

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF COACH CHARLES COVINGTON

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge Coach Charles Covington, who recently announced his retirement from coaching, weeks after Saltillo secured both the Class 6A boys' and girls' state titles. Hailing from Hereford, Maryland, Covington joined Saltillo in 1984 as a Bible teacher following his graduation from Virginia Tech. Fueled by his passion for the sport, he played a pivotal role in establishing the sports program at Saltillo.

More than three decades ago, in 1984, Coach Covington founded Saltillo High School's inaugural cross-country team. He embarked on his coaching journey, guiding his first cross-country runner in 1988 and forming the first complete team in 1990. Prior to accepting the position, Covington boldly assured his administrators that he would produce a state champion within a few years. Reflecting on those early days, he shared in an article in the Tupelo Daily Journal, "They reminded me of that after three or four years when we weren't state champions yet. They were gracious and didn't hold me to my brag."

After patiently building the program, Covington led his team to their inaugural title in 1999, marking the beginning of an impressive legacy. Throughout his tenure at Saltillo, he accumulated a total of 29 state championships in cross country, comprising twenty for girls, seven for boys, and two for junior high. Covington's achievements include eight State Coach of the Year honors and one National Coach of the Year recognition.

In a statement, Covington expressed, "My real joy and fulfillment has been in the relationships with my runners and their families. Coaching at Saltillo has been a dream job and a great blessing." Although retiring from coaching, Coach Covington will continue teaching Ancient History and serving as a pastor in Tupelo.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to Coach Covington for his unwavering dedication and devotion to Saltillo High School and the community over the span of 30 years.

HONORING MRS. PATRICIA O'BANNON

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Patricia O'Bannon, Tuckahoe District Supervisor and member of the Henrico County Board of Supervisors.

Mrs. O'Bannon was first elected in 1995 to represent the Tuckahoe Magisterial District.

With her election, she became the first woman to be elected to the Henrico Board of Supervisors, where she became a strong voice for the communities she serves.

A graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, Mrs. O'Bannon has proven to be a source of knowledge for the Henrico community. Her expertise is informed by her service on the Richmond Regional Transportation Planning Organization, the Greater Richmond Partnership, and as the former Chair of the Capital Region Airport Commission.

Throughout her tenure, she has focused on bettering Henrico County's infrastructure and improving Henrico schools. She has also been an advocate for revamping the sidewalk policy to increase public safety and accessibility to sidewalks for all in Henrico.

Mrs. O'Bannon has been a dedicated public servant on behalf of her constituents for the last 27 years, working with colleagues across the aisle to find solutions for her community. She has been a steady leader—stepping in as Chairwoman for the fifth time in February 2017 after the passing of Brookland Representative Richard Glover. Her unwavering dedication to working on behalf of Tuckahoe and all of Henrico County has left a lasting impression for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking Mrs. Patricia O'Bannon for her outstanding service on behalf of Henrico County as Tuckahoe Supervisor, and in wishing her the best as she retires.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 6, 2023, I missed votes due to a positive Covid result. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 698; NAY on Roll Call No. 699; YEA on Roll Call No. 700; NAY on Roll Call No. 701; YEA on Roll Call No. 702; NAY on Roll Call No. 703; and YEA on Roll Call No. 704.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STEPHEN SHAM

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of the Honorable Stephen Sham, who passed away on November 29, 2023, at the age of 59. As the first Asian and Chinese American mayor of the City of Alhambra, Stephen Sham was a revered visionary, leader, and advocate who dedicated his life to empowering the Asian community, fostering eco-

nomie opportunities, and promoting social equity.

Stephen Sham was born in Beijing, China, in 1964 and later lived in Hong Kong before immigrating to the United States during his teenage years. His educational journey led him to Daniel Murphy High School in Los Angeles, and he went on to earn a B.S. in Business Administration (Entrepreneurship) from Cal State L.A. Alongside his wife, he successfully operated Plaza Printing, a local business, for over 25 years.

