We each have benefited from personally knowing Rick. As members of Congress, he helped us improve our understanding of the California agriculture industry and those who work in it. He always made a point to stress the value of the farming communities in our districts. After all, they were his family. Rick’s leadership in the Salinas Valley has transformed the region, further establishing the area as the “Salad Bowl of the World,” and his legacy will continue to propel this industry forward. A true giant in both personality and profession, Rick’s presence in our community will be profoundly missed.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER G. DAWES ON HIS RETIREMENT AS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF LUCILE PACKARD CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Friday, April 27, 2018

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest gratitude to Christopher Dawes for his extraordinary leadership as President and Chief Executive Officer of Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford and to congratulate him on his well-earned retirement.

Christopher Dawes earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Public Administration from San Diego State University and an MBA from the McLean School of Business at the University of San Francisco. While his first job was delivering newspapers at the age of 12, Chris has had a long and distinguished career in hospital management and held senior management positions at Santa Clara Valley Medical Center, Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center and Stanford Hospital. He joined the Packard team in 1991 and was named its President and CEO in 1999.

Chris Dawes is a nationally recognized leader having served as Board Chair of the Children’s Health Corporation of America (CHCA), a national purchasing organization for medical supplies for children’s hospitals. He was Chair of the Board of the National Association of Children’s Hospitals and Related Institutions (NACHRI), a public policy organization, and he was deeply involved in the development of national policies for America’s children as Chair of NACHRI during the development of the Affordable Care Act. It was his vision to consoli-date CHCA and NACHRI into one organization, persuading his colleagues of the benefit of consolidation, which is now the Children’s Hospital Association based in Washington, D.C.

During Chris’s tenure Packard has been consistently ranked as one of the nation’s best Children’s Hospitals by U.S. News and World Report. Under his leadership, excellent nationally ranked clinical services were created and investments were made in the Children’s Health Research Initiative. A network known as the Packard Children’s Health Alliance was built to provide 60 Bay Area locations with access to the care the Hospital provides, and a new, $1.2 billion, 521,000 square foot main building, a multi-year undertaking, was completed. Chris was an engaged executive who led the Hospital through a transition to the lean management approach known as the Toyota Production System, and he imparted his values of serving all who need care, regardless of ability to pay, to everyone who served with him.

Mr. Speaker, I am exceedingly proud to have worked closely with Chris Dawes from my first day in Congress to his retirement, spanning over 25 years. He has led with distinction, purpose and integrity, and transformed Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital into the gold standard of care for children in our country. For all this and more, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring this good and great man, and wishing him and his wife Beth every blessing in his retirement. We are a better, stronger country because of Chris Dawes’s unparalleled leadership.