

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF GOVERNOR REUBIN ASKEW

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 18, 2014*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life, accomplishments, and dedicated service of one of Florida's greatest citizens, Former Governor Reubin Askew. Governor Askew was an inspiration to Floridians of all political stripes and ideologies. The State of Florida, and our entire Nation, mourns the loss of a true patriot, political titan, and a great man.

Reubin O'Donovan Askew was born on September 11, 1928 in Muskogee, Oklahoma. At the age of eight, he moved with his mother to her native town of Pensacola, Florida, where he spent the rest of his childhood and adolescence. From a young age, Governor Askew displayed an assiduous work ethic, taking great pride in working to help contribute to the family's finances with jobs as a paperboy, magazine salesman, shoeshine boy, and grocery bagger. After graduating from Pensacola High School in 1946, Governor Askew followed in the footsteps of his two older brothers, who had served in World War II, into military service, joining the Army as a paratrooper.

After two years in the Army, Governor Askew enrolled at Florida State University, where his future in politics was presaged by a term as student government president. During his time at Florida State, Governor Askew also participated in Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC), and, upon graduation, he was commissioned as an officer and called to active duty, where he oversaw reconnaissance planes flying missions in Europe. Governor Askew served two years in the Air Force, before enrolling at the University of Florida's School of Law. Upon his graduation in 1956, he moved back to Pensacola, where he was elected assistant county solicitor. That same year, he married his wife of nearly 60 years, Donna Lou.

Governor Askew was a man of great faith, and, when he began his resulting 20-year career in public service, with election to the Florida House of Representatives in 1958, he used the Lord's teachings to govern with a strong moral compass. Following his first term in the Florida House, Governor Askew was elected to the Florida State Senate, where he served two terms before deciding to run for governor in 1970. Despite being relatively unknown on the state level, Governor Askew campaigned on a strong populist platform and emphasized his strong faith and devotion to family to win the governorship.

Governor Askew's list of accomplishments during his time in the Governor's mansion are legion and far too numerous to fully list in any one space. In fact, so vast were his accomplishments, that the John F. Kennedy School

of Government at Harvard University named Governor Askew one of the top 10 governors of the 20th century, ranking him with men who went on to serve as President, like Teddy Roosevelt and Woodrow Wilson, as well as a future Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Earl Warren.

Today, Governor Askew is perhaps best remembered for championing and shepherding through one of our Nation's most robust transparency and freedom of information laws, through Florida's Sunshine Law and Amendment, which opened up government meetings and required financial disclosure by all public officials, candidates, and employees. As Governor Askew remarked, "You've got to remember in government whose business you're doing: the people's, and if you're doing the people's business, you've got to give them the tools to judge the product."

Thanks to his strong moral character and determined leadership, Governor Askew became the first governor in Florida's history to be re-elected to consecutive terms. In addition to his successful transparency reforms, Governor Askew will be remembered as a true leader on many of the toughest issues of his day, including racial integration. Governor Askew had long followed his faith and principles on the issue of racial justice, arguing during his time as Florida State University Student Government President for integrating the higher-education system, and during his time as governor he successfully and harmoniously integrated Florida's schools, state government and appointed the first African-American Florida Supreme Court Justice, Joseph W. Hatchett. During his tenure, Governor Askew additionally fought to reduce the tax burden on individual Floridians, while also increasing the homestead exemption and repealing consumer taxes on household utilities and long-term apartment rentals.

Following his second term in office, Governor Askew served two years as the United States Trade Representative. Governor Askew was also highly committed to educating Florida's and our Nation's youth and in the mid 1980s, he began a second career as an educator. For ten years, he taught classes at each of Florida's public universities, before joining the faculty at his alma mater, Florida State University, in 1995, where he taught for the remainder of his life. In 1994, in recognition of his service to the State of Florida, Florida State University, named the School of Public Administration and Policy, the Reubin O'D Askew School of Public Administration and Policy, and in 2006, it named a student life center on campus after him as well. In addition, the University of Florida established the Reubin O'D Askew Institute on Politics and Society to assist Florida's citizens and communities in examining critical issues by bringing policymakers, educators, students, and community members together to aid them in making decisions to enhance Florida's future.