When Stephen first started his business, he faced racism and discrimination from residents who resented the growing Asian American community in Alhambra. Motivated by these challenges, he joined the Alhambra Chamber of Commerce to challenge such prejudiced views. Through hard work and dedication, he not only dispelled misconceptions, but also rose to become the Chamber's President. During his tenure, he played a pivotal role in enhancing community outreach and supporting the growth of small businesses. In fact, I was proud to honor Stephen as businessperson of the year in my Congressional District in 2018.

Stephen's journey into the public service began in 2006, when those who knew him and benefitted from his service to the community urged him to run for the City Council. He answered the call and won, ultimately making history as the first Asian American Mayor of the City of Alhambra since its establishment in 1903. His leadership extended over four mayoral terms and 12 years on the City Council.

During his tenure, he prioritized the needs of every resident and led initiatives to increase the city's and Police Department's use of social media platforms to better connect with the Chinese-speaking community. He worked closely with fellow Councilmembers to make Alhambra a more prosperous place during his time in office. He oversaw a 23 percent decline in the crime rate and a strategic investment of over \$4 million into Public Safety equipment, with an additional \$2 million for fire training safety.

Under his leadership, Alhambra attracted new businesses, and the city council invested in new recreational facilities for its growing community. Furthermore, the city successfully built housing to meet the growing needs of its residents, and Stephen collaborating with local non-profit organizations to reduce homelessness.

His influence expanded beyond Alhambra as Stephen served as the President of the Asian Pacific American Municipal Officials (APAMO), the President of the Asian Pacific Islander Caucus, and the President of Chinese American Elected Officials (CEO). Additionally, he contributed to the Board of Directors of Bank Irvine in his most recent role.

Stephen will be remembered by family, friends, community leaders, and residents for his devotion and service to equal opportunity and diversity in the City of Alhambra. I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the life of this extraordinary individual.

• 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.

HONORING ANDY FLICK

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the distinguished career of Andy Flick, who spent 14 years in service to the United States House of Representatives, before departing recently to serve as Legislative Director to the Vice President at the White House.

Andy's career in the House pre-dates my own. He started in 2009 in former Congressman Ike Skelton's office before serving in senior roles with Representatives COSTA, MOULTON, and TRONE. As the Vice Chair for Policy of the New Democrat Coalition (New Dems), I feel especially fortunate that Andy led the New Dems during the 117th Congress and through much of the 118th Congress. Throughout my time working with him, I have observed that Andy is an incredibly dedicated, thoughtful, and creative staffer and leader.

Under Andy's leadership, the New Dems fully leveraged Democratic majorities in the House and Senate, and control of the White House to pass historic legislation, including the Inflation Reduction Act to lower health care and energy costs and the Chips and Science Act to bolster American competitiveness in a globalized world. I am particularly indebted to Andy for the role that he and the New Dems played in helping me realize the RECOMPETE Act, which passed as a provision of the Chips and Science Act. The RECOMPETE Pilot Program aims to create renewed economic opportunity in communities that have faced persistent economic distress. I grew up in one of these communities, and it inspired me to run for Congress. I can leave Congress more easily after my current term ends, knowing the RECOMPETE Act was brought to life, in large part because of Andy and the New Dems' tireless work and skill.

During the 118th Congress, where Democrats have been in the minority, Andy embraced the Coalition's unique ability to bridge the partisan divide and make progress on the most pressing challenges facing our country. This includes the role New Dems played in helping avert a fiscal crisis by securing the votes needed to raise the debt ceiling and orienting policy task forces around critical legislation. Countless New Dems have Andy to thank for seeing their policy priorities move forward despite tough odds.

Throughout his time in working in the legislative branch, Andy left his fingerprints on policies that have improved the lives of the American people. Even more importantly, he has recruited, mentored, and helped develop countless staffers who want to be like him—with serious legislative acumen and a steadfast commitment to public service. Andy's sharp wit, humor, and unique ability to think of and then pass sound policy ideas are already sorely missed. On behalf of my office and the New Dems, I thank Andy for the legacy he has left on the Hill and for all the remarkable public service he has delivered and will continue to deliver at the White House.

We are so proud of him and will be rooting for him, always.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Ms. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast my votes on December 6, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 698, NAY on Roll Call No. 699, YEA on Roll Call No. 700, NAY on Roll Call No. 701, YEA on Roll Call No. 702, NAY on Roll Call No. 703 and YEA on Roll Call No. 704.

