

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DR. EMMANUEL BILIRAKIS AND HONORABLE JENNIFER WEXTON NATIONAL PLAN TO END PARKINSON'S ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my friend and colleague Congresswoman JENNIFER WEXTON and to urge support for H.R. 2365, the Dr. Emmanuel Bilirakis and Honorable Jennifer Wexton National Plan to End Parkinson Act, which was introduced by my friend Congressman GUS BILIRAKIS. This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a comprehensive Parkinson's Disease research plan to address prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and ultimately, to find a cure for Parkinson's.

During her time in Congress, Congresswoman WEXTON has proven to be an effective representative for her constituents and a valued member of this institution. She has dedicated her professional life to serving the public in a variety of ways, including as a prosecutor, a judge, a state senator, and a Member of Congress representing Virginia's 10th Congressional District. She is a brave fighter and fierce advocate for Parkinson's Disease. She uses her platform to raise awareness of the disease and for resources to find a cure which is why supporting the Dr. Emmanuel Bilirakis and Honorable Jennifer Wexton National Plan to End Parkinson's Act is just one way to honor her effort.

Congresswoman WEXTON serves on the House Committee on Appropriations and House Committee on the Budget. She has accomplished many things during her tenure since coming into Congress in 2019 including the passage of her bill, the Expanding Findings for Federal Opioid Research and Treatment Act.

I wish JENNIFER peace and comfort as she continues to fight this disease surrounded by loved ones and would like to thank her for her service and dedication to this body. She has inspired many with her bravery and courage, both as an advocate for and someone diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease.

Again, thank you to Congresswoman WEXTON and Congressman BILIRAKIS. Their advocacy for Parkinson's Disease research is commendable, and with that, I strongly urge support for H.R. 2365, the Dr. Emmanuel Bilirakis and Honorable Jennifer Wexton National Plan to End Parkinson's Act.

DR. EMMANUEL BILIRAKIS AND HONORABLE JENNIFER WEXTON NATIONAL PLAN TO END PARKINSON'S ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2365, the Dr. Emmanuel Bilirakis and Honorable Jennifer Wexton National Plan to End Parkinson's Act.

I am honored to rise in support today of this bipartisan legislation. Our work here today will allow people, of all backgrounds, who have experiences with Parkinson's to have hope for a future with more research, treatments, and cures.

This bipartisan legislation will bring diverse federal and non-federal stakeholders together along with patients and caregivers, to build a national strategy for prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cures for different forms of Parkinson's Disease.

This bill is also a historic step in our federal government's work to research and share data on this disease, following the model of the National Alzheimer's Project Act which became law in 2011.

Parkinson's disease, affecting more than 1 million people in the United States and nearly 10 million people worldwide, is the second most common and fastest-growing neurological disease. Although typical diagnosis occurs around age 50, this is not an "older person" disease and does not look the same for every patient. When a large population of people have a disease like Parkinson's disease, it is a matter of life or death to have an accurate understanding of how many people have the disease, where they live and why they have it. Shining a light on research that looks not only at genetic factors but also environmental factors, will provide promise for all aspects of the disease and potential triggers.

I want to thank my colleagues, Chairwoman McMORRIS ROGERS, Representative TONKO, Representative WEXTON, and Representative BILIRAKIS, for working with us to ensure we as a country take this historic step in combating Parkinson's disease on all fronts. It is a wonderful legacy to our champions to name the legislation after two tenacious fighters who will not and did not succumb to the disease without making a mark.

Although Rep. WEXTON believes that many of the benefits from this legislation may not come to fruition in her battle against the disease, I disagree. The fact that she is fighting every single day, with grace, strength, and humor, is the motivating benefit from today. We see her face and hear her clear voice in every aspect of this bill. Her sheer determination, with the thousands of advocates who have shared their stories, brought us all together today and will be honored in this work.

This bipartisan work before us is the backbone of our Committee, and I am pleased we once again embraced the same principles to ensure that all patients are included in a plan to end this deadly illness. It is my deep belief that this legislation will make significant strides to end Parkinson's and will provide our family members, caregivers, and friends with real hope.

CONDEMNING ANTISEMITISM ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES AND THE TESTIMONY OF UNIVERSITY PRESIDENTS IN THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND THE WORKFORCE

SPEECH OF

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the rise of anti-Semitism on campuses. We must do all we can to put an end to this disturbing trend. Yet, Rep. STEFANIK's Resolution, H. Res. 927, which I voted against, does not do that.

The University presidents' responses at the House Education and the Workforce Committee hearing on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, were wholly inadequate and failed to make clear that the genocidal statements they were asked about were unacceptable and must be unequivocally condemned. Despite that, Congress is not a hiring and firing authority for private educational institutions. The Resolution is a cynical political ploy by a Member of Congress who lacks the moral authority to take a stance on this issue for a myriad of reasons.

Rep. STEFANIK is a supporter of known White Supremacists and their disgusting political ideologies. She is an avid supporter and endorser of ex-President Trump, who publicly described White Supremacists chanting "Jews will not replace us" as "very fine people on both sides," who uses anti-Semitic tropes in campaign materials, and hosts holocaust revisionists at his home, including Nick Fuentes. Rep. STEFANIK herself has echoed the messages of the "Great Replacement Theory," a far-right, racist conspiracy theory that inspired the perpetrators of Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue massacre, among others.

Instead of taking concrete actions to stop the tragic rise of anti-Semitism on college campuses, this very serious issue is being politicized by the Majority. We all should vocally oppose anti-Semitism but this resolution is not genuine. I will not be a part of an over-reaching political ruse. I will, instead, support appropriate and actionable measures in Congress.

● 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.

AERYOUS THRESHER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Aeryous Thresher for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Aeryous has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Aeryous, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Aeryous's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wheat Ridge High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Aeryous Thresher on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING NANCY QUIRK

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable career of Mrs. Nancy Quirk and to celebrate her retirement from the Green Bay Water Utility in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Nancy began her career in civil engineering with her studies at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. A Wisconsin-certified Professional Engineer, she worked at the Madison Water Utility before accepting the position of Technical Engineering Service Manager at Waukesha Water Utility. For the past ten years, Nancy's career brought her to Green Bay as General Manager of Green Bay Water Utility, the third largest drinking water utility in the state.

Nancy's vision, commitment, and perseverance has elevated the Utility as an industry leader that prioritizes the health and welfare of its customers. Thanks to her leadership, Green Bay Water Utility became one of the first in the nation to voluntarily remove all known public and private lead service lines.

The removal of lead service lines was no small task. Nancy facilitated her team's efforts to research records from the 19th and early 20th centuries to find potential lead lines, locate current property owners, knock on 3,000 doors to check pipes, and use specialized cameras and vacuums to scan lines for lead. At the time, utilities were prohibited from replacing privately owned lines, but the Utility worked with Wisconsin legislators to allow the Utility to replace 247 privately owned lead lines at no cost to homeowners. Nancy pooled funding sources for the five-year, \$8 million lead pipe removal project and led her team to replace nearly 2,000 public and private lines in total.

Removing lead service lines was a remarkable example of how Nancy's work benefitted the citizens of Green Bay, but her vision for the future of safe water in Green Bay didn't stop there. In 2018, the utility took the forward-thinking step of proactively testing for

PFAS. This allowed the Utility's water quality team to continue to closely monitor any PFAS as research evolves. Additionally, Nancy oversaw the implementation of unidirectional flushing for the entire distribution system, scouring of raw water lines, combining pressure zones, and instituting the Utilis Satellite Leak Detection System. At half the cost of the previous system, the Utilis system found potential leaks in more than 10 percent of the City's water pipes in the first year alone. The repairs to those leaks saved the City an estimated 30 million gallons of water.

