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Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 119th CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 172 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2026 *No. 166*

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. ISSA).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,
November 2, 2026.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DARRELL ISSA to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

Rev. John Lado, St. Peter's Catholic Church, Washington, D.C., offered the following prayer:

Good and gracious God, You are an all-provident father. We thank You for including us in Your wonderful design. As we open this session, although not burdened with the full weight of legislative work, may our hearts and minds be imbued with Your wisdom that we may continue our mission to establish peace and justice for all people.

May Your spirit guide us in our deliberations and in our watchful care of this great Nation which we call our home. Bless all of us and never let us stray from Your attentive and fatherly care nor from Your compassionate love. We ask this in the name of the Lord.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 13 of rule I, the Journal of the last day's proceedings is approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 13 of rule I, the House stands adjourned until 11 a.m. on Thursday, November 5, 2026.

Thereupon (at 2 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Thursday, November 5, 2026, at 11 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC–5003. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Authority for Collection of Personally Identifiable Information Regarding Prospective Recruits''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5004. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Establishment of Defense Health Program Recurring Expenses Transformational Fund''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5005. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Enhanced Personnel Management Authority for Commander of United States Cyber Command to Attract Experts in Science and Engineering''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5006. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Increase of the Working Capitol Fund, Capital Investment Program Threshold''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5007. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Establishment of Working Within the Military Justice Review Panel''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5008. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''National Guard Equipment Readiness and Reimbursement''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5009. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''National Guard Attorney License Portability''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5010. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Modification of Approval and Notification Thresholds for Repair Projects''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5011. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Protection of Property Owned, Possessed, or Shipped By the Department of Defense from Lien, Arrest, or Seizure During Government Shipment''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5012. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Prohibition of Unauthorized Use of Name or Seal of the Missile Defense Agency''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5013. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Pilot Program for Increased Cooperation with Compact of Free Association Countries to Expedite Environmental Reviews for Department of Defense Projects in the Ino-Pacific Region''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5014. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Authority to Transfer Data From the Department of Defense COVID-19 Data Registry''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5015. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Authority

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for Construction of Certain Naval Vessels in Foreign Shipyards''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5016. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Authority to Carry Out Foreign-Funded Construction Projects Incident to Foreign Military Sales''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5017. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Authority to Enter Into Installation-Support Service Agreements with a Freely Associated State''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5018. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Defense Industrial Base Facility Construction''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5019. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Continuation in Office of Vice Chief of the National Guard Bureau When Necessary to Ensure Leadership Continuity''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5020. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Codification and Revision of Process by Which Certain Department of Defense Personnel May Be Permitted to Carry Firearms on a Military Installation or Other Defense Facility''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5021. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Extension of Certain Expiring Authorities for Weapons Transfers to Israel.; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5022. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Extension and Modification of Indo-Pacific Maritime Security Initiative''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5023. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Expansion of Authority for Retention of Amounts Collected From Contractor During the Pendency of Contract Dispute''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5024. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Increase in Threshold for Notice to Congress Before Obligation of Funds for Architectural and Engineering Services and Construction Design''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5025. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Increase in Military Construction Project Threshold for Inclusion of Project Spending Plan in Annual Budget''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5026. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Improvements to Air Force Flying and Simulator Instructor Function''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5027. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Federal Financial Assistance for Operation and Maintenance of National Guard Facilities''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5028. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Opening Balances of Department of Defense Financial Statements for Audit Purposes''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5029. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Modification to Prohibition on Use of Funds for Retirement of Legacy Maritime Mine Countermeasures Platforms''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5030. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Reserve Component Student Loan Relief''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5031. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Public Access to Court-martial Records of Trial, Docket Information, Filings, and Other Records''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5032. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Repeal and Modification of Reporting Requirements Related to Acquisition and Sustainment''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5033. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Clarification of Certain Elements of Department of Defense Mentor-protege Program''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5034. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Authority to Use Department of Defense Issuance in Place of Army Filled Manual for Specified Purposes''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5035. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Authority of Special Trial Counsel to Enter into Pretrial Agreements with Respect to Certain Offenses Occurring Before Effective Date of Military Justice Reforms''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5036. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Expanded Funding Sources for Provision of Installation-Support Services Under Intergovernmental Support Agreements''; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC–5037. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Report to Congress for Fiscal Year 2023, as well as the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security and CSBG Disaster Supplemental Reports, pursuant to Sec. 678E(b)(2) and 678B(c) of the CSBG Act; to the Committee on Education and Workforce.

EC–5038. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to South Sudan that was declared in Executive Order 13664 of April 3, 2014, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1628); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–5039. A letter from the Secretary, Department of the Treasury, transmitting a six-month periodic report on the national emergency with respect to the situation in or in relation to the Democratic Republic of the Congo that was declared in Executive Order 13413 of October 27, 2006, pursuant to 50 U.S.C. 1641(c); Public Law 94-412, Sec. 401(c); (90 Stat. 1257) and 50 U.S.C. 1703(c); Public Law 95-223, Sec 204(c); (91 Stat. 1628); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–5040. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Report Number: 007539, Cuban Compliance with the Migration Accords, Sec. 2245 of the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 1999 (P.L. 105-277), pursuant to Public Law 105-277, Sec. 2245; (112 Stat. 2681-824); to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–5041. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Report Number: 007468, Resolution of the Cyprus Dispute, 22 USC 2373(c): Eastern Mediterranean Policy Requirements Covering Period June 1 — July 31, 2026; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–5042. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Bureau of Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting Department Notification Number: RSAT 26-103, pursuant to Section 36(b)(1) of the Arms Export Control Act, as amended; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–5043. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Modification of Restrictions on Excess Defense Articles for Construction Equipment''; to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

EC–5044. A letter from the Attorney Advisor, Office of General Counsel, Department of Transportation, transmitting a notification of a nomination, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 3349(a); Public Law 105-277, Sec. 151(b); (112 Stat. 2681-614); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–5045. A letter from the Assistant, Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Parity of Performance Awards for Government Senior Professionals with Awards for Members of Senior Executive Service''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–5046. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Extension of Federal Administrative Procedures for Computer Matching Agreements Between the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–5047. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Extension of Time Period for Final Decisions for Claims for $100,000 or Less, and Establishment of Time Limits for Appeals of Claims that are Adjudged Deemed Denials''; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–5048. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Labor Relations Authority, transmitting the 76th Semiannual Report of the Federal Labor Relations Authority (FLRA) Inspector General for the period April 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

EC–5049. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of

War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Unauthorized Access to Department of Defense Facilities''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–5050. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Criminal Penalties for Providing Material Support to a Covered Foreign Country''; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

EC–5051. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification of the intent to terminate the designation of the Republic of Rwanda and the Republic of South Africa as beneficiary sub-Saharan African countries under the African Growth and Opportunity Act as of January 1, 2027, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 2466a(a)(3)(B); Public Law 93-618, Sec. 506A(a)(3)(B) (as added by Public Law 114-27, Sec. 105(a)(2)); (129 Stat. 365) (H. Doc. No. 119—204); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

EC–5052. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification of actions taken to adjust the imports of wind turbines and their parts and components into the United States, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1862(c)(2); Public Law 87-794, Sec. 232 (as amended by Public Law 100-418, Sec. 1501(a)(3)); (102 Stat. 1258) and 19 U.S.C. 1862(d)(1); Public Law 87-794, Sec. 232(d)(1) (as amended by Public Law 100-418, Sec. 1501(b)(1)); (102 Stat. 1259) (H. Doc. No. 119—205); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

EC–5053. A communication from the President of the United States, transmitting notification of actions taken to adjust the imports of robotics, industrial machinery, and their parts and components into the United States, pursuant to 19 U.S.C. 1862(c)(2); Public Law 87-794, Sec. 232 (as amended by Public Law 100-418, Sec. 1501(a)(3)); (102 Stat. 1258) and 19 U.S.C. 1862(d)(1); Public Law 87-794, Sec. 232(d)(1) (as amended by Public Law 100-418, Sec. 1501(b)(1)); (102 Stat. 1259) (H. Doc. No. 119—206); to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed.

EC–5054. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Certifying Officials for Approval of Special Compensation for Members of the Uniformed Services with Catastrophic Injuries or Illnesses''; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Veterans' Affairs.

EC–5055. A letter from the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Pilot Program to Expedite Environmental, Cultural, and Historic Preservation Reviews of Priority Military Projects and Programs in the Indo-Pacific''; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services and Natural Resources.

EC–5056. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislation, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Annual Report to the Congress on Sanitation Deficiency Levels for Indian Homes and Communities for Fiscal Year 2025, pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 1632(g); Public Law 94-437, Sec. 302 (as amended by Public Law 102-573, Sec. 302(3)(A)); (106 Stat. 4561); jointly to the Committees on Energy and Commerce and Natural Resources.

EC–5057. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Modification of Applicability of Anti-Trafficking-In-Persons Training Requirements to Members of the Armed Forces''; jointly to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and the Judiciary.

EC–5058. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Extension of Special Emergency Procurement Authority to Special Operations Procurement''; jointly to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and Armed Services.

EC–5059. A letter from the Assistant Secretary, Legislative Affairs, Department of War, transmitting a draft of proposed legislation, titled the ''Advance Payment Authorities for Virtual Computing Environments''; jointly to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform and Armed Services.

EC–5060. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Energy, transmitting proposed legislation from the Department to amend Sec. 3111 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026 expanding the Secretary of Energy's authority to counter threatening unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) for the protection of critical Department of Energy facilities and assets; jointly to the Committees on Armed Services, Energy and Commerce, and Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. WALBERG: Committee on Education and Workforce. H.R. 8347. A bill to classify qualified locum tenens professionals and advanced care practitioners as independent contractors for the purposes of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 and the National Labor Relations Act; with an amendment (Rept. 119–867). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

Mr. WALBERG: Committee on Education and Workforce. H.R. 8660. A bill to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to protect worker access to employer equity, and for other purposes; with an amendment (Rept. 119–868). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. BAUMGARTNER:

H.R. 10952. A bill to promote forest health and reduce wildfire risk by prioritizing forest management through stewardship in high-risk firesheds, providing tax incentives for biomass energy production, and supporting economic utilization of forest products, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Agriculture, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Natural Resources, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. KEAN:

H.R. 10953. A bill to direct the Secretary of Heath and Human Services to establish and carry out a program for making allotments to States to pay for the cost of carrying out the State Ombudsman Program to serve as a resource to provide information and support to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on Education and Workforce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Ms. SCHOLTEN:

H.J. Res. 221. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States giving Congress power to regulate campaign contributions for Federal elections; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. CARTER of Louisiana (for himself, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. MCCORMICK, Mr. LIEU, Mr. DUNN of Florida, Mr. JACKSON of Illinois, Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia, and Mr. MULLIN):

H. Res. 1646. A resolution supporting the recognition of November as ''Bladder Health Awareness Month'', supporting efforts to increase public education, reduce stigma, and improve access to care for bladder health conditions, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

By Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania (for herself and Mr. FITZPATRICK):

H. Res. 1647. A resolution expressing support for the recognition of the week of November 1 through November 7, 2026, as ''Drowsy Driving Prevention Week''; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY STATEMENT

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the following statements are submitted regarding the specific powers granted to Congress in the Constitution to enact the accompanying bill or joint resolution.