RECOGNIZING THE 95TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROME CAPITOL THEATRE

HON. BRANDON WILLIAMS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Mr. WILLIAMS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to honor the Capitol Theatre in Rome, NY as it celebrates its 95th Anniversary this year.

The idea for the Capitol Theatre was conceived by brothers Myron J. and Joseph S. Kallet. Kallet Theaters, Inc., of Oneida, New York partnered with the M.E. Commerford Amusement Company of Scranton, Pennsylvania to open the theater on December 10, 1928. It was designed by Leon H. Lempert, Jr. and was the first building in the city of Rome, New York, to be built as a movie house and the first to offer "talking pictures". The opening program included the feature film *Lilac Time*, starring Colleen Moore and Gary Cooper.

Until 1974, the Capitol Theatre operated as a first-run movie house, and then for the next eleven years was used on occasion for special events. The facility was officially re-opened on the 57th anniversary of the theater, December 10, 1985, by Capitol Civic Center, Inc., a non-profit formed by volunteers.

In November of 2020, a major restoration project was begun to restore the Capital interior to its 1939 period. In July of 2021, the restored theater reopened, and in January of 2022 the renovation project was completed with a recreation of the marquee and blade sign. The theater still hosts its 1928 original installation Möller theater organ which was restored in 2002 and has been used since then to accompany silent movies.

Today, Capitol Theatre auditorium is part of the Capitol Arts Complex which is the centerpiece of the "Rome Arts District". Live stage plays, dance shows, classic movies and special events are all hosted at the Complex. Also included in the Complex is the two screen Cinema Capitol which offers first-run independent movies. The Capitol Arts Complex currently hosts over 900 performances annually.

It is truly an honor, on behalf of New York's 22nd Congressional District, to congratulate the Capitol Theatre on the occasion of its 95th Anniversary. I wish them continued success for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING BLACK RIVER TECHNICAL COLLEGE

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Mr. CRAWFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Black River Technical College on its 50th Anniversary as a two-year degree conferring institution serving the First Congressional District of Arkansas.

Since its founding, Black River Technical College has played a major role in the professional development of the citizens of Northeast Arkansas and Southeast Missouri by offering a wide range of programs, such as associate degrees, technical certificates, certificates of proficiency, and adult and continuing education courses. Located on two campuses in Pocahontas and Paragould, Arkansas, with an enrollment of approximately 2,500 students, Black River Technical College has a vision to "lead [the] community in learning and economic development." BRTC's staff and faculty members are engaged in our community and have truly made a difference in the lives of thousands of people in my part of the country. The First District is better because of their service.

Congratulations to Black River Technical College. I wish them many more years as a successful, integral member of the Northeast Arkansas community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in the family, I regrettably missed votes on December 6 and 7, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted accordingly:

YEA on Roll Call Number 698;
NAY on Roll Call Number 699;
YEA on Roll Call Number 700;
NAY on Roll Call Number 701;
YEA on Roll Call Number 702;
NAY on Roll Call Number 703;
YEA on Roll Call Number 704;
NAY on Roll Call Number 705; and
NAY on Roll Call Number 706.

HONORING MR. FRANK J. THORNTON

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Frank J. Thornton, Fairfield Supervisor and Chairman of the Henrico County Board of Supervisors.

Since his election to the Henrico County Board of Supervisors in 1995, Mr. Thornton has worked hard to build bridges and bring the Henrico community together. His historic election is a clear example of his perseverance and hard work.

Throughout his career, Mr. Thornton has worked hard to empower all in Henrico. In the

classroom, he provided guidance and instruction to students as a professor of French literature. As a community leader, he has been a driver for change—challenging the status quo time and again. His poise in leadership and fearless advocacy have been the hallmarks of his career. Mr. Thornton's passion for Henrico County and his dedication to the fight for equity and representation have left a permanent mark on the community.

For many years, Mr. Thornton served as the only Democrat and Black member on the board. That is no longer the case today, thanks in part to Mr. Thornton's tenacity and ability to inspire change. He has become a role model for many and has set a great example for up-and-coming leaders.