An astute manager, Nancy's list of improvements to internal operations is impressive. As General Manager, Nancy oversaw the business of wholesale service to customers, adding a neighboring town and three villages. Nancy restructured the Utility and streamlined employee operations through improved communications, staff additions, and cross training. She instituted employee benefits, appreciation programs, and events. She also sought upgrades for technologies, equipment, distribution lines and the facility itself.

Nancy's passion for providing safe drinking water extends beyond the borders of the Green Bay Water Utility and its service area. A member of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) since 1987, Nancy chaired the Wisconsin Section of AWWA and is a past National Director representing Wisconsin. She served six years on the Water Utility Council for AWWA where she was the regulatory chairperson of the technical advisory groups. She was a trustee for Municipal Environmental Group-Water in Wisconsin and the Regulatory Committee for the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA). Today, she concludes her term as one of 15 representatives appointed nationwide to EPA's National Drinking Water Advisory Council.

Nancy's achievements have not gone unnoticed. She was awarded as a Distinguished Alumni in Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. She received the Leon Smith Award from the Wisconsin Section of the AWWA and was awarded the George Warren Fuller Award for Distinguished Service to the Water Supply Field by the American Water Works Association. Most recently, Nancy was named a NEW Watershed Champion for her work in improving area waters.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mrs. Nancy Quirk for her exceptional leadership and commitment in embracing the core values of the Green Bay Water Utility. She has made our communities a better and safer place. Upon her retirement, she leaves the legacy of providing safe drinking water for thousands of people in Northeast Wisconsin. We are grateful to her for granting us the security of knowing the water that flows from the Green Bay Water Utility to our tap is safe to drink.

HONORING CC AND REGINA YIN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Rep. JOHN GARAMENDI, to honor CC and Regina Yin's 30 years of service to our community

through the Yin Ranch in Vacaville. The couple's continued support to civic engagement is further demonstrated through their founding of the Asian Pacific Islander Public Affairs Association (APAPA) 22 years ago and co-founding of the Chinese American Association of Solano County (CAASC).

Both CC and Regina Yin are immigrants from China and Taiwan to the United States. CC Yin graduated from the University of Washington with a master's degree in civil engineering, whereas Regina also graduated from the University of Washington with a master's degree in social work.

CC and Regina Yin are the proud franchise owners of 30 McDonald's branches in Northern California, including 16 in our beloved Solano County. We are very grateful for the thousands of jobs the Yin family have created for the people in our community. Additionally, in May of 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, CC and Regina Yin donated millions of pieces of personal protective equipment including surgical masks, gowns, and hand sanitizers to frontline workers in Vallejo, the surrounding Bay Area, and nationwide communities.

Over the past 30 years, the 40-acre Yin Ranch in Vacaville, California has been filled with cherished memories and wonderful moments in partnership with the community. Comprised of many scenic areas, including the lake, Olive Garden Courtyard, Vista Pointe Event Center, Main House with Cottages, and a new Asian Heritage Center (Cultural Pavilion), the Yin Ranch is a beautiful and unique property, which hosts weddings and community events for public benefit.

The Asian Heritage Center was rebuilt after the devastating 2020 LNU Lightning Complex fires which destroyed the original structure. CC, Regina, and their family then quickly rebuilt the structure into a new 18,000 square foot indoor location with an event hall, wine cellar, and outdoor deck space to allow the community to quickly regain access to the important resource.

For decades, the Yin family has been dedicated to giving back to our communities in Solano County and throughout the state of California. They have supported hundreds of non-profit organizations, including the one they founded, APAPA. CC and Regina Yin responded to an alarming lack of Asian Pacific Islander (API) representation at all levels of government. With grassroots support, APAPA set out to engage voters, partner with the community, and develop API leaders of tomorrow.

Today, APAPA has over 50 volunteer-driven chapters and hundreds of student-interns each year hosted by public officials. The Yin family is committed to furthering APAPA's mission to advance the Asian Americans and Native American Pacific Islander (AANAPI) communities. Through leadership and civic engagement, CC and Regina Yin collaborate with diverse organizations, public officials, and community leaders to create awareness for AANAPI communities. They strive to fight hate crimes, address systemic racism, and provide opportunities for voices to be heard.

CC and Regina Yin have three daughters: Mary Yin Liu; Betty Lin; and Carol Yin. Their family believes in the American Dream and a legacy of community engagement.

Mr. Speaker, CC and Regina Yin have established a legacy befitting of their enduring

commitment and passion to serving our community. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor their work here today.

AMERICA GRANILLO ESTRADA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize America Granillo Estrada for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

America has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like America, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to America's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate America Granillo Estrada on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

OPPOSITION TO H. RES. 927, CONDEMNING ANTISEMITISM ON UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H. Res. 927.

Let me be clear—I condemn antisemitism on our university and college campuses in the strongest possible terms. If I thought this resolution was a good faith effort to combat antisemitism, I'd support it. Regrettably, that is not the case.

Like many of my colleagues, I was disappointed by the testimony provided by the presidents of Harvard, MIT, and UPenn. Calling for genocide is dangerous and intolerable, and the presidents should have used their time in front of the Education and Workforce Committee to explicitly condemn attacks against the Jewish community and affirm their commitment to protecting Jewish and Arab students experiencing hate. Those private institutions are now deciding how to proceed with their leadership and make amends for their offensive statements.

This resolution does nothing to address the problem of antisemitism on campuses. Instead, House Republicans are once again using Jewish pain to score political points. There are many ways that Congress can address the rise in hate—for example, implementing President Biden's National Strategy to Counter Antisemitism. Or, instead of cutting \$35 million from the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights that protects Jewish students on campus, they could join Democrats in fully funding the office. This resolution fails to do either, and instead of funding these important initiatives, the House Republican majority is continuing to hide behind empty words—and actions speak louder than

words. I uphold and include in the RECORD the comments made by my colleague, The Honorable JAMIE RASKIN (MD-08) made on the House Floor on December 13, 2023.

For these reasons, I must oppose the resolution.

*Remarks by Rep. Jamie Raskin per the United States House of Representatives Congressional Record, Volume 169, Issue 205, December 13, 2023.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose this resolution which, to my knowledge, would mark the first time in American history that the House of Representatives would vote to tell private college and university presidents to resign. I want all of my colleagues to think very seriously about what this means for us today and in the future.

We are all profoundly disturbed by the resurgence of anti-Semitism and racism in campus towns, including death threats, serious death threats against Jewish students at Cornell, and actual shootings and attempted murder of three Palestinian-American students in Burlington, Vermont.

We all want to express our outrage in House resolutions, which we have done more than 20 times as a House of Representatives, and numerous times even since October 7. For example, on November 2, we passed H. Res. 798, which condemned all forms of anti-Semitism on college campuses, denounced any support for terrorist groups on campus, reaffirmed the free speech rights of Jewish students and faculty, and urged enforcement of Federal civil rights laws to protect Jewish students against anti-Semitism.

Why do we need this resolution? The only thing new about it is it would have the U.S. House of Representatives call specifically for the resignation of two college presidents, a call that has been slipped in at the bottom of page 2 of the resolution.

This extraordinary passage comes close to being what the Constitution calls a bill of attainder, which is the unconstitutional imposition by Congress on a specific citizen or citizens of a criminal punishment or stigma by the Congress itself. Although this resolution is not a criminal punishment or stigma against specific citizens, it is undoubtedly a civil punishment and stigma against specific American citizens.