By Mr. BAUMGARTNER:

H.R. 10952.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Art I Sec 8

By Mr. KEAN:

H.R. 10953.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article I, Section 8, Clause 18.

By Ms. SCHOLTEN:

H.J. Res. 221.

Congress has the power to enact this legislation pursuant to the following:

Article V

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS

Under clause 7 of rule XII, sponsors were added to public bills and resolutions, as follows:

H.R. 7: Mr. ROY.
H.R. 12: Mr. BLAIR.
H.R. 17: Mr. BLAIR.
H.R. 496: Mr. GOSAR.
H.R. 637: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 1522: Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania.
H.R. 1532: Ms. MCBRIDE.
H.R. 1564: Mr. BLAIR.
H.R. 1589: Mr. BLAIR.
H.R. 1707: Mr. CLOUD.
H.R. 1851: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 2059: Mr. RASKIN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. MCGARVEY, and Mr. GARCIA of California.
H.R. 2357: Ms. BARRAGÁN, Mr. SUOZZI, and Mr. THOMPSON of California.
H.R. 2511: Ms. MCBRIDE.
H.R. 2585: Ms. BALINT.
H.R. 2763: Mr. BLAIR.
H.R. 2939: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 3127: Ms. JACOBS.
H.R. 3164: Ms. BUDZINSKI.
H.R. 3277: Ms. ANSARI and Mrs. RAMIREZ.
H.R. 3513: Mr. SUBRAMANYAM.
H.R. 3544: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.

H.R. 3890: Mr. RASKIN.
H.R. 4464: Mr. STUTZMAN.
H.R. 4486: Ms. TLAIB, Mr. MULLIN, and Mr. TORRES of New York.
H.R. 4897: Ms. HOYLE of Oregon.
H.R. 5123: Mr. GARBARINO.
H.R. 5178: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 5221: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey and Mrs. HOUCHIN.
H.R. 5269: Mr. RUIZ, Mr. GARBARINO, Ms. ESCOBAR, and Ms. CLARKE of New York.
H.R. 5390: Mr. BLAIR.
H.R. 5453: Mr. DESAULNIER.
H.R. 5791: Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas.
H.R. 5939: Mr. MACKENZIE.
H.R. 6078: Mr. GARBARINO and Ms. FRIEDMAN.
H.R. 6181: Mr. WHITESIDES.
H.R. 6470: Mr. CASE and Mr. ESTES.
H.R. 7815: Mr. BAUMGARTNER.
H.R. 8041: Mr. FROST, Ms. CHU, and Ms. RANDALL.
H.R. 8105: Mr. TRAN, Mr. GARCIA of California, Mr. DESAULNIER, and Ms. CHU.
H.R. 8239: Mr. LICCARDO.
H.R. 8496: Mr. BEYER.
H.R. 8571: Mr. MEEKS.
H.R. 8666: Mr. KEATING.
H.R. 8730: Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.
H.R. 8780: Mr. ADERHOLT.
H.R. 8839: Mr. IVEY.
H.R. 8895: Mr. SUOZZI.
H.R. 9039: Mr. SOTO and Mr. GREEN of Texas.
H.R. 9216: Ms. BONAMICI.
H.R. 9224: Mr. THANEDAR and Ms. ROSS.
H.R. 9253: Mr. CASAR.
H.R. 9289: Mr. BLAIR.
H.R. 9458: Ms. DEXTER.
H.R. 9468: Mr. FLOOD.
H.R. 9641: Mr. WALBERG and Mr. CISCOMANI.
H.R. 9739: Mr. CORREA.
H.R. 9847: Mr. HILL of Arkansas.
H.R. 9917: Mr. HUFFMAN.
H.R. 10227: Mr. GOTTHEIMER.
H.R. 10279: Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. MOSKOWITZ, and Ms. SALAZAR.
H.R. 10280: Ms. TLAIB.
H.R. 10299: Mr. DESJARLAIS.
H.R. 10419: Ms. MCBRIDE.
H.R. 10473: Mr. OLSZEWSKI.
H.R. 10522: Mr. KHANNA.
H.R. 10554: Mr. ISSA.
H.R. 10574: Ms. SALINAS.
H.R. 10789: Mrs. CAMMACK.
H.R. 10832: Ms. SCHOLTEN.
H.R. 10841: Mr. CARBAJAL.
H.R. 10855: Ms. MACE and Mr. VAN DREW.
H.R. 10858: Mrs. GRIJALVA.
H.R. 10873: Mr. WEBER of Texas.
H.R. 10874: Mr. RUIZ.
H.J. Res. 80: Mr. BLAIR.
H. Res. 70: Mr. BLAIR.
H. Res. 1058: Mr. RUIZ.
H. Res. 1644: Mrs. RAMIREZ and Ms. TOKUDA.

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Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *119th* CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 172 WASHINGTON, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2026 *No. 166*

Senate

The Senate met at 5:10 and 37 seconds p.m. and was called to order by the Honorable MIKE LEE, a Senator from the State of Utah.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. GRASSLEY).

The bill clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, November 2, 2026.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE LEE, a Senator from the State of Utah, to perform the duties of the Chair.

CHUCK GRASSLEY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. LEE thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

ADJOURNMENT UNTIL THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026, AT 10:30 A.M.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate stands adjourned until 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 5, 2026.

Thereupon, the Senate, at 5:11 and 6 seconds p.m., adjourned until Thursday, November 5, 2026, at 10:30 a.m.

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT KEVAN SIPLA

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U.S. Army veteran, Sergeant Kevan Sipla of Ennis, Texas, with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His unwavering commitment to our country and community is a shining example of honor and duty.

During his military service, Sergeant Sipla served as a Sniper Section Leader with Comanche Company, 1st Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment. His assignments included Fort Lewis, Washington, Germany, and his deployment to Iraq, where he participated in the Battle of Sadr City in the spring of 2008. As a sniper, Sergeant Sipla and his team were recognized for their expertise in countering improvised explosive device emplacement teams and their extensive knowledge of the area of operations. During combat operations in Sadr City, his team provided overwatch and suppressive fire in support of U.S. Navy SEALs. Sergeant Sipla's military decorations include the Purple Heart, two Army Commendation Medals, the Army Achievement Medal, and numerous other military honors and decorations.

Following his military service, he continued his commitment to serving others through leadership, financial mentorship, and efforts to combat food insecurity throughout Ellis County and surrounding communities. Under his leadership as Lead at Manna House Outreach in Midlothian, food waste decreased from approximately 50 percent to 2 percent, while the number of individuals served increased from just over 500 to more than 1,000 per month. These efforts helped Manna House become one of the top five food pantries among approximately 500 supported by the North Texas Food Bank. Sergeant Sipla also serves as a financial coach, helping individuals develop budgets, reduce debt, and build long-term financial stability. His community outreach extends through partnerships with organizations across the region, including The Heights, Cares Services in Waxahachie, North Ellis County Outreach, and the Midlothian Senior Center, among others

Sergeant Sipla's unwavering dedication to serving his Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of military service and civic leadership. I commend his remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for his steadfast commitment to our Nation, our veterans, and families throughout Ellis County and beyond.

HONORING THE ALPENA LIONS CLUB FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO NORTHERN MICHIGAN AND THE WORLD

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize the Alpena Lions Club as they celebrate 100 years of dedicated service to the community of Alpena, Michigan and the humanitarian mission of Lions International.

The Alpena Lions Club's story is one of a community that has chosen, decade after decade, to show up for its neighbors. Since 1926, generations of volunteers have dedicated their time and effort to the club's mission of serving their community, meeting humanitarian needs, encouraging peace, and promoting international understanding. As a proud affiliate of Lions Club International, the global leader in community and humanitarian service, the Alpena Lions Club has demonstrated that the spirit of service knows no borders.

Currently led by President Audra Smith, the club has stayed true to their mission across all 100 years, working every day to improve the lives of Northern Michiganders. By providing free health screenings, organizing food drives, supporting the visually impaired, assisting families affected by childhood illnesses, and advocating for the responsible stewardship of our natural resources, the club embodies the Northern Michigan values of hard work, generosity, and looking out for your fellow man. From small acts of kindness to providing support in areas of disaster, the Alpena Lions Club is living proof that ordinary people can do extraordinary things, and that even one person, answering the call to serve, can make a difference.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Alpena Lions Club for a century of dedicated service to Alpena, to the country, and to the world. On behalf of Michigan's 1st Congressional District, I thank President Smith and all the club's members for their tireless efforts, and wish them continued success in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING PEYTON WEBB

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

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

Peyton has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Peyton, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Peyton's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wheat Ridge High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

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

CONGRATULATING BRYN KROSSE ON WINNING THE PENNSYLVANIA GIRLS' GOLF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bryn Krosse of York, Pennsylvania, and congratulate her on winning the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) Class 3A Girls' Golf State Championship.

The Dallastown Area High School freshman capped off an outstanding season with her victory at the PIAA Class 3A State Championship in State College. Bryn completed an impressive sweep of titles this season, winning league and district championships before claiming the state title. With her victory, she became York County's first PIAA golf state champion in seven years.

Despite being just a freshman, Bryn has spent much of her life around the game of golf. Inspired by her older brothers, who are also golfers, she developed a passion for the sport at a young age. Bryn credits their guidance and encouragement with helping her develop the determination and mental toughness needed to succeed on the golf course.

