

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ARMAND G. VIRTUOSO

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2013*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Armand G. Virtuoso—a decorated veteran, entrepreneur, and exemplary family man—who passed away peacefully on Tuesday, November 5, 2013, at the age of 91.

Born in Niagara Falls, NY on August 25, 1922, Mr. Virtuoso displayed the type of selfless dedication to his country that has facilitated the exalted reputation tied to the U.S. Armed Forces throughout our nation's history. In the line of duty as a private in the U.S. Army, Mr. Virtuoso narrowly escaped with his life after being ambushed by a solidified position of German snipers. For his profound and demonstrated resiliency, he was awarded the Purple Heart.

Mr. Virtuoso married Carmela Infantino in September of 1947 at St. Charles Church in Niagara Falls—a faithful commitment lasting 67 years. He worked for the Olin Mathieson Corporation for 25 years as the company which processed chemicals, metals and ammunition, exhibited extensive growth and prosperity during and immediately following World War II. Mr. Virtuoso and his wife moved to Las Vegas in 1972 where he established and successfully operated Niagara Upholstery until his retirement.

Mr. Virtuoso displayed the same type of dedication to his faith as he did to his career and family. He was a devoted Catholic and a committed member of St. Thomas More Parish in Henderson. He was also a Fourth Degree member of the Knights of Columbus Council #247. Mr. Virtuoso enjoyed bingo, going to the casino, ballroom dancing, and most of all the precious time he was able to spend with his family.

Mr. Virtuoso is survived by his wife, Carmela of Henderson, NV; sons, Armand, Dennis, and Joseph Virtuoso; his grandchildren, Gina, Nicklas, Dr. Armand III, Vincent, Joseph Jr., Michael, Dennis Jr. (DJ) and Sierra; his great-grandchildren, Nicholas, Joshua, Kaden, Fallon and Mason; his sister, Adeline Kilkenney of Niagara Falls; as well as several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Armand G. Virtuoso. Whether through his harrowing journey of military perseverance or his loving devotion to his family and friends, Armand Virtuoso strived to achieve excellence in every aspect of his life, and ultimately left behind a legacy to be both honored and emulated.

TRIBUTE TO BARRY SULLIVAN

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, November 20, 2013*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Barry Sullivan, Director of the Democratic Cloakroom, who has announced his plans to retire after decades of service here in the House. His presence in this chamber and his years of hard work on behalf of House Democrats will be sorely missed. I have been blessed to be here throughout Barry's career and to see first-hand his contribution to this body and to our Nation. I was honored to work alongside Congressman Joseph Moakley, who served as a mentor to Barry and helped advance his career. He's a proud son of South Boston, and I wish him and his family the absolute best for a long and happy retirement. Thank you, Barry, for your 33 years of service on behalf of and for the people of our great Nation. God bless you.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2013*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,200,725,370,597.56. We've added \$6,573,848,321,684.48 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.5 trillion in debt our Nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DELTA MANOR RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY IN DETROIT, MICHIGAN

**HON. GARY C. PETERS**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2013*

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the members of the Detroit Alumnae Chapter of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. as they celebrate the twenty-fifth year of service of the Delta Manor to the Greater Detroit senior community.

Earlier this year, I was pleased to honor the members of Delta Sigma Theta (DST) as they celebrated their centennial and it is an honor that I now recognize the impact that the Detroit Alumnae Chapter is making on its community. As part of their commitment to their

sorority and their community, the Detroit Deltas have undertaken a number of service projects and programs that have assisted residents with health, education and family issues. These programs include assistance to victims of domestic violence, mentoring youth, financial literacy seminars and organizing volunteer shifts at local homeless shelters. At the core of the Detroit Deltas' efforts are the principles of informing and empowering residents—providing critical support to them during moments of crisis.

Like all of these programs, the Delta Manor, an affordable residential complex for seniors and disabled residents of the Greater Detroit region, was born from the determination of the Detroit Deltas to fill voids in services to their neighbors, wherever they exist. Started in 1988, Delta Manor opened to senior and disabled residents in 1989, and has been providing them with a safe and supportive home. As part of its commitment to providing a high quality-of-life for its residents, Delta Manor offers a comprehensive set of activities, social gatherings and health awareness seminars that allow them to pursue their interests. In an effort to continue providing the best possible environment for its residents, the executive board of Delta Manor recently completed major upgrades to its facilities which included an update of the kitchens in all of its units, as well as renovating its computer lab and library.

