

July 22, 2026

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD — *Extensions of Remarks*

E727

COMMENDING THE LATE REVEREND SHEDRICK EDWARD GILBERT

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize the late Reverend Shedrick Edward Gilbert, dutiful servant of God, well respected and admired religious leader, community activist, beloved husband, father, grandfather and friend. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, Reverend Gilbert served Historic Saint Agnes Episcopal Church in Miami, Florida, for 57 years before his retirement in 2012 from the Deaconate and active ministry at age 90;

Whereas, Reverend Gilbert served in various roles at St. Agnes Episcopal Church which include, Vestryman, Treasurer and Clerk and the Deaconate;

Whereas, Reverend Gilbert dedicated his life to the ministry, his church and to helping his community by advocating for support and funding from the City of Miami Commission for St. Agnes' Rainbow Village Community Development Corporation, a housing development program for Miami's Overtown community;

Whereas, Reverend Gilbert served as Director of St. Agnes' Rainbow Village Community Development Corporation and coordinated an eight-week Summer Program for the youth in the Overtown area;

Whereas, Reverend Gilbert served on several committees for the Diocese of Southeast Florida, including the Credentials Committee for 13 years, served as president of the Algonquin Club and president of the Booker T. Washington Class of 1938;

Whereas, Reverend Gilbert was presented with numerous awards among them the Unsung Hero award from the Booker T. Washington Alumni Association and the Man of the Year award for outstanding community service from the King of Clubs of Greater Miami; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a Member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, commend the late Reverend Shedrick Edward Gilbert for his commitment to God and spreading God's message, for his devotion to his family and his congregation and for his dedication to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SUNNY DIANNE CLAGGETT

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Sunny Dianne Claggett, an accomplished executive and leader in San Jose.

Ms. Claggett was born in Abilene, Kansas on August 28, 1945, to Maryanne Fuller Robertson and Rees Stewart Robertson. In 1978,

she graduated from the University of Texas at Dallas.

Throughout her professional career, Ms. Claggett was widely respected as a premier organizational development consultant at CBIZ, providing advice and executive coaching to countless groups, including Fortune 500 companies. Her guidance helped to shape many careers and assist organizations through their most challenging times.

In addition to being a Vice President at CBIZ, Ms. Claggett founded and led the San Jose Chamber of Commerce's Community Leadership Program. She also dedicated much of her time to the American Musical Theatre of San Jose, the YMCA, and CreaTV.

In 1986, she married William Ernest Claggett. She was a mother to Jerilynne and a stepmother to Peter and Hillary. Sunny and William had five grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

I will miss her greatly, as will our entire community. Sunny was a generous, smart, and insightful person who mentored others. She cared about her community and was one of the kindest people I have ever met.

Sunny Claggett's impact lives on in the countless people she coached and the community she loved so much. Her legacy of leadership and kindness will always be remembered.

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE FLORIDA CARIBBEAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize the Florida Caribbean Students Association, Incorporated (FCSA) and its 40th Leadership Conference. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, the Florida Caribbean Students Association (FCSA) has served as a leading student network of over 28 different organizations and thousands of students of Caribbean descent at colleges and universities across Florida;

Whereas, the Florida Caribbean Students Association provides a statewide platform of leadership development, civic engagement, community service and cultural awareness;

Whereas, the Florida Caribbean Students Association is holding its 40th Annual Leadership Conference at Miami-Dade College's North Campus;

Whereas, the Florida Caribbean Students Association's Annual Leadership Conference provides students with one-on-one networking with fellow students and experts in a variety of fields;

Whereas, the Florida Caribbean Students Association's Annual Leadership Conference is the leading Caribbean student event in Florida and brings together a wide variety of Caribbean cultures and traditions; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a Member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, recognize and commend the Florida Caribbean Students Association for its com-

mitment to the educational growth and empowerment of Florida's university and college students of Caribbean descent.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, on July 13 through 16, 2026, I missed votes due to a personal matter. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 234; YEA on Roll Call No. 235; NAY on Roll Call No. 240; NAY on Roll Call No. 241; NAY on Roll Call No. 242; NAY on Roll Call No. 243; NAY on Roll Call No. 244; NAY on Roll Call No. 245; YEA on Roll Call No. 246; NAY on Roll Call No. 247; YEA on Roll Call No. 248; and YEA on Roll Call No. 249.