How many of you would like the president of the college where you went or where your children go to be walking around with a congressional resolution telling them to resign?

Everyone knows that this will be an academic scarlet letter and a professional death sentence for anyone carrying it around. Does anyone think that UPenn President Liz Magill, who has already resigned in the face of Ms. STEFANIK's ceaseless campaign to force her out, will ever be able to find another college presidency? Give me a break.

Now, I hold no brief for the college presidents' overly legalistic, ethically tone-deaf answers awkwardly advanced in response to Ms. STEFANIK's rapidfire, yes-no questions. It should not be difficult for anybody to say in an age of rampant gun violence and lax Republican gun laws, which have put tens of millions of AR-15s in circulation in our society, anyone calling for genocide of the Jews, or anyone else, should be sent immediately a campus security detail to see if they pose the risk of harm to other people or if they need an immediate mental health exam. If there is not an imminent threat, surely the call for genocide of the Jews by definition constitutes a hostile learning environment and should occasion aggressive disciplinary action.

Where is the common sense on the part of the college presidents? Where is the common sense in the Congress of the United States of America?

Calling for the resignation of private individuals at private universities would be a dramatic and unprecedented departure for the U.S. Congress, which has never before voted to tell a college president to resign.

Before we affix this lifelong stigma, reproach, and dishonor on a private citizen, do you think perhaps we should offer them some kind of due process, the kind of due process that even George Santos got and that Donald Trump is getting all over America right now for his 91 Federal and State felony charges?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. MEUSER). The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 2 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, should Harvard President Claudine Gay, who is the first Haitian American ever to serve in that position, and Sally Kornbluth, who is Jewish, get the chance to explain what they are actually doing to combat racism and anti-Semitism at their schools and what they have done in their lives and in their careers to oppose anti-Semitism and racism, which are the gateways to destruction of liberal democracy? Do we care about that, or is this just a bunch of drive-by talking points?

Is it relevant that the Harvard and MIT boards have made unanimous statements affirming the leadership of their two college presidents? Are we saying that their boards don't matter or they are indifferent to anti-Semitism and the leaders of the Freedom Caucus know better than the Jewish president of MIT what anti-Semitism is?

Now I know these two were the presidents testifying before Ms. STEFANIK, but are we sure that these two are even the worst in the country when it comes to bias and discrimination? Is this a one-shot deal, or, as Ms. STEFANIK promises, is this just the beginning? Are we going to go through all of the college and university presidents in America? What about the CEOs of the businesses? Maybe they are not performing to her satisfaction either.

Indeed, maybe there are college presidents who have looked the other way in not hypothetical cases of anti-Semitism and racism but real cases of anti-Semitism and racism. What about them? Are we going to let them go, or are we going to go after them? Maybe we should determine who the worst are before we start using the resources of the House of Representatives to call for people to resign.

Are there college presidents, by the way, who looked the other way when there was sexual abuse of college male wrestling team members, rape of students, or female gymnasts or female soccer players? Are we interested in that now that we are superintending higher education in America, now that we are the appellate review board for the colleges?

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentleman has expired.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I yield an additional 1 minute to the gentleman from Maryland.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to direct their remarks to the Chair.

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, are we prepared to become the national academic appeals panel for college presidents, coaches, and professors, or is that perhaps best left to the universities themselves?

Maybe it is that we just don't have a positive legislative agenda of our own to lower drug prices in America, to get aid to our democratic allies in Ukraine against the fascist imperialist thug Vladimir Putin. Maybe we don't have anything real to do, so we decide instead to go around and start lecturing

the college presidents and the college boards all over America.

In the absence of a real program for America, the majority is filling our hours with censures, expulsions, motions to vacate the speakership, overthrow their own leaders, and, of course, impeachment of President Biden for what? For doing nothing wrong. That is all that they give us. This cannibalistic instinct they have unleashed now turns on private citizens, academic leaders who will wear the scarlet letter “A” so they can have some more press conferences.

Vote “no” on this resolution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address my absence from Roll Call Votes on Thursday, October 26, 2023, through Monday December 11, 2023. I was detained in my District-TX18. Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

ROLL CALL NO. 558, On the Passage of Making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 557, On the Motion to Re-commit, Making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 564, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for the expulsion of Representative George Santos from the House of Representatives, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 563, On the Passage of Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 562, On the Motion to Re-commit, Making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 561, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended Hamas and Other Palestinian Terrorist Groups International Financing Prevention Act, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 560, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Declaring it is the policy of the United States that a nuclear Islamic Republic of Iran is not acceptable, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 559, On the Motion to Table, Censuring Representative RASHIDA TLAIB for antisemitic activity, sympathizing with terrorist organizations, and leading an insurrection at the United States Capitol Complex, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 578, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended, Condemning the support of Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorist organizations at institutions of higher education, which may lead to the creation of a hostile environment for Jewish students, faculty, and staff, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 577, On the Passage of Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 566, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4821) Dept. of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024; (H.R. 4820) Dept. of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024; and (H.R. 6126) Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024, I would have voted NO.

ROLL CALL NO. 565, On Ordering the Previous Question, Providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 4821) Dept. of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024; (H.R. 4820) Dept. of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024; and (H.R. 6126) Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 597, On the Passage of Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 596, On the Motion to Re-commit, Making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 622, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Censuring Representative RASHIDA TLAIB for promoting false narratives regarding the October 7, 2023, Hamas attack on Israel and for calling for the destruction of the State of Israel, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 608, On the Motion to Table, Censuring Representative RASHIDA TLAIB for promoting false narratives regarding the October 7, 2023, Hamas attack on Israel and for calling for the destruction of the State of Israel, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 602, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4664) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, I would have voted NO.

ROLL CALL NO. 601, On Ordering the Previous Question, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4664) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 645, On the Motion to Refer, Impeaching Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, Secretary of Homeland Security, for high crimes and misdemeanors, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 643, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Debbie Smith Act, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 658, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Further Continuing Appropriations and Other Extensions Act, 2024, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 647, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5894) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, I would have voted NO.

ROLL CALL NO. 646, On Ordering the Previous Question, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5894) making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 660, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5893) Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024 and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5961) No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act, I would have voted NO.

ROLL CALL NO. 659, On Ordering the Previous Question, Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5893) Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024 and providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 5961) No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 677, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Reaffirming the State of Israel's right to exist, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 676, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Calling on Hamas to immediately release hostages taken during October 2023 attack on Israel, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 679, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of (H.R. 5283) Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act; (H.R. 5961) No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act; (S.J. Res. 32) providing for congressional disapproval, relating to “Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B)”, I would have voted NO.

ROLL CALL NO. 678, On Ordering the Previous Question, Providing for consideration of (H.R. 5283) Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act; (H.R. 5961) No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act; (S.J. Res. 32) providing for congressional disapproval, relating to “Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B)”, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 689, On the Passage of Protecting our Communities from Failure to Secure the Border Act, I would have voted NO.

ROLL CALL NO. 687, On the Passage of No Funds for Iranian Terrorism Act, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 691, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for the expulsion of Representative George Santos from the United States House of Representatives, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 690, On the Passage of Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection relating to “Small Business Lending Under the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Regulation B)”, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 697, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, Strongly condemning and denouncing the drastic rise of antisemitism in the United States and around the world, I would have voted PRESENT.

