

Community for their unwavering dedication to the students of South County Middle School. The commitment displayed to the education, safety, and well being of our children is instrumental to their health and future success, and it is one of the primary reasons that Fairfax County is often rated as one of the best counties in the country in which to live, work, and raise a family. I thank each of you for your tireless efforts, and wish years of success to the Mustangs of South County Middle School.

COMMENDING LOCAL 2013 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOR HOSTING THE THIRD ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 8 graduating seniors in my community for their record of academic and athletic accomplishment and for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Air Force. I also express my appreciation to Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia for providing this opportunity to be among the first to say to each of these young men and women: "Thank you."

I have had the privilege of working with Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia since its inception in 2011. That year my office was contacted by one of the founding parents who upon learning that her son and other students at his school who had decided to enlist would not receive any recognition during graduation, joined with other parents to organize the first enlistee recognition ceremony of its kind in the region. The first ceremony recognized 9 students. In two short years that number has grown to 101.

With graduation season upon us, thousands of young people in my community, and millions across the nation, are preparing for the next chapter in their lives. Some will pursue higher education or vocational training, others will seek to enter the workforce immediately, and many will answer the call to serve their community and their country.

The United States of America has distinguished itself from other nations through the entrepreneurship and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary sacrifices and dedication to country exhibited by the members of our Armed Forces. The young men and women from our community who will be enlisting possess an abundance of each of these qualities. I join with their families and friends in congratulating and commending the following graduates on their enlistment in the United States Air Force:

Robert Avara; Lance Clark; Megan Cumpas; Megan Drechsler; Julie Jones; Luis Martinez Ramirez; Bradley Mauldin; Anthony Morgan; Kyle Pelar.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the courage and dedication of

these graduates and in assuring them and their families that the full support and resources of the U.S. Congress and the American people will be behind them on every step of their journey in defense of our nation's freedom.

STATEMENT ON H.R. 1919, THE SAFEGUARDING AMERICA'S PHARMACEUTICALS ACT

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express concerns about a provision in H.R. 1919, the Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act of 2013, raised by a large employer in my district. The legislation passed by voice vote, and like many of my colleagues I support the overall goal and intent of this legislation: namely, to protect more Americans from counterfeit pharmaceuticals. However, I have reservations about certain sections of the bill due to concerns raised in my Congressional District that I hope might be addressed if further action is taken in the Senate.

Section 8 of H.R. 1919 includes language addressing the use of electronic labeling for pharmaceutical drugs, meaning that important consumer information related to usage, side effects and other issues may in some instances be available only over the internet unless a customer specifically asks for drug-related instructions in writing. I remain concerned about the possible effect these provisions will have on seniors and in communities that are underserved or un-served entirely by broadband internet. This legislation if passed in its current form may create a scenario where a customer who shops at a pharmacy that uses the electronic system will be left without critical drug information unless they think to ask for it themselves. For many, this will leave them in the dark about important, potentially life-saving information.

As a representative for a rural community where broadband internet is unavailable in many areas, this presents a real concern. I ask that my colleagues on both sides of the aisle and in both houses of Congress reconsider these provisions should the Senate take action on the bill.

COMMENDING LOCAL 2013 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES ARMY AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOR HOSTING THE THIRD ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 28 graduating seniors in my community for their record of academic and athletic accomplishment and for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Army. I also ex-

press my appreciation to Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia for providing this opportunity to be among the first to say to each of these young men and women: "Thank you."

I have had the privilege of working with Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia since its inception in 2011. That year my office was contacted by one of the founding parents who upon learning that her son and other students at his school who had decided to enlist would not receive any recognition during graduation, joined with other parents to organize the first enlistee recognition ceremony of its kind in the region. The first ceremony recognized 9 students. In two short years that number has grown to 101.

With graduation season upon us, thousands of young people in my community, and millions across the nation, are preparing for the next chapter in their lives. Some will pursue higher education or vocational training, others will seek to enter the workforce immediately, and many will answer the call to serve their community and their country.

The United States of America has distinguished itself from other nations through the entrepreneurship and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary sacrifices and dedication to country exhibited by the members of our Armed Forces. The young men and women from our community who will be enlisting possess an abundance of each of these qualities. I join with their families and friends in congratulating and commending the following graduates on their enlistment in the United States Army:

Eric Alvarez Carranza; Damaris Aparicio; Niel Barasona; James Bliersch; Gabriel Brey; Mayerling Castillo; Tyler Cirillo; Andrew Coreas; Stacy Darpoh; Tyler Davis; Timothy Driscoll; Austin Dunn; Zachary Francis; Jocelyn Garcia Gonzalez; David Gillespie; Lewis Green; Icavetta Gregory; Emmanuel Hernandez; Nathaniel Holmes; Rezaul Khan; Joseline Lopez Martinez; Yenis Lopez-Arias; Oscar Luna Rivera; Francis Nguyen; Dino Ponce; Cody Smith; Mathias Sobarzo; Danny Ventura

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the courage and dedication of these graduates and in assuring them and their families that the full support and resources of the U.S. Congress and the American people will be behind them on every step of their journey in defense of our nation's freedom.