Mr. Speaker, public service is both a calling and a truly noble pursuit. It is not an easy undertaking, and success is not guaranteed. Yet,

despite its challenges, there are some individuals who were seemingly created by the Lord to lead in this vital arena. Governor Reubin Askew was one of these individuals. Those who were fortunate enough to know him will be forever inspired by his example, and the entire Northwest Florida community is proud that such a great man and fine public servant hailed from the Florida Panhandle. On behalf of the entire United States Congress, my wife Vicki and I extend our deepest prayers and condolences to Governor Askew's wife, Donna Lou; his children, Kevin and Angela; his many grandchildren; and the entire Askew family.

### 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASIAN AMERICAN HOTEL OWNERS ASSOCIATION (AAHOA)

**HON. AMI BERA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 18, 2014*

Mr. BERA of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate the Asian American Hotel Owners Association (AAHOA) on celebrating their 25th anniversary. Founded in 1989, AAHOA is the largest hotel owners association in the world and represents over 12,500 members nationwide. My family and I are proud to be counted among them.

AAHOA's achievements over the past quarter century are one of the greatest examples we have today of capturing the American Dream. Comprised of first and second generation Indian Americans, AAHOA members and their families immigrated to the United States seeking opportunity. These entrepreneurs found a niche as hoteliers and soon became a profound influence on the hospitality industry.

Today, AAHOA members own over 40 percent of all hotels in the United States employing over 600,000 people with an annual payroll of almost \$10 billion.

It is also my pleasure to recognize AAHOA's chairman, Mehul "Mike" Patel for his exceptional leadership this year. Mehul and his family came to the United States from Valsad in Gujarat India when he was a teenager and they lived and worked in a motel in Garland, Texas. The lessons of hard work and perseverance he learned while growing up in the motel have served him well and today he is the chairman and CEO of NewcrestImage, Hotel Development and Management Company, with multiple hotel properties across the United States.

Mehul's vision has been instrumental in elevating AAHOA to the next level. Under Mehul's stewardship, AAHOA has reached record levels of membership, and advanced its position as the voice of hotel owners with members in nearly every congressional district in the United States. Mehul is a dynamic leader in his community and industry and I am proud to commend his accomplishments.

I would also like to recognize AAHOA's officers, Vice Chairman Pratik Patel, Treasurer

• 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.

Jay “Jimmy” Patel, Secretary Bharat “Bruce” Patel and President Fred Schwartz, along with AAHOA’s 24 past chairman whose dedication to the organization and the hospitality industry have helped to create jobs, promote investment in their local communities, and grow America’s economy.

I look forward to addressing AAHOA’s annual convention later this month and continuing to work with this extraordinary organization in the future.

## WATER RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 13, 2014*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3189) to prohibit the conditioning of any permit, lease, or other use agreement on the transfer, relinquishment, or other impairment of any water right to the United States by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture, with Ms. FOXX in the chair.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3189, a contradictory piece of legislation that would confuse the issue of water rights across the country.

As initially written, this bill, which attempts to solve a dispute between Colorado ski resorts and the U.S. Forest Service, was so broad that it would have impacted the permitting process for the Conowingo dam in Maryland and our local efforts to restore threatened species in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. While I appreciate that the Manager’s amendment narrowly addresses the issue of dam permitting, I remain concerned that contradictory sections in this bill will create confusion and litigation that will prevent agencies from ensuring proper stewardship of federal lands.

When private entities request permits to operate on public lands, federal agencies have a responsibility to taxpayers to ensure that their operations would not harm the resources on those lands. If agencies cannot guarantee protections, they may simply deny permits and prohibit private use. This bill, by attempting to rewrite years of water rights law in a few short pages, introduces so much uncertainty into the process that those denials are likely to become a common occurrence.

Congressman POLIS has offered an amendment in the nature of a substitute that would restore the narrow focus on the disputed ski resort water rights. I urge my colleagues to support his effort and oppose the bill as currently written.

## SGR REPEAL AND MEDICARE PROVIDER PAYMENT MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, March 14, 2014*

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to oppose H.R. 4015, the SGR

Repeal and Medicare Provider Payment Modernization Act.

