

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING AND EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO DEFENSE FEL- LOW MAJOR EVAN HANSON

HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and express my sincere gratitude to my Defense Fellow, Major Evan Hanson of the United States Air Force, for his outstanding work in my office and service to the people of Texas' 13th Congressional District during 2025. Since being assigned to my office, Major Hanson has made a profound impact, bringing professionalism, insight, and dedication that have delivered exceptional results for the constituents I represent.

Major Hanson entered my office with critical knowledge and experience from his distinguished Air Force career, which was indispensable in advancing my legislative priorities across the House Armed Services, Intelligence, and Foreign Affairs Committees. In 2013, Evan commissioned as a Logistics Readiness and Munitions Maintenance Officer after graduating from the University of Colorado, where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in International Affairs with magna cum laude honors. As a commissioned officer, Evan has remained committed to his educational and professional growth, earning a Master of Science Degree in Organizational Leadership from Regis University and completing the Air Force's Continuous Process Improvement Green Belt Program.

During his career, Evan has served with distinction at the Squadron, Wing, and Major Command levels, both stateside and overseas at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, and RAF Mildenhall, United Kingdom. His previous assignments include experience as Operations Officer, Defense Logistics Aviation; Director of Logistics and Force Protection, Combined Joint Special Operations Aviation Component; Special Assistant to the Commander, Air Force Materiel Command; Director of Innovation, 90th Missile Wing; Resources Flight Commander, 790th Maintenance Squadron; Materiel Management Flight Commander, 90th Logistics Readiness Squadron; and much more.

Major Hanson's background proved critical in his unique ability to support my efforts on behalf of the men and women at Sheppard Air Force Base in Wichita Falls, Texas. Having trained at Sheppard in 2018, where he completed the Air Force's Maintenance Officer Fundamental Course, he brought firsthand understanding of the world-class technical training and education that Sheppard provides our airmen. Notably, Evan's leadership was instrumental in securing inclusion of my Advancing Innovation and Maintenance through Headquarters for Instruction, Growth, and High-tech training Act, or the AIM HIGH Act, as an amendment to the House-passed Fiscal Year 2026 National Defense Authorization Act—po-

sitioning Sheppard to receive designation as the Air Force's Technical Training Center of Excellence.

Beyond his professional excellence, Major Hanson will be remembered most for his servant leadership, integrity, and team-first spirit. His patriotism, humility, and unwavering commitment to others have left a permanent mark on my staff and our mission that will be nearly impossible to replicate.

On behalf of myself, my staff, and the constituents I proudly serve, I want to thank Major Evan Hanson for his exemplary service to my office and our great Nation. I wish him nothing but continued success as he carries forward his leadership in the United States Air Force.

CELEBRATING THE AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION, CHI- CAGO LOCAL 0001 AND U.S. POST- AL WORKERS RECOGNITION DAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise in support of the United States Postal Service and the over 500,000 dedicated career employees that work for one of America's most trusted and fundamental democratic institutions. Since our Nation's establishment, the U.S. Postal Service has delivered vital goods and services critical to the health and well-being of our people, thereby playing a crucial role in the economic, social, and cultural fabric of America.

For millions of Americans, both in rural communities and in urban neighborhoods, the U.S. Postal Service has been a lifeline. The contributions of postal workers, past and present, represent an essential pillar of public service, community connection, and democratic access, especially in times of national challenge, economic hardship, and social change. The U.S. Postal Service is a driving force to the churches, small businesses, and constituents in the 7th Congressional District of Illinois.

Since its founding in 1906, what was then known as the National Federation of Postal Clerks and what is now recognized as the American Postal Workers Union, Chicago Local 0001 has played a pivotal role in championing safe working conditions, fair wages, equal opportunity, and the respect owed to every individual who contributes to the strength and continuity of our Nation's postal system. As the Postal Service's 250th anniversary approaches, it is fitting and proper that we honor and recognize the dedication, sacrifice, and invaluable service of these workers.

While the U.S. Postal Service has a vast fleet of vehicles and a comprehensive network of facilities and equipment, the real engine behind its operations and prowess is the over half a million dedicated employees of the Postal Service.

On U.S. Postal Workers Recognition Day, I proudly stand in support of the United States

Postal Service, especially now given the rise of the digital economy and e-commerce. The U.S. Postal Service is more than just a business; it is an important public-oriented service that has been a cornerstone of our Nation's infrastructure since its inception.

I encourage all residents, organizations, and civic leaders to join me in celebrating the historic contributions and continued service of postal workers and the American Postal Workers Union, Chicago Local 0001.

HONORING AND RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REBECCA NABORS

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Rebecca Nabors, the first Black woman elected to the Stockton City Council. Her decades of service as an educator, advocate, and leader, left an enduring impact on South Stockton. This recognition is given posthumously.

Mrs. Nabors served District 6 with distinction, including as Vice Chair of the Audit and Budget Committee. She championed equity in every arena—from pushing for fair resource allocation and park improvements to expanding public services and environmental protections in underserved neighborhoods.

Before her time on the council, Mrs. Nabors dedicated nearly 40 years to the Stockton Unified School District, where she fought for reading justice, academic equity, and culturally responsive teaching. In her professional capacity as an Educator with Stockton Unified, Mrs. Nabors served as Director of Extended Campus, a program for at-risk students. Through the Black Teachers Association, she helped provide scholarships for local students, many of them the first in their families to attend college.

Mrs. Nabors was also a force behind community-driven initiatives like the Sustainable Neighborhood Plan and Stockton Rising, helping deliver energy upgrades, food security programs, and economic opportunity to South Stockton families. A devout Christian, she served faithfully in her church, singing in the choir and teaching Sunday school.

A proud member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Mrs. Nabors lived a life rooted in sisterhood, service, and social action. Her outstanding leadership was recognized with numerous honors, including the Mary McLeod Bethune Award, the first Woman of Color Award from the African American Chamber of Commerce of San Joaquin County, the NAACP Rosa Parks Award, and the 2008 Susan B. Anthony Award in Education.

Former Councilmember Rebecca Nabors will be remembered as a fearless advocate, mentor, and visionary. Her legacy lives on in the communities she served and the lives she

• 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.

touched. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Rebecca Nabors.