COMMENDING RETIRING SUPERINTENDENT IVORY WILCOX

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize Superintendent Ivory Wilcox, a well-respected man of God, spiritual leader and community servant, who is retiring after 41 years as superintendent of The South Miami District Church of God in Christ. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, Superintendent Wilcox dedicated his life to serving God and spreading His Word:

Whereas, Superintendent Wilcox served as pastor of South Miami Church of God in Christ for 29 years, as pastor of Emanuel Church of God in Christ for 13 years and served as pastor of Dania Church of God in Christ for 22 years;

Whereas, Superintendent Wilcox worked tirelessly, feeding and clothing those in need through the church's outreach programs, and regularly visiting the sick in hospitals;

Whereas, Superintendent Wilcox would not be deterred when handling church business, even traveling and sleeping in his car during segregation, when hotels denied him access;

Whereas, each year Superintendent Wilcox purchased, transported and helped prepared food for thousands who attended the annual Holy Convocation held in Fort Pierce;

Whereas, Superintendent Wilcox bravely served his country as a member of the United States Armed Services; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a Member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, commend retiring Superintendent Ivory Wilcox for his unwavering faith, his commitment to his family and The South Miami District Church of God in Christ and for his dedication to our community.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT
OF DON KOEHLER

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague Representative SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR., to congratulate Don Koehler on his remarkable career and to extend our appreciation for his decades of dedicated service to Georgia's agriculture community.

Since 1986, Don has served as Executive Director of the Georgia Peanut Commission. Throughout his distinguished career, he has provided exceptional leadership to organizations including the Southern Peanut Growers, the Southern Peanut Farmers Federation, the U.S. Peanut Federation, the American Peanut Council, and the American Peanut Shellers Association. As Chairman of the Agricultural Technical Advisory Committee, he has also helped shape U.S. agricultural trade policy by advising both the Department of Agriculture and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative.

Don's leadership has strengthened Georgia's peanut industry, expanded opportunities for producers, and elevated the voice of American agriculture at home and abroad. His lasting contributions have been recognized through numerous honors, including being named one of Georgia Trend's 500 Most Influential Georgians for three consecutive years and his induction into the Georgia Peanut Commission Hall of Fame earlier this year.

The mark that Don has left on this industry will not be forgotten. On behalf of Georgia's 8th and 2nd Congressional Districts, and a grateful agricultural community, we thank him for his remarkable service and wish him and Cheryl every happiness in retirement. May his next chapter be filled with good health, cherished time with his children and four grandchildren, and the many blessings he has so richly earned.

CONGRATULATING NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY ON ITS
50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. FEDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to congratulate Nova Southeastern University on its 50th anniversary and for a half century of service to our students, community and state. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, Nova Southeastern University was founded as Nova University of Advanced Technology on December 4, 1964, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida;

Whereas, in 1994, Nova University merged with Southeastern University of Health and Sciences to form Nova Southeastern University;

Whereas, today, Nova Southeastern University is the largest independent institution of higher education in the southeastern United States and the ninth largest inde-

pendent, not-for-profit institution of higher education nationally;

Whereas, Nova Southeastern University has graduated more than 162,000 students who have become professionals in such areas as health care, education, law, business, computer sciences, mental and social sciences;

Whereas, Nova Southeastern University employs more than 4,000 people, and has an economic impact of \$2.6 billion, in Florida; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a Member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, congratulate Nova Southeastern University on its 50th Anniversary and commend it for its contributions to education and for its commitment to our community, state and our country.

