal land in the State of Utah, S. 884, to amend the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993 to require the Bureau of Land Management to provide a claimant of a small miner waiver from claim maintenance fees with a period of 60 days after written receipt of 1 or more defects is provided to the claimant by registered mail to cure the 1 or more defects or pay the claim maintenance fee, S. 941, to withdraw certain National Forest System land in the Emigrant Crevice area located in the Custer Gallatin National Forest, Park County, Montana, from the mining and mineral leasing laws of the United States, S. 1149, to amend the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act to repeal a provision limiting the export of timber harvested from land conveyed to the Kake Tribal Corporation under that Act, S. 1230, to prohibit the conditioning of any permit, lease, or other use agreement on the transfer of any water right to the United States by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, S. 1271, to designate certain mountain peaks in the State of Colorado as “Fowler Peak” and “Boskoff Peak”, and S. 1548, to designate certain land administered by the Bureau of Land Management and the Forest Service in the State of Oregon as wilderness and national recreation areas and to make additional wild and scenic river designations in the State of Oregon.

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations
To hold an oversight hearing to examine Federal infrastructure permitting and the Federal Permitting Improvement Steering Council.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Government Accountability Office reports on human trafficking of American Indian and Alaska Natives in the United States.

SD-628