HONORING CHANS CHIV WITH THE CA-37 PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR AWARD

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Chans Chiv with the CA-37 Public Service Honor Award for his exemplary service to the Los Angeles Passport Agency. His unwavering commitment to improving the accessibility and reliability of passport services has had a profound impact on the Agency and on residents across Southern California and Nevada, ensuring that communities of every neighborhood and background receive the support they deserve.

Mr. Chiv began his career with the Los Angeles Passport Agency in 2004 as a Passport Specialist. His talent, professionalism, and dedication quickly distinguished him, leading to his promotion in 2011 to Customer Service Manager.

Driven by a deep commitment to serving his community, Mr. Chiv has excelled in strengthening essential partnerships with Passport Acceptance Facilities, including post offices, public libraries, and municipalities. Through these collaborations, he has expanded access to passport services throughout the region, helping countless residents obtain the services they need with dignity and ease.

Mr. Chiv is widely respected for his ability to build strong relationships with stakeholders, often visiting sites personally to better understand community needs and enhance service delivery. He brings that same dedication to his family, making time each day to pick up his children from school—a testament to the care and commitment that define both his personal and professional life. Outside of work, he enjoys spending quality time with his wife and two children, sharing a love of sports and exploring their favorite local restaurants together.

I am proud to recognize Mr. Chans Chiv for his exemplary service, his unwavering dedication to the public, and the lasting, positive impact he has made on countless individuals throughout our region.

RECOGNIZING CHERRY CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT'S 75TH ANNI- VERSARY

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, 75 years ago, a group of visionary educators, parents, and community members came together with a common dream: to create a district where every child would have the opportunity to learn, grow, and succeed. I rise today to congratulate the Cherry Creek School District on celebrating this important milestone.

Cherry Creek opened in 1950 with eight schools and grew to double their enrollment

by the 1970's. Today, the district serves 53,000 students over 67 K-12 schools across the Denver Metro Area. The district's students have excelled in state and national competitions in academics, athletics, and the arts.

Cherry Creek has prioritized meeting the needs of their students. In 2023, Traverse Academy became the first district-operated mental health facility and school of its kind across the Nation.

Today, the district's mission is to "inspire every student to think, to learn, to achieve, and to care." This mission has guided Cherry Creek in their work to support every child across all backgrounds and academic pathways.

As one of the districts in Colorado's most diverse congressional district, Cherry Creek serves students from all over the world. Currently, more than 150 languages are spoken throughout the school district.

Cherry Creek has continued its leadership and dedication to meeting the needs of today by opening the dynamic Cherry Creek Innovation Campus in 2019. The school offers multiple non-traditional academic pathways for students to excel, including Aerospace Manufacturing, Hospitality, and Infrastructure Engineering. In 2024, it was recognized as a top 100 school for educational innovation by HundredED. Since their opening in 2019, 776 students at the Cherry Creek Innovation Campus have earned their industry certificates.

I am honored to represent the Cherry Creek School District and I know I speak for many in Colorado when I congratulate all members of the Cherry Creek School District community on their dedication to our students and contributions to our state. With work grounded in innovation, excellence, and a commitment to their students, I know they will continue to focus on educating and lifting up their students for the next 75 years and beyond.

CELEBRATING THE 80TH BIRTH- DAY OF DR. HATEM HOSSINO

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate the 80th birthday of Dr. Hatem Hossino of Charleston, West Virginia. Dr. Hossino was born on December 7, 1945 in Salamiyeh, Syria, later emigrating to the United States. Dr. Hossino has lived the American dream. He opened his vascular and general surgery practice in Charleston, West Virginia in 1978, where he continues to practice serving the community. In February 2023, former Governor Jim Justice recognized Dr. Hossino as a Distinguished Mountaineer, noting that "his commitment to his community and career has been an outstanding example for us all." I am grateful for Dr. Hossino's service to the community and for sharing his son, Omar Hossino, an invaluable contributor to our office. I wish Dr. Hossino a happy birthday, and prayers for many more.

HONORING MY PREEMIE AND ME OF GREENVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor My Premie and Me, an outstanding nonprofit organization in Greenville, Mississippi, for its unwavering commitment to supporting premature infants and their families throughout the Mississippi Delta.

Founded by Marketta "Nikki" Landrum after the premature birth of her daughter, My Premie and Me was created from a deeply personal journey. What began as a mother's desire to help other families facing the fear and uncertainty of prematurity has grown into a vital source of compassion, education, and community support.

My Premie and Me provides direct assistance to families with preemies and works tirelessly to raise awareness about prematurity. The organization has partnered with the City of Greenville to observe World Prematurity Day, including the Purple Lighting of Greenville City Hall, ensuring that families of NICU babies feel seen, supported, and embraced by their community. Through Prematurity Awareness Month activities and collaborations with local civic groups, My Premies and Me has strengthened public understanding of prematurity and highlighted the needs of families caring for medically fragile infants.

Beyond health advocacy, My Premie and Me plays a meaningful role in the civic life of Greenville. The organization helped host the city's First Annual Juneteenth Celebration, joining community partners to bring residents together in celebration of culture, history, and unity. Their work demonstrates a belief that strong families are built within strong, connected communities.

The organization's dedication has also been recognized beyond Greenville, including being listed among nonprofit beneficiaries of Entergy Corporation's charitable giving.

Mr. Speaker, I ask colleagues to join me in recognizing My Premie and Me and its founder, Marketta "Nikki" Landrum, for their profound service to preemie families and for the hope and strength they bring to the Mississippi Delta.

RECOGNIZING THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE AS AN ESSENTIAL PART OF AMERICAN LIFE AND HERITAGE

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the U.S. Post Office as one of the Nation's most enduring institutions and the role it has played in keeping our Nation states federal government responsible for providing postal service in the United States. It is one of the few agencies authorized by the United States Constitution.

Since its beginning, the U.S. Postal Service has gone through and will perhaps continue to

go through many change. However, its value of service to the American people will remain a vital part in the United States of America. Therefore, in recognizing December 4, 2025 as Postal Workers Recognition Day, we say thank you to the workers who make it happen.

