

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, on December 9, 2013, I travelled to Johannesburg, South Africa, as part of the Congressional Delegation appointed to attend the memorial service for Nelson Mandela, the first president of the new Republic of South Africa and one of the greatest leaders of the 20th century. Because of my participation in this important event I was unable to return in time for Roll Call Votes 630 and 631.

Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

1. On rollcall No. 630 I would have voted "aye" (December 10) (H.R. 3521, The Department of Veterans Affairs Major Medical Facility Lease Authorization Act of 2013, as amended (Rep. MILLER (FL)—Veterans' Affairs))
2. On rollcall No. 631, I would have voted "aye" (December 10) (H.R. 1402, VA Expiring Authorities Extension Act of 2013, as amended (Rep. COFFMAN—Veterans' Affairs))

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVE
WARDEN**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dave Warden for his twelve years of service on the Belmont City Council, including three years as mayor in 2002, 2005 and 2012. Dave was first elected in 1999 and served two terms until 2007. He returned in 2009 for his current term.

Dave has been a tireless advocate for open space and was a driving force behind voter-approved Measure F, the Hillside Preservation Ordinance, and the Slope Density Ordinance. He worked hard on the acquisition of 35 acres in the San Juan Canyon which are now permanent open space. He was also instrumental in getting the new library built and was the council's representative to the library JPA. He also made the seismic upgrade of city hall a reality. He supported the smoking ordinance and the creation of Semeria Park.

Dave's top priority has always been to spend Belmont taxpayers' money wisely. He was critical in negotiating with the city's bargaining units to rein in escalating pension costs. He is well-known for his bargaining skills and has helped keep Belmont's budget balanced with a minimal use of reserves even in a down economy.

Before joining the council, he served as the Planning Commissioner and Parks and Recreation Commissioner. He is also a former president of his neighborhood association and former member of the Belmont Chamber of Commerce.

Dave was born and raised in Belmont and graduated from Carlmont High School in 1979. He earned a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science from UC Berkeley and is a medical software engineer. He worked for several Silicon Valley start-up firms and developed successful products for Sony, Zenith, Samsung,

RCA, Casio, Panasonic and the U.S. Navy. He is also a former school teacher at Ralston Middle School where he was named the PTA Teacher of the Year in 2002.

He and his wife of 17 years, Lisa, have always had an eye out for preserving Belmont's village-like charm and character.

As you can see from this long list of accomplishments, Dave has a love of Belmont that has been demonstrated over many years and in many forms. Working in local government is not always the easiest task. You often face your neighbors and friends whose expectations are sometimes difficult to meet. However, through his tireless efforts, Dave Warden has demonstrated that he truly wanted to meet the needs of residents as much as was possible given fiscal and other constraints.

Mr. Speaker, this dedication over time is rare, but his length of service and focus on the quality of life in Belmont is why Dave Warden's tenure on the council and in so many other capacities will be remembered. He will be missed on the council but his legacy will live on for many, many years.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MAJOR CONRAD J. JAKUBOW'S DEDICATED SERVICE TO OUR NATION

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Mr. KINGSTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Major Conrad J. Jakubow, United States Army for his extraordinary dedication to duty and selfless service to the United States of America. Conrad has served for the last three years as a Congressional Budget Liaison for the Secretary of the Army and will soon depart for his next duty assignment.

A native of Chicago, Illinois, Conrad earned his commission as an Officer in the United States Army at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York in calendar year 2000. Major Jakubow's assignments have been diverse and include over twenty-eight months of combat experience. While assigned as a Lieutenant to the 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, at Armstrong Barracks in Bidingen, Germany, Conrad served with Charlie Troop, Alpha Troop, and Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, as a tank and scout platoon leader, executive officer, and squadron motor officer and deployed his units twice to combat in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. As a Captain, Conrad attended the Civil Affairs Qualification Course and became a civil affairs officer serving in both the 96th Civil Affairs Battalion and the 95th Civil Affairs Brigade deploying again in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

After returning from his third combat deployment, Major Jakubow began his professional studies as a United States Army Congressional Fellow, earning a Master's of Professional Studies in Legislative Affairs from The George Washington University. Conrad was then nominated and assigned as an Office of the Secretary of Defense Congressional Fellow in the office of the late Congressman C.W. Bill Young and served as his military advisor on defense and veteran matters, providing critical analysis and insight on defense appropriation matters and pending legislation. Major

