

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LANCE CORPORAL DAVID LEE ESPINOZA, LANCE CORPORAL JUAN RODRIGO RODRIGUEZ & SERGEANT ROBERTO ARIZOLA JR. POST OFFICE BUILDING

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, January 29, 2024*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2754, which designates a U.S. Postal Facility in Laredo, Texas as the 'Lance Corporal David Lee Espinoza, Lance Corporal Juan Rodrigo Rodriguez & Sergeant Roberto Arizola Jr. Post Office Building.'

This bill honors the lives of three Texas men who selflessly gave their lives in support of our Nation's freedom and in defense of our nation's people.

These three brave soldiers, Lance Corporal Espinoza, born in 2001, Lance Corporal Rodriguez, born in 1981, and Sergeant Roberto Arizola, Jr., born in 1973, all called the great city of Laredo, Texas their home.

Lance Corporal Espinoza joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 2019.

As a U.S. Marine, Espinoza never once complained about his assignment, taking to heart the late President Kennedy's words in his inaugural address: "Ask not what your country can do for you—ask what you can do for your country."

He gave his life in action on August 26, 2021, in Kabul, Afghanistan, protecting and defending the community and the Nation we treasured so dearly.

Espinoza leaves behind his parents, three siblings, his grandmother, and numerous other aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, and other relatives.

Lance Corporal Rodriguez joined the U.S. Marine Corps in 2003.

Rodriguez was dedicated to taking care of his family his whole life.

Before joining the Marine Corps, he worked at a pawn shop to provide for his parents, who were too ill to work.

During his deployment, he continued to call his parents regularly, last speaking to them only two days before his death on January 13, 2005, in Al Anbar Province, Iraq.

He leaves behind his cherished sister and two parents.

Sergeant Roberto Arizola, Jr. joined the U.S. Army in 1996.

Arizola was, first and foremost, a family man.

He loved to play video games and sports with his 7-year-old son, and his family often delayed the boy's birthday party so Arizola could be there.

As a soldier, his comrades knew him to be a loyal friend, an older brother, and a faithful man.

He gave his life on June 8, 2005, in Baghdad, Iraq, serving the country and protecting the family that he loved so much.

He leaves behind his wife, his son, and his brother.

These three brave young men each made the ultimate sacrifice to protect the freedom that we enjoy today.

I am always proud to stand in solidarity with our nation's veterans and to fight to protect the legacy they have built in service for our nation.

Now, we must ensure that their legacies are not forgotten.

As such, I rise in support of this bill, which honors their memories by designating the Post Office facility in Laredo, Texas as the 'Lance Corporal David Lee Espinoza, Lance Corporal Juan Rodrigo Rodriguez & Sergeant Roberto Arizola Jr. Post Office Building.'

JAMES "JIM" M. HEMINGWAY

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and honor the life of a beloved South Jersey native, James "Jim" M. Hemingway, a cherished husband, father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and friend, who passed away peacefully on November 30, 2023, at the age of 77. Jim's kindness, dedication, and love made our community and our world a better place. In his early life, Jim honorably served our country in the U.S. Army. When he returned, he founded Garden State Dredging Inc., a company which was a culmination of his different passions. Jim was a pillar of his community, committing a big portion of his time to giving back through the Lower Township planning board, the lower township Chamber of Commerce and the West Cape May Volunteer Fire Company. Jim's enduring partnership with his wife, Shirley A. Hemingway, spanned 58 beautiful years and together they created a life filled with love and cherished memories. As a loving father to James and Sheri, and adored grandfather and great-grandfather, Jim's wisdom and love will continue to inspire his family. Jim enjoyed family time more than anything as well as constructing model trains and airplanes, creating special moments with his grandchildren. Jim's generosity and selflessness left a profound impact on others, shaping the paths of those he loved. As we celebrate Jim's life, we remember a man who embodied the best in all of us, leaving an indelible mark that will continue to inspire us. God Bless Jim and God Bless the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING DETECTIVE ROSCOE WATTS AS CITRUS COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE DEPUTY OF THE YEAR

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Crimes Unit Detective Roscoe Watts on being named Deputy of the Year for the Citrus County Sheriff's Office. The term "hero" gets used too often. However, it is said that "True heroism is remarkably sober and very undramatic. For, it is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but rather the urge to serve others at whatever cost." I could not agree more with this assessment. The heroism that is displayed daily by our men and women in uniform is both inspirational and aspirational for us all. So few among us answer the call to serve, yet it is the selfless sacrifice of those few who do that keeps our entire community safe. By all accounts, Detective Watts has dedicated his entire life to serving others, highlighted by his eleven-year tenure with the Citrus County Sheriff's Office (CCSO) where he currently serves as a Major Crimes Detective and prior to that, as an Airborne Forward Observer, in the United States Army. However, he also dedicates his personal time to making our community a better place and helping to improve the lives of countless neighbors through his volunteerism with several charitable causes, including: the Citrus Abuse Shelter Association (CASA), the Key Training Center and within his church. Detective Watts stands out in a sea of shining stars, as evidenced by the many accolades he's received during his distinguished career, such as: the Director's Award from Star & Shield Group, two Life Saving Awards, multiple Medals of Commendation, Citrus County Best of the Best LEO for 2021 & 2022 and most recently as CCSO Law Enforcement Officer of the year for 2023. His peers, his commanding officers and the community-at-large have recognized that Detective Watts routinely goes above and beyond the call of duty to promote public safety and to pursue both justice and closure for victims of crime and their families. The impact of his efforts has left a lasting imprint on the lives of those he serves. Today, I thank Detective Watts for his exceptional dedication, relentless determination, and unwavering commitment to excellence. His tenacity in the face of adversity is recognized and much appreciated.