COMMENDING THE ISLETA POLICE DEPARTMENT AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

HON. GABE VASQUEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. VASQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Isleta Police Department and local law enforcement for their commitment to protecting New Mexico's communities. On November 17, 2025, the U.S. Department of the Interior and the Bureau of Indian Affairs reported a major drug bust on the Isleta Pueblo.

In coordination with the Bureau of Indian Affairs Division of Drug Enforcement and a Homeland Security Task Force, local officers from the Isleta Police Department seized over 37,000 fentanyl pills, which were valued at nearly 1.5 million dollars, and nearly \$38,000 dollars in cash.

Those deadly pills would have devastated countless lives in our community, but today the Isleta Pueblo and New Mexico's communities are safer because of our law enforcement's hard work and dedication. Thanks to our officers' intelligence and tireless work, more New Mexican families will remain intact.

On behalf of the people of New Mexico's 2nd Congressional District, I would like to extend my deepest appreciation to the Isleta Police Department and local law enforcement for their nonstop efforts to protect our communities. We appreciate their dedication to public service and pray for their continued safety. I look forward to our continued partnership as we work to keep drugs off our streets and hold bad actors seeking to prey on our communities accountable.

HONORING THE IMMIGRANT DEFENDERS LAW CENTER WITH THE CA-37 COMMUNITY CHAMPION AWARD

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Immigrant Defenders Law Center with the CA-37 Community Champion Award. Their steadfast commitment to justice has made them an essential voice for some of the most vulnerable individuals navigating our Nation's immigration system.

The Immigrant Defenders Law Center, widely known as "ImmDef," stands among our country's preeminent immigrant-rights organizations. Founded in 2015 by a team of dedicated immigration lawyers and advocates, including Co-Founder and Executive Director Lindsay Toczykowski and Director of Legal Services Mickey Donovan-Kaloust, Immigrant Defenders Law Center has led with the belief that a more just and humane system is not

only possible, but necessary to protect the due-process rights of immigrants facing deportation.

Day after day, they work with unwavering dedication to defend the 5th Amendment rights of detained immigrants and asylum seekers, ensuring that due process is not merely a promise, but a lived reality.

Earlier this year, ImmDef played a crucial role in organizing a congressional oversight visit to Adelanto Detention Center. Their initiative allowed Members of Congress to witness firsthand the conditions detainees were forced to live in. That visit sparked renewed calls for reform and strengthened the resolve of lawmakers to pursue greater protections for immigrants across our Nation.

ImmDef is currently assisting my office with an extremely troubling case involving a constituent who has gone missing in ICE custody. Their legal expertise has been indispensable as we work to uncover what occurred, locate our missing constituent, and draw attention to the potential violations he may have endured while in federal custody.

The organization's record of service is both distinguished and deeply consequential. ImmDef helped halt the unlawful deportation of 76 Guatemalan children, unaccompanied minors, who were at imminent risk of being removed from the United States without regard for their safety or their rights. Because of ImmDef's swift action, these children were afforded the due process guaranteed to them under our Constitution.

Today, ImmDef continues to stand on the front lines, pushing back against harmful federal policies and practices. They have fought in the courts, in our communities, and through rapid-response efforts that address unlawful ICE raids in real time. Their work remains a beacon of justice, compassion, and constitutional integrity in the face of tremendous challenges.

ImmDef's work keeps families together and protects communities from discriminatory practices and legislation. Their dedication reminds us to continue standing up for those with no advocates.

I am honored to recognize the work of the Immigrant Defenders Law Center. Today, we recognize ImmDef not only for their work, but for the impact they continue to make in shaping a more just and humane immigration system. I thank them for their service and look forward to continuing our work together on behalf of our vulnerable communities.

HONORING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OREGONIAN

HON. MAXINE DEXTER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Ms. DEXTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a remarkable milestone in American journalism: the 175th anniversary of The Oregonian, the oldest continuously published newspaper on the West Coast.

Since 1850, The Oregonian has been a vital thread in the fabric of Oregon's civic life, serving as a trusted source of information, accountability, and community connection.

Over its long history, the paper has earned eight Pulitzer Prizes, beginning with its first in

1937. That includes the distinguished 2001 Pulitzer for Public Service, awarded for its "detailed and unflinching" reporting on abuses within the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service.

This is a newsroom with deep roots and a wide reach. In 1922, The Oregonian launched Portland's first commercial radio station, what would eventually become KGW-TV, ushering in a new era of local broadcast journalism.

As a former student journalist, I know how powerful local reporting is. It informs. It connects. It holds the powerful accountable. And at a time when local journalism is under threat across this country, The Oregonian reminds us why it matters.

I thank the journalists, editors, photographers, and staff—past and present—for their service to our state and democracy.

I congratulate the Oregonian on 175 years, and here's to many more.

RECOGNIZING SYLVIA MARIE THORNTON ON HER 98TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to extend warm congratulations to Sylvia Marie Thornton on the occasion of her 98th birthday. Sylvia was born in Bainbridge, Georgia, on November 29, 1927, and this momentous milestone will be joyfully celebrated with her family and friends in Umatilla, Florida, on December 6, 2025.

It is my pleasure to join her loved ones in honoring Sylvia's long and admirable life and in reflecting on the profound impact she has made on all who know her. For Decades, Sylvia has exemplified steadfast dedication to her family, her community, and her church.

In 1945, Sylvia married the love of her life, Charles Howard Thornton, and embraced her calling as a pastor's wife. Together, she and Charles raised six children. She served faithfully in teaching, serving, and leading the women of the church with grace and devotion. Guided by an unwavering faith, she made it her mission to instill Godly values in her children and to encourage them to accept Christ at an early age. Her legacy continues through her son who now pastors his own church, carrying on the important work begun by his father. Today, her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren honor and love her deeply as she remains faithful to God.

I congratulate Sylvia on reaching this remarkable milestone. May God continue to pour out His abundant blessings upon her and her family. It is my honor to serve her in the United States House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING THE AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION, CHICAGO CHAPTER 0001

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the American Postal Workers Union is a labor

union which represents 200,000 employees and retirees of the United States Postal Service who belong to the clerk, maintenance, motor vehicle, and other services divisions. It was founded July 18, 1971 as a former clerk in the Chicago post office, beginning in 1961, prior to the APWU being organized and accepted. I congratulate the Chicago leadership in the personage of Keith Richardson, President, Diatta Grant, Director, Jackie Chambers, Vice President, and Michelle Johnson, Secretary/Treasurer.

