

strengthen U.S.—Taiwan relations by encouraging travel between the two nations by high-level officials, and H.R. 3320, which directs the Secretary of State to develop a plan to regain Taiwan's observer status in the World Health Organization.

Adoption of these bills would underscore the United States' commitment to our relationship with Taiwan, and I encourage my colleagues to support them as well.

IN HONOR OF EUGENE AND RUTH ANN YINGER'S 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Eugene and Ruth Ann Yinger on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

This significant benchmark is a symbol of their commitment to each other and to their family. I am happy to join their friends and family in extending my best to them on this special occasion.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Eugene and Ruth Ann on the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. I wish them the best today and for many more blessed years to come.

RECOGNIZING MS. MARIE COLEMAN'S CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE U.S. RAIL INDUSTRY

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize Ms. Marie Coleman for her many years of service to the U.S. Rail Industry. On January 10, 2018, Marie will have dedicated 50 years of service to several prominent American railroads. With decades of success serving the people of Pennsylvania and Americans across the country, I know I will neither be the first, nor the last, to applaud her distinguished professional accomplishments.

Ms. Coleman began her career in 1968 with the Pennsylvania Railroad. Shortly thereafter, she moved to work for Penn Central, where she remained from the time of its founding until April 1976, when, through an Act of Congress, it was included in a merger to form the Consolidated Rail Corporation. There, she served in numerous roles for more than a decade from 1976 to 1998. In the 20 years since, she has served the Norfolk Southern railroad system.

A lifelong Pennsylvanian, Ms. Coleman is a proud railroader who has served under 11 different CEOs. Her unwavering dedication throughout her career helped bring an industry back from the brink of extinction to become a powerful catalyst for American economic growth. There is no doubt that Ms. Coleman's service to the U.S. Rail Industry contributed to its success.

We can all look to Ms. Marie Coleman as an example of how one person's professional

hard work and dedication can not only be a rewarding journey, but also help shape the future of one of America's most important industries.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Ms. Coleman on reaching this incredible milestone in her career and wishing her luck in her continued role at Norfolk Southern.

HONORING PATRICK McMULLEN

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Patrick McMullen for his service to the Committee on Ethics. Since 2011, Patrick's skill as a lawyer and manager has been integral to the Committee's important work enforcing the House ethics rules.

Patrick served as an Investigative Counsel for the Committee during the 112th and 113th Congresses. In that role he worked tirelessly to provide the Committee Members with fair and creative advice on difficult issues.

In the 114th Congress Patrick rose to become the Committee's Director of Investigations. In this role, he has managed a team of nonpartisan attorneys and investigators that successfully handled a busy docket of investigations. Throughout that time, he instilled in his team a dedication to uncovering the truth with care and impartiality.

At the House Ethics Committee, we are responsible for protecting the integrity of the House of Representatives. The staff works every day to increase the American people's confidence in Congress. The work of the Ethics Committee is done confidentially so people do not often know everything happening behind the scenes by our incredible, non-partisan staff. As Patrick prepares to leave the Committee, I appreciate this opportunity to recognize the great work he and his team have done. He truly has been a leader in our office and in increasing confidence in Congress.

While I am saddened by his departure from the Committee, I wish him well in his future endeavors.

HONORING PATRICK McMULLEN

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Patrick McMullen for his service to the Committee on Ethics. Patrick has been a dedicated public servant, and has worked hard to ensure that all House Members, officers, and staff meet the highest ethical standards.

During his tenure with the Committee's investigations team, the Committee has conducted more than 225 investigations. As Director of Investigations, he has helped the Committee assemble and has overseen a terrific team of nonpartisan attorneys and professional staff who make this possible.

Patrick's commitment to conducting fair, thorough, and nonpartisan investigations and leading the investigations team with these

principles has been an asset to the Committee and its Members as they carry out the Committee's important service to the House and the public.

On behalf of a grateful Committee, we thank him for his service and wish him all the best in his transition to the next phase of his career.

REPORT TO CONGRESS REGARDING THE ARIZONA BALANCED BUDGET AMENDMENT PLANNING CONVENTION

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great satisfaction and pride that I report the outcome of the first formally authorized national Convention of State Legislatures to convene in 156 years. The "Arizona Balanced Budget Amendment (BBA) Planning Convention" was held September 12–15, 2017 in the chamber of the Arizona House of Representatives. The purpose of the convention was to discuss and plan for an eventual Article V—convention of states to propose a federal balanced budget amendment to the Constitution.

The convention was formally called by the Arizona legislature's passage of HCR2022 sponsored by the Arizona Speaker of the House, J.D. Mesnard, on March 16, 2017. Pursuant to that resolution, the purpose of the convention was to create a proposed set of rules for adoption by and to govern a future single subject Article V convention to propose a BBA. Additionally, delegates were instructed to address the logistics involved in preparing for and participating in an upcoming Article V BBA convention. This report is intended to inform the work of the Arizona BBA Planning Convention and highlight areas of importance.

The Arizona BBA Planning Convention has created a roadmap for future conventions to draw upon when they convene, and has provided a sense of security to those who questioned the ability of State delegates to hold a convention that would address solely its single purpose and nothing more. It was an important endeavor that deserves proper cataloging in the appropriate annals to include the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, the Library of Congress, the National Archives, State Libraries, and the participating State Legislatures' records. I submit this congressional report and ask that you consider the work of the delegates as legitimate and pertinent.

In keeping with the traditions of past national conventions, the Arizona BBA Planning Convention has encouraged delegations to create a report of the convention to their state. Georgia, Michigan and Minnesota, among others, are states whose delegates have provided a comprehensive assessment. We encourage them to submit their work to the above archives as well, and hope to preserve this work and encourage more national conventions on a variety of topics in the future.

Therefore, I include in the RECORD a report to Congress in regard to Arizona balanced budget amendment:

It is with great confidence that I believe each member of Congress possesses the same depth of gratitude for the work of our