RECOGNIZING CHRIS ADAMS

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chris Adams of Arvada, Colorado

• 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.

for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Chamber Champion Award.

Every year, the Arvada Chamber of Commerce honors outstanding individuals and organizations that have left a lasting legacy on the Arvada area and its residents. Mr. Adams was a treasured member of the community, serving on the Chamber's Board of Directors, as well as at Thrive Workplace and Revive Church.

Mr. Adams was constantly asking tough questions and pushing those around him to achieve greatness. This drive created an environment of continuous improvement, propelling the Arvada Chamber and many local businesses toward success. His leadership, grace, and kindness will long be remembered in this area and beyond.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Mr. Adams for this award and thank him for his contributions to our community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DAVID J. TRONE

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, on September 14, 2023, I was unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "NAY" on Roll Call No. 391.

I strongly oppose H.R. 1435, the Preserving Choice in Vehicle Purchases Act. This bill modifies the waiver process under the Clean Air Act. In doing so it would limit vehicle choices for consumers, hinder climate progress, and put public health at risk.

#### BENJAMIN FAIRFIELD

### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past December, I had the honor of celebrating a remarkable young man, Benjamin Fairfield, who has achieved the prestigious Rank of Eagle Scout. His journey is a true testament to his dedication, leadership, and community service. Throughout his scouting journey, Benjamin has learned the importance of being prepared for anything and has made lifelong friends along the way. Benjamin's Eagle Project involved upgrading the Climbing Area at Camp Edge in Ranch Hope, South Jersey. He built a double-sided climbing wall, landscaped the area, and even pressure washed and painted benches, making it a safer and more enjoyable space for all. Benjamin is not only dedicated to scouting but also passionate about hunting and fishing, reflecting his love for the outdoors and adventure. Beyond scouting, Benjamin plans to continue working at Hidden Creek Farm and eventually open up his own farm. I am proud of this young man, and I wish him the best. God Bless Benjamin and God Bless the United States of America.

#### RECOGNIZING COLORADO SUCCEEDS

### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Colorado Succeeds for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's 2023 Behind the Scenes Award.

Every year, the Chamber of Commerce awards one Behind the Scenes honor to an organization or individual who has served as an unsung hero in the Arvada community.

Colorado Succeeds is a coalition of business leaders with a vision to radically improve education and training outcomes for learners across backgrounds. Through their invaluable partnership with the Arvada Chamber of Commerce, they support workforce development projects, recruit talent for local businesses and nonprofits, advocate for positive change in government, and fight to break down barriers in our state's workforce system.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Colorado Succeeds for this award and thank them for their commitment to our community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, on January 30, 2024, I missed four roll call votes. Had I been present I would have voted:

No on Roll Call No. 22—On ordering the previous question;

No on Roll Call Vote 23—On agreeing to H. Res. 980 Providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 5585) Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act; (H.R. 6678) Consequences for Social Security Fraud Act; (H.R. 6679) No Immigration Benefits for Hamas Terrorists Act; and (H.R. 6976) Protect Our Communities from DUIs Act;

Yes on Roll Call No. 24—On Agreeing to Crockett Amendment to H.R. 5585; and

No on Roll Call No. 25—On Final Passage of H.R. 5585.

#### CLAYTON SKROBANEK

### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past November, I had the pleasure of attending Clayton Skrobanek's Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Clayton has been involved in the Eagle Scouts for over a decade, starting in first grade as a Tiger Scout. Over the years, he has been very involved in his troop by holding four different leadership positions, contributing over 100 hours to community service, and participating in countless outdoor adventures all while earning 37 merit badges. Outside of the scouts, he dedicates his time to helping those in need by

volunteering at the "Your Place at the Table" Food Pantry. This upcoming year, he is expected to graduate from Clearview Regional High School and hopes to pursue a career in nursing. I am honored to congratulate this young man on his remarkable achievements, and I wish him the best. God Bless Clayton and God Bless the United States of America.

#### RECOGNIZING CHIEF PETTY OFFICER IVAN ROSARIO, OUTSTANDING VETERAN IN THE 52ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

### HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Petty Officer Ivan Rosario, an outstanding veteran, who served our Nation in the United States Navy for more than 17 years.

Chief Rosario was born in Arkansas and spent much of his childhood abroad in Puerto Rico. He grew up with his five siblings, and as many military families do, moved to a new home depending on military orders. His father was a long-time servant in the United States Army and deployed to Vietnam numerous times.

Chief Rosario followed both his father's and brother's footsteps and initially joined the United States Army at the young age of 17 years old. He was stationed in Germany for three years, and when he returned, he realized the difficulty of pursuing a career without a high school diploma. He searched for options, and after going to the United States Navy Recruiting Center, he found his true calling to continue serving his country.

Chief Rosario dedicated 17 years of service with the United States Navy. He served as a Radar Systems Operator and completed several WestPac Tours overseas.

Chief Rosario was on active duty, while he and his spouse raised two children. As a dedicated family man, he continues to support his family and our country by working with his wife's former students, who have expressed an interest in joining the U.S. military.

He earned his High School GED in his first year as a sailor. Early on, he had a keen interest in cutting-edge technologies used on U.S. Navy ships. He achieved a college degree using the GI Bill, and he went on to receive both his bachelor's degree in computer science and a master's degree in computer technology. Chief Rosario's academic achievements led to mentorship opportunities for others, and he earned rank as a Chief Petty Officer in the U.S. Navy.