COMMENDING LOCAL 2013 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES FOR THEIR DECISION TO ENLIST IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOR HOSTING THE THIRD ANNUAL HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE RECOGNITION CEREMONY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 13 graduating seniors in my community

for their record of academic and athletic accomplishment and for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Navy. I also express my appreciation to Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia for providing this opportunity to be among the first to say to each of these young men and women: "Thank you."

I have had the privilege of working with Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia since its inception in 2011. That year my office was contacted by one of the founding parents who upon learning that her son and other students at his school who had decided to enlist would not receive any recognition during graduation, joined with other parents to organize the first enlistee recognition ceremony of its kind in the region. The first ceremony recognized 9 students. In two short years that number has grown to 101.

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The United States of America has distinguished itself from other nations through the entrepreneurship and spirit of our people, the knowledge that we can achieve any goal if we set our minds to it, our inherent compassion and generosity, our fierce patriotism, and the extraordinary sacrifices and dedication to country exhibited by the members of our Armed Forces. The young men and women from our community who will be enlisting possess an abundance of each of these qualities. I join with their families and friends in congratulating and commending the following graduates on their enlistment in the United States Navy:

Jessica Blas Salazar; Kafahni Crowell; Tyler Deleeuw; Bryan Ignacio; Jinsuk Lee; Jay Lee; Hasmeed Machuca; Ashley Sager; Timothy Skubal; Daniel Vanderplas; Evertt Vasquez; Christina Vithaya; Lars Yates

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the courage and dedication of these graduates and in assuring them and their families that the full support and resources of the U.S. Congress and the American people will be behind them on every step of their journey in defense our nation's freedom.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE FALLEN
HOUSTON FIREFIGHTERS

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my deepest sympathies

for the Houston firefighters who perished or were injured due to the blaze at the Southwest Inn and Bhojan Restaurant, which took place on May 31, 2013. Upon visiting the site of the horrific tragedy, I was saddened to see the remains of a building consumed by a pernicious inferno. I was also able to appreciate the courage and spirit necessary to be a firefighter at the scene on that fateful day.

To date, while "in the line of duty," four firefighters have died and many others have been hospitalized due to their injuries in what has become the most lethal day in the history of the Houston Fire Department (HFD). Among the deceased were: an eleven-year-veteran of the HFD, Captain Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Matthew Renaud, and a recent graduate from the fire academy, Anne Sullivan, along with Firefighter EMT Robert Garner and Engineer Operator EMT Robert Bebee.

Our firefighters selflessly risked their lives and limbs to save as many civilians as possible. While tragedies such as these shock and emotionally devastate us, we should remember the extraordinary heroism displayed by our firefighters: They rushed to the scene battling flames on both the roof as well as within the motel and restaurant, thereby preventing a single civilian fatality.

Mr. Speaker, since the fire, I have visited with firefighters from the HFD at the Houston Professional Firefighters Association Union Hall. I was truly inspired by their dedication to each other and devotion to public safety. As a result, I now have a greater appreciation for what is for me a chilling expression "in the line of duty."

COMMENDING LOCAL 2013 HIGH
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UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
AND OUR COMMUNITY SALUTES
OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA FOR
HOSTING THE THIRD ANNUAL
HIGH SCHOOL ENLISTEE REC-
OGNITION CEREMONY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize 51 graduating seniors in my community for their record of academic and athletic accomplishment and for their admirable decision to enlist in the United States Marine Corps. I also express my appreciation to Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia for providing this opportunity to be among the first to say to each of these young men and women: "Thank you."

I have had the privilege of working with Our Community Salutes of Northern Virginia since

its inception in 2011. That year my office was contacted by one of the founding parents who upon learning that her son and other students at his school who had decided to enlist would not receive any recognition during graduation, joined with other parents to organize the first enlistee recognition ceremony of its kind in the region. The first ceremony recognized 9 students. In two short years that number has grown to 101.

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Kamo Abdulrahman; Jonathan Aguilar; Kevin Amaya; Jackson Burgess; Benjamin Burruss; Daniel Chhieu; Emily Collins; Latrice Coram; Larry Davis; James Degrafft; Kevin Diaz; Ludvigsen Diaz; Aaron Elassal; Jacob Facas; Mario Fajardo; Azad Fattahi; Ismael Ferman; Christopher Foerter; Spencer Gonsalvez; Veronica Gonzalez; Matthew Gregory; Jeffrey Hong; Nicholas Hunter; Mateusz Laguna; Gwendetta Mabry; Isaac Martinez; Tyreek Minter; Robert Mondloch; Yenifer Montalvo; Matthew Moser; Jason Pabontancara; Omar Paniagua; Tae Park; Erik Ploompuu; Herson Reyes; Jorge Ribera-Pedraza; Carlos Rodriguez; Leonel Santos; Romeo Sarmiento, III; Bradley Sherman; Simranjit Singh; Joshua Skym; David Smith; Kyle Stears; Brittany Thompson; Christian Valencia; Leopoldo Valiente Marquez; Joseph Stephen Vanwijngaarden; Deyvis Vasquez Soto; William Vo; Jaime Zamora

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding the courage and dedication of these graduates and in assuring them and their families that the full support and resources of the U.S. Congress and the American people will be behind them on every step of their journey in defense our nation's freedom.