

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HERBERT C. CONAWAY, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, on May 1, 2025, I was unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "NAY" on Roll Call No. 113.

I strongly oppose H.J. Res. 78, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Distinct Population Segment of the Longfin Smelt". If enacted this resolution would threaten the recovery of the Longfin Smelt which was listed as endangered in 2024 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. It is imperative that we allow scientific experts to manage and determine which species are able to be delisted or enlisted.

RECOGNIZING GARY SADLEMYER

HON. MIKE FLOOD

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a pillar of Nebraska broadcasting, Gary Sadlemyer, who, after nearly five decades behind the microphone at KFAB News Radio, has officially retired.

Since first stepping into KFAB's studio in 1976, Gary's signature voice has been trusted by generations of listeners.

From morning news to Nebraska football broadcasts, Gary's professionalism, wit, and warmth made him not just a radio host, but a friend to his audiences.

Gary's commitment to excellence earned him induction into the Nebraska Broadcasters Association's Hall of Fame in 2011. Simply put: Gary's impact on the people of Nebraska will endure long after his final sign-off.

As he steps into his next chapter, Gary will enjoy more time with his kids and grandkids.

Today, I join Nebraskans everywhere in thanking Gary Sadlemyer for his decades of commitment to our state as a superb broadcaster and I wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING RODEO HALL OF FAME MEMBER, FLINT RASMUSSEN

HON. TROY DOWNING

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. DOWNING. Mr. Speaker, in honor of America's 250th birthday, Members of Con-

gress from the Treasure State are highlighting exceptional Montanans each month who embody the spirit of our great state and Nation.

Last year, rodeo was officially recognized as Montana's state sport. It's only fitting that the first Montanan I honor is Havre native Flint Rasmussen.

For decades, Flint brought laughter, heart, and unforgettable energy to rodeo arenas across Montana and the country. His natural talent, quick wit, and unmistakable flair captivated audiences wherever he performed.

Making his PBR World Finals debut in 1997, Flint became the dedicated, exclusive in-arena entertainer for PBR's premier tour in 2006. For more than two decades, fans packed arenas not only to watch world-class bull riding, but to be entertained by Flint's iconic performances that became a hallmark of PBR events.

In recognition of his remarkable career, Flint was inducted into the National Rodeo Hall of Fame in 2024 and the Bull Riding Hall of Fame last year. Flint Rasmussen didn't just shape Montana's rodeo culture, he helped define rodeo entertainment across America.

I thank Flint for his innumerable contributions to the fabric of American culture through his life's work. He has made our state and our country proud.

HONORING THE 2025 VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM OF ST. MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 2025 varsity football team of St. Mary's High School of Stockton, California, for winning the CIF Division Two AA State Championship and delivering a historic season for their school and community.

The Rams completed the 2025 season with a thirteen-win, two-loss overall record and an undefeated league record, finishing first in conference play. Throughout the regular season, the team demonstrated disciplined execution, explosive scoring, and the ability to compete at a high level against strong opponents. Early setbacks tested the team's resolve, but players remained focused and committed to improvement. That resilience proved essential as the team entered postseason play prepared and confident.

The Rams' playoff run was defined by perseverance and teamwork. Game after game, the team rose to the challenge, earning hard-fought victories through late-game execution and collective effort. Players stepped up in critical moments on both sides of the ball, while coaches and staff reinforced preparation and accountability. This steady approach allowed the team to advance through each round and earn a place in the state championship game.

In the championship contest, the Rams secured a dramatic twenty-four to twenty-one

victory to claim the state title. The win capped a postseason filled with determination, composure under pressure, and trust among teammates. Beyond the scoreboard, the team reflected a deep sense of brotherhood, built through years of shared experience and commitment. Their success brought pride to Stockton and served as a unifying moment for the community.