Chief Rosario has served the local community, volunteering at Sunset Elementary School in San Ysidro, California, and other schools. He has worked with students during special school assemblies and has helped them with their technological needs. During these assemblies, Chief Rosario has also talked about his service in the United States Armed Forces and the different training programs available to them.

Chief Rosario was honored as the 52nd District Constituent of the Month in November 2023, when Veterans Day is celebrated. He is commended for his dedication and lifelong

commitment to our Nation, and also for giving back to the local community.

#### RECOGNIZING ECHTER'S NURSERY AND GARDEN CENTER

##### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Echter's Nursery and Garden Center of Arvada, Colorado for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's 2023 Business of the Year Award.

Every year, this award recognizes a business that has established a reputation for providing a superior level of customer service while using ingenuity and innovation to overcome challenges. Not only are the businesses recognized for their economic impact and successes, but they receive this honor because of the support they provide the community by partnering with town residents and nonprofit organizations.

Echter's Nursery and Garden Center has been one of Colorado's premiere garden retailers since 1959. The center offers over 2500 varieties of flowers each year in its 70,000 square foot display area. Echter's also gives back to the community in a number of ways, from providing over 300 Christmas trees to families in need every year to hosting events with local nonprofits, such as food drives and fundraisers to provide financial support to teenage parents and their children.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Echter's Nursery and Garden Center for this award and thank them for their commitment to our community.

COLIN FINNEY

##### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past December, we gathered to celebrate Colin Finney, a bright young man who worked his way up to the rank of Eagle Scout. To achieve this rank, Colin undertook an Eagle Scout Project involving the restoration of generators and fans at Fort Mott State Park in Pennsville, South Jersey. Fort Mott holds a significant historical importance to our nation, serving as an Army Base during World War II. In 1942, three Diesel Generators were installed to provide essential electric services. Colin dedicated his time to the meticulous restoration work of these generators that involved cleaning, priming, and painting, as well as the restoration of the three fans and the gate door, ensuring their preservation for future generations. Looking ahead, Colin has ambitious plans. He plans to graduate from Salem Vo-Tech's Electrical program and continue his journey in the Electrical Field as a Lineman. Beyond scouting and his career aspirations, Colin enjoys hunting, spending time with friends, and has a commendable interest in firefighting. This remarkable young man has a bright future ahead of him and I can't wait to

see what he accomplishes. God Bless Colin and God Bless the United States of America.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

##### HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 30, 2023, I was absent for Roll Call No. 176. Had I been present, I would have voted "Yea" on the Levin amendment to H.R. 1, the Lower Energy Costs Act.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF ANDY FLICK

##### HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and express my thanks to Andy Flick, the Executive Director of the New Democrat Coalition for the past two years.

Throughout his 15-year career in the House of Representatives, Andy has supported many New Dem Members and the Coalition as a whole in their work to break through gridlock and deliver for the American people.

As Chair of the New Democrat Coalition, Andy and I worked hand-in-hand to find new solutions to the persistent challenges facing our country, Congress, and Coalition. From standing up our policy task forces and working groups to ensuring each and every New Dem had the resources to succeed, he has made an incredible and long-lasting impact on our Members.

Under Andy's guidance, he has grown the Coalition's staff, tackled issues from inflation to infrastructure, and has ultimately helped turn the organization into one of the most powerful forces in Congress. His work to see old problems through a new lens has been at the center of our policy program and we will carry on his vision in the years to come. He truly embodies the spirit of the 'Can Do Caucus.'

As a result of his impressive work ethic, extensive knowledge of Capitol Hill dynamics, and policy prowess, he caught the eye of the Vice President's office, where he now serves as the Director of Legislative Affairs.

As we look toward the future, we know Andy's influence will leave a mark on the NDC and he will always be known for his exemplary service to the House, multiple Member offices, and the Coalition.

New Dems will be forever grateful to Andy for his astute insights, friendly demeanor, and political savvy, and there is no doubt he will bring this same positive attitude to his new role.

I wish Andy all the best in his future endeavors and look forward to continuing our shared work to move our country forward and ensure everyone has the chance to thrive.

RECOGNIZING FOOTHILLS REGIONAL HOUSING AND THE COURT-APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES OF JEFFERSON AND GILPIN COUNTIES

##### HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Foothills Regional Housing and the Court-Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Jefferson and Gilpin Counties for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's Nonprofit of the Year Award.

Every year, the Non-Profit of the Year Award typically honors one outstanding organization for their support of Arvada and its citizens through impactful programs, services, and overall involvement within the community.

This year, Foothills Regional Housing and CASA of Jefferson and Gilpin Counties are being recognized together for their innovative development of the AVi at Olde Town affordable housing community which opened in February 2023. With 100 affordable housing units, AVi serves low-income families, homeless veterans, and emancipated foster youth. CASA manages an on-site Youth Alliance program which pairs foster youth with one-on-one educational, financial, and job mentors. Foothills Regional Housing also maintains an on-site case manager who provides direct support to residents and connects them to needed outside resources such as nutrition assistance or childcare. So far, the AVi development has housed over 100 families and made an immeasurable impact in the community.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate these two organizations for this award and thank them for their contributions to our community.