Labor unions function in many ways to generate fair equitable wages, benefits, working conditions, and quality of life enhancements. They are the bridges between employers and employees. Without labor unions I often wonder what life in this country would be? Therefore, I take this opportunity to thank the leadership of the Chicago Local APWU 0001 for leadership well provided and a job well done.

CELEBRATING THAI INVESTMENT IN SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, this week, AAPICO announced a historic investment in Orangeburg, South Carolina of one hundred and twenty million dollars, which will create three hundred and ninety-two jobs.

AAPICO is a publicly listed tier one automotive parts manufacturer based in the Kingdom of Thailand with more than thirty years of industry experience, that excels in the production of jigs, dies, press parts, chassis frame components, cradles, plastic parts, and forged and machined components. Sodecia Aapico JV's new 400,000-square-foot facility, located in Orangeburg, will manufacture ladder frames predominately for SUV and truck model vehicles and will open in 2027.

The enduring alliance of the United States and Thailand continues to positively support the lives and economies of people in both nations. I am grateful to Ambassador Suriya Chindawongse for his continuing support of Thai relations and the U.S.-Thai Alliance Caucus, which I am grateful to Chair.

CELEBRATING THE 200TH BIRTHDAY OF THE CITY OF BLAKELY, GEORGIA

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 200th anniversary of the founding of the city of Blakely, Georgia. This momentous occasion will be celebrated on December 4, 2025, in Blakely on the front lawn of City Hall. Established in 1825, Blakely, the county seat of Early County, is a community with a rich and unique history, reflecting the diverse claims and cultures that have shaped this corner of Southwest Georgia over the centuries, including Native American tribes, Spanish explorers, and English colonizers. Blakely was named in honor of Captain Johnston Blakely,

an Irish immigrant who commanded two vessels, the *Enterprise* and the *Wasp*, during the War of 1812. Captain Blakely's valor, particularly for capturing the British ship, *Reindeer*, earned him a posthumous Congressional Gold Medal, making a fitting namesake for a town that has also exhibited great resilience and determination.

Blakely, famously nicknamed the "Peanut Capital of the World," stands as a testament to the strong agricultural and natural heritage of the region. While cotton was the predominant industry before the Civil War, the area is now the top peanut-producing county in the Nation, feeding the world and contributing millions of dollars in economic impact. The city's enduring history is also preserved in sites like the magnificent Early County Courthouse, built in 1905 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Blakely is also home to significant natural and historical attractions, including the Kolomoki Mounds State Historic Park, one of the largest mound complexes in the state, and the Coheele Creek Covered Bridge, built in 1891, which is the southernmost covered bridge in the United States.

Today, Blakely continues to be a vibrant center of community and commerce in Southwest Georgia, with institutions like the satellite campuses of Bainbridge State College and Albany Technical College serving the area. But ultimately, Blakely, Georgia is so special because of the hardworking families and individuals who call it home.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me in recognizing and celebrating the city of Blakely, Georgia on its 200th birthday. I wish the people of Blakely all the best as they commemorate two centuries of history and culture.

HONORING MR. TYRONE NANCE WITH THE CA-37 CHANGEMAKER AWARD

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to award Mr. Tyrone Nance with the CA-37 Changemaker Award for his dedication to uplifting underserved and marginalized communities in Los Angeles.

Through unwavering commitment to his community, Mr. Tyrone Nance has become one of South Los Angeles' most trusted crisis-response organizers. Tyrone founded It's Bigger Than Us (IBTU) in 2020 at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, beginning with a simple act of service: making sure students had backpacks, supplies, and support during a moment of profound uncertainty. What began as a small, urgent response quickly grew into a citywide movement defined by dignity, essential resources, food access, and a deep belief that communities can rebuild when someone shows up for them.

That same spirit guided Tyrone in 2025 when Los Angeles was devastated by the Palisades and Eaton wildfires. Under his leadership, IBTU mobilized one of the largest community-powered disaster relief efforts in the region. Over just three weeks, IBTU delivered meals, emergency supplies, and coordinated

support to thousands of displaced individuals, deploying more than 3,500 volunteers and forging over 180 new partnerships to meet the overwhelming need. Tyrone then launched IBTU Relief, transforming an emergency operation into long-term recovery for families across more than 90 ZIP codes. This work culminated in the opening of The Hub—IBTU's weekly-open, trauma-informed recovery center—providing verified intake, case management, mental-health services, and high-touch distributions to families navigating the long road to stability.

Tyrone's commitment to community extends far beyond crisis. As a proud Crenshaw High School alumnus, he led the full renovation of the school's outdoor basketball courts—an investment in youth and community pride. In 2025, he joined students, families, and local leaders at the Crenshaw Court Dedication. What began as a pandemic-era backpack drive came full circle: a symbol of renewal, built at the very school that shaped him.

Across disaster relief, youth programming, and community empowerment, Tyrone has remained a national voice for equity and service. His work, which is rooted in lived experience, research, and collaboration, demonstrates what is possible when leadership meets compassion. Tyrone Nance embodies the spirit of collective care, and his impact continues to strengthen families, schools, and neighborhoods throughout California's 37th District and beyond.

It is my honor to recognize Tyrone with the CA-37 Changemaker Award. He demonstrates a high standard of commitment to service and I thank him for his impactful work.

RECOGNIZING AND EXPRESSING GRATITUDE TO FORMER DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS KATHY ZHU

HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and express my sincere gratitude to my former Director of Operations, Kathy Zhu of Kissimmee, Florida, for her exceptional service, tireless dedication, and unwavering commitment to the people of Texas' 13th Congressional District. Over the years, Kathy proved to be an invaluable asset to my office, where her attention to detail was crucial in my ability to represent and serve my constituents.

Kathy discovered her passion for public service in High School and was extensively involved in the Florida Federation of Teenage Republicans and the Republican Party of Florida. This passion eventually led Kathy to study Political Science at the University of Michigan, where she served as the Vice Chair for the College Republicans at the university. After graduation, Kathy moved to the Washington, D.C. area and began her career in politics, working for various organizations in event coordination and digital analysis.