As the Delta Manor approaches a major milestone in its history, it reminds us of the difference that can be made when a group of determined and compassionate individuals seek to confront the challenges facing their friends and neighbors. The Detroit Deltas have a long and distinguished history of dedication to strengthening the Greater Detroit community, and I am proud to have many of them as my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Detroit Deltas of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.'s Detroit Alumnae Chapter on reaching this great milestone in their effort to assist seniors and disabled residents in the Southeast Michigan region. I am pleased to thank them for their service and I know they will continue to make a difference in the lives of others in the Greater Detroit community in the years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2013*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall votes 596, 597, and 598. If present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall vote 596, "yes" on rollcall vote 597, and "yes" on rollcall vote 598.

• 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.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
JOSEPH B. ROGERS

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2013*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember Joseph B. Rogers of Denver, Colorado, whom we lost on October 7th of this year. Born in Omaha, Nebraska, at an early age Joe moved with his family to Colorado where he would spend the rest of his life. Colorado has lost a political pioneer and an outstanding advocate for civil rights and Western values.

Joe attended Colorado State University, where he graduated with a degree in Business Administration and then went on to law school at Arizona State University, where he won the national American Bar Association Negotiation competition. Following law school, Joe returned home to serve his fellow Coloradans. He was known for practicing pro bono legal services for the poor in southeast Colorado before he went on to practice law at one of Colorado's top law firms. Joe began his career in public service as a legislative aide to Former U.S. Senator Hank Brown (R-CO).

Joe Rogers was a dedicated public servant who always gave his wholehearted effort to fight for what he believed was best for Colorado. Joe was a member of the National Commission on the Voting Rights Act and received the Trumpet Award from the Turner Broadcasting System in recognition of his hard work and dedication to the African-American com-

munity. Joe went on to serve as Colorado's second African-American and youngest ever Lieutenant Governor from 1999 to 2003. He was driven by his will to serve the people of Colorado and he will truly be missed.

Joe Rogers is survived by his wife, Juanita Kay Rogers, and their three children: Trent Rogers, Jordan Rogers, and Haley Rogers. Joe's dedication to public service is truly an inspiration to all Coloradans and it is with much sadness that we say goodbye. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Lieutenant Governor Joe Rogers for a lifetime of achievement and hard work for the people of Colorado.

THE IMPROVING ACCESS TO CAPITAL FOR EMERGING GROWTH COMPANIES ACT

**HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2013*

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Improving Access to Capital for Emerging Growth Companies Act with the gentleman from Maryland, Congressman JOHN DELANEY. This legislation builds upon the success of the original bi-partisan JOBS Act, which was enacted into law in 2012. It focuses on making improvements to the initial public offering (IPO) process for a new category of issuers known as "emerging growth companies," or EGCs.

Since the passage of the JOBS Act in April 2012, which established the EGC category in

Title I, more than 200 companies have registered with the SEC as EGCs. At the one year anniversary of the JOBS Act, a study by Ernst & Young showed that, "Approximately 78 percent of all publicly filed IPO registration statements and approximately 83 percent of the IPOs that went effective since April 2012 were filed by EGCs." Since passage last year, Title I of the JOBS Act has clearly been a tremendous success, affording more companies the opportunity to go public and create jobs for hardworking Americans.

While this JOBS Act provision has been successful, more can be done to improve the process of going public for EGCs. The Improving Access to Capital for Emerging Growth Companies Act would reduce the number of days EGCs must have a confidential registration statement on file with the SEC from 21 days to 15 days and allow a one year grace period for an issuer that began the IPO process as an EGC to complete its IPO as an EGC. This legislation also clarifies financial disclosure requirements for EGCs and allows an EGC to confidentially submit a proposal to the SEC for a follow-on offering.

These are simple, technical improvements to the JOBS Act that improve the IPO process and allow EGCs to continue growing and providing jobs for Americans. Mr. Speaker, I want to emphasize that job creation is the most important reason to pass this legislation quickly. More companies going public leads to more expansion and investment, which will lead to job creation. The gentleman from Maryland, Mr. DELANEY, and I are pleased to be introducing this bill today.