The 2025 St. Mary's High School football team leaves behind a legacy of excellence, character, and resilience. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these student-athletes, coaches, and supporters on a truly historic achievement.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF LIONEL MENDOZA

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Firefighter Lionel Mendoza on the occasion of his retirement after 36 years and 7 months of dedicated service with the Corpus Christi Fire Department. Throughout his distinguished career, Firefighter Mendoza responded to thousands of emergency incidents and served our community with professionalism, courage, and an unwavering commitment to public safety.

Mendoza served at Firehouses 1, 3, 8, 10, and 18, where he earned the respect of his colleagues and set a strong example for generations of firefighters to follow. His leadership, integrity, and devotion to duty have left a lasting impact on the Corpus Christi Fire Department and the community he so faithfully protected.

As he concludes his final shift, we extend our deepest gratitude to Firefighter Mendoza and his family for their sacrifices and service. I congratulate him on a remarkable career and wish him continued success, good health, and fulfillment in his well-earned retirement.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF MIAMI SPRINGS

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 100-year anniversary of the City of Miami Springs, a historic and vibrant community in Miami-Dade County, Florida.

Founded in 1926, Miami Springs was envisioned as a planned community that blended thoughtful design, natural beauty, and a strong sense of civic pride. From its earliest days, the city distinguished itself through its distinctive architecture, tree-lined streets, and commitment to preserving green spaces, creating a unique character that endures to this day.

• 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.

Over the past century, Miami Springs has grown into a close-knit community that values public service, cultural heritage, and local engagement. Its residents have played an integral role in the economic, civic, and social fabric of South Florida, contributing to the region's growth while maintaining the small-town spirit that makes Miami Springs special.

The city's centennial is not only a celebration of its past, but also a recognition of the generations of residents, public servants, educators, first responders, and local leaders whose dedication has shaped its success. Their commitment to community, stewardship, and neighborly values serves as a model for cities across our Nation.

As Miami Springs marks this historic milestone, I commend its residents and leaders for preserving the city's legacy while preparing for the opportunities and challenges of the next century. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the City of Miami Springs on 100 years of history, resilience, and community, and I wish it continued prosperity for generations to come.

COSPONSORING THE STOP EXCESSIVE FORCE IN IMMIGRATION ACT

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to cosponsor the Stop Excessive Force in Immigration Act. I look forward to working with the bill's authors through the legislative process to improve important details of that bill.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENT GROCERS ALLIANCE

HON. RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. KRISHNAMOORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Independent Grocers Alliance. Founded in 1926 by Chicago entrepreneur J. Frank Grimes, IGA began with a bold and simple vision: to bring together independent grocery stores under one banner to provide local communities with quality products, fair prices, and personalized service. Over the past century, that vision has grown into a powerful global alliance of thousands of independently owned grocery stores serving towns and cities across America and around the world.

From its earliest days, IGA has embodied the spirit of Main Street America: entrepreneurial, community-minded, and deeply committed to service. Its member stores are often family-owned businesses that have supported local jobs, sponsored youth sports teams, and supplied fresh food to rural and urban neighborhoods alike. Through wars, economic downturns, and changing retail trends, IGA retailers have continued to adapt, innovate, and thrive.

Today, as the grocery industry evolves through technology and shifting consumer

needs, IGA's enduring commitment to local ownership and community engagement remains as strong as ever. The alliance's focus on innovation, local food and support for local businesses, and customer care ensures that independent grocers will continue to play a vital role in our Nation's food system for the next hundred years.

I am proud to join my colleagues in celebrating this milestone and in recognizing IGA's century-long dedication to the people and places that define America's Main Streets. I extend my warmest congratulations to the Independent Grocers Alliance on its 100th anniversary and wish continued success for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING ROB McCARTNEY'S OUTSTANDING KETV CAREER

HON. MIKE FLOOD

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize a key figure of Nebraska journalism and cornerstone of KETV's newsroom, Rob McCartney.