Throughout his 27-year tenure as Fairfield Supervisor, he has been elected as Chairman of the Henrico County Board of Supervisors multiple times. Through his work, he has embraced change and highlighted Henrico's diversity. He has also been a strong advocate for the development of community resources—such as the Frank J. Thornton YMCA Aquatic Center and the extension of the bus line to Short Pump. Through his work, he has helped Henrico become more connected, vibrant, and active. A patient and dedicated representative, Mr. Thornton has kept his promise of "Making Henrico Better for the Future."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking Mr. Frank J. Thornton for his outstanding service on behalf of Henrico County as Fairfield Supervisor, and in wishing him the best as he retires.

CONGRATULAT[NG MAGGIE BURN OWENS FOR 35 YEARS AT THE CALHOUN COUNTY YMCA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Maggie Burn Owens for her 35 years of service at the YMCA of Calhoun County.

She currently serves as president and CEO of the YMCA of Calhoun County where 3,586 people benefit each year from the programs and services offered.

Under her leadership, the YMCA of Calhoun County has undergone extensive efforts to boost financial assistance in order to grow the membership of the organization.

The YMCA was able to offer \$129,177 in financial assistance last year to children, individuals and families who might otherwise not have been able to participate in YMCA programs or memberships.

We are extremely proud of Maggie and her ongoing commitment to the Calhoun County community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Maggie Burn Owens for her 35 years of service to the YMCA of Calhoun County.

HONORING FRAN DUVALL

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Fran Duvall, who joined my office when I first came to Congress. Fran had worked for my predecessor Sidney R. Yates, who recommended that I hire Fran because of her many talents and her ability to work as a team member.

Fran was kind, sweet, patient, competent and diligent in setting up our operations. She set an early example for my young staff on how to be an effective staffer on Capitol Hill. She was integral in my seamless transition to the House of Representatives and I, like my staff, relied on her guidance. But more importantly, she was progressive, welcoming, and inclusive before that was fashionable. Fran represented the very best of this Institution.

I send my deepest condolences to her family and gratitude for sharing her with Team Schakowsky and the House of Representatives. I include in the RECORD the following obituary, published in the December 5th Washington Post, describing her life of achievement.

FRAN DUVALL

(1 January 1935—14 May 2022)

The family of Frances Eloise Duvall honors her memory during this holiday season.

Ms. Duvall was born 1 January 1935 at home in Landover, Maryland and died 14 May 2022 in Fairfax, Virginia. She was the ninth and last child of Anna Louise (née Bennett) and George Paul Duvall and grew up in the nation's capital. After graduating from Immaculate Conception Academy in 1952, Ms. Duvall worked as a typist for the Navy Department, as a secretary with the University of Maryland Engineering Department and later with the Civil Service Commission.

Ms. Duvall met Keith Daggy in the early 1950s while both were members of the Bladensburg Skate Club. They were married in 1956 and, a year later, moved to Waynesboro, VA. There they had three children, Teresa, Roger, and Mary Helen, who did not survive a premature birth. Ms. Duvall and Mr. Daggy divorced in 1976, at which time Ms. Duvall began working full-time at the University of Virginia while studying at Mary Baldwin College (now University) in Staunton, earning her Bachelor of Arts in Business Management in 1981.

Ms. Duvall then moved back to Washington, DC, where she worked as the office manager for Representative Sidney R. Yates, IL, and his successor, Jan Schakowsky, until Ms. Duvall's retirement in 2001.

The final chapter of Ms. Duvall's life was written at Greenspring Retirement Community in Springfield, VA, where she lived from 2003 until her death. She was deeply involved in various aspects of the community, particularly the Greenspring Players, the theatre troupe at the retirement village. Ms. Duvall served in many capacities: chair, co-chair, director, producer, prompter, computer support, publicity, props and cast parties, as well as upgrading and clarifying policies and procedures for the Players. Ms. Duvall also created and maintained a scholarship program, awarding scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students majoring in all aspects of theatre.

Additionally, Ms. Duvall hosted various shows on the Village's internal television station and assisted in producing the sta-

tion's programs on presidential libraries. She also created sign language classes at the Village.