Bryn's accomplishments extend well beyond high school competition. She regularly competes in junior golf tournaments across the country, gaining valuable experience against some of the nation's top young golfers. This past summer, she won the American Junior Golf Association's Junior Chicago All-Star Championship in Aurora, Illinois, adding another impressive achievement to her growing list of accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District, I congratulate Bryn on this remarkable achievement. Her state championship victory is a testament to her hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence. I wish her continued success as she pursues her passion for golf and look forward to seeing all that she accomplishes in the years ahead.

● 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.

RECOGNIZING PRIVATE CHARLES E. ATCHLEY

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U.S. Army veteran, Private Charles E. Atchley of Waxahachie, Texas with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His unwavering commitment to our country and community is a shining example of honor and duty.

Private Atchley volunteered for military service the day he turned 18, reporting to the draft office in Lancaster, Texas. He served in the U.S. Army with Company A, 290th Regiment 75th Infantry Division during WWII. During his service, Private Atchley deployed to Europe and participated in the Battle of the Bulge and the Colmar Pocket campaign. Charles experienced combat for the first time during the German attack on December 16, 1944. Serving in severe winter conditions, he and his fellow soldiers held their position, helped drive back enemy forces, and supported the Allied advance toward the Rhine. After sustaining severe frostbite, Private Atchley was hospitalized in Marseille, France, and later received an honorary medical discharge.

Following his honorable discharge, he continued his commitment to serving and supporting the veteran community. Private Atchley remained actively involved with the 75th Infantry Division Association, regularly attending reunions and maintaining lasting connections with fellow veterans. He also continues to participate in veteran events throughout Ellis County, helping preserve the history, memories, and legacy of those who served alongside him during World War II.

Private Atchley's unwavering dedication to serving his Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of service and sacrifice. I commend his remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for his steadfast commitment to honoring and supporting our Nation's service members and veterans.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS ANGELO WINFIELD

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th District of Texas, the 2026 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Sergeant First Class Angelo Winfield, United States Army, of Hurst, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Sergeant First Class Winfield served honorably in the United States Army and Army Reserve for more than twenty-two years, from 1981 to 2003. Rising through the enlisted ranks, he held leadership positions in medical administration, operational readiness, training, and personnel support. His assignments included the 351st Surgical Hospital, the 877th Quartermaster Company, and overseas service in El Salvador. He also assumed responsibilities in unit mobilization, safety, and family readiness, demonstrating versatility and dedication to his fellow soldiers.

At the 351st Surgical Hospital, Sergeant First Class Winfield earned recognition for improving patient administration, strengthening readiness, and contributing to outstanding command inspection results. His decorations include multiple Army Achievement Medals, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, and the Army Overseas Service Ribbon, alongside numerous commendations. He also received recognition for his volunteer support of soldiers and families through the Family Readiness Group.

Following retirement, Sergeant First Class Winfield continued serving others as an information technology consultant and business owner, donating networking equipment to local nonprofits. He served on a homeless shelter's executive board, volunteered as a Big Brother mentor, and welcomed children into his home as a foster parent. He also coached YMCA basketball, supported Scouting, mentored high school students, and helped secure a playground grant for a charter school, where he assisted with construction.

His dedication continues through longtime volunteer service at Union Gospel Mission of Tarrant County, where he serves meals and supports individuals experiencing homelessness. As a church elder, he also provides leadership and mentorship through his church's men's ministry. His compassion and willingness to serve continue to strengthen families and communities across North Texas.

Sergeant First Class Winfield's honorable military service and lifelong commitment to supporting fellow service members, strengthening families, and uplifting those in need reflect the highest traditions of the United States Army and bring great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

HONORING GARY KAI'S SERVICE TO HAWAII'S BUSINESS COMMUNITY

HON. JILL N. TOKUDA

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. TOKUDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Gary Kai as he concludes his 17 years of dedicated service as Executive Director of the Hawaii Business Roundtable. His departure marks an important milestone for the Roundtable and offers an opportunity to recognize a career defined by leadership, service, and a lasting commitment to Hawaii's economic and community well-being. Since joining the Hawaii Business Roundtable in 2009, Gary has helped bring business leaders together around a shared vision for a stronger, more resilient, and more prosperous Hawaii. Through his leadership, he has encouraged thoughtful dialogue and built bridges, realizing that the challenges facing our state require a willingness to work together and create opportunities for generations to come. His contributions have strengthened the Roundtable and reinforced the important role Hawaii's business community plays in the well-being of our state.

Gary's impact on Hawaii, however, extends well beyond his years at the Business Roundtable. Before taking on this role, he built a distinguished career in banking, finance, and real estate development serving as Vice President of Towne Development of Hawaii Inc., General Manager of HomeStreet Bank, Senior Vice President at First Hawaiian Bank, and President and Chief Operating Officer of Finance Factors Ltd. Across these positions, Gary developed a deep understanding of Hawaii's economy, its local businesses, and the people whose livelihoods depend on them. His experience and leadership have made him a trusted voice in Hawaii's business community and a valued contributor to the state's economic progress. Beyond Gary's professional accomplishments, his legacy also includes the relationships he has built, the colleagues he has supported, and the spirit of collaboration he has encouraged throughout his career. His contributions reflect a deep appreciation for the people and communities that make Hawaii unique and a belief that our state's long-term success depends on investing in both its economic vitality and the well-being of its people.

As Gary concludes his tenure with the Roundtable, his contributions will continue to be felt through the work of the organization, the relationships he has fostered, and the broader businesses community he has helped strengthen. His legacy is one of meaningful service and a sustained commitment to a better future for Hawaii.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Gary Kai for his 17 years of dedicated leadership and service to the Hawaii Business Roundtable and for the broader contributions he has made throughout his distinguished career. He has our sincere gratitude for his service to Hawaii and our aloha, for continued success, happiness, and fulfillment in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING OLDE TOWN PICKIN' PARLOR

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Olde Town Pickin' Parlor of Arvada, Colorado for receiving the 2026 Outstanding Retailer Award from the Arvada Economic Development Association. Each year, this award recognizes an Arvada retail business that stands apart in their job growth, innovation, community involvement, outreach, and more.

Since its founding in 1991, Olde Town Pickin' Parlor has been one of the most beloved independent music shops in Colorado and a destination for acoustic instrument enthusiasts from across the region. For more than three decades, Olde Town Pickin' Parlor has welcomed musicians and instrument enthusiasts from across the region with exceptional service, expertise, and warm hospitality. Owner Kit and his knowledgeable staff take the time to help every customer, while the shop's luthiers have earned a reputation for performing remarkable work restoring and repairing instruments. I am grateful for their contributions to the Arvada music and retail community.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Olde Town Pickin' Parlor for receiving the 2026 Outstanding Retailer Award and for their contributions to the Arvada community.

RECOGNIZING THE GLOBAL MEDICAL RESPONSE 2026 STARS OF LIFE AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. BRANDON GILL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. GILL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the Global Medical Response (GMR) Stars of Life award recipients for 2026. A proud member of the American Ambulance Association (AAA), GMR is a leader in emergency medical services across the country—providing care to communities and residents of all walks of life.

The AAA created the Stars of Life program to celebrate the contributions of ambulance professionals who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in service to their communities and the EMS profession. By honoring the contributions of these heroes, the Stars of Life program also highlights the critical role EMS plays in our healthcare infrastructure.

The opportunities to save lives—whether it's someone who was impaled by a steel fence pipe in Killeen, Texas, or a postpartum patient with life-threatening hemorrhagic shock in Breckenridge, Kentucky—are the situations for which EMS professionals train and prepare. But we should also honor the everyday professionalism, skill, and commitment to doing what is right for the patient that is at the forefront of everything emergency medical responders do, both on duty and off. By putting their own lives on the line every time they answer the call for help, EMS professionals are heroes in their local communities, even if some are too humble to see themselves that way.

I thank all first responders for answering the call and thank the 2026 GMR Stars of Life award recipients for providing care to the world at a moment's notice. I include in the RECORD the names of the GMR's 2026 Stars of Life Award Recipients:

Kiara Baum, EMT, FTO, AMR, Syracuse, New York

James ''Jim'' Biddle, Pilot, Base Aviation Manager, MTC/Regional One, Spartanburg, South Carolina

Colen Bishop, Paramedic and FTO, AMR, Salem, Virginia

Daniel ''Wesley'' Brookshear, Critical Care Paramedic and Training Coordinator, AMR, Knoxville, Tennessee

Shelby Costa, Paramedic, AMR, San Diego, California

Jeffrey Goran, A-EMT, AMR, DeKalb County, Georgia

Abbie Green, Paramedic, Lieutenant, FTO, Lifeguard Ambulance Service, Florence, Alabama

Steven Hardesty, Base Manager, Flight Nurse, Guardian Flight, Ely, Nevada

Robert Hardwick, EMT-I 99, AMR, Pierre, South Dakota

Blake Hoelscher, Flight Nurse, AEL, Killeen, Texas

Maison Hooten, Paramedic, AMR, Pecos, New Mexico

Bryar Hopkins, Flight Paramedic, REACH, McClellan, California

Ryan Horn, Paramedic, AMR, Bridgeport, Connecticut

Nicky Langdon, Nurse/Paramedic, AEL, Hardinsburg, Kentucky

Matthew Lonon, Flight Paramedic, MTC/Regional One, Spartanburg, South Carolina

Jessica Mills, Flight Nurse MTC/Regional One, Spartanburg, South Carolina

Wallace Mills, Paramedic Supervisor, AMR, Nashua, New Hampshire

Blanca Morfin Watkins, Paramedic, AMR, Santa Barbara County, California

Misae Nomiyama, Flight Paramedic, Guardian Flight, Ely, Nevada

Andre Pinkston, Paramedic, AMR, Stone Mountain, Georgia

Connie Porter, MICT Paramedic, AMR, Lihue, Hawaii

Perry Prete, Flight Paramedic with AirMed 360, Birmingham, Alabama

Mark Rock, Paramedic, AMR, Ventura County, Moorpark, California

Krista Ruley, EMT, AMR, Washington, D.C.