Over 40 years covering the Nebraska-Iowa area, Rob became a trusted, reliable voice for generations of Nebraskans. After 33 years at KETV, Rob's impact on our state's media landscape is nothing short of significant.

The breadth of Rob's career was reaffirmed when he recently accepted the Nebraska Broadcasters Association's award for Best Election Coverage on behalf of KETV.

Whether reporting on our Huskers, traveling with the Nebraska National Guard overseas, or sharing the inspiring recovery of an Omaha police officer, Rob's dedication to journalism built an incredible legacy.

While his final broadcast was a bittersweet moment for Nebraska, the broadcast journalist who guided us through triumphs and trials finally now has more time with his family. I congratulate Rob on an extraordinary career. Happy retirement.

CELEBRATING ELIZABETH SCHANNE'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Elizabeth Schanne, a remarkable constituent who is celebrating her 100th birthday. Elizabeth was born on January 13, 1926, in the Germantown section of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and graduated from Cecilian Academy, beginning a life marked by faith, service, and creativity.

Elizabeth was introduced to her husband of 65 years, Lt. Francis A. Schanne, by her best friend Mary Moriarty. They were married on November 10, 1944, during World War II, and moved to Fallbrook, California, where Francis served in the United States Navy. During this time, Elizabeth assisted the Navy Purser, ensuring servicemen received their pay. She later worked as a ballroom dancing instructor at the Arthur Murray Dance Studio in Boston

while Frank completed his engineering degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The couple returned to the Philadelphia area, where Frank worked for DeLaval in Trenton, and they raised five children. In the 1950s, Elizabeth earned the title of Miss Artisan of Ocean City, New Jersey. The family later settled in Newtown, Pennsylvania, where Elizabeth and Frank became active members of Saint Andrew Catholic Church. Elizabeth shared her artistic talents through sewing, needlepoint, knitting, oil painting, and by teaching ballroom dancing to local youth at the George School.

Elizabeth also served the community through her involvement in the Saint Andrew Church Centennial celebration, the Newtown Bicentennial celebration, and the efforts that helped bring Saint Mary's Hospital into existence. She is also well known throughout Bucks County for her distinguished career as a Realtor, beginning in 1962, serving generations of families for more than five decades before retiring at age 75 to care for her husband.

Never one to slow down, Elizabeth took up step dancing at age 75 and performed in local shows and parades, including the Philadelphia St. Patrick's Day Parade. Today, she continues to serve others at the Holland Senior Living Community by praying with fellow residents. Elizabeth is the proud mother of five, grandmother of twelve, great-grandmother of eighteen, and great-great-grandmother of two.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in extending our heartfelt congratulations, sincere well-wishes, and God's blessings to Elizabeth Schanne on the celebration of her 100th birthday.

SUPPORTING H.R. 7006

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the FY2026 Financial Services and General Government and National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Appropriations Act.

Due to the perseverance of my colleagues, Ranking Members DELAURO, HOYER, and FRANKEL, the legislation before us protects funding for Democratic priorities, reasserts Congress's power of the purse, and rejects Republicans' poison pill riders.

The fiscal year 2026 National Security, Department of State, and Related Programs Appropriations bill upholds U.S. leadership abroad and invests into vital programs that support humanitarian aid, development, and democracy building. This bill, while imperfect, rebukes President Trump's attacks on foreign aid by allocating \$5.5 billion for humanitarian assistance, \$9.4 billion to support the State Department's Diplomatic Programs, and \$3.5 billion for global health programs that support maternal and child health and fighting infectious diseases. All of these areas were cut significantly in the President's budget and the House Republican appropriations bill. In addition to the improvements made to humanitarian assistance programs, this bill also makes strides in international conservation

and environmental programs. The conferenced agreement removes Republican policy riders that would have prohibited any funding to the Green Climate Fund, the Clean Technology Fund, and implementation of the Paris Climate Agreement, and saved the Global Environment Facility from elimination.