Ms. Duvall was a life-long Democrat and vigorously defended equal rights. She volunteered on Election Day to ensure that residents could cast their vote.

After attending many memorial services to honor friends who had passed, Ms. Duvall decided, in January 2020, to celebrate her 85th birthday with beautiful music performed by her children and grandchildren and amusing, heartfelt anecdotes from her friends and loved ones. Ms. Duvall leaves behind her daughter, Teresa, and granddaughter Zoe, as well as her son, Roger, his wife Kimberlea, and their children, Maximilian and Celia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BECCA BALINT

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present on December 6, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 698; NAY on Roll Call No. 699; YEA on Roll Call No. 700; NAY on Roll Call No. 701; YEA on Roll Call No. 702; NAY on Roll Call No. 703; and YEA on Roll Call No. 704.

RECOGNIZING HARRY L. CHANDLER

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable veteran, an esteemed member of our community in western Massachusetts, and a national hero. Born and raised in Holyoke, Massachusetts, Harry L. Chandler is one of the few remaining members of the Greatest Generation. Now 102 years old, Harry will be returning to Pearl Harbor to commemorate the day that will live in infamy.

Harry's military service began when he chose to enlist in the United States Navy in 1939, right before completing his high school education. Enlisting as a hospital corpsman, his service in the Navy during World War II showcases his courage and commitment to our country, bravely facing the perils of war. His experiences during the attack on Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, are etched in our nation's history. Harry's actions that day, rescuing fellow sailors amidst chaos and witnessing the tragic fate of the USS *Arizona* and USS *Utah*, are a stark reminder of the price of freedom and the valor of those who defend it.

This week, as Harry returns to Pearl Harbor, he is not just revisiting a site of historical significance; he is returning as a living testament to the bravery of those who served alongside him. Accompanied by his granddaughter, Kelli Fahey, and her husband, Ron Mahaffee, Harry will partake in numerous commemorative ceremonies, including the profound honor of saluting a battleship during the USS *Arizona* memorial service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Harry L. Chandler, not only as a veteran of World War II, but as a pillar of strength, resilience, and humility. His legacy is

an inspiration to us all and will undoubtedly continue to influence our community for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO OLIVER “BUDDY”
POUGH

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a loyal South Carolina State University alumnus, inspirational leader, and legendary football coach on his retirement. Coach Oliver “Buddy” Pough will retire as head coach of the South Carolina State Bulldogs football team at the end of the 2023 season after 22 years.

Coach Pough first joined the South Carolina State Football Team as an undergraduate student in the 1970s. As an offensive lineman, Pough helped lead his team to a league crown and back-to-back postseason appearances. After graduation, Pough’s passion for the sport led him to seek a career in coaching. Over three decades, Pough coached at numerous South Carolina high schools and the University of South Carolina before returning to South Carolina State University as the school’s 14th head coach in 2002.

Under Coach Pough’s leadership, the team found almost immediate success. In 2004, the team tied for the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference (MEAC) championship. This was followed by back-to-back outright MEAC titles and FCS playoff appearances during the 2008 and 2009 seasons. Later, Coach Pough led the team to four additional shared MEAC titles and two additional FCS playoff appearances. After almost two decades as head coach, Pough secured his first Celebration Bowl Championship in 2021 and his fifth HBCU National Crown.

Coach Pough is ranked among the top HBCU and MEAC coaches of all time. He has won three MEAC Coach of the Year Awards, two National Coach of the Year awards, and two national HBCU titles. In 2019, Coach Pough became the winningest head football coach in South Carolina State University history. During his retirement, Coach Pough hopes to spend more time with his wife of 47 years, Josie, his sons, and his grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in celebrating Coach Pough’s remarkable career. He is well-regarded by his peers in South Carolina and across the Nation and has transformed the lives of countless student-athletes on and off the field. Coach Pough will remain a pillar of the SC State community and continue to make our beloved alma mater shine every day.

HONORING SERGEANT MAJOR
COLLIN D. BARRY

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Sergeant Major Collin D. Barry for 24 years of dedicated service to our Nation.