ROLL CALL NO. 693, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Providing for consideration of (H.R. 4468) Choice in Automobile Retail Sales Act; (H.R. 5933) DETERRENT Act; and (H.J. Res. 88) congressional disapproval relating to

"Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program", I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 692, On Ordering the Previous Question, Providing for consideration of (H.R. 4468) Choice in Automobile Retail Sales Act; (H.R. 5933) DETERRENT Act; and (H.J. Res. 88) congressional disapproval relating to "Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program", I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 706, On Agreeing to the Resolution, Censuring Representative JAMAAL BOWMAN, I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 705, On the Passage of Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the Department of Education relating to "Improving Income Driven Repayment for the William D. Ford Federal Direct Loan Program and the Federal Family Education Loan (FFEL) Program", I would have voted NAY.

ROLL CALL NO. 709, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2023, Part II, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 708, On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Lower Costs, More Transparency Act, I would have voted YEA.

ROLL CALL NO. 707, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Extension Act, I would have voted YEA.

ANGELO FIELD

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Angelo Field for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Angelo has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Angelo, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Angelo's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Angelo Field on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I did not vote on Monday, December 11, 2023 because I was invited to the White House Hanukkah Recognition event, which I felt was important to attend given the rise in antisemitism. Out of respect for the Jewish holiday and, particularly

for Jewish Members of Congress, I believe that votes should have been postponed, just as they were for the White House Holiday Ball last week. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

NAY on Roll Call No. 708, H.R. 5378;
YEA on Roll Call No. 707, H.R. 3224; and
YEA on Roll Call No. 709, H.R. 6503.

I also want to include in the RECORD the following letter to Speaker Johnson, which explains my decision in more detail:

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON: I write to urge you to postpone votes this evening given that President Biden and Dr. Biden are hosting a Hanukkah Reception at the White House at 6:00 p.m. On Monday, December 4, the White House hosted a Holiday Ball for Members of Congress at 6:00 p.m. I know several Members appreciated that December 4 votes were postponed as early as Friday, December 1, to allow Members the opportunity to attend the ball without missing votes. Given that the Hannukah Reception was planned within the same time parameters as the Holiday Ball and that there are votes planned today on December 11, I was hopeful that votes would also be postponed until December 12 to give Members an opportunity to celebrate Hannukah, especially given current events. While my office, in addition to several other Member offices, reached out to request that votes be postponed, I understand that your office plans to continue with votes tonight as scheduled. I find this incredibly disappointing. I would expect that the Jewish Members of our body be given the same consideration and deference as our other colleagues. With that in mind, I respectfully urge that votes be postponed. However, given the horrific October 7 massacre and our minds in the war continually in Gaza against Hamas is more important than any Hanukkah that we meet with our constituents and reassure them that we will stand with Israel as a priority, for its existence is in danger. I appreciate your prompt response to this urgent matter.

HONORING ANTHONY LAMBERT

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Lambert of the United States Air Force on the completion of his Legislative Fellowship with my personal office. Lieutenant Colonel Lambert has been assigned to my staff since January 2023 and has done an outstanding job as my trusted advisor for national security, foreign operations, space/technology, and veteran policy issues.

Currently a Deputy Material Leader for the Advanced Battle Management System, Lieutenant Colonel Lambert started his military service at United States Air Force Academy, graduating in 2009 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics. Before his assignment with my office, Lieutenant Colonel Lambert served as the Program Element Monitor for the B-21 Raider Program, where he was the Air Staff lead for programming, planning, executing, scheduling, and budgeting of the classified \$80 billion program.

Lieutenant Colonel Lambert also served as the Deputy Program Manager for the Hard Target Void Sensing Fuze and the Milestone C IPT Lead for the Family of Advanced Be-

yond Line-of-Sight Terminals program. He also served as a Deputy Branch Chief, and Branch Chief prior to his assignment as Executive Officer for the Air Force Rapid Capabilities Office.

During his fellowship in my office, Lieutenant Colonel Lambert was instrumental in helping my staff and me develop the fiscal year 2024 House Defense Appropriations bill. His direct contributions will help provide our nation's uniformed men and women with the resources needed to defend our great nation. Texas' 12th district is home to numerous DOD priorities including the F-35 program, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, and thousands of Active Guard and Reserve service members. Lieutenant Colonel Lambert quickly built a relationship with these entities, mastered their issues, and was essential in helping me represent them. Additionally, Lieutenant Colonel Lambert coordinated dozens of engagements with senior administration officials, representatives of foreign nations, and industry leaders. Above all, he has been a tireless advocate for servicemembers and veterans.

Airmen like Lieutenant Colonel Anthony Lambert are the reason why our nation's defense forces are the best in the world. On behalf of the 12th District of Texas, I offer my congratulations and best wishes to Anthony, his wife Leah, and his children, Sloane, and Jack, as they continue their military journey in service to our great Nation.

RECOGNIZING KERN HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT BRYON SCHAEFER

HON. KEVIN McCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. McCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of a distinguished educator and leader, Dr. Bryon Schaefer, who has dedicated 38 years of his life to educating our children in Kern County, California. Dr. Schaefer's journey from a math teacher in East Bakersfield to Superintendent of the Kern High School District is a testament to his unwavering commitment to learning, leadership, and community. It also represents the growth and optimism that comes to mind when one thinks of the Central Valley.

Dr. Schaefer embarked on his educational journey at the University of South Dakota, earning his Bachelor's degree in 1985. His passion for education led him to California, where he pursued and successfully obtained his Master's degree from California State University, Bakersfield in 1989. Even in the early stages of his career, Dr. Schaefer demonstrated a deep commitment to both his students' and his own professional development, simultaneously teaching high school math while earning his Master's degree. Not content to stop his academic advancement, Dr. Schaefer continued his pursuit of knowledge and earned his doctorate from the University of La Verne in 2002, specializing in organizational leadership.

Dr. Schaefer's ascent within the Kern High School District reflects the rapport he has held with the faculty and parents with whom he continues to hold mutual care and affection.

Beginning as a Math Teacher in 1985, he swiftly rose through the ranks, serving as Dean of Students at North High School in 1991. His leadership journey continued with roles as Assistant Principal and as Principal in 1998. In 2010, Dr. Schaefer assumed the role of Assistant Superintendent, and in 2014, he ultimately accepted the role of Superintendent, guiding the district with prudence and dedication. Beyond his contributions within the Kern High School District Dr. Schaefer extended his impact to higher education, serving as an adjunct faculty member for Point Loma Nazarene University—Bakersfield Regional Center for over two decades.

Though Dr. Schaefer has an impressive list of achievements in educational leadership throughout his 38 year career, his greatest legacy can be found in his diligent and ambitious mission for student education and personal growth. His commitment to providing quality education in Kern County has left an enduring impact on the community, shaping the future of countless students.

I know that Dr. Schaefer is looking forward to this next chapter of his life and spending mom time with his wife Beth, two children Shannon and Haley, and granddaughter Delilah. On behalf of the 20th Congressional District of California, I would like to congratulate Dr. Bryon Schaefer on a well-deserved retirement, a successful career in education, and for his many contributions to our community.

BAILEE TELL

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bailee Tell for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Bailee has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Bailee, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Bailee's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Oberon Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Bailee Tell on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, due to an unforeseen rescheduling conflict, I was unable to vote on the Motion to Recommit and passage of H.R. 357 on December 12, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on Roll Call No. 716, and Yea on Roll Call No. 717.

RECOGNIZING THE 2023 NORTHEAST WISCONSIN VETERAN OF THE YEAR, JOHN GILLESPIE

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Northeast Wisconsin's 2023 Veteran of the Year, John Gillespie.

The Northeast Wisconsin Veteran of the Year is chosen annually by a selection committee of veteran and civilian community members. It recognizes veterans in Northeast Wisconsin who continue to demonstrate service, excellence, and dedication in all they do.