JACK FOWLER

##### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this December, I had the pleasure of attending the Eagle Scout Court of Honor of Jack Fowler, a young man who has accomplished a significant milestone in the world of scouting. Jack's hard work is a testament to his commitment to making a positive impact on the South Jersey community and his unwavering dedication to the values of scouting. For his eagle scout project, he took on the task of building fences and cleaning up the grounds of the Mount Zion AME Cemetery in Woodstown, South Jersey. The cemetery had become overgrown, and its boundaries were unkempt. With great care and effort, Jack built fences, created a defined entrance, and trimmed bushes and trees to beautify the area. His hard work not only restored the cemetery to its rightful dignity but also honored the memory of those laid to rest there. In this upcoming year, Jack plans to graduate from Salem County Vocational Technical Schools with an associate's degree in Biochemistry from Salem Community College. Outside of scouting and school,

he has a passion for music, playing the drums and guitar in his free time. Jack has already accomplished so much at such a young age, and it was my honor to celebrate him. God Bless Jack and God Bless the United States of America.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE HEAL MAUI ACT

#### HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of my bill, H.R. 7061, the Healing and Economic Advancement for Local Businesses in Maui (HEAL Maui) Act, which would provide critical additional support to our small businesses which have been so severely affected by the devastating August 2023 Maui wildfires.

The Maui wildfires caused 100 known deaths, severely injured many others, and displaced thousands of our 'ohana (family). They burned over 2,500 acres of land and destroyed over 2,200 structures, including homes, businesses and historic landmarks. The full resources of our federal, state and local governments and communities are directed at recovery across many fronts.

My HEAL Maui Act focuses on our small businesses, the backbone of our economy. Our Maui small businesses, and indeed small businesses throughout Hawaii, suffered a "severe economic disruption" as a result of the fires and their aftermath. In fact, the State of Hawaii revised its statewide economic growth projections for 2023 and 2024 downward, from 1.8 percent to 1.1 percent for 2023 and from 2.0 percent to 1.5 percent for 2024.

On Maui itself, initial unemployment claims jumped from an average of 130 cases per week before the wildfires to 865 cases in the first week after the fire to 4,449 cases in the second week after the fire. The unemployment rate on Maui rose to 8.6 percent in September 2023.

This economic disruption is hitting Hawaii's small businesses especially hard because small businesses comprise the vast majority of our businesses and employ the vast majority of our workforce. Hawaii is home to over 130,000 small businesses, with the average small business employing just 12 people.

Affected Hawaii small businesses, still burdened with existing COVID-19 loans, find difficulty matching federal small business disaster assistance programs to actual needs and circumstances. In response, my HEAL Maui Act is a comprehensive legislative proposal designed to offer swift and direct assistance to our small businesses during these challenging times. This legislation builds on the lessons learned from previous crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic, emphasizing the need to tailor federal programs to address specific conditions in Hawaii and the specific circumstances and consequences of this disaster.

The bill offers three much-needed forms of immediate assistance. First, it would augment the existing Small Business Administration (SBA) Economic Injury Disaster Loan Program by providing immediate advances to ensure businesses can maintain operations and retain employees. Second, it proposes a new loan

program modeled after the Payroll Protection Program to directly address the immediate financial challenges many businesses face in the aftermath of the wildfires. Third, recognizing that some businesses have already taken out SBA disaster loans post-wildfire, my HEAL Maui Act offers a two-year loan deferment given the long duration needed for this recovery.

My bill should be viewed as additive and complementary to the other sources of assistance to our small businesses and their owners and employees. These proposals may not work for all small businesses in their own circumstances, but they do offer further options that may work better or exclusively for some. In that, they are another piece of a very big effort to achieve full recovery across the board from this terrible and tragic disaster. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

OPPOSING H.R. 5585, H.R. 6678, AND  
H.R. 6976

#### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition of H.R. 5585, H.R. 6678, and H.R. 6976, a series of Republican messaging bills.

This week, instead of working in a bipartisan manner to fix our broken immigration system, the Republican Majority brought their partisan messaging bills to the House Floor. These three bills are unnecessary. As our laws are written today, conviction of these crimes already makes a person with a green card or visa deportable. For example, H.R. 5585 makes fleeing border patrol a deportable offense—this is already a deportable offense. H.R. 6678 makes an immigrant who commits Social Security fraud deportable—this is already a deportable offense. H.R. 6976 makes a person deportable if convicted of a serious DUI—this is already a deportable offense.

These bills are unnecessary, but what is radical about them is that they change due process under the United States Constitution. In two of the bills, the crimes described do no longer require a conviction to make a lawful resident deportable. In America, you are innocent until proven guilty. This has been the law of the land for hundreds of years. These bills are a slippery slope and move to take away the rights of those legally present in the United States. My concern is, will Republicans stop there, or will U.S. citizens be next?

With the bills House Republicans have brought to the Floor this week, along with their unjustified and unprecedented impeachment of Secretary Mayorkas in the Homeland Security Committee, they continue to demonstrate they are not willing to work toward real solutions to bring order to the border and fix our immigration system. You deserve real solutions to these issues. I am committed to working with anyone who is serious about bringing forward meaningful solutions to the problems at our border.

NICHOLAS GRUSEMEYER

#### HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past December, I had the honor of celebrating Nicholas Grusemeyer on his achievement of the prestigious rank of Eagle Scout. Throughout his scouting journey, Nicholas has gained invaluable life skills, and as he puts it, "there was never a dull moment." For his Eagle Scout Project, he undertook the task of constructing a Memorial Wall inside the engine bay of the Quinton Fire Company in Quinton, South Jersey. This wall holds profound symbolism, featuring the original bell from one of the first fire engines, stars from an old hose used by Quinton, and a list of the names of past members of the fire company. It stands as a lasting tribute to the bravery and dedication of those who have served their community. Looking ahead, Nicholas has plans to graduate from high school and pursue a career in the Fire Service, a path that reflects his deep commitment to public safety and his desire to give back to the community that he has served as a scout. This outstanding young scout has set a high standard for us all to aspire to and it was an honor to celebrate him. God Bless Nicholas and God Bless the United States of America.

