

2017, 200 people were killed. That is 200 people too many. Cities like Memphis were able to reduce violent crimes by hiring more police and providing programs to help children in the city. It is important that local governments that are trying to reduce violent crimes get federal assistance.

That is why I am introducing the Safer Streets Act. This bill would create a new grant program that would provide grants to units of local government that have crime rates significantly above the national rate. Units of local governments with crime rates four times the national rate would get 50 percent of the funds, units of local governments with crime rates three times the national rate would get 20 percent of the funds, and units of local governments with crime rates two times the national rate would get 10 percent of the funds. This bill also creates an emergency fund for units of local governments that have spikes of violent crimes.

I urge my colleagues to pass this important legislation and support our local communities as they work to reduce violent crime.

HONORING CAPTAIN WALTER COMBS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate Palm Springs Police Captain Walter Combs on his retirement after more than 23 years in law enforcement. His dedication to ensuring the residents of Palm Springs are safe is truly commendable. Today, I want to recognize his outstanding accomplishments and years of service.

Captain Combs is an exceptional leader in our local community. He began his law enforcement career serving as a patrol officer with the Indio Police Department. After five years, in 1994, Captain Combs started working with the Palm Springs Police Department where he remained until 2017.

His commitment to keeping our citizens safe earned him many promotions over the years, going from patrol officer to Captain. During his early years with the Palm Springs Police Department, he served as an undercover Narcotics Task Force Officer, field Training Officer, Police Department Honors Guard, and member of the SWAT Team. In 2005, he was promoted to Sergeant and supervised the Patrol Officers, the Detective Bureau overseeing the Property Crimes Division, the auxiliary Peer Support Group and Honor Guard, and the volunteer unit of citizens on Patrol. His determination and outstanding performance eventually led him to be promoted to Lieutenant in 2012, and ultimately to Captain in 2014.

Captain Combs commitment to public service is inspiring. While serving with the Palm Springs Police Department, he was also a devoted member of the Human Rights Commission board and the LGBT Committee.

Captain Combs has dedicated his life in service of the residents of Palm Springs. His valuable contributions and arduous work strengthening our community will be felt for years to come.

On behalf of the entire 36th Congressional District, I am humbled to honor and recognize

Captain Walter Combs. I extend my sincerest congratulations on his accomplishments and years of public service. I wish him all the best on his well-deserved retirement.

H.R. 3731, SECRET SERVICE RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION ACT OF 2017

HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3731, the Secret Service Recruitment and Retention Act of 2017.

The United States Secret Service is operating under tremendous demands with very limited resources. The agency is tasked with protecting a large presidential family that travels frequently around the world. This year, members of the Trump family have traveled to Uruguay, the Dominican Republic, the United Arab Emirates, Canada, the United Kingdom, and the Republic of Ireland, among other destinations. The Secret Service provides protection on all of these trips, in addition to protecting the president himself, and each of these trips requires the Secret Service to incur significant costs, including travel, lodging, and costs associated with coordinating with local security entities, embassies, and other overseas partners. The Trump family does not reimburse the Federal government for costs associated with protecting family members on these trips, even when they are made in pursuit of the Trump Organization's business interests and to promote the Trump brand.

The scope of the Secret Service's protective mission, along with other agency activities such as investigating and preventing counterfeiting, has created a hole in the agency's budget. At a June 8, 2017, hearing before the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation and Protective Security, Secret Service Director Randolph "Tex" Alles testified that the agency's budget is "\$200 million to \$300 million a year short of what would be required" to fulfill its protective and investigative missions more effectively.

This bill will not solve the Secret Service's budget gap, but it will prevent Secret Service agents from having to bear the brunt of challenges they did not create. Many Secret Service agents have hit their overtime pay limits and are unable to receive further compensation despite having to work additional hours given the agency's expanded mission. Such a system is unfair to the agents, who work difficult jobs with long shifts and uncompromising schedules even when they are being fairly compensated.