Jakubow served one year in the Congressional Office and thereafter was subsequently assigned as a Congressional Budget Liaison Officer in the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller in the Pentagon with responsibility for managing the Army's tactical wheeled vehicle program, military construction accounts, installations, energy, and special access program portfolios. Conrad has skillfully advised the Army's senior leaders, fostering and strengthening the relationship between the Congress and the United States Army. Major Jakubow's leadership as both a Company Grade and Field Grade Officer throughout his career has positively impacted his peers and superiors, Soldiers and civilians alike. As a Congressional Budget Liaison Officer he worked directly with the House and Senate Appropriations Committees to educate and inform Representatives, Senators, and staff about the diverse and important tactical procurement initiatives of the U.S. Army.

Mr. Speaker, it has been my esteemed pleasure to work with Major Conrad Jakubow during his time as a fellow and legislative liaison. On behalf of a grateful nation, I join my colleagues today in recognizing and commending Major Conrad J. Jakubow for over a decade of active service to his country in the United States Army. We wish Conrad, his daughter Mara, all the best as they continue their journey of service to our great Nation.

HONORING ARMY CHAPLAIN
COLONEL ERIC OLSEN**HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the honorable and distinguished career of Army Chaplain Colonel Eric Olsen. I have had the distinct privilege of knowing Colonel Olsen since serving in the United States Army.

Born in Staten Island, Chaplain Olsen entered the United States Army in December 1983 through the Pennsylvania National Guard. He completed the Chaplain Candidate Course in 1985 and was subsequently ordained by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in 1988. From 1988 until 1992, he led the parish at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Saranac Lake before going on Active Duty and serving tours of duty in South Carolina, Germany, Egypt and Fort Drum. Finally, he transitioned to the New York National Guard in 1999 where he remained throughout his career.

Chaplain Olsen's long career has included assignments as Assistant Chaplain HHC 27th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Chaplain HHS 1-156 Field Artillery, Chaplain HHC 27th UEX, and the State Chaplain of the New York National Guard.

A veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom, Chaplain Olsen deployed to Iraq, operating in the dangerous Sunni Triangle region. Serving as the Battalion Chaplain, his unit conducted combat and stability operations as a part of Task Force Hunter.

During his notable career, Chaplain Olsen earned various awards and decorations including the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (with bronze oak leaf cluster), Army Commendation Medal (with 3 bronze oak leaf

clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with 1 silver oak leaf clusters and 1 bronze oak leaf cluster), Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal (with 3 bronze oak leaf clusters), National Defense Service Medal (with 2 bronze oak leaf clusters), Multinational Force and Observers Medal, Meritorious Unit Citation Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Army Reserve Components Overseas Training Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Combat Action Badge.

Eric had a truly commendable career, of which he, his wife Susan Marie, and his two sons Garth and Evan should all be very proud. Notably, he made the difficult sacrifice of serving both the United States as well as the higher power of God. I would like to wish him and his family all of the best in his future service and retirement from the United States Army and New York National Guard.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER 2013 VSIP RETIREES ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the staff that retired through the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer 2013 voluntary separation incentive payment program, for their collective years of distinguished service to the U.S. House of Representatives: Sharyn Alexander; Kenton Armas; Timothy Babcock; Gerald Bennett; Frederick Bowles, Jr.; Lorenzo Braye; Elery Caskey, Jr.; Tredway Childress; Alessandro Cusati; Mark Dalton; Thomas D'Amico; Sandra Durham; Estanislao Field; Jerry Gallegos; Terry Hancock; Monroe Holliway; Barbara Holmberg; Alfreda Horton; Richard Hughes; Trevera Jackson; Christine Jensen; Stephen Johnson; Eric King; Thomas Mako; Russell Malone; Roy McLeod; Gwendolyn Melvin; George Moore; Ronald Mullvain; Thoa Nguyen; David Peebler; Robert Ransom II; Alan Richardson; Willie Roane; Delma Rutkowski; Joe Taylor; Alvin Thompson; Ben Vann; Robert Watson.

These individuals are acknowledged and commended for the hard work, dedication, professionalism, and spirit of public service that each contributed to the operation of the House. On behalf of the Office of the CAO and the entire House community, I am proud to stand before you in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the House of Representatives.

IN RECOGNITION OF CORALIN FEIERBACH

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Coraline Feierbach for 14 years of outstanding service on the Belmont City Council, serving as mayor in 1999, 2007 and 2011. Coraline

was first elected in 1995 for one term. She joined the council again in 2003 and has served continuously since that date.