CCSO COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER  
OF THE YEAR

#### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Michele Hart on being named Communications Officer of the Year for the Citrus County Sheriff's Office (CCSO). The term "hero" gets used too often, in my opinion. It is said that "True heroism is remarkably sober and very undramatic. For, it is not the urge to surpass all others at whatever cost, but rather the urge to serve others at whatever cost." I could not agree more with this assessment. The heroism that is displayed daily by our first responders is both inspirational and aspirational for us all. So few among us answer the call to serve, yet it is the selfless sacrifice of those few who do that keeps our entire community safe.

By all accounts, Ms. Hart has dedicated her life to serving others, highlighted by her seven-year tenure with the CCSO which has included progressive responsibility as she was promoted from Communications Officer to Communications Officer In Charge, and then to Communications Supervisor before accepting her current role as Quality Assurance and Training Specialist. She has exhibited unwavering dedication and commitment to the improvement of the Communications Division, which is critical to the operational success of the entire law enforcement team. She has been recognized for consistently supporting new employees by researching and implementing enhanced training platforms to maximize effectiveness and efficiency. She also took a leadership role in converting the Department's communication program to a more

modernized, digital format. By obtaining her Quality Assurance Certification in the Priority Dispatch Protocol programs, Ms. Hart expanded the capacity of her team and highlighted her willingness to do whatever it takes to get the job done. It is the daily efforts of support team members, like Ms. Hart, who enable our law enforcement officers to meet the needs of the community. Her peers, commanding officers and the community-at-large have recognized that Ms. Hart routinely goes above and beyond the call of duty to promote public safety and to support her team, even in the most difficult of circumstances. The impact of her efforts have left a lasting imprint on the lives of those she serves.

**HONORING LEWISVILLE POLICE  
CHIEF KEVIN DEAVER**

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary leadership and public service of Chief Kevin Deaver as he retires as Police Chief for the Lewisville Police Department (LPD). Chief Deaver has served in this role for LPD since August 22, 2018, completing a 35-year career in law enforcement, 25 of which have been with the City of Lewisville.

Chief Deaver began his law enforcement career with the San Angelo Police Department in February 1989, before joining the LPD in August 1998. During his career, Deaver has worked as a Patrol Officer, Motorcycle Traffic Officer, Canine Officer, Narcotics Detective, Patrol Sergeant, Narcotics Sergeant, Patrol Lieutenant, Community Services Captain, Patrol Captain, Administrative Services Assistant Chief, and the Patrol Operations Assistant Chief. In addition, he served as a field supervisor for the North Central Texas Narcotics Task Force.

Chief Deaver is a graduate of the University of North Texas with a Bachelor of Arts and Applied Sciences with a concentration in Criminal Justice, Public Affairs/Community Service, and Sociology. Chief Deaver is also a graduate of the Institute for Law Enforcement Administration's School of Police Supervision and Management College as well as the FBI-Law Enforcement Trilogy Series which consists of the Supervisor Leadership Institute, Command Leadership Institute, and the Executive Leadership Institutes. Additionally, Chief Deaver holds a Master Peace Officer Certification from TCOLE.

In leading the LPD, Chief Deaver has worked to build on the culture established by his predecessors, Chief McFadden and Chief Kerbow, of always ensuring the Department stood for professionalism. During his tenure, Chief Deaver advocated for the construction of the new Tittle McFadden Public Safety Center and played a major role in the design of the building. He secured STEP pay for police communication and detention personnel and worked with Lewisville Fire Chief Mark McNeal to create the City's first Mental Health Crisis Team (CoCare), implemented FLOCK technology throughout the City and commissioned a staffing study for the department that led to staffing increases over the last five years. Fi-

nally, he led the department through successful re-accreditation of LPD in 2022 as one of 50 recognized Texas Law Enforcement Program agencies while also guiding the Department through the annexation of Castle Hills, COVID-19, and the protests following the brutal killing of George Floyd. Chief Deaver has honorably carried the mantle of law enforcement leadership during one of the most challenging periods our country has witnessed.

On behalf of the constituents of the 26th Congressional District of Texas, I join the City of Lewisville in appreciation of the professionalism and steady leadership he has shown, caring both for his employees and the community the Lewisville Police Department serves each day.

We are all indebted to him for the character, innovation and servant heart he brought to his duties, and I wish him and his family a long and satisfying retirement.

**RAYMOND RIDGWAY**

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past December, it was my pleasure to attend Raymond Ridgway's Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Throughout his scouting experience, Raymond has gained invaluable life skills, particularly in survival skills and how to be a great leader. To achieve the rank of eagle scout, he chose to freshen up the Education Wing at Quinton Baptist Church in Quinton, South Jersey. Recognizing the importance of their church in the community, he took on the task of painting the walls and installing storage cubbies in the Education Wing. His efforts have not only improved the physical environment, but he has also created a more welcoming and functional space for education and community gatherings. Beyond scouting and his commitment to service, Raymond enjoys bowling, music, and working at his job. It was a pleasure to attend his Eagle Scout Court of Honor and I wish this young man all the best. God Bless Raymond and God Bless the United States of America.

**RECOGNIZING NICK AND AMIE  
COSTANZO**

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nick and Amie Costanzo of Arvada, Colorado for receiving the Arvada Chamber of Commerce's 2023 Entrepreneurs of the Year Award.

Every year, the Entrepreneur of the Year award recognizes an individual or team's commitment, investment, and innovation as a business owner in the Arvada community.