HONORING LORI WHITE, JASON
CHEW, AND THE ENTIRE
DEPAUW GROWING GREEN AND
GOLD TOGETHER INITIATIVE

HON. JAMES R. BAIRD

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Depauw University's "Growing Green and Gold Together" initiative, which has made tremendous progress and is soon entering its final year of implementation in 2027.

Since 1837, Depauw has provided a well-rounded, premier education to many budding scholars. It is the alma mater of several influential people in American history, including a Vice President, a Congressman, and an NBA Executive.

Depauw continually makes outstanding contributions to its students and local Greencastle residents. This initiative is part of a larger \$109 million "Bold & Gold 2027" plan that has invested in resources and amenities for the entire community.

I thank Depauw President Lori White, Project Director and Community Liaison Jason Chew, and the entire "Growing Green and Gold Together" team for giving back to our local communities every day. I look forward to seeing the completion of this greatly anticipated project soon. They have my sincere gratitude for all their hard work and dedication.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO THE LATE
MRS. MATTIE MAE PAUL

HON. FEDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th District of the great state of Florida, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Mrs. Mattie Mae Paul, a faithful servant of God, a community activist—who lived in the district for 57 years—a beloved mother and friend. I include in the RECORD the following proclamation:

Whereas, Mrs. Mattie Mae Paul, an inspiration to all who knew her, returned to school at the age of 59 fulfilling a lifelong dream to further her education by earning her AA Degree in Education;

Whereas, Mrs. Paul, after her retirement from Saint Francis Hospital following a 23-year career, went to work for Miami-Dade County Public Schools at Henry E.S. Reeves Elementary School;

Whereas, Mrs. Paul was an active member of New Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church for 40 years, where she was active with the Mission Ministry, Music Ministry/Mass Choir, Usher Ministry, Woman's Ministry and was an assistant Sunday School Teacher; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Frederica S. Wilson, a Member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, am honored to pay tribute to the late Mrs. Mattie Mae Paul, for her commitment to God and her church, and for her dedication and devotion to her family, friends and to our community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF ALFONSO "AL" RODRIGUEZ

HON. YASSAMIN ANSARI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 22, 2026

Ms. ANSARI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life and legacy of Alfonso "Al" Rodriguez, a beloved mentor, community leader, and pillar of Arizona's boxing community. After more than six decades of dedicated service to young people and boxers across the Valley, Rodriguez passed away on July 6, 2026. While his passing marks the end of an extraordinary life, his legacy will endure through the countless lives he impacted and through the continued work of the Rodriguez Boxing Club.

Al and his wife, Carmen Rodriguez, moved from Texas to Arizona, where they raised five children: Al Rodriguez, Jr., Carolina Olmos, Ofelia Hooper, Fernando Rodriguez, and Seferino "Sefer" Rodriguez. As a third-generation boxer, Al founded the Rodriguez Boxing Club in the backyard of his Mesa home in 1961, where he began coaching his children while instilling in them the notion that everyone is a "diamond in the rough". To Al, every individual possessed the potential to become a champion, both inside and outside the ring.

That belief became the foundation of the Rodriguez Boxing Club, a gym in the heart of downtown Phoenix and a refuge for generations of young people. For decades, the gym has provided a safe, welcoming environment where youth can develop discipline, confidence, and resilience. Operating as a non-profit organization, the Rodriguez Boxing Club has remained committed to ensuring that it is accessible to all members of the community.

Today, Al's children continue to carry forward his mission with the same compassion, dedication, and commitment to service that defined their father's life. Through their leadership, the Rodriguez Boxing Club remains a testament to Al's enduring belief in the transformative power of mentorship, opportunity, and community.

It is my privilege to recognize the remarkable life of Alfonso "Al" Rodriguez and to honor his more than six decades of service to Arizona's 3rd Congressional District.