Coraline's hands-on and passionate style make her one of the most memorable leaders in Belmont. She always strives to see the side of residents, and works hard to ensure that their interests rather than the interests of others are the central focus of the council's deliberations. She will listen to Belmont residents on any topic, at any time of the day or night.

Coraline has been a longtime advocate of open space. She first made a name for herself in the community in the mid-1970s when a plan to build housing on Sugarloaf Mountain in San Mateo on the border with Belmont was proposed. She and others won the fight to protect open space and Coraline has spent much of her life since protecting the Belmont hills from development.

During her tenure on the council, she was instrumental in getting both Measure F, the Hillside Preservation Ordinance, and the Slope Density Ordinance, passed. She assisted in the acquisition of 35 acres in San Juan Canyon which are now permanent open space. The canyon was slated to have 1,000 homes built and Coraline helped reduce the number of lots for homes down to about 60. She succeeded in preserving the land for its beauty and recreational purposes, making it a sanctuary for the area's wildlife and residents.

She also worked on a revision of the city's tree ordinance, the smoking ordinance, design review, code enforcement, the noise ordinance, construction time limits and green initiatives. Literally, if you look at the lush trees and canyons that distinguish Belmont, you see Coraline's clarity of purpose throughout the community.

Coraline served during some of the most difficult economic times for Belmont. She always wanted a balanced and fair budget. She worked hard to prevent Caltrain's evolution from changing the character of the community, and her service did not begin with the council. Coraline served on the Planning Commission from 1986–1987 and 2001–2003.

Coraline has a Bachelor's in Mathematics from San Francisco State University and did two years in the graduate program in mathematics at San Francisco State. She was a software developer and part owner of a software development firm.

In her well-deserved retirement, Coraline is looking forward to spending more time with her husband Gary, their daughter and grandchildren. And she plans to take music classes at Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont and to start a quartet as she plays classical piano.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me to honor Coraline Feierbach for her outstanding public service to the residents of Belmont. She has preserved and nurtured the city's spirit in order to produce tranquility amidst the urban din, and a small town appeal that makes Belmont a gem on the San Francisco Peninsula.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, on December 9, the weather delayed my arrival to Wash-

ington DC for the afternoon votes, and I missed rollcall No. 630, or H.R. 3521. Had I been present I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 3521.

THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH) FUNDING AND THE IMPACT OF SEQUESTRATION

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Congresswoman JACKIE SPEIER, for leading this important bi-partisan discussion on the benefits of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the dire impact that sequestration is having on NIH, its grantees, and our nation.

NIH makes important discoveries that improve health and save lives.

Thanks in large part to NIH-funded medical research, Americans today are living longer and healthier lives.

Life expectancy in the United States has increased and disability in people over age 65 has dramatically decreased in the past 3 decades because of the important research taking place at NIH.

NIH is also a job creator—it has created hundreds of thousands of high-quality jobs by funding scientists at universities and research institutions in every state across America and in countries around the globe.

These investments have led directly to better outcomes for cancer patients and increased the effectiveness of the treatments we have for HIV, influenza, diabetes, obesity, Alzheimer's, and hundreds of other diseases and disorders that affect millions of Americans.

More than 80% of NIH's budget goes to more than 300,000 research personnel at over 2,500 universities and research institutions.

In fiscal year 2013, Ohio received \$777 million in NIH funding.

And my district, the third congressional district of Ohio, received 581 NIH grants, worth over \$248 million.

NIH has historically funded the largest amount of federally funded research within my district at The Ohio State University.

In 2012, NIH funded approximately 25% of the overall research expenditures at The Ohio State University.

NIH grants went utilized on collaborations between The Ohio State University and Nationwide Children's Hospital to accelerate basic scientific discoveries into life-saving medical advances.

In particular, the discovery of microRNAs, small cellular molecules involved with biological regulation, is now known to play a pivotal role in the growth and spread of prostate, ovarian, colon and lung cancers, as well as other diseases.

NIH grants were also provided to The Ohio State University to establish a research center devoted to the study of tobacco use patterns, research that will help the Food and Drug Administration put science behind its new role in regulating tobacco.

NIH funds investigators in my district, at Nationwide Children's Hospital, to study gene therapy as a treatment for spinal muscular atrophy, the most common genetic defect that results in infant mortality.