The Costanzos have owned and operated the Marco's Pizza franchise in Arvada and surrounding communities for over 10 years. Recently, they had a vision of opening a space in northwest Arvada that would provide a community gathering space. That vision be-

came a reality in 2022 when the Costanzos, along with three business partners, opened up Freedom Street Social, which has become a place many residents frequent to have fun and build community.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's Seventh Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Nick and Amie Costanzo for this award and thank them for their commitment to our community.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. DAVID J. TRONE**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, on January 11-12, 2024, I was unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "NAY" on Roll Call No. 7, "YEA" on Roll Call No. 9 and "NAY" on Roll Call No. 10.

I strongly oppose H.R. 788, the Stop Settlement Slush Funds Act, which would undermine our ability to hold corporations accountable for unlawful conduct. I also strongly oppose H.J. Res. 98, the joint resolution providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Labor Relations Board relating to a "Standard for Determining Joint Employer Status." As a constant proponent of collective bargaining rights, I would never vote to undermine workers and I will continue to support their rights and employer accountability. Last, I support H.R. 839, legislation to increase transparency of China's exchange rate policies.

**MARTY PAGLIUGH**

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past December, I had the honor of attending the dedication of the Avalon Public Safety Complex to a longtime friend of mine, Mayor Martin Pagliughi, or as I know him, Marty. Marty's commitment to the fire department and his lifelong dedication to public service to Avalon have been truly commendable. Marty has been a guiding force for the community and his tireless efforts have proven great results. In 2020, Avalon benefited substantially from his leadership, saving \$1.6 million on flood insurance—a testament to his commitment to the town's well-being. Furthermore, since 2012, he has served as the Cape May County Office of Emergency Management Coordinator, demonstrating his unwavering dedication to safety and preparedness. In honoring Mayor Pagliughi and his legacy, we celebrate a man whose tireless service has enriched the lives of Avalon residents and set a shining example for us all. The Avalon Public Safety Complex now proudly bears the name of Avalon's former Mayor Martin Pagliughi, and it was my pleasure to attend the event. It was an honor to work with Mayor Pagliughi over these past few decades and this momentous event serves as a fitting conclusion to his remarkable 36-year career in public service.

God Bless Marty and God Bless the United States of America.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 570.

WILLIAM CRIPPS

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED  
MILITARY SERVICE OF AIRMAN  
BOBBY RAY STINSON

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to posthumously recognize and extend gratitude to Airman Bobby Ray Stinson for his honorable military service during the Vietnam War Era.

Airman Stinson was a man defined by his resolute and enduring love of country. Airman Stinson joined the United States Air Force in August 1964. Soon after, he was assigned to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. During this assignment, Airman Stinson served as an aircraft mechanic. He dreamed of one day becoming an Air Force Pilot like his father-in-law. However, due to a service-related injury, Airman Stinson instead received an honorable discharge from the Air Force.

Following his military service, Airman Stinson returned home to his beloved wife, Shirley Jean in Tennessee. As a stalwart patriot, he made sure the American Flag flew high in their front yard in Blountville. In his civilian life, Airman Stinson served a multi-decade career at Eastman Chemical. At Eastman, Airman Stinson's leadership and character proved indispensable. He helmed the maintenance division, where he oversaw and managed large-scale machinery repair and power operations until his retirement in 1998.

Airman Stinson's word was his bond. His colleagues, friends, and neighbors knew him as a man of integrity, honor, and conviction. As a father, he taught his three sons, Mike, Travis, and Jeff Stinson of Blountville, Tennessee the difference between right and wrong, the value of hard work, and to never take the easy way out.

Even in his retirement, Airman Stinson's duty of service never wavered. Both as an active member of the Ruritan Club and a dedicated volunteer to the Blountville First Baptist Church, he would always lend a hand whenever he could. Airman Stinson loved to spend time with his family, especially his six wonderful grandchildren. A year before his passing, Airman Stinson and his wife celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. He is remembered by all who knew him as a great Christian man, who always stood true to his faith in God.

Please join me in honoring the life of Airman Bobby Ray Stinson and for his patriotic service to our country.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DANIEL S. GOLDMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, I am not recorded for votes on November 2, 2023.

MISS NJ AND MISS TEEN NJ  
SENDOFF

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past November I had the pleasure of attending the send-off party for two exceptional individuals, Miss New Jersey 2023 Victoria Moztis and Miss Teen New Jersey Ashley Greco. In this upcoming year, these two will go off to compete in the prestigious 2024 Miss America Pageant. Our Miss New Jersey 2023, Victoria Moztis, is a resident of Northfield, South Jersey and recently graduated Magna Cum Laude from Rider University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre. Her Community Service Initiative, "LEAP: Literacy Enhancement, Artistry, and Performance," focuses on improving literacy worldwide through her partnership with The African Library Project and advocating for arts education. Victoria's talent in musical theatre has already earned her scholarships and recognition and she will carry these incredible talents with her to the 2024 pageant. Ashley Greco, our Miss New Jersey Teen 2023, is a recent high school graduate from Waldwick, New Jersey, and started at University of Massachusetts Amherst in the Fall 2023, majoring in Public Health with aspirations of becoming a Physician Assistant. Ashley's Community Service Initiative, "Be an A.L.L.Y.—Advocating for People with Disabilities," aims to educate and raise awareness about working with individuals with disabilities, breaking the stigma that surrounds them. Her hard work and dedication have brought her far, and I know she will shine on stage next year. As Victoria and Ashley embark on this exciting journey, I wish them all the success in the world. I am proud to have them represent New Jersey, and it was an honor to celebrate them last month as part of the road to Miss America 2024. Good luck, God Bless Victoria and Ashley, and God Bless the United States of America.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House floor for part of January 18, 2024. As a member of the Congressional Pro-Choice Caucus, I have spent my career in public office working to protect equal access to reproductive health care for all Americans. I also believe that the government has no place to influence an individual's decision to use family planning services such as birth control or abortion.