The fiscal year 2026 Financial Services and General Government bill provides critical assistance to small businesses in the Twin Cities by rejecting cuts to Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund. The CDFI Fund promotes economic development in distressed urban, rural, and tribal communities. CDFIs leverage capital from the CDFI Fund to catalyze investment in the Twin Cities that grows our small businesses, develops housing units, increases access to financial services, and creates jobs. Over the past year, President Trump has proposed eliminating the CDFI Fund, has fired CDFI Fund staff, and withheld funding that Congress appropriated intended for our small businesses. As Trump administration and ICE are terrorizing our community and small businesses, it is more important than ever that the CDFI Fund remain fully funded to assist small business owners as our community rebuilds after this crisis.

While these bills were not ideal, I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan agreement.

RECOGNIZING J.P. SKELLY ON FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE WITH KORN NEWS RADIO

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize J.P. Skelly for forty years of exceptional service with KORN News Radio. For decades, J.P. has been a trusted voice for South Dakota, delivering the news with accuracy and integrity.

Since joining KORN News Radio in January of 1986, J.P. has spent much of his career as News Director, leading a newsroom that is consistently recognized for excellence. Under his leadership, KORN News Radio earned dozens of Eric Sevareid Awards of Merit from the Northwest Broadcast News Association (NBNA) in 2006 and is consistently honored by NBNA for their work.

J.P.'s work has included coverage of major trials, legislative affairs through "Inside State Government," presidential visits, and moments of tragedy such as the Spencer tornado, ensuring South Dakotans were informed during both historic and difficult times.

Beyond his work at KORN News Radio, J.P. has been a distinguished leader in journalism, serving as president of the Northwest Broadcast News Association in 2006. His dedication to the profession has had a lasting impact on his community and the region. I congratulate him on this milestone and thank him for four decades of service to South Dakota.

HONORING TONY FRANKS

HON. JOSH HARDER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. HARDER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tony Franks for his extraordinary leadership, historic achievements, and decades of service to student-athletes at St. Mary's High School in Stockton.

A proud alumnus of St. Mary's, Coach Franks has devoted decades of service to the school that shaped him, returning as head football coach for twenty-seven seasons and building a program rooted in discipline, accountability, and character. His connection to the community spans generations, coaching at the same institution he once attended and later entrusting with the education of his own children.

Throughout his tenure, Coach Franks established one of the most consistently successful high school football programs in California. His teams regularly competed at the highest levels of the sport, earning league titles, postseason victories, and regional recognition while maintaining a 75.5 percent winning percentage and recording only two losing seasons. Year after year, St. Mary's football became synonymous with preparation, resilience, and teamwork, reflecting a culture built not only on competitive success, but on developing young men into leaders on and off the field.

That legacy reached a historic milestone when Coach Franks led the St. Mary's Rams to their first CIF State Football Championship, securing the first state football title for any high school team in the City of Stockton. The championship season was defined by perseverance and belief, as the Rams delivered a memorable playoff run that captured the pride of the entire community. In recognition of this achievement and his career-long impact, Coach Franks was named California State Coach of the Year, a rare distinction that reflects both excellence on the field and integrity beyond it.

Mr. Speaker, Coach Tony Franks embodies the highest ideals of high school athletics. His legacy is measured not only in victories, but in the lives he has shaped, the culture he has built, and the pride he has brought to St. Mary's High School and the City of Stockton. I am proud to recognize his lasting contributions to our community.

HONORING ROLIN MCPHEE

HON. NATHANIEL MORAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rolin McPhee for his service and dedication as City Manager of Longview, Texas for 25 years.

This remarkable milestone represents a quarter of a century of unwavering commitment to our community and exemplifies the best of public service. Rolin has shown up for our community day after day with a servant's heart, placing the needs of our citizens above all else.