In February of 2022, Kathy joined my staff as Scheduler and quickly became my Director of Operations the following year. During her time in my office, Kathy worked diligently behind the scenes to ensure the smooth and effective operation of my office. From travel,

events, and meeting coordination to office administration, she consistently demonstrated precision and professionalism. She also greatly contributed to the culture and environment of my office by bringing her dog, Moose, in on out-of-session days. While working in my office, Kathy continued her education at the Johns Hopkins Krieger School of Arts and Sciences and received a Master of Arts in Global Security Studies in May of 2025.

Kathy has returned to Michigan to continue her career in public service and is currently the Digital Strategy Director for Speaker Matt Hall in the Michigan House of Representatives, where I have no doubt that she will continue to lead and serve with purpose in this new role.

Although Kathy has moved on to new challenges, her impact on my office and on the people of Texas' 13th Congressional District continues to be felt in the work we do every day. On behalf of myself, my staff, and the constituents I proudly serve, I want to thank Kathy Zhu for her years of loyal service, her commitment to excellence, and her patriotic spirit. I wish her the very best as she continues her journey in public service.

COMMENDING THE MU MU LAMDA CHAPTER OF ALPHA PHI ALPHA FRATERNITY, INC. ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation commending the Mu Mu Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. on its 50th Anniversary.

Whereas, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., founded on December 4, 1906, at Cornell University, stands as the first intercollegiate Greek-letter fraternity established for African American men, committed to developing leaders, promoting brotherhood and academic excellence, and providing service and advocacy for communities nationwide; and

Whereas, the mission of the fraternity is to stimulate the ambition of its members and prepare them for the greatest usefulness in the causes of humanity, freedom, and dignity through scholarships, leadership, service and advocacy; and

Whereas, for fifty years, the Mu Mu Lambda Chapter has lived this mission with distinction—strengthening communities, mentoring youth, awarding scholarships, advancing civic engagement, shaping leaders, and uplifting humanity through service, advocacy, and brotherhood; and

Whereas, the Mu Mu Lambda Chapter was chartered on April 14, 1976 in Glen Ellyn, Illinois, by twenty-two visionary brothers whose leadership established a lasting legacy of excellence and impact; and

Whereas, the Mu Mu Lambda Chapter has demonstrated the fraternity's motto "First of All, Servants of All, We Shall Transcend All," and it aims—Manly Deeds, Scholarship, and Love for all Mankind—through five decades of transformative programming, community partnerships, youth initiatives, and leadership development activities; and

Whereas, the chapter's Golden Anniversary in April 2026 marks a momentous milestone for the Chicagoland community and the broader fraternity; and

Whereas, the chapter's presidents from 1976 to 2026 are recognized for their dedication and leadership in advancing the mission and sustaining the chapter's legacy: Ernest Gibson (1976), Mickey S. Brown (1977), Arthur Thompson (1978), James H. Ivory (1979–1981), Walter R. Bauldrick, Sr. (1981), Clarence R. Lewis (1982–1984), Robert L. McMillian (1984–1986), Harold W. Kelly (1986–1988), Fred L. Miller (1988–1990), Roland E. Wesley (1990–1992), George A. McCrowey (1992–1994), Isaiah P. Ward (1994–1996), Austin V. Harton (1996–1998), Kenneth R. Watkins, Sr. (1998–2000), Warren G. Smith (2000–2002), Norman P. Fleming (2002–2004), Michael J. Bates (2004–2005), Undray Wilks (2005–2007), David A. Lewis (2007–2009), Rahmad D. Bauldrick, Sr. (2009–2011), Seth L. Wilson (2011–2013), Leonard C. McKinnis, Jr. (2013–2016), Eddie H. Reynolds (2016–2018), Decature Tounsel (2018–2019), David A. Lewis (2019–2020), Ashton L. Clark (2020–2022), Rahmad D. Bauldrick, Sr. (2022–2024), L. Bernard Jakes (2024–2025), and Robert O. Harris Jr. (2025–2026);

As a proud member who share brotherhood with this outstanding group of distinguished men, some of whom I met as a freshmen in college (Kenneth R. Watkins and Ernest Gibson) and one (Isiah P. Ward) who was my line brother when we joined Mu Mu Lambda.

As a member of the chapter, and as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, I take great pride in congratulating the officers and members past and present of the Mu Mu Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., on the occasion of their 50th Anniversary. The chapter is commended for its steadfast commitment to the fraternity's mission and its unwavering dedication to leadership development, community upliftment, youth empowerment and social advocacy. Best wishes to all of them for their continued success, brotherhood, and impactful service for decades to come.

HONORING OFFICER JAMES "XY" BROWN

HON. GREGORY F. MURPHY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. MURPHY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Officer James "XY" Brown of the Jacksonville Police Department. A well-recognized icon in Onslow County, Mr. Brown, after 68 years of selfless service and dedication to the City of Jacksonville, is retiring this December.

Prior to his service to Jacksonville, he served our country in the Army during WWII. Following that, he began volunteering in 1957 with the Jacksonville Police and officially joined the force in 1971. In his devoted and generous fashion, he currently serves as a crossing guard and public service officer, helping ensure the safety of the residents and children of Onslow County. He is well known for his positive demeanor and professionalism.

Mr. Brown is currently the oldest serving police officer in the Jacksonville Police Department at a resounding 98 years old. In 2022, he was recognized by the NC Lead Project, a statewide organization whose mission is to bridge socioeconomic gaps and strengthen the community through leadership and education with a lifetime achievement award, highlighting his leadership and service to his community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing and congratulating Mr. Brown and his service to Jacksonville and the country. I thank Mr. Brown for his commitment, and wish him the best of luck in his retirement.

CONGRATULATING MICHAEL CANFIELD

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael Canfield, the President and CEO of IPMI, Inc. and the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center (IPCC) in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Over the last 30 years, Mike's leadership built the businesses and operations of this cultural landmark owned by the 19 Pueblos of New Mexico. The Cultural Center and tribal businesses are on land that was once a boarding school, with the historical complexities that the boarding school era represents. The transformation of the land into a thriving business center, a world renowned cultural center, and a world class Native American charter school, exemplifies the possibilities when Native Americans exercise self-determination and control over their own destiny and resources. He oversaw a restructuring of the museum so that the voice that told the history of the Pueblos was Puebloan, he professionalized the historical archival work, and education department and the restaurant at the cultural center is not only a place for delicious post contact food, but also itself a teaching kitchen. The Cultural center is the most visited site in Albuquerque. The former Albuquerque Indian School campus is a place of spirited community and family.