Jordan Sisneros, Paramedic, AMR, Pueblo, Colorado

Emily Smayra, Paramedic Supervisor, AMR, Stockton, California

Caitlyn ''Abby'' Smith, Paramedic, FTO, Lifeguard Ambulance Service, Purvis, Mississippi

Forrest Tracey, EMT, AMR, Pecos, New Mexico

Katie Tribley, Flight Nurse/Base Clinical Lead, REACH/CS5, Salinas, California

Jordan Turner, Flight Nurse/Paramedic, AEL, Hardinsburg, Kentucky

Kaitlyn Vandervest, Paramedic, AMR, West Michigan, Grand Rapids, Michigan

Gary Wadham, Flight Paramedic, AEL, Killeen, Texas, and

Beth Watt, Flight Paramedic, REACH, Williams, California

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER MARK ''TEX'' SANDLIN

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th District of Texas, the 2026 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Lieutenant Commander Mark Sandlin, United States Navy, of Bedford, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Lieutenant Commander Sandlin served with distinction in the United States Navy from 1982 to 1998 as a Naval Flight Officer and F–14 Tomcat Radar Intercept Officer. He accumulated more than 1,600 flight hours, including 110 in combat, and completed 330 carrier landings, including 136 at night. During combat operations in the Arabian Gulf, he led the planning, training, and execution of tactical strikes involving twenty aircraft. His leadership in twenty-eight combat missions earned him the Air Medal. His decorations also include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, three Navy Commendation Medals, and the Navy Achievement Medal.

As Director of Combat Search and Rescue Training, Lieutenant Commander Sandlin authored the Navy's first updated tactical doctrine in fifteen years and personally trained more than 3,000 Naval Aviators and SEALs. Aboard the USS *Abraham Lincoln*, he oversaw training for approximately 5,700 personnel and helped coordinate the evacuation of approximately 5,000 civilians following the 1991 Mount Pinatubo eruption in the Philippines. He later served as Deputy Planning Chief at U.S. Strategic Command, contributing to national defense planning.

Following retirement, Lieutenant Commander Sandlin continued his dedication to education and mentorship, having taught more than 20,000 students across his military and civilian careers. From 2013 to 2017, he volunteered more than 1,700 hours at the George W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum, developing educational programs, training volunteers, and co-chairing its Education Committee. His contributions earned the Library's Distinguished Service Award, its highest honor. After earning a STEM Master of Business Administration from Texas Tech University in 2017 as the top graduate in his cohort, he continued mentoring undergraduate and graduate students at Texas Tech and Rice University.

Lieutenant Commander Sandlin's distinguished military career, courageous combat service, and enduring commitment to education and mentorship reflect the highest traditions of the United States Navy and bring great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING FIRST LIEUTENANT CARMEN GIFFORD

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U.S. Army veteran, First Lieutenant Carmen Gifford of Corsicana, Texas, with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Her dedication to our country, fellow service members, and community is a shining example of courage, leadership, and service.

Lieutenant Gifford served in the U.S. Army from June 14, 2016 to October 20, 2019, as an Infantry Officer. After graduating from Officer Candidate School in 2016 as the Distinguished Leadership Graduate, she became the eighth woman to join the U.S. Army Infantry. As part of the Army's integration of women into Infantry units, she helped establish the first female-integrated infantry unit at Fort Hood with the 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division. In 2018, she was selected as one of approximately 25 service members from across the Armed Forces to represent the United States on the Joint Armed Forces Women's Rugby Team.

Lieutenant Gifford's military honors include the Army Achievement Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Parachutist Badge, and numerous other awards and commendations.

Following her honorable discharge from the Army in 2019, Lieutenant Gifford continued her commitment to service and leadership. She continues to mentor veterans and recently separated service members as they transition to civilian life. She also serves her community as an Intermediate Peace Officer and Arson Investigator and volunteers at community events in Wilmer and Irving. In addition, she supports Parkland Burn Camp, which provides free summer camp opportunities for children who have experienced severe burn injuries.

Her commitment to public service has been recognized with a Medal of Commendation from the Irving Fire Department.

Lieutenant Gifford's dedication to serving her Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of military service and civic leadership. I commend her remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for her steadfast commitment to our Nation, her fellow service members, and the communities she continues to serve.

RECOGNIZING REPRESENTATIVE BRYAN CUTLER FOR HIS SERVICE IN THE PENNSYLVANIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate Representative Bryan Cutler on his retirement from the Pennsylvania General Assembly.

Representative Cutler has served ten terms as the Representative for the 100th Legislative District in southern Lancaster County. From June 2020 through January 2023, he served as the 139th Speaker of the House, having previously served as Majority Leader, and in the 2023–2024 legislative session he served as Minority Leader.

A native of Peach Bottom, Representative Cutler faced adversity from an early age when both of his parents were diagnosed with ALS, a disease that would eventually claim both of their lives. He also served as their caregiver. After graduating from Solanco High School, he became an X-ray technologist, then graduated from Lebanon Valley College with a degree in health care administration. Later he earned his law degree from Widener Law School and practiced law before being elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives in 2006.

During his time in office, Representative Cutler has established himself as a leader in reducing fraud and abuse within the welfare system, including through his efforts to detect and prevent fraud in the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and as a champion of health care issues. Legislation Representative Cutler helped to advance eliminated redundancies in hospital accreditation procedures, funded new trauma centers in rural Pennsylvania, broke down barriers in medical records law, and established the Pennsylvania Health Insurance Exchange Authority, the state-based health insurance exchange and reinsurance program.

Representative Bryan Cutler has spent the past twenty years serving the residents of southern Lancaster County and working for the benefit of all Pennsylvanians. I thank him for his positive impact, congratulate him on his well-earned retirement, and wish him and his family the best in his next chapter.

RECOGNIZING SARAH KINZER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mountain Resource Center Chief Executive Officer Sarah Kinzer for her distinguished leadership and service to the Conifer and Foothills area.

For over seven years, Sarah has led the Mountain Resource Center by strengthening and expanding the resources the organization provided throughout the Covid pandemic and in recent years marked by drastically rising costs and instability with funding sources. Under her leadership, the Mountain Resource Center launched the Mobile Market in 2021 and a fully licensed, award-winning preschool in 2024. Beyond the crucial services Sarah has helped expand, she has also left the Mountain Resource Center in a more stable position with its building mortgage fully paid off, allowing the organization to remain active in Conifer for years to come.

In an unincorporated, rural community like Conifer without local elected municipal officials, leaders like Sarah are even more critical in building community and providing services for our most vulnerable neighbors. The Mountain Resource Center's services, including food resources, case management, veteran support, and community building, are especially needed in rural areas with many senior residents, like Conifer. Sarah and the Mountain Resource Center have been an invaluable partner as my office has worked to engage with and serve our constituents ''up the hill.''

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to thank Sarah for her dedication to our community. I wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

HONORING SERGEANT FIRST CLASS GARY GLADUE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant First Class Gary Gladue for his distinguished service to our Nation and his continued dedication to Veterans and the community of Menominee, Michigan.

Sergeant First Class Gladue's commitment to service did not end when he left the military. Today, he continues that work in his community as Commander of American Legion Post 146 in Menominee and Adjutant of VFW Post 1887. Gary dedicates his time to supporting fellow Veterans, bringing them together, and making sure their service is remembered and recognized.

Gary's dedication to his fellow Veterans is evident in the countless ways he continues to serve. As a volunteer driver for the Disabled American Veterans, he frequently makes the nearly two-and-a-half-hour round trip to transport local Veterans to the Oscar G. Johnson VA Medical Center in Iron Mountain, ensuring they can access the care and benefits they have earned. Through the Military 20 Year Club, Gary helps provide military funeral honors, support community events, and award scholarships to local students. He also volunteers with UP Health System Home Care and Hospice, where he visits Veterans nearing the end of their lives, listens to their stories, and provides companionship when it matters most.

Outside of his work with Veterans organizations, Gary is always willing to lend a helping hand to a neighbor or fellow Veteran in need. He recently accepted two donated mobility chairs and is repairing them so they can be provided to Veterans who need them. He and fellow volunteers also delivered a donated lift chair to a disabled Veteran in Stephenson, Michigan. His wife, Lisa, is often by his side in these efforts, and together they have made helping their neighbors a regular part of their daily lives.

Mr. Speaker, let us join in recognizing Sergeant First Class Gary Gladue for his lifetime of service to our Nation, our Veterans, and his community.

RECOGNIZING ELECTRICIAN'S MATE FIRST CLASS (SS) JOHN WALKER

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U.S. Navy veteran, Electrician's Mate First Class (SS) John Walker of Corsicana, Texas, with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His technical expertise, dedication to his fellow service members, and continued commitment to educating and strengthening his community are a shining example of honor and service.

EM1(SS) Walker served in the U.S. Navy from November 1994 to December 2004, including aboard the USS *Jacksonville* (SSN–699) and at Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard and Intermediate Maintenance Facility. While aboard the USS *Jacksonville*, he was recognized for his technical expertise and played a critical role in completing emergent repairs that allowed the submarine to remain on station and fulfill its operational commitments. At Pearl Harbor Naval Shipyard, he helped transform the Sailor training and certification program, reducing training time from more than three years to approximately six to nine months. He also contributed to engineering improvements that strengthened the shipyard's ability to support nuclear-powered vessels. His military honors include Navy Achievement Medals, the Battle ''E'' Ribbon, Good Conduct Medals, National Defense Service Medals, Sea Service Deployment Ribbons, and numerous other awards and commendations.

Following his military service, EM1(SS) Walker continued serving his community through education and workforce development. At Navarro College, he taught Petroleum Technology and Industrial Maintenance, helping more than 200 students develop skills for careers in the skilled trades. He later served as the Corsicana Center Manager for Workforce Solutions of North Central Texas, where he helped individuals overcome employment barriers and return to the workforce. Under his leadership, the Corsicana Center was recognized as the North Central Texas Workforce Solutions Center of the Year.

EM1(SS) Walker's dedication to serving his Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of military service and civic leadership. I commend his remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for his steadfast commitment to our Nation and the communities he continues to serve.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE AND LEGACY OF CORPORAL BYRON FRANKLIN BEARD, JR.

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Corporal Byron Franklin Beard, Jr. to honor his courageous service to the U.S. Army Air Force, in which he lost his life after valiantly fighting Japanese forces during World War II.

Corporal Beard, a native of Scott County and graduate of Dungannon High School, felt a calling to serve his country and protect the values and freedoms that Americans hold dear. He joined the U.S. Army in 1940 and served with the 409th Signal Company, Aviation, U.S. Army Air Force.

Following the Japanese bombing of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, which killed more than 2,400 Americans, the Japanese invaded the Philippines on December 8, 1941. The United States would shortly thereafter formally declare war on Japan and engage Japanese forces in the Pacific Theater and the Philippines. As part of U.S. engagement, Corporal Beard fought in the Philippines.