His knowledge of operations within our community is unmatched. The skill, wisdom, and

experience he has brought to this position have been instrumental in guiding Longview through periods of growth and transformation.

Most importantly, Rolin leads with vision, strength, and grace. This approach has fostered collaboration among diverse stakeholders, built bridges across varying perspectives, and created an environment where solutions emerge from respectful dialogue.

The impact of Rolin's 25 years of service cannot be overstated. Longview is a better community because of his steadfast service.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. EDWARD JAMES BLAKELY

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize United States Air Force veteran, public servant, and champion for equitable and humane urban planning, Professor Edward James Blakely, who passed away last year at the age of 87.

Dr. Blakely was called to serve his community, state, and country after receiving bachelor of arts at the University of California, Riverside, where he excelled both in the classroom and as a four-sport athlete. He served in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina, in Oakland after the 1989 Loma Prieta Earthquake, and around the world following some of the most devastating natural disasters of our lifetime.

In addition to his service on the ground when communities needed him most, he shared his time, talent, and energy with students in the classroom and in the hallways of higher learning. He served as a professor of Urban Planning at the University of California, Berkeley, as Dean of the School of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles, and as the Dean of the Milano Graduate School of Public Policy at the New School in New York.

Later in life, Dr. Blakely's passion for public service called him to Australia, where he served as the District Commissioner for the Greater Sydney Commission and an Acting Commissioner on the New South Wales Land and Environment Court.

His multiple books on urban planning, the students he impacted, and the communities he touched serve as a living legacy to his commitment to making our society more equitable for the benefit of humanity.

He, nor his deeds of good work, will not soon be forgotten from this earthly plane.

My prayers are with Dr. Blakely's family and friends.

COMMEMORATING THE FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF THE TRAGIC COLLISION OF AMERICAN EAGLE FLIGHT 5342 AND U.S. ARMY CALLSIGN PAT 25

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in somber recognition that January 29,

2026, will mark one year since the tragic collision of American Eagle Flight 5342 and U.S. Army callsign PAT 25.

On that night one year ago, American Airlines Flight 5342, flying from Wichita, Kansas to Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, collided with a UH-60 Army Black Hawk helicopter while on final approach to runway 33 at DCA. There were no survivors and 67 innocent lives were lost—60 passengers, 4 flight crew, and 3 Army soldiers. They were our neighbors, our coworkers, and our loved ones.

For Kansas, this tragedy hit especially close to home. Wichita is the Air Capital of the World, and countless Kansas families have deep ties to aviation—whether through work, training, or innovation. The loss of this flight was not an abstract headline in our state; it was felt deeply in our communities, at kitchen tables, and in workplaces across Kansas.

While folks across the country embraced the stark reminder that we must never take our

time with loved ones for granted, this event also underscored the vital need to enhance our Nation's aviation safety.

While nothing can be done to undo this tragedy or bring back those lost on January 29, 2025, we can do everything in our power, working across the aisle, to prevent this from ever happening again. I look forward to working with my colleagues, both Republican and Democrat, to address these issues and keep our skies safe.

REMEMBERING LORAN SCHMIT

HON. MIKE FLOOD

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 27, 2026

Mr. FLOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a great Nebraskan who passed way last year, Loran Schmit.

Loran's life of remarkable public service began with humble roots on his family's farm, shaping his deep understanding of rural life and inspiring his bold vision for Nebraska's future. Loran's leadership and vision were instrumental in developing our state's great ethanol industry—helping strengthen our ag economy for generations.

First elected to the Unicameral in 1969, Loran devoted nearly 25 years to serving our state. Among his many accomplishments, Loran helped create what would become the Nebraska Ethanol Board, an institution that continues to drive innovation in our ag economy.

Known as an advocate for agriculture and biofuels, Loran remained devoted to these causes with an unwavering sense of purpose. His presence will be deeply missed.

Our hearts and our prayers are with his family as we celebrate a life of service and lasting impact.