Had I been present to cast a vote, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 19.

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I extend my congratulations to Fire Official and Firefighter William Cripps on his retirement this year after 25 years of service. Beginning his career in 1996, inspired by his father, he started at the City of Wildwood Fire Department as a part-time Firefighter and EMT. In 2000 he began working full time and in 2018 he took on the role of Fire Official in Wildwood, overseeing the Bureau of Fire Prevention. Throughout his service, William held many roles, including Cape May County Fire Coordinator, an instructor at the Cape May County Fire Academy, and a member of the Cape May County Urban Search & Rescue Team. He earned numerous awards, including the 9/11 Commendation for his response to the 2001 World Trade Center attacks and he also received Disaster Commendations for his work during Hurricane Sandy, Winter Storm Jonas, and Tropical Cyclone Ida. William's dedication shone through in the creation of the very successful Summer Cadet Firefighter youth program and the initiation of the City of Wildwood Fire Department's Fire Investigation Unit. This legacy runs in the family, with his brother Charles Cripps, Jr. and son Nick Cripps also embracing the noble path of firefighting. William Cripps is a symbol of dedication, and he leaves behind a legacy that will inspire generations of firefighters to come. I thank Firefighter Cripps for keeping South Jersey safe and I wish him well in his retirement. God Bless Fire Official and Firefighter William Cripps and God Bless the United States of America.

#### RECOGNIZING DR. LAURIE DENT

**HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Laurie Dent, a standout educator in our South Sound community who was recently named the 2024 Superintendent of the Year by the Washington Association of School Administrators.

As Sumner-Bonney Lake School District's Superintendent since 2016, Dr. Dent has not only shepherded school communities through numerous challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, but has also transformed schools' and individual students' performance trajectories through and in spite of pandemic-related challenges. Since the start of her tenure as Superintendent, the district's graduation rate has risen from 84 percent in 2016 to 92.1 percent in 2023, an achievement that her colleagues attribute to her staunch commitment to her "100% Graduation Campaign." Beyond the numbers, Dr. Dent's commitment to this campaign has undoubtedly strengthened schools, enriched students, and deepened community connections.

I commend Dr. Dent for being a standard-bearer in our state for what excellence in education is and should be, and I am honored to

spotlight her efforts in empowering local education professionals and supporting students' success in our South Sound community.

**INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF JANUARY AS "MUSLIM-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH" AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF MUSLIM AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES**

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud, as the longest serving Muslim in Congress, to introduce legislation to recognize January as "Muslim-American Heritage Month" and celebrating the heritage and culture of Muslim Americans in the United States. I thank the endorsing organizations that joined this important resolution: American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Islamic Relief USA, Muslim Americans in Public Service (MAPS), Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC), and Project Islamic Hope.

I am honored to partner with my Senate colleague, Senator BOOKER, to introduce this important resolution to recognize the many contributions of Muslims in the U.S. and worldwide. The value of this bill to Muslim Americans is great because their contributions to the establishment of the United States is an inspiration that others can look to as an example of what a diverse community of people can accomplish. Unfortunately, these contributions have historically been overlooked. Diversity is a cornerstone of American democracy and success; our American Muslim community is a vital contributor to our nation's strength, as well as to the talents, perspectives, and achievements this diversity brings. This bill illuminates the economic and cultural contributions of Muslims to America, and it helps combat harmful stereotypes.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing January as "Muslim-American Heritage Month" and celebrating the heritage and culture of Muslim Americans in the United States by supporting this important legislation.

**RETIRING OF NTSB'S "MOST WANTED LIST" OF TRANSPORTATION SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS**

**HON. VAL T. HOYLE**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the retirement of the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB's) "Most Wanted List" of Transportation Safety Improvements.

Many of us have interacted with the NTSB in our own communities in the wake of transportation tragedies and know they are well-regarded for their world-class crash and accident investigations.

Since 1990, the Most Wanted List has put a focus on needed transportation safety improvements across all modes of transportation, impacting communities across the country. It was introduced as a communications tool—before today's 24-hour news cycle and relentless social media—helping the NTSB focus its advocacy messages to policymakers. In its time, it was phenomenally effective.

Since the creation of the List in 1990, the NTSB successfully promoted and saw significant policy changes that led to several transportation safety wins, including:

Positive Train Control: legislation requiring full implementation of PTC on tracks with regularly scheduled intercity or commuter passenger rail service and Class I railroad main lines carrying poison- or toxic-by-inhalation hazardous materials.

Fuel Tank Safety: implementation of safety recommendations on fuel tank inerting systems and enactment of a related FAA final rule.

Occupant Protection:

Child passenger safety laws requiring booster seat use and requiring that children ride, properly restrained by a child car seat or seat belt, in the back seat.

Crashworthiness improvements across all modes, including the adoption of crash-resistant fuel tanks in helicopters.

Seat belt laws—requiring that all occupants in all vehicles equipped with safety belts use them.

Recreational Boating: implementation of alcohol-impaired boating laws, requirements for personal flotation devices, and requirements for boater education.

Additional areas of safety improvement that the Most Wanted List addressed include human fatigue, runway safety, alcohol and drug impairment, the shipment of hazardous materials, rail tank car safety, as well as pipeline leak detection and mitigation.

I also want to take a moment to acknowledge the agency's thorough and professional investigations that have led to safety recommendations which prevented future tragedies.