The early battles in the Pacific dealt great losses to U.S. forces. In the Philippines, Japanese invading forces delivered severe blows that led to the surrender of American forces. The enemy captured Corporal Beard and placed him with an estimated 75,000 Filipino and American prisoners of war. These prisoners underwent a torturous 65–mile march towards a Japanese prison camp on what is known as the Bataan Death March.

The thousands of prisoners like Corporal Beard faced inhumane conditions and barbaric treatment from their Japanese captors. Intense tropical heat, thirst, starvation and disease contributed to immense suffering. These brutal circumstances resulted in the deaths of many prisoners, including Corporal Beard, who died at the prisoner of war camp on July 22, 1942, at the age of 23.

Because of this, for nearly a century, Corporal Beard's remains were never identified. His family back in Southwest Virginia had to endure the heartbreak of losing their beloved family member and never seeing him again for the rest of their lives.

This January, DNA testing helped identify Corporal Beard's missing remains. Accordingly, this Veterans Day, Corporal Beard will finally be laid to rest back home in Scott County with full military honors. I join the people of Scott County, Southwest Virginia and all veterans to honor our veterans and recognize the inspiring service of Corporal Beard. Thanks to his bravery and actions, like those of the many other American heroes who surrendered their lives during World War II, America stands today as the world's greatest, most free and prosperous superpower.

RECOGNIZING BARBER-NICHOLS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr Speaker, I rise today to recognize Barber-Nichols of Arvada, Colorado for receiving the 2026 Outstanding Large Employer Award from the Arvada Economic Development Association. Each year, this award recognizes a large employer that stands apart for their job growth, innovation, community involvement, outreach, and more.

Barber-Nichols exemplifies outstanding corporate leadership through its commitment to workforce development, innovation, and connection to the Arvada community. The company is helping build the next generation of skilled workers through its apprenticeship program with Warren Tech, Manufacturing Day tours, student visits, and hands-on STEM opportunities. Young people gain firsthand exposure to machining and engineering work that supports critical applications in aerospace, defense, energy, and naval systems. Barber-Nichols also invests in the Arvada community by supporting local schools, outdoor education, and holiday food and toy drives. I am grateful for Barber-Nichols' continued dedication to employees, education, and the Arvada community.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Barber-Nichols for receiving the 2026 Outstanding Large Employer Award and thank them for their contributions to the Arvada community.

RECOGNIZING VANESSA ABBOTT ON RECEIVING THE GIRL SCOUTS GOLD AWARD

HON. LORI TRAHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Vanessa Abbott. Vanessa is a member of Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, Troop 10090, and has exemplified extraordinary leadership, innovative problem-solving, and a demonstrated commitment to making a lasting, positive impact, by earning the most prestigious award in Girl Scouting, the Gold Award.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized as trailblazers who are willing to tackle the most pressing challenges facing their communities and the world with measurable, sustainable, and far-reaching results. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, high school-age Girl Scouts must identify and investigate an issue they care about, devise a plan, and then lead a team of experts and community members to implement a project that produces lasting change. Over the course of 1–2 years, Gold Award Girl Scouts demonstrate significant initiative, commitment, and leadership, distinguishing them from their peers. Through their resourcefulness and perseverance, they embody the Girl Scout Law to truly make the world a better place.

Vanessa's project, ''The Sandy Pond Schoolhouse Revitalization,'' was completed in support of the Sandy Pond Schoolhouse Association. Vanessa researched, documented, and shared stories of Sandy Pond teachers, revitalizing an important piece of Ayer's educational history and making it accessible to community members of all ages. Vanessa's digital presentations, videos, and archival scrapbook will help future visitors, students, and researchers understand the schoolhouse's legacy and the significant role early educators—especially women—played in the community.

On behalf of the 3rd Congressional District of Massachusetts, congratulations to Vanessa Abbott for achieving the highest distinction in Girl Scouts, the Gold Award. We thank Vanessa for her leadership and making such a positive, lasting change in our community.

RECOGNIZING MASTER GUNNERY SERGEANT BRENT DORROUGH

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize retired U.S. Marine Corps veteran, Master Gunnery Sergeant Brent Dorrough of Ovilla, Texas, with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His unwavering commitment to our country and community is a shining example of honor and duty.

Throughout his 30 years of service, MGySgt Dorrough held numerous leadership positions before eventually retiring on August 31, 2022. He deployed in areas such as Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, as well as assignments throughout Somalia, Bosnia, Haiti, Cuba, Okinawa, Japan, South Korea, Norway, Hungary, Georgia, Germany, West Africa, and Djibouti. MGySgt Dorrough's military decorations include the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, and numerous other individual and unit awards.

Following his retirement from the Marine Corps, MGySgt Dorrough continued his commitment to serving others through public service. In January 2024, he was appointed by 378th District Judge William Wallace to establish and lead the Ellis County Veterans' Treatment Court, building the program from the ground up and expanding it into a regional resource serving veterans from Ellis, Hill, Henderson, Johnson, and Navarro counties. His work has led to speaking opportunities on Veterans' Treatment Courts and services throughout Texas, and he was selected by the Governor's Office of Court Administration to serve as the state's first Veterans' Treatment Court Trainer. MGySgt Dorrough also serves his community as an HOA President, Cub Scout Den Leader, Marine Corps League member, Toys for Tots volunteer, Community Champion and founding member of the Unite Ellis Military Community Team, and board member of Unite Ellis.

MIGySgt Dorrough's unwavering dedication to serving his Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of military service and civic leadership. I commend his remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for his steadfast commitment to our Nation, our veterans, and our community.

RECGONIZING KEVIN MOLLOY FOR HIS SERVICE WITH THE LANCASTER COUNTY CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr, SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Kevin R. Molloy, who has served as executive director of the Lancaster County Convention Center Authority (LCCCA) since 2008.

Kevin Molloy, who previously worked for authorities and groups across the country, became executive director of the LCCCA in May 2008. He joined the authority when the convention center was still under construction and he oversaw its opening in June 2009.

Under Kevin's leadership. the Lancaster County Convention Center has been at the heart of the city of Lancaster's economic and cultural life. Over a hundred thousand people from across the country attend events there annually, ranging from consumer shows and sporting events to concerts and science fiction conventions. In turn, the convention center generates millions of dollars in economic impact for the city, county, and commonwealth and provides jobs for over 300 people. Kevin also oversaw the expansion of the Lancaster County Convention Center to include a new event space, the Commons on Vine, and worked with LancasterHistory to develop the Thaddeus Stevens and Lydia Hamilton Smith Center for History and Democracy.

The Lancaster County Convention Center has played an important role in revitalizing the City of Lancaster in large part thanks to Kevin Molloy's leadership as executive director of the LCCCA. I thank Kevin for his hard work and service to the community and wish him the best in his next chapter.

RECOGNIZING FLARE

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Flourish in Life through Art and Resources for Endometriosis (FLARE) for their work making the realities of endometriosis visible through patient-created artwork, healthcare education, research, and advocacy.

In September of 2026, FLARE will hold their inaugural Art Exhibit in New York City, bringing awareness to a chronic illness that continues to be one of the most under-recognized medical conditions in the world. The exhibit will make endometriosis visible by presenting it through the eyes of artists experiencing the real symptoms and life disruptions that chronic pain causes.

Chelsea Hardesty, a health policy advocate and artist from Lakewood in Colorado's 7th Congressional District, has worked tirelessly to connect local leadership with the growing national movement to improve access to endometriosis education and healthcare. Her dedication to advocacy supports patients with endometriosis and clinicians across the United States.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to recognize FLARE for their work bringing hope to endometriosis patients nationwide.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF GLORIA MAE GURLEA

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gloria Mae Gurlea, a lifelong daughter of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, as she celebrates her 100th birthday on October 16, 2026. Gloria has spent a century living by the values of faith, family, service, and devotion to our Nation.

Born in Escanaba in 1926 to Maurice and Katherine Connor, Gloria grew up alongside her sister and best friend, Faye, in Turin and later New Swanzy. She graduated from Gwinn High School in 1944. In 1949, Gloria answered the call to serve her country and enlisted in the United States Navy, completing basic training at the Great Lakes Naval Training Center.

Gloria's first assignment brought her to Washington, D.C., where she served as a Cryptologic Technician 2nd Class at the Naval Operations Center on Nebraska Avenue during the Korean War. While stationed in Washington, she met Corporal Victor Gurlea, whom she married in 1951.

Following her honorable discharge, Gloria spent the next two decades traveling the world alongside Victor as he continued his career in the United States Army. Together, they raised two sons, Timothy and Paul, building a family grounded in service and resilience.

Following Victor's service in Vietnam, the Gurlea family returned home to the Upper Peninsula in 1969 and settled once again in New Swanzy. Today, Gloria remains part of that same community as a resident of Mill Creek Assisted Living in Marquette.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Gloria Mae Gurlea on this remarkable milestone and thanking her for her service to our Nation. May she and her family continue to be blessed for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT ALISA DODENHOFF

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U.S. Air Force veteran, Master Sergeant Alisa Dodenhoff of Midlothian, Texas, with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Her dedication to our Nation, fellow service members, and community exemplifies the highest ideals of service and leadership.

Master Sergeant Dodenhoff began her Air Force career in November 2011, serving on active duty until November 2017 before continuing her service in the Air Force Reserve. Throughout her career, she had deployments in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Operation Inherent Resolve. Master Sergeant Dodenhoffs military honors include the Air and Space Commendation Medal, Meritorious Unit Award with three Oak Leaf Clusters, Air and Space Outstanding Unit Award, and Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal, among numerous other awards and commendations.

Following her military service, Master Sergeant Dodenhoff continued her commitment to servant leadership through mentorship, community involvement, and support for veterans, military families, students, and aspiring leaders throughout North Texas. She actively coaches and mentors students at Arlington ISD, helping young people build confidence, develop leadership skills, and prepare for their futures. She also serves as a leader with the DFW Professional Women's Networking Group, where she empowers women through mentorship, professional development, and meaningful community connections. Master Sergeant Dodenhoff remains dedicated to supporting veterans and military families through her involvement with the Veteran Tickets Foundation, helping create opportunities for veterans and their families to attend events and be recognized for their service. Her commitment to community and economic development is further demonstrated through her service on the Board of Directors of the Midlothian Chamber of Commerce, where she contributes to the growth and strength of the local business community.