For years, I have worked with my colleagues, hospitals, and doctors to temporarily repair a permanent problem. We have continued placing a Band-Aid on a gunshot wound. The Band-Aid doesn’t work anymore. We need some serious treatment for this SGR wound. However, the suture we need is not H.R. 4015.

This bill is just another attempt by Republicans to undermine the law that is the Affordable Care Act. Their weak attempt at yet another delay of ACA’s individual mandate will not be accepted by the American people. Millions of Americans are benefiting from ACA. They now have access to free preventative care; they are now no longer denial coverage due to preexisting conditions; and parents can now keep their children on their healthcare plan until age 26.

It is important to recognize that the bill, in its original form, stood as a bipartisan agreement. It was a permanent fix to the SGR problem. To have physicians paid based on merit, using a metric system to access doctors on the quality of care given not the quantity of patients seen, served to benefit the medical community and the patients in their care.

However, the Republicans have poisoned this bipartisan agreement making it impossible for me to vote “yes” on H.R. 4015. Specifically, they are delaying ACA’s individual mandate for five years by changing the penalty for failing to purchase health insurance to zero (0) until 2019.

There is no argument that a SGR permanent fix is necessary. However, it should not, and will not, be at the expense of hard-working Americans who now have access to health care that they may not have had before the Affordable Care Act.

It is imperative that we continue to work in a bipartisan way to seek a solution to the SGR problem, because H.R. 4015—in its current form—is not the solution.

I ask my colleagues to join me in voting “no” on this bill.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 18, 2014*

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for votes on Tuesday, March 10, 2014.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall vote 115, “yea” on rollcall vote 116, and “yea” on rollcall vote 117.

Due to a last minute meeting at the White House with President Obama on Thursday, March 13, 2014, to discuss the devastating impact of deportations on the immigrant community, I was absent for the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall vote 130, “yea” on rollcall vote 131, “nay” on rollcall vote 132, and “nay” on rollcall vote 133.

## RECOGNIZING MICHAEL SANGER

**HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 18, 2014*

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michael Sanger and thank him both for his service to our country in the United States Army and the Massachusetts National Guard, as well as for his dedication to the constituents of the Sixth District of Massachusetts.

Michael joined my office in 2012 as part of the Wounded Warrior Congressional Fellowship Program. This program provides opportunities for veterans who served on active duty since September 11, 2001. Veterans are accepted into the program to broaden their career opportunities through experience working in a congressional office.

Prior to joining my office, Michael served as an infantryman in the United States Army. He served in Iraq for 15 months with the 725th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, and his career in the Army has spanned over ten years.

While Michael fulfilled his Fellowship, he also served as an Explosives Ordnance Technician in the Massachusetts National Guard. It was in this capacity that Michael was called upon by the Boston Police Department and the F.B.I. to assist in the aftermath of the Boston Marathon bombings last year.

Michael put the skills and experience he developed in the Army to use as a Veterans Caseworker for my district office. In this capacity, Michael helped ensure that local veterans were able to obtain the benefits which they earned, and that veterans’ inquiries were effectively addressed. Michael has been a true asset in these efforts, bringing key insight and perspective to his work.

As Michael embarks on his next endeavor, I congratulate him on his achievements and thank him for his outstanding service.

HONORING MRS. ROSALYN FABIANKE, PROJECT DIRECTOR FOR THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION’S MUSEUM ON MAIN STREET EXHIBIT “THE WAY WE WORKED”

**HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 18, 2014*

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay a special honor to Mrs. Rosalyn Fabianke, of Red Bay, Alabama, as the project director for the Smithsonian Institution’s Museum on Main Street exhibit entitled, “The Way We Worked.” It was held in Red Bay from September 14–October 25, 2013. Mrs. Fabianke deserves to be recognized for her unselfish dedication to this project. She is truly one who embodies the American spirit of community.

Each year the Smithsonian Institution partners with Museum on Main Street and chooses six cities to host a traveling exhibit. This year, Red Bay was chosen as the inaugural city to display the exhibit, “The Way We Worked,” documenting how industry has