Sergeant Major Barry first answered the call to service in 1999 when he enlisted in Tucumcari, New Mexico. Twenty-four years later, he is retiring as the Marine Corps Installations National Capital Region-Marine Corps Base Quantico Command Senior Enlisted Leader.

Sergeant Major Barry has a distinguished record of service, evident by the numerous service awards he has received, including a Purple Heart, the Navy and Marine Corps Meritorious Service Medal, and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

Throughout his career, Sergeant Major Barry has selflessly served his country, deploying in support of multiple military operations including Operation Iraqi Freedom I, Operation Iraqi Freedom II, and Operation Inherent Resolve. He has served as an instructor and been a role model to students while assigned to the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps-University of New Mexico, and as a Basic Reconnaissance Course Platoon Sergeant, Chief Instructor, and Course Chief at the Reconnaissance Training Company, Advanced Infantry Training Battalion, School of Infantry-West.

Sergeant Major Barry has also committed himself to learning and has been a dedicated student during his time of service. He earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree in Global Leadership and Organizational Management from the Indiana Institute of Technology, a Master of Business Administration degree from Texas A&M University, and a Bachelor of Business Administration from the Anderson School of Management at the University of New Mexico.

His expertise and leadership led him to participate in two Commandant of the Marine Corps task forces at the Pentagon where he worked to improve culture, force preservation, and human performance optimization within the force. He has made academic and practitioner advancements in military leadership through published research and was recognized by the Marine Corps Association for communication distinction for his articles published in the Marine Corps Gazette.

Sergeant Major Barry has gone above and beyond in the many roles he has fulfilled throughout his career as a mentor, teacher, student, and as a Marine. His legacy of service and leadership will continue through all the servicemembers who have had the honor of serving with him.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating and thanking Sergeant Major Collin D. Barry for 24 years of service to our country, and in wishing him the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF MASTER SER-
GEANT CHLOÉ RAINEY-
FLUELLEN

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2023

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Chief Master Sergeant Chloé Rainey-Fluellen, United States Air

Force, and her work as the Department of Defense (DoD) legislative fellow detailed to my office for 2023.

In 2022, Chief Master Sergeant Rainey-Fluellen was selected to represent the Air Force as a DoD legislative fellow.

The DoD legislative fellowship program provides superior servicemembers with valuable legislative experience and an understanding of how congressional actions affect DoD’s budget, roles and missions, force structure, military projects, and quality of life.

Over the past year, Chief Master Sergeant Rainey-Fluellen has been essential to my office and the defense portfolio. She has crafted and coordinated National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) amendments in line with my priorities and the needs of Northwest Washington communities.

Chief Master Sergeant Rainey-Fluellen worked to overhaul financial literacy curricula for DoDEA schools across the globe, which was introduced and subsequently included in the House-passed version of the FY24 NDAA.

Chief Master Sergeant Rainey-Fluellen shared strategic insight on policymaking, the NDAA and appropriation processes to several military workshops and courses, educating more than 80 senior enlisted leaders.

She was instrumental in the success of Veterans Forums in Washington’s Second Congressional District, which reached more than 300 veterans to address issues impacting housing, health care, education and employment.

Chief Master Sergeant Rainey-Fluellen is originally from New Orleans, Louisiana. She is happily married to her husband, Demetrius, and together they share a one-year-old son, Demetrius “DJ” Jr. She is also a bonus mom to three young women, Surryeah, Jasmine and Jada. She is the proud granddaughter of Joseph E. Robinson, a Merchant Marine who served in Vietnam.

She has background as a medical technician with experience in family health, women’s health, immunizations and emergency care. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, a Master of Science in Human Resources Management and a certification in Project Management Professional. Additionally, she was selected for both the competitive Amy War College National Security Studies graduate certification program as well as four congressional fellowships centered on National Security, Foreign Affairs, Artificial Intelligence and Public Policy.

The Air Force recognized her hard work, leadership and dedication and promoted her to the rank of Chief Master Sergeant on December 1, 2023.

I thank Chief Master Sergeant Rainey-Fluellen for her commitment and service to her community, Washington’s Second Congressional District and the United States of America.