Master Sergeant Dodenhoff's dedication to serving her Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of military service and civic leadership. I commend her remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for her steadfast commitment to our veterans, military families, students, and the North Texas community.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR RICHARD ''DICK'' JONES

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th District of Texas, the 2026 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Major Richard Jones, United States Air Force, of Grapevine, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Major Jones served with distinction in the United States Air Force for twenty years, beginning as an enlisted Airman before earning his commission and becoming a military aviator. He accumulated approximately 10,000 flight hours and served as an Operations Officer with the 1605th Air Base Wing under Military Airlift Command. His decorations include the Air Force Commendation Medal, National Defense Service Medal with one bronze service star, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, and Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with one oak leaf cluster. He retired as a Major in 1972.

Following his retirement, Major Jones devoted decades to civic leadership and volunteerism in Grapevine. He served on the Executive Board of the Grapevine Chamber of

Commerce, worked as a Chamber Ambassador, and graduated from Leadership Grapevine. Alongside his wife, Paula, he volunteered at city festivals, including co-chairing the 2010 Grapevine Main Street Days Festival. As an original member of the Grapevine Wine Pouring Society, he also helped promote the Texas wine industry through community events.

A longtime member and Paul Harris Fellow of the Grapevine Rotary Club, Major Jones has supported civic initiatives and international fellowship. As an original member of Grapevine's Sister Cities program, he fostered relationships with communities in Mexico and Austria. He also served for years as a volunteer docent at the Grapevine History Museum and, alongside Paula, was named a Lifetime Member of the Grapevine Historical Society in 2024.

Major Jones has continued supporting the military community through the Military Officers Association of America and the Order of Daedalians, where he served as Scholarship Chairman for at least five years, recognizing local high school ROTC students. His decades of service have strengthened Grapevine and inspired his family to follow his example.

Major Jones's distinguished military career and lifelong dedication to his community, fellow veterans, and future generations reflect the highest traditions of the United States Air Force and bring great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING JOE HENGSTLER

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joe Hengstler of Arvada, Colorado, for receiving the 2026 Community Spirit Award from the Arvada Economic Development Association. Each year, this award recognizes an individual whose outstanding service to the community has helped define and shape Arvada's character.

As the Executive Director of the Olde Town Arvada Business Improvement District from 2019 until his passing on September 23, 2025, Joe was the driving force behind Olde Town's revitalization and was affectionately known as its ''Mayor.'' Through his leadership, he expanded tourism, secured grants, and fostered regional partnerships that elevated Olde Town as a model for downtown revitalization in Colorado and beyond. Joe's dedication, creativity, and steady leadership were vital to ensuring Olde Town's vibrancy and economic vitality for years to come.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Joe Hengstler for receiving the 2026 Community Spirit Award and thank him for his contributions to the Arvada community.

RECOGNIZING LAURIE MIGNONE FOR HER 22 YEAR OF DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Laurie Mignone for 22 years of distinguished service to the federal government, including 11 years as a senior staffer on the House Committee on Appropriations.

After earning a master's degree in public health from Emory University, Laurie began her federal career as a Presidential Management Fellow at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the crown jewel of the Nation's public health system. In 2006, she came to the Committee on Appropriations for the first time—as a detailee on loan from CDC. During her initial stint on the committee, Laurie laid out a career path that would bring her full circle, many years later, to return to the committee as a senior staffer in charge of public health policy and global health policy.

Laurie's career exemplifies a life of public service. Over the last 22 years, she has served in senior roles across the federal government, including positions at the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of Management and Budget, and the National Institutes of Health. She was the first woman to serve as the senior budget officer at the National Cancer Institute—the oldest and largest institute at NIH—where she was responsible for a budget of more than $6 billion.

In 2012, Laurie returned full-time to the Appropriations Committee to serve on the staff of the Surveys & Investigations team, known as S&I, a nonpartisan unit responsible for conducting oversight, drafting investigative reports, and providing expert recommendations to the committee. During her time on the S&I staff, she led confidential program evaluations of a wide range of federal programs at the request of the committee's leadership.

I am proud to say, in 2019, I brought Laurie to the subcommittee on Labor, HHS, and Education, where she has served with distinction for the past eight years. Laurie has been the driving force behind many achievements in public health programs during her time on the subcommittee—including the establishment of the public health data initiative in 2019 and the public health infrastructure program in 2022. In 2020, Laurie was instrumental in developing five emergency supplemental appropriations packages to respond to the COVID–19 pandemic, including billions of dollars for the development and distribution of the COVID–19 vaccine.

In 2023, Laurie expanded her role on the Committee on Appropriations to include a staff position on the State and Foreign Operations subcommittee, where she has focused on improving the coordination of global health programs across government silos, especially in the area of global health security. Laurie also extended her expertise to improve operations at the State Department and USAID, as well as oversight over international financial institutions.

I thank Laurie for her tireless public service—which often included long days, weekends, and holidays—as she dedicated more than 20 years to improving the health and well-being of millions of Americans, as well as the health and well-being of the most impoverished communities across the globe. I also thank her husband and son, Joel and Jake Parriott, for the sacrifices they made—those weekends, holidays, and family vacations—to support Laurie and her important work on behalf of the committee. Laurie will be sorely missed.

I congratulate Laurie on a distinguished career in public service and wish her the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JOE HILL

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize retired U.S. Navy veteran Captain Joe Hill of Corsicana, Texas, with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His unwavering commitment to our country and community is a shining example of honor and duty.

Throughout his 35 years of military service, Captain Hill served at installations and aboard ships throughout the United States and abroad including the USS *Blue*, USS *Gallatin*, and USS *Pyro*. He completed two tours in Vietnam and later served during Operation Desert Storm before retiring in February 1992. His military decorations include the Navy Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, the Battle Efficiency Ribbon and numerous other awards, medals and commendations.

Following his retirement from the Navy, Captain Hill continued his commitment to public service through federal, state, and community leadership. As a FEMA Intergovernmental Affairs Officer, he helped communities recover from Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, and Ike by coordinating and tracking the restoration of critical public facilities, including schools, hospitals, and first responder stations. He later served as a Field Representative for Congressman Charles Boustany of Louisiana and on the Service Academy Selection Boards for Senator David Vitter and Congressman Boustany.

Captain Hill has dedicated decades to community service, particularly in support of veterans, youth, and education. He served as Vice Chair and a founding board member of the Louisiana Military Hall of Fame and Museum, he founded the Southwest Louisiana Literacy Coalition, established the first Junior Navy ROTC program at LaGrange High School in Lake Charles, and co-founded the Wise County Veterans Memorial Park and United Way of Wise County. His contributions have been recognized with the National Daughters of the American Revolution Founders Medal for Patriotism and Wise County Citizen of the Year. He currently serves as Mayor of Corsicana, continuing his lifelong commitment to public service.

Captain Hill's unwavering dedication to serving his Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of military service and civic leadership. I commend his remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for his steadfast commitment to our Nation and our community.

HONORING GORAN RANNEFORS

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Swedish diplomat and business leader Goran Rannefors on the occasion of his retirement and to commend his decades of service to Sweden, the United States, and the international community.

As Co-Chairs of the House Friends of Sweden Caucus, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Rannefors for his contributions to strengthening the longstanding friendship between our two nations and advancing the value of educational and cultural exchange.

Following his service in the Swedish Armed Forces, Mr. Rannefors held leadership positions in Sweden's private sector before being appointed Sweden's Trade Commissioner to the United States in 1986. He served in that position for nearly a decade, helping strengthen economic ties between Sweden and America. In 1994, Mr. Rannefors joined Education First (EF), beginning more than three decades of leadership with an organization dedicated to international education and cultural exchange. During his tenure, EF expanded its reach around the world, creating opportunities for students to travel, study, learn English, and experience different cultures. His leadership also helped establish Hult International Business School and expand EF's international educational programs, including its au pair program.

Over the course of his career with EF, Mr. Rannefors helped create opportunities for more than one million students around the world. He has also continued his commitment to service through the Cultural Care Kids First Foundation, which supports children in need around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, let us all join in thanking Mr. Rannefors for his many years of service and wish him and his family the very best in retirement. His work has benefited countless Swedish and American families and helped demonstrate the enduring value of friendship, education, and cultural exchange.

RECOGNIZING THE GREATER ARVADA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Greater Arvada Chamber of Commerce for receiving the 2026 Community Partnership Award from the Arvada Economic Development Association. Each year, this award recognizes an organization that supports economic development efforts and community outreach.

The Greater Arvada Chamber has strengthened the regional business environment in recent years through B.O.L.D. 2026, promoting economic resiliency through talent, housing, childcare, advocacy, and entrepreneurship. In 2024, it launched the Business Resource Center, which serves as a hub for supporting training, collaboration, and entrepreneurship. The Chamber has invested in workforce development by supporting Career Hubs in schools and partnering with education and workforce leaders. The Chamber has also raised more than $22,000 for the "No Neighbor Hungry" campaign and continues to promote civic engagement and community dialogue through public forums.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate the Greater Arvada Chamber of Commerce for receiving the 2026 Community Partnership Award and thank them for their contributions to the Arvada community.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF JERRY W. TUECHÉ

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Jerry W. Tueché of Manheim Township, who passed away on September 30, 2026.

Mr. Jerry Tueché was a father to Michele, a grandfather to Christian, Weston, and Taylor, and a husband to Marjorie for 57 years prior to her passing in 2018.

Though he first began his career in different sectors, Jerry's professional calling was in public service. From 1971 to 2005, he served the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in various capacities, including roles within the Governor's Office, the Department of Commerce, the State Treasury, and the Auditor General's Office. He also returned to Western Pennsylvania and served as County Manager for Fayette County. Even after his retirement and move to Manheim Township, Jerry continued serving his community. He served as Manheim Township Tax Collector and Treasurer and spent many years as Vice-Chairperson of Manheim Township's Civil Service Commission. He was also active in the local Republican committee, assisted in local political campaigns, and was an ardent volunteer for civic organizations like the Rotary Club.