John's service began in 1955 at the University of Wisconsin, where he first signed up as an ROTC student with the Army Corp of Engineers. His career of service would see him honorably discharged from the United States Army and rise to the rank of Captain in the United States Army Reserve. His service extended far beyond his time in uniform, however, as he was appointed to Gov. Tommy Thompson's Juvenile Justice Commission in 1991 and in 1992 to the National Child Labor Committee.

A longtime resident of Northeast Wisconsin, John's service to our country and community went far beyond his time in uniform. In 1965, John and his wife Jan began the Rawhide Boys Ranch with the fundraising help and support of a quarterback some may know, Bart Starr. This support allowed John and Jan to help turn around the lives of numerous at-risk youth throughout Wisconsin. The ranch was more than just housing and mentor assistance for these youth. It became an integral part of the community, establishing a firefighting service that served the nearby municipalities at no charge. Today, through their car donation program, residential services, and youth counseling programs, they serve over 750 at-risk youth across Wisconsin. They operate several family services centers, three equine therapy centers, and over 40 full-time therapists stationed at public high schools serving at-risk youth.

But John's commitment to our community went beyond the ranch. He dedicated much time and effort to projects like establishing Plamann Park, spent countless hours volunteering with American Legion Post 38 in Appleton, where he is a 30-year member, and also spent years advocating for a local veteran whom he kept in contact with after his two years at Rawhide as a youth, Jerry Monson. He worked tirelessly to ensure Jerry received the VA benefits he deserved and went so far as to compile donations from local builders to get Jerry back on his feet after he found himself homeless. John enlisted the help of 45 local builders and suppliers to build Jerry a home free of charge.

In every walk of his life, John and his family have led a life of selfless service and sacrifice. The lives he has changed through his work in our community can never be quantified. John continues to demonstrate the highest degree of service, dedication, and excellence in our community.

Mr. Speaker, I once again congratulate John Gillespie for his service to Northeast Wisconsin and the veteran's community and for being the 2023 Northeast Wisconsin Veteran

of the Year. Northeast Wisconsin can be proud of the many great veterans who call Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District home. I urge all colleagues to join me in recognizing these outstanding men and women.

GRACIELA MENENDEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Graciela Menendez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Graciela has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Graciela, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Graciela's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Graciela Menendez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

BIDEN AND UKRAINE NEED A SENATE DEAL

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an Editorial: Biden and Ukraine Need a Senate Deal, by William Galston from the Wall Street Journal to underscore the need for a deal on supplemental aid funding before Congress leaves Washington.

[From the Wall Street Journal, Dec. 12, 2023]

BIDEN AND UKRAINE NEED A SENATE DEAL
(By William A. Galston)

The West's security and his presidency require a compromise on border policy.

If the continuing Senate negotiations on border security fail, U.S. economic and military aid to Ukraine will end. And if this happens, a pillar of President Biden's foreign policy will collapse, Ukraine's ability to resist Russian aggression will diminish, and Vladimir Putin will broaden his mission to reconstitute the Russian empire.

Mr. Biden must take charge. He should invite Senate negotiators, who are steeped in the issues, along with Majority Leader Chuck Schumer and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell, to Camp David and keep them there until they reach agreement.

Mr. Biden's entire career—his 36 years in the Senate, his chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee, his role during the Obama administration as chief negotiator with Mr. McConnell—has prepared him for this moment. He will fail only if he flinches.

To be sure, this won't be an easy deal. Since winning the Democratic presidential nomination in 2020, Mr. Biden has relentlessly pursued party unity, first as an electoral strategy, then as a governing philosophy. Giving ground on immigration would weaken his party's unity and provide more ammunition to the left-wing insurgency that has erupted over his support of Israel.

Nevertheless, he must try. Americans have long since decided that Mr. Biden's immigration policy is a failure, and their judgment has become harsher over time. In the most recent Economist/YouGov survey, only 33% of respondents approve of his handling of this issue, a figure that drops to 27% among suburbanites and 21% for independents. Cities across the country, many governed by Democrats, are struggling to cope with a record flow of immigrants who can't legally work. When the cost of feeding and housing them forces city leaders to cut vital services to their constituents, those leaders pay a political price. New York Mayor Eric Adams's approval rating has fallen to 28%.

A Senate agreement will be successful only if it can pass the House. This means it must have the support of a solid majority of Republican senators, including the leadership team, not only the bare minimum of Republicans needed to give the measure the 60 votes it needs to survive a possible filibuster. Only Mr. McConnell can give Mr. Biden the assurance that an agreement would have sufficient backing.

Time isn't on the president's side. If this matter isn't resolved before the House and Senate adjourn in January, the results of the Iowa caucuses on Jan. 15 could convince Republican officials looking for an alternative to Donald Trump that no one is likely to defeat him for the party's nomination. Mr. Trump, who openly opposes linking border reform to Ukraine aid, would likely view Republican cooperation with Mr. Biden on this issue as a career-ending transgression.

This is why the president must begin negotiations immediately and insist that the Senate remain in session until it passes a package that contains border reforms and aid to our allies, including Ukraine. Once this happens, he should deliver a prime-time address from the Oval Office to explain why this package is in the national interest and call on the House to enact the Senate bill.

Though Speaker Mike Johnson has reiterated his support for Ukraine aid, anti-Ukraine Republicans will likely pressure him to adjourn for the year without taking up the Senate bill. To counter such a move, Mr. Biden should make clear that he is prepared to use his constitutional authority to call the House back into session. If the speaker fails to persuade a majority of the Republican caucus to back the measure, he would face by far the most consequential decision of his career—whether to bring the bill to the floor anyway, which would probably cost him the speakership, or let the bill die, along with Ukraine's hopes of prevailing against Russia.

It's a high-stakes gamble for the president, but the alternative is worse. If Mr. Biden can't secure the continuation of American aid to counter Russian aggression, the already dicey prospects for more European aid to Ukraine would darken.

The fate of Ukraine, the peace of Europe and the future of the Western alliance hang in the balance, as does Mr. Biden's presidency. After the fiasco of the Afghanistan withdrawal, defeat in Ukraine would undermine what is left of his reputation as an effective steward of American foreign policy. As public support for his re-election shrinks, the last thing he needs is another failure.

HONORING THE REDWOOD EMPIRE CHAPTER, CALIFORNIA SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues, Representative JARED HUFFMAN and Representative JOHN GARAMENDI, to honor the Redwood Empire Chapter of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution which is celebrating 50 years of work to honor the patriots of the American Revolution.

The Redwood Empire Chapter was chartered on September 29, 1973, and serves the communities in Mendocino, Napa, Solano, and Sonoma Counties. The organization, its members, and its partners in the Daughters of the American Revolution are dedicated to the promotion of democratic values, to serving our nation's veterans, and to educating and inspiring future generations with the founding principles of the United States of America.

The Redwood Empire Chapter provides service and support to worthy causes in the North Bay and extended region. They are a community partner of the Department of Veterans Affairs San Francisco Health Care System participating in events to uplift the veteran community and increase their access to health care. In addition to working with youth serving organizations to provide speakers and presentations on American history, the Redwood Empire Chapter helps young people, including the descendants of patriots and Eagle Scouts, to apply for college scholarships through the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Preparations are underway for the United States' Semiquincentennial Anniversary in 2026, and the Redwood Empire Chapter is leading an important project to identify and recognize the patriots buried throughout California including those who served in the Spanish Frontier Militia. We are honored that our district is home to the final resting place of such patriots like Captain William Smith of the Virginia Navy at the Sonoma Mountain Cemetery. Each year, the Redwood Empire Chapter helps honor Captain Smith during Wreaths Across America Day.