The distinguished Legacy Circle also honors the name of Michael G. Canfield because of his work elevating IPCC to a place of national recognition. This honor exists now as he has helped create endless opportunities for Pueblo people. These visionaries to receive this honor through new IPCC estate plans ensure the strength of the culture and economic stability for generations to come.

His leadership focused on his people, the preservation and celebration of Pueblo culture. Visitors stream into the dance circle at the cultural center to watch Puebloan and other indigenous dancers from around the world share both culture heritage and creativity, where the drums reverberate under our turquoise skies. But the Indian Pueblo Marketing, Inc., which is the economic arm of the 19 Pueblos stewardship of their land now boasts two hotels, two major office buildings, restaurants and business centers. The financial return helps fund not just the cultural center activities but also the 19 Pueblos themselves, who in turn use the funds to meet their governmental needs.

I had the benefit of working with Mr. Canfield as the attorney for IPMI and can attest to the wisdom and diplomacy he brought to every board meeting, every finance discussion, and every entrepreneurial expansion he proposed. He always balanced the cultural heritage that needed to be preserved and honored and the economic opportunities that beckoned.

His impact on the IPCC and the Native American community will be remembered forever. The Pueblo people have always lived on

these lands, and their descendants have found another home at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center.

I am honored to recognize Mr. Canfield so history will remember his name. There is strength in culture and tradition, there are leaders we will follow to show us the way. Let Mike Canfield be remembered as one of those leaders.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GLENN IVEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. IVEY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the first vote today due to my participation in the shadow hearing, "Kidnapped and Disappeared: Trump's Detention Abuses," where I was discussing the impacts of this administration's immigration policies on constituents in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 313.

HONORING THE IRVING PARK YMCA'S 100 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the Irving Park YMCA's 100 years of service and support in Chicago's Northwest side.

Since its construction in 1925, the Irving Park YMCA has averaged 10,000 members per year assisting in youth development and serving Chicago's adult populations. Through summer camps, outdoor experiences, sports programs, life-saving swimming lessons, Leader's Club, Girls on the Run and more, the Irving Park YMCA has fostered lifelong healthy habits, leadership skills, and success for city children and teens.

The YMCA has served Chicago families by offering drop-in childcare services, FitStart, a personalized 12-week program to support wellness goals, SilverSneakers, a fitness program for older adults, affordable accommodations, and support services, promoting stability, safety, and healthy habits. Through its centennial, the Irving Park YMCA has been a hub for health, wellbeing, and youth development.

From hosting world events and international expositions in the 1920s and 1930s, to providing one of the first strength training facilities in the NFL to the Chicago Bears, to offering childcare for first responders, and essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Irving Park YMCA remains a pillar to the city of Chicago.

As the Irving Park YMCA enters its next 100 years of service, it will continue to pursue its mission to strengthen community by connecting all people to their purpose, potential, and each other.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all our colleagues in the House of Representatives in celebrating this remarkable contribution.

HONORING EUGENE OGASAWARA WITH THE CA-37 PUBLIC SERVICE HONOR AWARD

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Eugene Ogasawara with the CA-37 Public Service Honor Award, a dedicated public servant whose commitment has made a significant impact on the U.S. Department of State.

Eugene, a native of Los Angeles, began his career with the federal government in 2004 with the Department of State as a passport specialist at the Los Angeles passport agency. By 2008, just four years after his first day, Eugene's dedication had carried him upward—he was promoted to Supervisory Passport Specialist, marking the first of many milestones in a career defined by integrity, growth, and the respect of those around him.

From 2010 to 2019 Eugene served as a passport specialization specialist in Tucson, Arizona overseeing the passport printing contract and ensuring compliance with department standards. In 2019, the road led him home to Los Angeles once again. This time, he returned as the agency's Customer Service Program Manager, a position he has now held for more than six years. In this role, Eugene serves as both guide and bridge—shaping the agency's customer service initiatives, coordinating closely with congressional offices, and bringing the Department's work directly to the community through a wide array of outreach events.

Eugene's decision to pursue federal service was inspired by his father, who dedicated over 35 years to the Department of Housing and Urban Development. His legacy instilled in Eugene a deep appreciation for public service and the importance of serving the community with integrity.

Each step of the way, he has continued to build on a legacy rooted in service, connection, and the belief that meaningful work touches real people. Eugene's career reflects a dedication to public service and to the people of Los Angeles. His commitment ensures that the Department of State runs efficiently.

I honor Mr. Eugene Ogasawara for his exceptional service and commitment to his community and recognize the lasting impact he has made on countless individuals.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF DR. KEVIN RYAN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mourn the passing of a longtime consummate public servant and friend, Connecticut State Representative Kevin Ryan. Representative Ryan died on November 23, 2025, after a courageous battle against cancer, surrounded in his final days by family, friends and political colleagues. He will be long remembered for his decades of public service and dedication to issues of public health and children's welfare.

Raised in Montville, Connecticut, Representative Ryan graduated from St. Bernard Boys High School before studying English and Biology at Villanova University. He went on to earn a Doctorate in Optometry and Public Health Certificate from the Pennsylvania School of Optometry and a Masters in Community Psychology from the University of New Haven.

Representative Ryan began his career in government service in 1985, when he was elected to the Montville Board of Education, where he served as Secretary for one year and Chairman for six years. In 1992, he was elected to the State House of Representatives for the 139th District, a seat to which he was re-elected 21 times, a powerful statement of how much the people of that district trusted and admired him. I had the honor to serve alongside Kevin for one term in the General Assembly on the public health committee, which I chaired, and we became friends for life. He had a shrewd understanding of the legislative process from day one, and a wicked sense of humor, which members from both sides of the aisle appreciated and enjoyed. At the State Capitol, during his tenure he served on the committees, which made a difference on the issues he cared deeply about—public health, environment, and appropriations.