Jerry Tueché lived an exciting and full life, and his impact on both our community and Pennsylvania cannot be understated. I am glad to have known him. In recognizing and celebrating his life, I offer prayers of comfort to his family during this time.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN JOSEPH FOX

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th District of Texas, the 2026 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Captain Joseph Fox, United States Army, of Dallas, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Captain Fox graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1974 and served honorably in the United States Army for five years as a Field Artillery Officer. Throughout his military career, he held numerous leadership positions, including Company Executive Officer, Assistant Brigade Personnel Officer, Company Commander, and Aide-de-Camp to both the Deputy Commanding General and Commanding General at Fort Dix, New Jersey. His exemplary performance and dedication to duty earned him the National Defense Service Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Following his military service, Captain Fox built a distinguished career in labor relations, human resources, and employment law, serving in leadership positions with major corporations and law firms. For more than two decades, he has served as Vice President and Chief Counsel of Global Labor and Employment Law for Celanese Corporation. Alongside his professional accomplishments, he has remained deeply committed to supporting veterans and military families, leading the company's Veterans Employee Resource Group and subsequently serving as its Dallas Site sponsor. Through these efforts, he has coordinated charitable support for numerous veteran-focused organizations, including Defenders of Freedom, the Boots to Heels program, and Paws of Honor.

Captain Fox's dedication to those who serve extends throughout the North Texas community. For more than fifteen years, he has been an active member of the Rockwall Band of Brothers and Sisters, supporting initiatives such as Carry The Load and the Special Operations Warrior Foundation. He has also served on Congressional Service Academy Nomination Boards for three Members of Congress, helping identify and encourage the next generation of military leaders. Through his mentorship of students pursuing ROTC, direct commissioning, and appointments to the United States Service Academies, he continues to instill the principles of duty, honor, and service that have guided his own life.

Captain Fox's distinguished military service and enduring commitment to veterans, military families, and future generations reflect the highest traditions of the United State Army and bring great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL JOE CONLEY

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize retired Army veteran Colonel Joe Conley of Mansfield, Texas, with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His unwavering commitment to our country and community is a shining example of honor and duty.

Colonel Conley served 27 years, retiring in 2006. Throughout his distinguished career, he commanded at the company, battalion, and brigade levels and served at multiple locations including Camp Casey and Yongsan in Korea, Honduras, the Pentagon, and the Defense Contract Management Agency in Alexandria, Virginia. Colonel Conley led teams responsible for ensuring U.S. service members had access to critical weaponry and munitions.

Colonel Conley's military honors include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service, Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal, and the Army Achievement Medal, among numerous other awards and commendations.

Following his military retirement, Colonel Conley continued his commitment to serving and mentoring his community. For 15 years, he served as the Senior Army Instructor for the JROTC program at Molina High School in Dallas, where he mentored and motivated students to become responsible and engaged citizens. He also serves as an Associate Minister at Bethlehem Baptist Church in Mansfield where he serves on the church's Veterans Ministry Board, supporting veteran seminars, food pantry initiatives, meet-and-greets, and veterans' trips. Additionally, he serves on the Mansfield Veterans Memorial and Tribute Foundation, supporting local veterans through programs including the Field of Flags and veteran benefits seminars.

Colonel Conley's unwavering dedication to serving his Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of military service and civic leadership. I commend his remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for his steadfast commitment to our Nation, our veterans, and the Mansfield community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF WEST VIRGINIA NATIVE AND UNITED STATES ARMY VETERAN CORPORAL CLOVIS EUGENE FERGUSON

HON. RILEY M. MOORE

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. MOORE of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Corporal Clovis Eugene Ferguson, a United States Army Veteran and beloved member of the Salt Rock Elementary community.

Born and raised in West Virginia, Cpl. Ferguson joined the United States Army to serve his country during the Vietnam War soon after graduating from Barboursville High School. After his military service, Cpl. Ferguson and his wife, Connie, settled in Salt Rock, West Virginia, where he was a career member of the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 521.

Together, they had two children, Amy and Jason, were respected members of their local church, and generous neighbors to many in the Salt Rock community. Cpl. Ferguson coached basketball, softball, baseball, and soccer. He was especially dedicated to the children and faculty of Salt Rock Elementary, where he shared joy with the students through his annual tradition of dressing up as Elvis for Halloween and Santa Claus for Christmas. He also dedicated countless hours to sharing his knowledge and practical wisdom with students.

The principal of Salt Rock Elementary School wrote that Cpl. Ferguson was ''especially proud of his service to the United States of America'' and that his love for our great Nation was evident in the way he lived. He will be remembered as a familiar face, trusted friend, and source of joy, and his legacy will continue to live on through his family and the students whom he loved and mentored.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that Cpl. Ferguson and his contributions to our Nation and his communities be honored for his service.

RECOGNIZING ALEX ADKISSON

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Alex Adkisson, a teacher at Green Mountain High School from Lakewood, Colorado, for being named a finalist for 2027 Colorado Teacher of the Year by the Colorado Department of Education.

In our community, Mr. Adkisson has a reputation for going above and beyond to engage his students in mathematics, construction, engineering, and business. He has long fostered a learning environment where students can apply what they learn to real-world situations, develop practical skills, and explore new possibilities for their future.

Mr. Adkisson was previously recognized for his outstanding teaching with the 2023 Harbor Freight Tools for Schools $100,000 Teaching Grand Prize. Since then, Mr. Adkisson has continued to excel and his teaching style continues to inspire fellow educators, students, and the community alike.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, I am honored to recognize Alex Adkisson for his service to his students and community.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COLONEL CURTIS CHASTAIN

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th District of Texas, the 2026 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Lieutenant Colonel Curtis Chastain, United States Air Force, of Fort Worth, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Lieutenant Colonel Chastain served with distinction in the United States Air Force for more than three decades, including active duty, Reserve, and Air National Guard service. Following in the footsteps of his late father, a fighter test pilot and astronaut who died in an aviation accident when Curtis was nine, he became a C–141 Starlifter transport and instructor pilot. He supported operations during Desert Storm, conflicts in Panama and Bosnia, operations in Somalia and Afghanistan, and multiple classified missions. He also served with the 238th Air Support Operations Squadron, contributing to specialized air-ground operations and mission readiness. After initially retiring in 2006, he returned to the Mississippi Air National Guard and served until October 2018.

His numerous decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Aerial Achievement Medal, two Air Force Commendation Medals, Air Force Achievement Medal, three Armed Forces Expeditionary Medals, National Defense Service Medal with one bronze service star, Southwest Asia Service Medal with three bronze service stars, Antarctica Service Medal, and Kuwait Liberation Medal.

Throughout his military career and beyond, Lieutenant Colonel Chastain remained committed to aviation and education. As an Air Force Academy Liaison Officer for ten years, he mentored aspiring cadets and helped numerous students earn appointments to the Academy. He also guided future aviators as an international airline captain, test pilot, and flight instructor.

His dedication to young people extends throughout North Texas. He served as Vice President of the Northwest Independent School District PTA, a substitute teacher, and Chairman of its Watch D.O.G.S. program. He has volunteered with Pilots for Kids, supporting hospitalized children, and the Big Brothers Association; taught firearms and hunter safety; and supported wildlife conservation through the Texas Bighorn Society.

Lieutenant Colonel Chastain's distinguished military career and enduring commitment to mentorship, education, and community service reflect the highest traditions of the United States Air Force and bring great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE QUARRYVILLE LIONS CLUB FOR A CENTURY OF SERVICE

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize the Quarryville Lions Club for one hundred years of service to the local community.

The Quarryville Lions Club was chartered on September 10, 1926 with twenty-six members. Since its establishment, the club has taken the Lions Clubs International motto of ''We Serve'' to heart. Its members organize veteran recognition efforts, run community events like the Huffnagle Park concert series, help those who are visually impaired, and support local organizations such as food banks.

The Quarryville Lions Club has also played a key role in promoting the Lions across the county. Having been sponsored by the Lancaster Lions Club when it was founded, Quarryville has sponsored or cosponsored five other nearby Lions clubs.

The Quarryville Lions Club is one of 49,000 clubs across 200 countries and regions, and Lions Clubs International boasts 1.4 million members.

As the Quarryville Lions Club celebrates this significant milestone, I thank the club and its members for their positive impact. Their contributions have made both Quarryville and Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District a better place, and I wish them another one hundred years of success.

RECOGNIZING PETTY OFFICER SECOND CLASS ISAAC ''DV'' LEBRON

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U.S. Navy veteran Petty Officer Second Class Isaac ''DV'' Lebron of Waxahachie, Texas, with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His unwavering commitment to our country and community is a shining example of honor and duty.

During his first eight years of active-duty service in the U.S. Navy, Petty Officer Lebron served aboard the USS *Peleliu* and with Inshore Boat Unit 16 in Kuwait. He supported operations in the Global War on Terrorism, including Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Following his initial active-duty service, he continued serving in the Navy Reserve and was recalled to active duty in support of these operations. Petty Officer Lebron's military decorations include the Navy Unit Commendation, Navy ''E'' Ribbon, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Sea Service Deployment Ribbons, Humanitarian Service Medal, and numerous other awards and decorations.

Following his military service, Petty Officer Lebron continued his commitment to serving others through veteran advocacy, mentorship, and community outreach throughout Ellis County. After years of advocating for the establishment of the Ellis County Veterans' Treatment Court, he now serves as a volunteer mentor, helping fellow veterans navigate challenges, access VA resources, and find support and encouragement. For approximately six years, he has hosted The Ellis Talker, a podcast highlighting local leaders, organizations, and issues affecting the community, including veterans' well-being, health and wellness, and civic engagement. Petty Officer Lebron has also volunteered at Stonegate Church in Midlothian for more than eight years, serving on the Coffee Team making his ''combat brew'' for the congregation, assisting with special events, praying with and encouraging others, and helping people in need. Beyond his formal volunteer commitments, he has personally assisted veterans and neighbors by providing groceries, essential supplies, disability resources and other needs. In recognition of his civic engagement and community service, the City of Waxahachie named him an Honorary City Council Member in June 2025.

Petty Officer Lebron's unwavering dedication to serving his Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of military service and civic leadership. I commend his remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for his steadfast commitment to our Nation, our veterans, and the Ellis County community.

RECOGNIZING SCOTT SPEARS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Scott Spears for receiving the 2026 Entrepreneurial Spirit Award from the Arvada Economic Development Association. Each year, this award recognizes individuals who demonstrate the traits of an exemplary entrepreneur, including their leadership, innovation, determination, and community spirit.