Mr. Speaker, the Redwood Empire Chapter of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is greatly appreciated for their 50 years of service. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor their chapter here today.

WREN MCCORMICK

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Wren McCormick for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Wren has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Wren, who strive to make the most of their education, develop cru-

cial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Wren's hard work determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Wren McCormick on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

COMMEMORATING THE RETIREMENT OF LEAH CURRY

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, after 26 plus years of service with Toyota Motor North America, Leah Curly, plant president, Toyota Motor Manufacturing Indiana, Inc. (known to us in the Hoosier state as "TMMI Princeton"), is retiring. In her role as president, TMMI, Leah oversaw all production and administrative functions related to the assembly of the Toyota Highlander, Highlander Hybrid, and Sienna. In 2023, Leah and her team led the transformation for TMMI to assemble two all-new vehicles, the Toyota Grand Highlander and TMMI's first Lexus vehicle, the Lexus TX.

During her career, Leah has served in many leadership positions at TMMI and served as president, Toyota Motor Manufacturing West Virginia from 2017 through 2019. In 2013, Leah received the Manufacturing Institute Step Ahead award, recognizing female leadership in manufacturing, twice named as one of the 100 leading women in NA Automotive by Automotive News. In 2022, she was inducted into the Women of Manufacturing Hall of Fame and was named one of the top 250 most influential business leaders in Indiana by IBJ media.

Leah studied Industrial Electronics at the University of Evansville and Ivy Tech Community College in Evansville, Ind. She holds a TPC Certification in Industrial Electronics. She has served on the National Board of Directors of the Manufacturing Institute and is a member of the Education Alliance, a private, non-profit organization that advocates for public school student achievement.

Leah Curry's outstanding leadership, personal initiative, and devotion to the greater community of Princeton, Indiana, reflect great credit upon herself, the Hoosier State, and the United States of America.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF CORPORAL AMOS E. PIERCE, JR. A WORLD WAR II VETERAN, BUFFALO SOLDIER, ARMY 24TH INFANTRY REGIMENT ATTACHED TO THE UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, today, I stand to honor the life of an exceptional New Orleans Serviceman, United States Marine Corporal Amos E. Pierce, Jr., who was

born on January 23, 1925, in New Orleans, LA, and peacefully passed away on November 29, 2023.

Amos E. Pierce, Jr., was a proud resident of Pontchartrain Park, now recognized on the National Register of Historic Places, and a devoted member of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church for over 70 years. Pierce was a distinguished member of the “Buffalo Soldiers” during World War II.

Known affectionately as “Pops” and “Uncle Amos,” he married Althea on July 26, 1952, and they had three sons: Stacey Anthony (deceased), Ron Paul, and Wendell Edward. Amos E. Pierce, Jr. was a dedicated employee of the University of New Orleans for 30 years.

Survived by two of his sons, Ron and Wendell, his four grandchildren, Meghan, Logan, Janelle, and Natalie Pierce, daughter-in-law’s Debra Pierce and Erica Young, along with his sister-in-law Maryann Edwards and numerous nieces and nephews, Amos E. Pierce, Jr. was preceded in death by his wife of 60 years, Althea Lee Edwards Pierce.

His story of bravery in the Battle of Saipan was shared in his son’s memoir “The Wind in the Reeds,” shedding light on the injustice his father faced upon discharge, where his heroic achievements were unjustly dismissed due to racial prejudice.

The Defense Department realized its mistake and offered Mr. Amos his medals, but he declined. Despite the mistreatment, he didn’t teach his sons to harbor resentment against the country.

In 2009, Wendell discovered that his dad had been unjustly denied medals. Working with a local TV reporter and Senator Mary Landrieu’s office, they successfully corrected the oversight. Amos Pierce, who had earned six medals, was finally honored in a special ceremony at the World War II Museum in New Orleans in October 2009.

He received his medals, including an Asiatic Pacific Campaign medal with a Bronze Service Star and a World War II Victory medal, during a special Armed Forces Day ceremony at The National WWII Museum in 2009. One of the elder Pierce’s last public appearances was at the museum’s Patriot Awards Gala last month, where his son received the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Congressional Medal of Honor Society.

“He was a man of great resilience, a little boy who grew up in Gert Town, born at a time when everyone and everything around him said his humanity meant nothing, showed that he was something.”

Drafted at the outset of World War II, he graduated from Gaudet High School after returning from the war and studied at Southern University and Agricultural & Mechanical College before moving to New York City to study photography.

He is affectionately described as a man of great fortitude who switched gears and became a maintenance man. He changed his profession and found a way to work and support his family, he wasn’t overwhelmed by the change. He just adjusted, as men of purpose do.

Southern University held an exhibit of Amos Pierce’s photographs, which were lost in August 2005 when Hurricane Katrina’s floodwaters destroyed the family’s home in Pontchartrain Park, a Gentilly subdivision established in the mid-1950s when segregation was

still official policy, to give African Americans the opportunity of home ownership. The Pierces were among the first Pontchartrain Park residents.

The Pontchartrain Park Community Development Corp., started to buy back homes in the subdivision that had been sold to the government. In 2012, slightly more than five years after moving back into Pontchartrain Park, Amos Pierce’s wife, Althea Pierce, died. Amos Pierce kept going.

He was a parishioner of St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, where he was a member of the Knights of Peter Claver. He was praised for giving “the most precious things ever: love and time.”

The Greater New Orleans Community has lost an incredible gem. I am proud to have connected with him during my time as a Member of Congress, appreciating the guidance and support he provided. I’ll always carry his direction as I serve the constituents of the 2nd Congressional District of Louisiana. May he rest in peace forever.

JONATHAN OSORIO LOPEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jonathan Osorio Lopez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Jonathan has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Jonathan, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Jonathan’s hard work, determination, and perseverance at Jefferson Jr./Sr. High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Jonathan Osorio Lopez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR DISTRICT DIRECTOR FOR RHODE ISLAND MARK HAYWARD

HON. GABE AMO

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. AMO. Mr. Speaker, Rhode Islanders know that small businesses are the backbone of every city and town in our great state. It is my distinct pleasure to honor Small Business Administrator District Director for Rhode Island Mark Hayward for his long and important service to our state. Mark’s service has benefited small businesses and the constituents of our First Congressional District in innumerable ways. I applaud his decades of commitment, and I express my gratitude on behalf of Rhode Islanders across every community for Mark’s dedication.

I understand Mark’s retirement has been planned since before the COVID-19 pandemic. However, Mark opted to continue to

serve an additional few long years to help ensure that the Rhode Island small business community saw its way through the crisis.

Mark’s decision to help his community get to the other side of such a major event is the mark of a true public servant—one who is willing to put others first no matter the circumstances.

The success of so many small businesses across our state is because of Mark’s many decades of hard work and expertise. For so many small business leaders, Mark’s steady leadership was a lifeline. Whether helping small businesses navigate the Paycheck Protection Program or helping new business owners access the technical resources they needed to be successful, Mark has been relentlessly focused on growing our economy through his public service during his long and effective entire career.

I wish Mark some very well-deserved rest and time off with his wife Nancy, his children, and grandchildren. I know Mark’s commitment to our community is thread throughout every fiber of his being and that he will continue to serve his fellow Rhode Islanders for many years to come.

Happy retirement to Mark, and I thank him for all he has done for Rhode Island.

HONORING GUILLERMO A.