H.R. 3731 would allow the Secret Service to pay agents for hours they have worked, which is the least we can do. I urge the Senate to pass this bill as soon as possible.

CONGRATULATING WTTW'S CHICAGO TONIGHT: THE WEEK IN REVIEW AND JOEL WEISMAN

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate WTTW's Emmy-Award winning series, Chicago Tonight: The Week in Review, on its 40th Anniversary. January 19, 2018 will also mark Mr. Joel Weisman's final appearance as host and senior editor of the program.

Chicago Tonight: The Week in Review is the longest running series in the history of WTTW and a staple of Chicago news media, representing the city's longest running television series with a single host or anchor. Mr. Weisman has been senior editor since the show's inception.

Mr. Weisman is a lifelong Chicagoan and has been with WTTW since 1973, beginning as political editor and commentator on WTTW's nightly news program, The Public News Center. When The Week in Review premiered on January 20, 1978, it served as a 30-minute conversation series. Throughout its four-decade history, Mr. Weisman welcomed hundreds of reporters to his rotating four-person weekly panel long before this format became commonplace in national TV programming. At Mr. Weisman's insistence, the panelists were nonpartisan and diverse, first representing print and broadcast, and later, digital media.

In 2008, he was deservedly inducted in the Silver Circle of the Chicago/Midwest chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Mr. Joel Weisman for his tireless dedication to WTTW's Chicago Tonight: The Week in Review throughout his long and storied career delivering vital information—and entertainment—to Chicagoans. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Weisman on his invaluable contribution to WTTW and our community's civic dialogue.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF BISHOP JOHN HURST ADAMS

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Bishop John Hurst Adams of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (A.M.E.).

Bishop Adams devoted his life to service of the Church and communities across the country. His relationship with the church began as a deacon in 1948, and culminated with the Senior Bishopric from 1988 to his retirement in 2004. In those 50 years of steadfast service to the A.M.E. Church, Bishop Adams also stood as a pillar of the African American community in his active work with the Joint Center on Political and Economic Studies, TransAfrica, the King Center Development Board and during his six-year tenure as the President of Paul Quinn College, located in my district. At that

time, he was the youngest person named to the presidency of the College, as well as the youngest college or university president in the nation. He also did extraordinary work as the Founder and Chairman Emeritus of the Conference of National Black Churches. Bishop Adams had a longstanding and dedicated commitment to serving the cause of civil rights, and to bettering the lives of children through education. I personally witnessed his remarkable life and devotion in the fight for justice and I am truly grateful and honored to acknowledge him.

Bishop Adams is survived by his loving wife, Dr. Dolly Deselle Adams, their three children and eight grandchildren, for whom we offer our thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to offer my gratitude for the work done by Bishop Adams, and honor his legacy and belief that "the strength of the African American community network allows it to support each other and come together".

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, on January 10, I was unable to vote on Roll Call votes 005 through 013. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call 005—No; Roll Call 006—No; Roll Call 007—No; Roll Call 008—Yes; Roll Call 009—Yes; Roll Call 010—Yes; Roll Call 011—Yes; Roll Call 012—Yes; and Roll Call 013—Yes.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, during my medical recovery, I missed the following roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

December 13, 2017
 No on Roll Call No. 676
 No on Roll Call No. 677
 No on Roll Call No. 678
 No on Roll Call No. 679
 No on Roll Call No. 680
 December 14, 2017
 Yea on Roll Call No. 681
 No on Roll Call No. 682
 Yea on Roll Call No. 683
 No on Roll Call No. 684
 December 18, 2017
 No on Roll Call No. 685
 Yea on Roll Call No. 686
 Yea on Roll Call No. 687
 December 19, 2017
 No on Roll Call No. 688
 No on Roll Call No. 689
 Yea on Roll Call No. 690
 Yea on Roll Call No. 691
 No on Roll Call No. 692
 Yea on Roll Call No. 693
 No on Roll Call No. 694
 Yea on Roll Call No. 695
 December 20, 2017
 No on Roll Call No. 697