Drawing on his educational background and passion for improving the lives of Connecticut's children, Representative Ryan also served on the Pilot Studies Committee. On this committee, Kevin helped address Medicaid administration and emergency medical services for Connecticut's youth and conducted a study on the proposed Constitutional Amendment on the Rights of Children. Throughout his career, Representative Ryan's legislative ability never faltered. Just this year, he sponsored multiple successful bills protecting workers' rights and increasing access to clean energy.

Ryan's service to the Montville community extended beyond his role as state representative. He was also a member of the Montville Public Safety Committee and Justice of the Peace and previously served as chair of the town's Democratic Committee. Kevin Ryan contributed to the Rotary, the Knights of Columbus, Moose Club, and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, as well as the Alliance for Living Board of Directors and Eastern Connecticut Cable Television Advisory Board. He also furthered his interests in children's welfare and public safety as President of the Board of the Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Southeast Connecticut and Chairman of the Connecticut Nuclear Energy Advisory Council.

Representative Ryan made connections with legislatures across the country. He served as Treasurer and President of the National Conference of Legislators from Gaming States, Treasurer of the Summit of Rural and Agricultural Leaders, and National Vice President of the Council of State Governments, where he also sat on the Agriculture Committee.

Representative Ryan also benefited Connecticut's communities in his private life. He provided care at the Connecticut Visual Health Center in Bridgeport and Mobile Medical Testing Service (now known as Exemplar Health Services). He was also an Adjunct Professor of Physics at the University of New Haven from 1980 until his death.

Representative Ryan earned innumerable commendations and awards, including the Distinguished State Legislature Award from the

Connecticut Psychological Association, Legislator of the Year from the Connecticut Farm Bureau, the American Lung Association's Breath of Life Award, a Public Service Award from the Connecticut Secretary of State, and Legislative Awards from the Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut. Representative Ryan was also named Champion for Community Providers by the Connecticut Community Providers Association and received a Community Service Award from the Norwich NAACP. He was a Henry Toll Fellow and a winner of the William Fitzgerald and Senator Chris J. Dodd Awards.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Ryan's loss is felt by his colleagues in Connecticut and across the country as well as his constituents in Ledyard, Montville, and Norwich. Kevin's irreverent humor and tenacious work ethic won't soon be matched. Representative Ryan championed the needs of his constituents to his last days, proving his commitment to his constituency. Despite how monumental a chasm is left by his death; I take solace in the knowledge that Representative Ryan's memory and example are survived by the countless lives he touched through his decades of service. I ask my colleagues join me in honoring Kevin's life and legacy.

REMEMBERING FRED HAMPTON,
SR. AND THE BLACK PANTHER
PARTY IN CHICAGO

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, December 4, 1969 is a part of history that many Chicagoans would like to forget especially the family and friends of Fred Hampton, Sr., who was killed by Edward Hanrahan Cook County States Attorney and his band of police raiders in an apartment on W. Monroe Street. Although people were outraged and mourned they also used the atrocity as a rallying point, they agonized, they organized, they advocated, they registered people, they voted, they voted Edward Hanrahan out of office, they elected Jane Byrne, they elected Harold Washington as mayor, they projected Rev. Jesse Jackson, Lu Palmer, Nancy Jefferson, Tim Evans, Danny Davis, Bobby Rush, Mariam Stamps, Jim Compton, Rev. Ray Evans and others as leaders, they changed the culture and the history of Chicago.

As a result of the murder of Fred Hampton, the city of Chicago will never be the same. One could go so far as to say that the country will never ever again be the same. Chicago produced individuals who contributed significantly to America, especially Black America becoming what it is today.

Home of Rev. Jesse Jackson, and home of Barack Obama when he was elected President. Illinois is a progressive state, with Chicago leading the way. Not nearly as progressive as it could and should be; but much better than what it was and Chairman Fred Hampton's life and death played a great role in causing Chicago to become what it is today.

RECOGNIZING WARMINSTER TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
JUDY HOOVER

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the dedicated public service of Ms. Judy Hoover, a distinguished member of the Warminster Township Board of Supervisors who celebrated her final meeting as Secretary and Supervisor on December 4, 2025. Her six-year commitment to Warminster Township has been marked by leadership, promise to strengthening local government, and an unwavering focus on the residents of Warminster Township.

Throughout her service, Judy witnessed and helped guide Warminster through a period of transformation when the Township faced financial challenges in 2019 when she was first elected. Under her leadership and a committed Board of Supervisors, Warminster established a more stable, professional, and forward-looking municipal environment by 2025.

Judy played an influential role in decisions vital to Warminster's fiscal health and infrastructure. Highlights of her service include transforming greater expertise into local water authority and making improvements at Five Ponds Golf Course. Judy maintained the standard of being thoughtful and resident-focused in her approach to governance. Ms. Hoover has been especially proud of the work of Library Director Peter Lehu, whom she praised as "the best Library Director the township has ever had." She hopes to continue supporting the library and other community institutions in the years ahead.

Her advice to the incoming 2026 Board is to support newly elected Supervisor Mary Owens, "hold tight" to the Township's financial stability, and examine every issue with the care required to secure a better future for Warminster residents.

Beyond her elected service, Ms. Hoover has been an invaluable resource to constituents in her part-time role with the Office of State Representative Brian Munroe. In that capacity, she has assisted residents of Warminster Township and the 144th Legislative District with questions, concerns, and access to government services.

Her long professional career reflects a deep commitment to public service and organized labor. Ms. Hoover served the City of Philadelphia as a Real Property Evaluator and later as Legislative Coordinator for AFSCME District Council 47. She has held numerous AFSCME leadership roles over decades—including Business Agent, Delegate, Trustee, Steward, Legislative Coordinator, and Health & Welfare Fund Trustee and has received substantial training in fiduciary responsibilities and public employee benefit trusts.

Her community involvement has been no less impressive. Ms. Hoover has served as a Township Auditor, a Township Supervisor, and Secretary. She remains active with the Warminster Parks and Recreation Board, Friends of the Library, Friends of the Parks, and numerous nonprofit groups. She lives in the Meadow Woods section of Warminster with her two grandchildren, who attend Willowdale.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Judy Hoover. Today, we

honor her in return for all she has done for the community. Warminster Township, Bucks County, and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania are better because of the service, dedication, and integrity that Judy Hoover has brought to every role she has held. May we wish her continued success as she remains engaged in the civic life of her community.