AHUMADA

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the outstanding contributions of Guillermo A. Ahumada, a distinguished journalist with a passion for giving back to his community.

Mr. Ahumada has demonstrated exceptional professionalism in journalism, lending his talents to various television stations, including Telemundo 52 and Univision 34, and different radio networks. His work on these stations is notable, and his commitment to representing and advocating for the issues of diverse populations shines through in his reporting. He continues to be a prominent voice on immigration, health, and workers’ rights issues, and brings attention to stories of impact with his journalism and special reports.

Mr. Ahumada currently serves as the Director of Noticias de Vision, a Latino network where he plays a crucial role in coordinating the news department, scheduling, and supervising the selection of news—particularly topics of interest to the Latino community.

Outside of his role in the media, Mr. Ahumada is passionate about being of service to his community. He is the Executive Director of Chaplains Counselors, a nonprofit organization that has been instrumental in supporting low-income families and fostering self-esteem and personal growth among participants. The organization provides educational workshops on several vital topics, including domestic violence, drug abuse, and family counseling.

Mr. Ahumada also serves as the Colonel of Chaplains of the International Federation of Christian Chaplains. In this capacity, he leads and teaches individuals dedicated to helping those at risk, whether in prison, hospitals, or facing drug addiction.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and recognizing Guillermo A. Ahumada for his tireless efforts, professional accomplishments, and contributions to the Latino community.

JUSTIN VALDEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Justin Valdez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Justin has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Justin, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Justin's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wheat Ridge High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Justin Valdez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING THE PHOEBUS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM ON THEIR STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Phoebus High School Football Team from Hampton, Virginia on becoming the Virginia High School League's Class 4 State Champions.

On Saturday, December 9, 2023, the Phoebus Phantoms won the Class 4 State Championship Game against the Salem High School Spartans with a score of 21–14. This is the third year in a row Phoebus High School has claimed a state championship title following two consecutive victories in the Class 3 division. Led by Coach Jeremy Blunt, the Phantoms won this title on the tail end of an equally astounding season. Phoebus High School closed their season undefeated, with a record of 15 wins and 0 losses, and maintained a 35-game winning streak going back to the two previous seasons.

Throughout the game, the Phantoms and Spartans fought back and forth for control of the scoreboard, with the victor only being determined in the final moments of the game. The two teams, tied 14–14, were seemingly set for a showdown in overtime. But with one second remaining on the clock, freshman quarterback Maurikus Banks completed a pass to senior wide receiver Keyontae Gray, who ran the ball for an 86-yard touchdown to secure the championship. The determination it took for these young athletes to keep fighting down to the end is an example for all of us. Because of their hard work, they have made our community proud.

Mr. Speaker, I want to again congratulate the Phoebus High School Football Team and thank Coach Blunt, the parents, and the entire

Phoebus High School community for supporting these students throughout this remarkable season. I wish them the best in their future endeavors, and I wish the program continued success.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT JAVIER MILEI

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, the American people extend congratulations to the Honorable Javier Milei on being sworn in as the President of Argentina on Sunday, December 10, 2023. His success as a member of the Argentine Chamber of Deputies, as well as a macroeconomics professor, author, and radio host, demonstrates his ability to be a great versatile leader.

Best wishes to President Javier Milei for continued success to address Argentina's economic crisis alleviating poverty, creating jobs, and promoting prosperity.

Historically Argentina with its enterprising citizens and natural resources has been recognized for extraordinary capabilities. I still cherish, as a teenager, in Charleston, South Carolina, meeting Argentine President Arturo Frondizi when he arrived at the Fort Sumter Hotel on the historic Charleston Battery at White Point Garden.

The inauguration of President Milei featured an overwhelming amount of support for him, as thousands of people from across the country and foreign dignitaries from around the world, including Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky, gathered in downtown Buenos Aires on Sunday.

I am grateful for the commitment of President Milei to strengthen relations with the United States, support Ukraine in response to war criminal Putin's murderous invasion, and diversify trade away from China, currently their second-largest trade nation. Free nations must work together as our adversaries threaten national security and sovereignty.

President Zelensky wrote this week that "Freedom is what unites us, Ukraine and Argentina. We truly cherish it, protect it, and stand ready to strengthen it together."

I look forward to working with President Milei on achieving Peace Through Strength, in the war we did not choose between Dictators with Rule of Gun against Democracies with Rule of Law.

RENEE HERNANDEZ

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Renee Hernandez for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for youth Award.

Renee has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Renee, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them

for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Renee's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada K-8 School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Renee Hernandez on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING TAYLOR DOGGETT FOR HER PUBLIC SERVICE ON BEHALF OF THE 39TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Taylor Doggett and her tremendous work as my Communications Director. In her time in my office, she has been an outstanding leader, mentor, and colleague. It is with gratitude that I thank her for her work and her talents.

From day one, Taylor has been dedicated to ensuring that the constituents of my district felt connected to my work, both at home and in Washington. She developed a streamlined process for expanding and managing contact with constituents on the issues that matter most to them. Under her leadership, we were able to expand our subscriber base significantly and provide accessible channels for the people of the 39th District to feel connected to their Member of Congress and this legislative body.

Taylor proved to be a strong advocate and valuable voice for our most important legislative priorities. She steered our communications team through some of our greatest legislative accomplishments, including the introduction of the Equality Act and the passage of the Korean Valor Act into law. Despite the challenges of being in the minority, her innovative vision for our social media stood out. To the members of her communications team, she has been a mentor and a model of running an effective, relationship-based comms shop.

Above all, Taylor has been a joyful presence in my office. She is cheerful, sharp, and quick-witted, and her jokes often make it to my social media pages. She is known for always being good for a laugh or a heart-to-heart chat among my staff. Wherever she may go down the road, she will always be a member of Team Takano.

I am enormously grateful to Taylor for her contributions. She will be dearly missed, and I wish her luck in her next adventure.

HONORING SHERIFF CULLEN TALTON

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the career of a devoted patriot and civil servant in Houston County, Georgia, Sheriff Cullen Talton.

Mr. Talton's dedicated career in law enforcement has spanned over five decades,

making him the longest-serving sheriff in the history of the State of Georgia. Born in 1932 in Bonaire, Georgia, Mr. Talton was a Houston County commissioner and a dairy farmer before being elected sheriff in 1972.

When he first took office, Mr. Talton was responsible for a department of just 28 employees, which has grown to over 300 today. Additionally, Houston County had a population of 63,000 in 1972 and now boasts over 170,000 residents, which Mr. Talton has selflessly dedicated his career to protecting and serving. He is a shining example for all law enforcement officers to aspire to.

Family and friends describe Sheriff Talton as a “role model,” a “servant,” and a “peace-keeper.” He has embodied the meaning of each of these words to their fullest during his time as Sheriff of Houston County. I wish Mr. Talton a long and healthy retirement, surrounded by the family and friends he has served tirelessly throughout his esteemed career.

I would like to thank Sheriff Talton for his years of service to our community and our country. It is an honor to represent such outstanding constituents like him in the Eighth Congressional District of Georgia.

EMILY PETERSON

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Emily Peterson for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Emily has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Emily, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Emily's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Oberon Middle School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Emily Peterson on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

RECOGNIZING MS. LUCETIA MANWARING

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Ms. Lucetia Manwaring as she marks her retirement from public service after 30 years as a congressional staff member. As a Casework Manager in my office, Ms. Manwaring has established herself as a dedicated and distinguished professional with a demonstrated record of achievement.