No on Roll Call No. 698
 No on Roll Call No. 699
 Yea on Roll Call No. 700
 Yea on Roll Call No. 701
 No on Roll Call No. 702
 Yea on Roll Call No. 703
 December 21, 2017
 No on Roll Call No. 704
 No on Roll Call No. 705
 Yea on Roll Call No. 706
 Yea on Roll Call No. 707

RECOGNIZING VETRI VELAN AND KATHY SHIELD

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the tremendous advocacy of two UC Berkeley students whose diligent work mobilized graduate students around the country against the greatest tax scam in American history.

When President Trump and Congressional Republicans introduced legislation to reform the tax code, many of us recognized it for what it was—a blatant attempt to provide millionaires and billionaires with large tax breaks, while eliminating many of the provisions that provide the working class and the poor with means to improve their standing in society.

This terrible bill, passed without proper debate and process just before the holidays, will permanently stack the deck in favor of the rich and well-connected. In fact, we know that 83 percent of the bill's benefits go to the richest 1 percent of our society. To pay for these unnecessary tax breaks for the rich, the bill adds more than \$1 trillion to the national debt—a debt that our children and generations to come will continue to bear.

In the face of this immoral redistribution of wealth to the rich, people around the country were rightfully outraged, and many of my constituents were strongly opposed to its passage.

In particular, I would like to recognize two of my constituents for their efforts to highlight a particularly damaging section of the original bill, and commend them for their actions to have it removed from the final package.

Soon after the horrible GOP tax bill was introduced, Vetri Velan, a physics PhD student at UC Berkeley, developed an analysis of the bill. With the majority of doctoral and master students receiving institutional or fee waivers, Vetri realized that if tuition remissions were deemed taxable, graduate students could see their tax bill grow by 200 percent. It would also make it harder, and even impossible, for low or middle-income students to attend graduate school.

Vetri partnered with Kathy Shield, a fellow Cal student pursuing a Nuclear Engineering PhD to develop a tax calculator allowing any graduate student to determine their new tax liability under the House proposal. This allowed students to write and call their elected officials with specific information about the negative impact of the new tax bill.

And they didn't stop there. Vetri and Kathy then organized graduate students at UC Berkeley and around the country to contact 87 offices in 18 states to express outrage over this provision.

Because of their great work this harmful provision was removed from the final bill. Vetri & Kathy have saved thousands of dollars for graduate students across the country, and have ensured many hard working students will continue to have access to graduate school.

On behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, I'd like to thank Vetri and Kathy for their exceptional work to ensure all students have equal access to higher education, and most importantly for staying woke.

HAPPY 125TH ANNIVERSARY UVALDE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th Anniversary of Uvalde Volunteer Fire Department, a critical community institution and group of dedicated individuals in South Texas.

The Uvalde Volunteer Fire Department was founded in 1892, just 36 years after Uvalde County was established by Reading Wood Black, a twenty-two year old from New Jersey. In addition to fighting fires and educating the people of Uvalde on fire safety and prevention, this Department regularly participates in community events, like the Newspapers in Education and Christmas Posada and Parade, truly going the extra mile for public service.

Today I applaud the countless members of the Uvalde Volunteer Fire Department who have helped to keep Uvalde safe. The positive impact of this volunteer fire department resonates across Texas' 23rd Congressional District.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, January 11, 2018, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall vote 14. Had I been present for rollcall vote 14, I would have voted "YEA".

THANKING CHRISTIAN MORGAN FOR HIS SERVICE TO MISSOURI'S 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 11, 2018

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, today I include in the RECORD a tribute that means a great deal to me, my family, and my staff. Tomorrow we bid farewell to my Chief of Staff of five years, Christian Morgan.

Every day, Christian has exemplified the conservative principles for which my office fights. His love for his family, faith in Jesus Christ, and undying belief in what our country stands for have led my office from the day I was sworn in, and his presence will be felt