Scott is a born-and-raised Arvadan and the owner of five distinctive local businesses: Scrumptious, School House, Super Zoom Bang Bang, Secret Level, and Sock. What makes Scott's business model distinctive is his ability to identify unmet community needs and create highly curated, one-of-a-kind concepts to fit those needs. From specialty sweets and whiskey, to toys and socks, each business offers a unique experience rooted in the community. School House Kitchen and Libations, housed in Arvada's original 1882 schoolhouse, offers more than 2,000 whiskeys, 50 beers, and Arvada's first rooftop patio. Scott's leadership extends beyond business, serving as Vice President of the Business Improvement District and serving on the Board of Directors for Historic Olde Town Arvada.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Scott Spears for receiving the 2026 Entrepreneurial Spirit Award and thank him for his contributions to the Arvada community.

RECOGNIZING ELISAIA SUALUA MA'ILO

HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN RADEWAGEN

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2026 American Samoa Territorial Teacher of the Year, Elisaia Sualua Ma'ilo. Elisaia Sualua Ma'ilo teaches 11th grade United States history and Advanced Placement (AP) United States history at Tafuna High School in Pago Pago, American Samoa. With the ethos that ''we rise by lifting others.'' Elisaia has worked to make history meaningful and accessible to his students while emphasizing service, leadership, and cultural identity. That dedication to serving and uplifting his community has extended beyond the classroom.

He founded the Adopt-A-Student Academic Intervention Program, an initiative designed to support students who were failing multiple courses through teacher mentoring, tutoring, parent engagement, and academic intervention. The program helped students successfully recover failed courses and was subsequently adopted by the American Samoa Department of Education as a Credit Recovery Program across the island's public high schools. He served in professional leadership roles, including PLC leadership and school improvement efforts, while advocating for literacy, student achievement, teacher collaboration, and equitable educational opportunities for our students. He has been a steering committee member for our Warrior Literacy Program at THS and is currently part of the leadership team as program coordinator. One of Elisaia's stated goals is to perpetuate the Samoan culture through the arts. He is a music festival coach, speech festival coach and National History Day coach at Tafuna, where he also has led the Professional Learning Community Team for the past four years. He volunteers with the Moso'oi Festival of Arts and sings in the American Samoa Arts Council Choir. He is also a member of the youth group at Our Lady of the Rosary Church, which helps the community through cleanups and by donating to local charities. Elisaia was officially recognized by our local leaders including the American Samoan Fono. This serves as an affirmation of the importance of the educators who dedicate their lives to the children and future of American Samoa.

I hope that this recognition serves as inspiration for aspiring teachers and a reminder that the work of an educator is ultimately an investment in the future of our people.

CELEBRATING THE NEW HOLLAND CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and recognize New Holland Church of the Nazarene for 50 years of faith, love, and service to the community.

New Holland Church of the Nazarene was founded on July 18, 1976, as a church plant of the Ephrata Church of the Nazarene. The new congregation included 17 charter members and 7 children, including Reverend Kenneth Mingledorff and his wife, Jan. Since construction of the new church had not yet begun, the congregation met at the local Odd Fellows Hall until the building was finished the following year. The new building brought both the New Holland congregation and KinderHaus Daycare, now KinderHaus Child Care Learning Center, under one roof. KinderHaus was established by the Ephrata Church of the Nazarene in 1975, and Jan Mingledorff took over as director of the daycare when the New Holland congregation was founded a year later.

In the past 50 years, New Holland Church of the Nazarene has become central to the local community. The church itself is a testament to this, as the congregation has hundreds of members and the building has gone through three different construction phases. In tandem with KinderHaus, the church has provided a half-century of high-quality childcare. New Holland Church of the Nazarene also hosts its own basketball and cheer programs, assists with National Day of Prayer events, and partners with local nonprofits for food and clothing distribution.

I congratulate New Holland Church of the Nazarene on its 50th anniversary. I wish the congregation continued success in serving the community and look forward to the next 50 years.

RECOGNIZING RED SILO COFFEE ROASTERS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Red Silo Coffee Roasters of Arvada, Colorado for receiving the 2026 Outstanding Small Business Award from the Arvada Economic Development Association. Each year, this award recognizes an Arvada small business that stands apart for its job growth, innovation, community involvement, outreach, and more.

Founders Greg Pierce and Shelley Flood, who had worked together on construction and design projects for more than 20 years, chose Arvada as the home for their first craft restaurant and roastery: Red Silo Coffee Roasters. Since its founding, Red Silo has grown from a single Arvada storefront into four locations, with continued expansion creating local jobs across its café, roasting, and production operations. Red Silo is set apart by its commitment to developing its employees, sourcing directly from farmers, and small-batch roasting. Red Silo has also expanded its local production with an artisan ice cream creamery featuring natural, organic, from-scratch ingredients. Red Silo embodies the innovation, hard work, and community spirit that make small businesses thrive.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Red Silo Coffee Roasters for receiving the 2026 Outstanding Small Business Award and thank them for their contributions to the Arvada community.

RECOGNIZING SPECIALIST 5TH CLASS DAVID SALINAS

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U.S. Army veteran Specialist 5th Class David Salinas of Ennis, Texas, with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His unwavering commitment to our country and community is a shining example of honor and duty.

During his military service from 1970 to 1972, Specialist Salinas served with the 101st Airborne Division during the Vietnam War. After completing technical training as a certified and licensed aircraft mechanic, he began his military career in a stateside transportation unit, operating a variety of military vehicles. He later deployed to South Vietnam, where he served as the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of an aircraft electrical shop supporting a CH–47 Chinook assault support helicopter unit. Following his return from Vietnam, Specialist Salinas continued his aviation career as an aircraft mechanic and flight crew chief for a government contractor at the Nevada Test Site. He received numerous military decorations including a Bronze Star for Meritorious Achievement, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Republic of Vietnam Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and numerous other military honors.

Following his military service, Specialist Salinas continued his commitment to serving others through extensive volunteer work supporting veterans, children, families, and individuals in need. He currently serves as Vice President of the Hero Services Coalition, Vice Chairman of the Ellis County Veterans Celebration, and a Toys for Tots Committee Member. He previously served as a founding board member of The Heritage of Heroes and has been active with Lions Club International for many years, serving twice as Secretary and once as Program Chairman. Specialist Salinas' commitment to serving others through his Christian faith is reflected in his volunteer work supporting hospice patients and serving his church as a greeter, audiovisual operator, and security volunteer. He has also served as a Big Brothers of America mentor, providing guidance and encouragement to a young boy who had lost his father.

Specialist Salinas's unwavering dedication to serving his Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of military service and civic leadership. I commend his remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for his steadfast commitment to our Nation, our veterans, and our community.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN HIKING SOCIETY

HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor American Hiking Society (AHS) as it celebrates its 50th Anniversary.

Founded in 1976 by Jim Kern, William ''Backpacker Bill'' Kemsley, and Paul Pritchard, American Hiking Society has been leading the 63 million strong hiking community as the national voice of hikers.

For half a century, American Hiking Society has brought together tens of thousands of volunteers to build and maintain trails across our Nation. The Society's history of stewardship traces back to the Volunteer Conservation Corps, founded by conservation champion Bill Ruskin, who built a national trail stewardship movement beginning with the first project at Pike National Forest in 1974. This would become American Hiking Society's foundational Volunteer Vacations program.

The scope of stewardship is truly remarkable. As they celebrate their 50th Anniversary, AHS volunteers have improved more than 49,000 miles of trails across 15,159 projects on public lands in all 50 states. These dedicated individuals have contributed 5.2 million volunteer hours, providing labor valued at $101.125 million in donated time and effort. This volunteer-driven stewardship keeps our hiking trails safe, intact, and accessible, while instilling a conservation ethic in communities nationwide. Over the last 50 years, 673,540 people have joined trail service projects through impactful programs like Volunteer Vacations, Alternative Breaks, and National Trails Day. National Trails Day alone stands as the single biggest trail event and day of service, occurring each year on the first Saturday in June.

Beyond their hands-on stewardship, American Hiking Society has been a powerful voice for hikers and public lands. They led the historic coast-to-coast ''HikaNation'' walk in 1980 and served as a catalyst for founding the American Discovery Trail in 1989. The organization also launched the annual Hike the Hill event that brings hikers from across the country to Washington D.C., which will celebrate its 30th Anniversary in 2027. Their efforts on Capitol Hill fostered the creation of the bipartisan House Trails Caucus. The Society's tireless advocacy played a key role in the enactment of landmark laws and policies including amendments to the National Trails System Act in the 1980s, the creation of the Recreational Trails Program in 1991, the Forest Service Roadless Rule in 2001 and the Travel Management Rule in 2005, the National Forest System Trail Stewardship Act in 2016, the John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act in 2019 to permanently authorize the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Great American Outdoors Act in 2020, the Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences (EXPLORE) Act.

In its first 50 years, American Hiking Society has blazed a trail of leadership, community partnership, and deep devotion to our Nation's public lands and trails. As they embark on their next 50 years, I extend my great appreciation to their service and commitment to the outdoors. I have no doubt their impact will continue to shape our trails and natural spaces for years to come.

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

The Senate met at 5:10:37 p.m. in pro forma session, and adjourned at 5:11:06 p.m. until 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, November 5, 2026.

Committee Meetings

No committee meetings were held.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 2 public bills, H.R. 10952–10953; and 3 resolutions, H.J. Res. 221; and H. Res. 1646–1647, were introduced. **Page H6075**

Additional Cosponsors: **Pages H6075–76**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed today as follows:

H.R. 8347, to classify qualified locum tenens professionals and advanced care practitioners as independent contractors for the purposes of the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 and the National Labor Relations Act, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–867); and

H.R. 8660, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to protect worker access to employer equity, and for other purposes, with an amendment (H. Rept. 119–868). **Page H6075**

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein he appointed Representative Issa to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H6073**

Guest Chaplain: The prayer was offered by the Guest Chaplain, Rev. John Lado, St. Peter's Catholic Church, Washington, DC. **Page H6073**

Quorum Calls—Votes: There were no Yea and Nay votes, and there were no Recorded votes. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: The House met at 2 p.m. and adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

Committee Meetings

No hearings were held.

Joint Meetings

No joint committee meetings were held.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2026

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

No meetings/hearings scheduled.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the **SENATE**

10:30 a.m., Thursday, November 5

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will meet in a pro forma session.

Next Meeting of the **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

11 a.m., Thursday, November 5

House Chamber

Program for Thursday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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