Lucetia has served our country in many ways, including in the U.S. Navy from 1989 to 1993. During this time, she served on the U.S. Navy Submarine Base at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii; Nuclear Repair Division; served honor-

ably in U.S. Desert Storm campaign; and was a member of the U.S. Ready Reserve from 1993 to 2000. In addition, she has received several awards, including the Navy Wide Command Award, the National Defense Service Medal for Desert Storm, and a Naval Citation.

Lucetia received her Master of Science in Human Services from Capella University, and her Bachelor of Business Administration from Davenport University. She was a member of the Dean's List upon completing both degrees. Since 1994, Ms. Manwaring has helped thousands of constituents throughout the state of Michigan. Her tenure began as a staff member for my uncle, retired U.S. Congressman Dale Kildee. She met Congressman Dale Kildee while serving in the Navy and began her career as a staff member shortly thereafter. Upon his retirement, I was grateful to have her join my staff as well.

Ms. Manwaring's career is a true example of public service. Throughout her career she has been a tireless advocate for her community and her work has had a lasting impact on the lives of hundreds of Michiganders. I am grateful to be represented by such dedicated employees who work hard to make our community and Nation a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Ms. Lucetia Manwaring for her unwavering commitment to public service and extend my heartfelt gratitude for her years of service to our great country.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN BRIDGET GREENE

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to recognize Captain Bridget Greene of the United States Marine Corps, for her service to Wisconsin's Eighth Congressional District and my national security team as my 2023 Defense Fellow.

Captain Greene started in our office as a First Lieutenant, this year's youngest defense fellow in Congress. From leading her Marines as a logistician for Marine Aircraft Group 24 stationed at Kaneohe Bay, to serving as the Executive Assistant to the Chief of Staff of U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, she has made immeasurable contributions to the Marine Corps and to the Joint Force prior to joining our office as a part of the Department of Defense Legislative Fellowship Program. She brought her operational experience—especially her expertise of the Indo-Pacific area of responsibility—to our office and Armed Services Committee work, sharpening the tactical effectiveness of our National Defense Authorization Act policies focused on strengthening the American military's advantage in deterring aggression vis-à-vis China.

Like Peeps in the microwave, her influence was ever expanding. As duty called, Captain Greene not only crafted brilliant legislation to support in-theater logistics and streamline our military partnership with allies and partners, she also worked day-in and day-out with Wisconsin's veterans, and provided unconventional and matchless counsel on bill designations to guarantee awareness of my policy pri-

orities, notably the Deterring Attempts at Dirty Deals by Youngsters Act. While she is a native New Yorker, she quickly adopted the Northeast Wisconsin ethos by embracing a love of cheese curds, dairy animals, and Al Johnson's rooftop goats.

Through her responsibilities, she exemplified the Marine Corps motto “Semper Fidelis”—Always Faithful. This eternal and collective commitment to the progress of our nation and steadfast loyalty to the Corps is evident in every moment of her service to my office. From recruiting future Marines in our intern cohorts simply by being an example of what a Marine is and could be, to being a trustworthy and honest adviser on the most pressing issues of national security, and all the while demonstrating the highest class and unwavering kindness to my constituents and my staff, during her time here, she is a truehearted patriot and I am proud to call her a fellow Marine.

I wish Bridget the best of luck as she continues her Marine Corps career. She will no doubt excel and impress in her future endeavors, to the benefit of this country. I thank her for her service to the military and the people of Wisconsin, over the course of this year.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF THE HONORABLE JOHNNY WAYNE “JUDGE” MCALRTY

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of The Honorable Johnny Wayne “Judge” McLarty who died on Monday, December 11, 2023, at Baptist Memorial Hospital—North Mississippi.

Born on May 28, 1950, to the late Clara Mae and John Murry McLarty, Judge spent his entire life in Oxford, dedicating his heart and soul to his community. Serving as a judge since 1979, he was the second-longest-elected Justice Court Judge in the State of Mississippi. Renowned as a devoted Ole Miss Sports enthusiast, he earned legendary status in Left Field and ushered in countless fans over the years. While he cherished his Rebels, his greatest joy came from supporting the Lafayette County School District and its athletic programs.

Throughout the years, he actively participated in various roles, including coach, umpire, and videographer. He even drove a bus route for nearly two decades. As a charter member of the Splinter Valley Hunting Club, he enjoyed numerous days engaged in hunting and fishing. Judge was a dedicated member of Taylor Baptist Church and the Mason Lodge #33 in Oxford, fostering cherished friendships among his fellow masons. In addition to his judicial duties, he volunteered as a deputy with the sheriff's department, served as a 911 dispatcher, and worked as an EMT at Oxford-Lafayette County Hospital. His ability to fulfillment in his career was a testament to his passion.

Judge was not only a central figure in numerous professional and personal circles but, most importantly, the cornerstone of his family. He never missed a significant event in the lives of his children and grandchildren, going

so far as to livestream a graduation from his hospital bed. His unwavering commitment to his career, friends, and family endured until his final moments. Mere hours before his passing, he was sworn in for his 12th term as Justice Court Judge, a ceremony presided over by his longtime friend, Judge Howorth. Even now, his thoughts centered on his loved ones and the community he was honored to serve.

In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Debbie Tatum McLarty, and his sister, Jeanette Wells. Judge is survived by his daughter, Deanna McLarty Massey and her husband, Bruce; son, Chad McLarty and his wife, April; brothers-in-law, Dewey Wells and Jimmy Tatum and his wife, Theda; seven grandchildren, Austin McLarty (Caitlan), Lee Murray McLarty, Alexis McLarty, Taylor Jackson, Bailey Jackson, Rex Massey, and Smith Massey; and two great-grandchildren, Myles McLarty and May Ann McLarty.

HAPPY 105TH BIRTHDAY TO BIG
LAKE'S STELLA HUSO

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Stella Huso ahead of her upcoming

milestone birthday. January 8 marks Stella's 105th birthday, making her the oldest Gold Star Mother on record. Stella's story is one of resilience, patriotism, and unwavering dedication to her family and country.

Born in 1919, Stella has seen more than most of us can imagine, from the Great Depression and World War II to the Cuban Missile Crisis and Apollo 11 mission. Through it all, Stella has remained a pillar of strength for her family and community and channeled her energy into activism.

After losing her son Wayde to an enemy artillery shell in Vietnam, Stella became a relentless advocate for our Nation's veterans and their families. She has offered solace and support to countless military families in their darkest moments.

Stella has been a dedicated community activist in her hometown of Big Lake. She taught Sunday School at her church, and eventually became the Sunday School Superintendent. Stella was also involved in local politics and served as caucus convener for the Big Lake area.

Stella is a true patriot. She has written letters to the editor advocating for respect of our nation's flag and the Pledge of Allegiance and remains one of the most active members of the Big Lake and Buffalo American Legion Auxiliaries.

As she marks her 105th birthday, let us celebrate Stella and her incredible life. We hope

that her activism and strength will inspire generations of Minnesotans yet to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF LIEUTENANT JESSICA WYMAN

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Lieutenant Jessica Wyman of the Nashua Fire Department, who, on November 28, 2023, passed away after her battle with cancer.

Lieutenant Wyman was not only an exemplary public servant working two jobs as a firefighter and an ER nurse, but also a trailblazer for women in the fire service. She was the first female firefighter to be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in Nashua Fire Department history. She also led week-long summer camps to help women get involved in the fire service.

Lieutenant Wyman will be remembered as many things: a hero, a professional, a civil servant, a trailblazer, a community leader, and a friend. My heart is with Jessica's husband, Chris, her family, and the Nashua Fire Department. May she rest in peace.