America's transportation industry is among the safest in the world, and the NTSB is its conscience. But unlike Congress, the agency can only recommend, not require or implement these changes. For almost 35 years, the "Most Wanted List" focused the agency's advocacy efforts that led to the enactment of new safety policies.

The NTSB feels now is the moment to change with the times. Its Board is calling for a more nimble safety advocacy program, freed from the structure of a formal list.

As they embark on that change, I want to join the Board and the agency in celebrating the legacy of the "Most Wanted List" on the occasion of its retirement. It has served the nation well, and it has helped save many American lives.

**RECOGNIZING KATELYN CLELAND**

**HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Katelyn Cleland, a South Sound

resident who has shown exemplary commitment to community service and self-improvement, and congratulate her on being awarded the Bronze Medal Congressional Award for such service.

I commend her desire to better both herself and the community around her and know that her contributions to our South Sound community merit Congress's highest form of recognition that can be granted to America's youth.

I hope that Katelyn's service has paved the path for more achievements in the next chapters of her life, as well as inspired others in our community to prioritize service.

**HONORING GEORGE SALLIE**

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 31, 2024*

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of George Sallie, who at 94 years old, was among the oldest living Foot Soldiers from Bloody Sunday and passed away on January 18, 2024.

Mr. Sallie was born on March 15, 1929, in Fostoria, Alabama, as the youngest of five children to the late Monroe and Mamie Sallie. He received his education in the segregated school system of Lowndes and Dallas Counties. At a young age, he learned to value hard work. Mr. Sallie was the son of sharecroppers and dropped out of school early to support his family. Despite leaving school, he never abandoned his "helmet of salvation," which was education.

Mr. Sallie married Minnie Walker on October 4, 1952, and they enjoyed 65 years of marriage. The Sallies built their union on biblical principles to nurture their love for God and desire for equality. George and Minnie were longtime members of the Freewill Christian Church in Selma, Alabama.

The United States Army drafted Mr. Sallie two days after his wedding. He completed basic training at Fort Rucker, Alabama, and did his first tour in South Korea with the 8th Infantry on February 26, 1953. Mr. Sallie experienced segregation in the military, and while in Korea, he realized that he was fighting for a freedom he did not have himself.

After being discharged from the Army, Mr. Sallie returned home and fought for veterans to receive a fair and equal education. He and his wife, Minnie, championed educational cases for veterans and encouraged everyone in their community to pursue higher learning.

In 1955, the Sallies moved to Selma, Alabama. They quickly became involved in the Civil Rights Movement, helping to raise funds to support a committee to travel to Washington, D.C., to assist Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with the March on Washington.

In 1966, Mr. Sallie pursued a career in electoral politics, running for a seat on the Dallas County School Board and then again in 1970, vying for a seat on the Dallas County Commission. Though he was unsuccessful in these elections, Mr. Sallie's life inspired future generations of African American leaders to engage in community activism and pursue elected office.

Mr. Sallie was a distinguished community leader and a man of principles and high morale. He earned the title of a Foot Soldier on



Bloody Sunday in Selma, Alabama, on March 7, 1965. From that moment, he wore his "Shoes of the Gospel of the Peace" and never missed a commemorative march to return to the Edmund Pettus Bridge.

Throughout his life, Mr. Sallie received many awards and recognitions, including the distinguished member of the Civil Rights Foot Soldier's Hall of Fame at the National Voting Rights Museum; a plaque commemorating courage and bravery from the Dallas County Commission; and the Living Legend Award from the New Jersey Institute for Social Justice.

Mr. Sallie is preceded in death by his parents; his wife of over 60 years, Minnie Walker; and his siblings: Mason Gatrey, Jessie Brown, Rosie Sallie, and Johnnie Sallie. He is survived by his son, Darren Sallie; nineteen nieces and nephews: Mamie Thomas, Adam Gatrey, Ronnie Gatrey, Lawrence Gatrey, Andrew Gatrey, Gloria Gandy, Carlyon Gatrey, Richard Gatrey, Jackalyn Smith, Leon Gatrey, Mamie Calhoun, Minnie Brown, Betty Jones, Rosie Edwards, Lola Sallie, Lyndon Sallie, John Sallie, Eddie Sallie, and Sony Sallie; and a host of other family and friends.

On a personal note, I got to know Mr. George Sallie because of his faithful participation in the annual Bridge Crossing Commemoration in Selma. Mr. Sallie never missed an opportunity to cross the Edmund Pettus Bridge with his fellow Foot Soldiers leading the way. His steadfast belief in the power of the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Movement serves as an inspiration for future generations. It is because of the courage, bravery, and strength of Foot Soldiers like George Sallie that we enjoy the freedoms we have today. His life is a testament to the power of ordinary Americans to

achieve extraordinary social change. Last year, it was my great honor to walk with Mr. Sallie and President Biden on his final march across that bridge, and upon his passing, it was special to me to pay tribute to George Sallie on the floor of the House of Representatives. His legacy will live on with every vote cast. May he Rest in Power.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary life and legacy of Mr. George Sallie for his contributions to generations of civil rights leaders and decades of exemplary service to our nation in our fight for liberty, equality, and justice for all.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 1, 2024 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### FEBRUARY 6

3:30 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To hold hearings to examine foreign influence in the United States, focusing on reviewing Boston Consulting Group, McKinsey and Company, M. Klein and Company, and Teneo's compliance with congressional subpoenas.

SD-562

##### FEBRUARY 8

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the administration's pause on liquefied natural gas (LNG) export approvals and the Department of Energy's process for assessing LNG export applications.

SD-366

##### FEBRUARY 28

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the Water Resources Development Act, focusing on USACE water infrastructure projects, programs and priorities.

SD-406