RECOGNIZING BYUZAND
YEREMYAN

HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent, Mr. Byuzand Yeremyan, President of Armenians of Colorado, for his exceptional dedication and steadfast commitment to our community.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of Mr. Yeremyan's volunteer service with Armenians of Colorado. Armenians of Colorado is a nonprofit organization devoted to preserving and promoting Armenian culture and heritage in our state.

Over the last decade, Mr. Yeremyan has devoted his time and leadership to the community, including through the establishment of the Armenian School of Colorado in 2017. Through this initiative, students learn about Armenian language, literature, history, and culture, ensuring they continue to be passed down to future generations.

Nourishing younger generations, supporting Armenian Americans in Colorado, and engaging the broader community are just a few of the ways Mr. Yeremyan shows up for Coloradans. He also previously served on the boards of the Lone Tree Arts Center Fund and the U.S. Bank Development Network, and currently contributes his time and expertise as a board member of the Coalition Against Global Genocide (COAGG).

I commend Mr. Yeremyan for years of devoted leadership, service, and commitment to the Armenian community and to the people of Colorado. His efforts embody the spirit of civic engagement and cultural stewardship.

HONORING RUBEN J. SALDAÑA

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ruben J. Saldaña, a dedicated public servant whose retirement marks the culmination of thirty-seven years of distinguished service to the state of Texas and the Texas A&M University System.

Dr. Saldaña's career reflects a lifelong commitment to education, community leadership, and the advancement of opportunities for families across South Texas. A native of Mercedes, Texas, he began as a young leader in FFA and 4-H before earning degrees from Texas A&M University and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley, ultimately completing his Doctor of Education at Texas A&M. His professional journey took him from the classroom to the field, serving as a science

teacher, county extension agent, project manager, and ultimately the long-serving District Extension Administrator for District 12, where he guided programs that strengthened agriculture, youth development, and community health.

Throughout his career, Dr. Saldaña earned a reputation as an innovative thinker and a builder of partnerships. He helped launch impactful AmeriCorps programs, expanded 4-H opportunities, advanced applied research for producers, strengthened local governments through collaboration, and championed diversity, civil rights compliance, and employee development within the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service. His service earned statewide and national recognition, including honors from the Texas A&M Board of Regents and the Governor of Texas.

What distinguishes Dr. Saldaña most is not only his accomplishments but the heart he brought to them. He is widely respected for his integrity, his mentorship, and his steadfast commitment to the people of the Rio Grande Valley and all of Texas. His work has touched thousands of lives and will continue shaping communities long after his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to honor Dr. Ruben J. Saldaña for his extraordinary career and to thank him for his decades of service and leadership. I wish him the very best as he begins this next chapter.

RECOGNIZING AND EXPRESSING
GRATITUDE TO FORMER CHIEF
OF STAFF BRYAN BRODY

HON. RONNY JACKSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and express my gratitude to my former Chief of Staff, Bryan Brody of Highland Village, Texas, for his exceptional service, tireless dedication, and unwavering commitment to the people of Texas' 13th Congressional District. Bryan has been with my office since the beginning. As a trusted advisor, he helped build and lead Team Jackson from

the ground up. His leadership and insight were invaluable as we worked daily to deliver results for the constituents of Texas' 13th Congressional District.

A proud Texan through and through, Bryan graduated summa cum laude from Houston Christian University, where he was a standout both on the soccer field and in student government. During his college years, he pursued two internships on Capitol Hill, where his curiosity, dedication, and love for our Nation's values stood out.

Bryan began his career in Washington as a Staff Assistant for Senator JOHN CORNYN and quickly earned a reputation for being a hard worker who was quick on his feet. He went on to serve as a Military Legislative Correspondent for Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Jim Inhofe, where he developed a deep understanding of defense policy and America's military.

This expertise became critical when he joined my office as a Military Legislative Assistant, where his policy and procedural knowledge across both chambers of Congress helped advance key legislative victories for Sheppard Air Force Base, the Pantex Plant, and the many defense equities and military families I represent. Bryan's sharp, strategic mind was also instrumental in getting my first piece of legislation signed into law—the Maintaining American Superiority by Improving Export Control Transparency Act. Whether serving as Legislative Director, Deputy Chief of Staff, and eventually my Chief of Staff, Bryan was essential in helping me become a leader on the House Armed Services, Intelligence, Foreign Affairs, and Agriculture Committees.

His accomplishments continue to be recognized by his alma mater, receiving the 2024 Houston Christian University Emerging Leader Award, an honor bestowed upon alumni from the past decade who have achieved early career success and made a positive impact in their communities.

Today, Bryan continues to serve our country as a Special Assistant to President Donald J. Trump. In this role, he will continue to fight for our America First agenda and the hardworking men and women of this great Nation.

Although Bryan has taken on new challenges, his impact on my office and the people

of Texas' 13th Congressional District will be felt for years to come. On behalf of myself, my staff, and the constituents I proudly serve, I want to thank Bryan Brody for his years of loyal service, his commitment to excellence, and his patriotic spirit. I wish him the very best as he continues to work diligently for the American people.

CONGRATULATING RWANDA ON
HISTORIC PEACE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 4, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am grateful to President Donald J. Trump and the governments of the Republic of Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) on the signing of what has been widely described as a "historic" peace agreement—brokered by the United States—to bring stability to eastern Congo and chart a new course for regional cooperation signed today at the Donald J. Trump United States Institute for Peace.

This accord, signed in Washington and set to formalize measures first agreed in June, stands out as a bold and necessary step toward ending decades of conflict that have devastated communities, displaced millions, and hindered development across the region.

The leadership displayed by Rwandan President Paul Kagame to choose dialogue over division, collaboration over conflict, deserves recognition and respect. President Trump and President Kagame's dedication to Peace is admirable and the facilitation of Rwandan Ambassador Mathilde Mukantabana is appreciated.

Today, we celebrate not just a document, but a renewed hope: hope for stability, for prosperity, hope for a future where war no longer defines entire generations. I congratulate President Trump for fostering enduring peace for the region.