

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### DEFAULT PREVENTION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2015*

Ms. BONAMICI. Madam Speaker, Congress should be discussing how to pay its obligations in a responsible manner, which is why I will oppose H.R. 692. This legislation would irresponsibly result in the payment of some obligations but not others. Importantly, this bill could result in payments going to China, but not to active-duty military, veterans, national security, and other important obligations.

Instead of spending time on H.R. 692, which is likely to be vetoed, Congress should be working to raise the debt ceiling in a way that will prevent a default. Raising the debt ceiling permits payment of obligations already incurred. If we are unable to raise the debt ceiling by November 3rd, the Treasury will not be able to meet its obligations and the nation's credit rating would be in peril. The result would be devastating to our economic recovery.

We can quickly put an end to this unnecessary crisis and the uncertainty it creates. Members of Congress can and must work together to prevent the United States from a catastrophic default, starting with a responsible approach to debt payment. Again, I urge my colleagues to join me in voting no on H.R. 692.

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITY AND RESULTS REAUTHORIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. TOM COLE**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 21, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 10) to reauthorize the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, and for other purposes:

Mr. COLE. Mr. Chair, I support the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act which has been a remarkable success with overwhelming support among parents whose children participate.

Every American child deserves the opportunity to receive a great education. Education is the key to success no matter your background, race or religion. As a former educator, I know the importance of making sure our children learn the skills they need to succeed in life. And while education is, and should remain, primarily a state and local issue, Congress has constitutional authority for the District of Columbia. I am committed to making sure the parents and teachers in Washington, D.C., and throughout the country, have the

tools necessary to provide a world class education to all children.

No child should have to attend a low performing public school when alternatives are available and those alternatives provide positive and long-lasting benefits for a lifetime. I believe strongly in the authority of parents to direct the education and upbringing of their children with minimal interference from government at any level. Consequently, I am an advocate of charter schools, vouchers, and opportunity scholarships—all of which are supported through this legislation. Choice and the possibility to have an opportunity to attend the highest performing schools is what all parents want for their children.

I am hopeful that with the passage of this legislation many more families will have the opportunity to take advantage of public, charter, and private schools. Research has found voucher recipients are more likely to graduate from high school than their public school counterparts—82 percent of students who took advantage of a scholarship program graduated high school, while only 70 percent of students who applied but did not receive a scholarship graduated high school.

Education is essential to not only individual success, but the success of this great nation. H.R. 10 continues the emphasis on educational quality across D.C. and brings opportunity to those most in need by providing them with the option and means to attend a private school. By providing the opportunity to choose, children in D.C. will have an opportunity for a brighter future. For these reasons, I support this legislation, and thank Speaker BOEHNER for bringing this legislation to the floor.

### HONORING MATTHEW SHAFER

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Matthew Shafer. Matthew is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1125, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Matthew has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Matthew has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Matthew has earned the rank of Warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Matthew has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Matthew constructed an asphalt handicap access trail at the community baseball fields in Lawson, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Matthew Shafer for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America

and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

### CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ROTARY CLUB OF HONOLULU

**HON. MARK TAKAI**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the founding of the Rotary Club of Honolulu.

First chartered on July 1, 1915 with 29 members, membership has now grown to more than 200 members that strive to embody the "service above self" motto of the Rotary Club. The Honolulu Chapter has truly exemplified this motto at every turn. For the last fifty years, the Rotary Club of Honolulu has worked to advocate on the behalf of children, starting with the committee that grew into the Children's Advocacy Center for sexually abused children. Every year, this Rotary Club hosts a Christmas Party for foster children and their families that celebrates the special relationship that they share. The work that they do shows the passion that each member has for serving others and the city and county of Honolulu.

Not only do they work for the betterment of Honolulu, they also work internationally on major humanitarian projects in the Philippines. The projects they do cannot be understated and I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks (mahalo) for all the great work that they do.

Congratulations on this milestone accomplishment to the Rotary Club of Honolulu and I look forward to continue seeing the great work that the Rotary Club of Honolulu does for the next hundred years.

### WAZEE PARTNERS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Wazee Partners for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Mayor's Partnership Award. Selected by Wheat Ridge Mayor Joyce Jay, the Mayor's Partnership Award recognizes businesses showing strong community ties and a positive reflection of Wheat Ridge values.

Wazee Partners has been a critical ally in revitalization efforts in Wheat Ridge. In recent years, they have constructed more than 130 affordable senior housing units. The walkable placement of the Wheat Ridge Town Center Apartments makes the community an ideal place for older Coloradans to enjoy and take advantage of a thriving Colorado city. Wazee's dedication to the residents and their responsiveness to the city make Wazee Partners an asset to the Wheat Ridge community.

• 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.

I applaud Wazee Partners for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate them on their success.

#### HONORING DON CARPENTER

### HON. JOSEPH P. KENNEDY III

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a friend, mentor and tremendous public servant, Don Carpenter. After 20 years as a district court judge and 42 years in the practice of law, Judge Carpenter retired from the bench on October 2, 2015.

Mr. Carpenter began his legal career in 1973 as an associate at a Cape Cod law firm. Deeply dedicated to the local community, he became a public prosecutor shortly thereafter. And for the next 21 years, he faithfully served the people of Barnstable, Dukes and Nantucket Counties, working his way through the ranks to become the First Assistant District Attorney.

He was known as a firm but fair prosecutor who embraced our responsibility to apply the law equally to all. He knew that, while the law could not heal all wounds or right every wrong, it is the strongest tool we have to deliver on the promises of a just society.

His commitment to the Cape Cod community led to his nomination to the state bench. I cannot tell you how many cases Judge Carpenter heard over his two decades in that role. How many disputes he resolved. How many lives he impacted. How many addicts he helped get healthy. How many victims he helped find closure. But I can tell you that there is at least one young prosecutor he helped mentor.

I will never forget knocking on his door after a trial, seeking insight into what I could have done differently or advice on which pitfalls to watch out for the next time. His door was always open, to prosecutors and defense attorneys alike. And, for me, his advice was simple and direct—do what you think is right. The law grants you the ability to request the loss of someone's liberty. Use it wisely. Don't take it lightly.

Mr. Speaker, over the span of a 40-year career in our justice system, Judge Carpenter used the practice of law wisely, fairly and honestly. His retirement is a loss for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the residents of Cape Cod. We wish him and his family well in this new chapter in their lives.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL EDMUND J. BARRETT

### HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Colonel Edmund J. Barrett of New Jersey on his retirement from the United States Army for his military achievements, contributions, and service to the people of New Jersey and the United States of America.

Originally from Moorestown, New Jersey, Colonel Barrett enlisted into the Army Signal Corps in 1984. After a tour in Germany, he attended Rutgers University and the University of Pennsylvania, where he was a ROTC Distinguished Military Graduate.

Over the course of his 31-year career, Colonel Barrett served in Operations Desert Storm and Iraqi Freedom and in a multitude of countries including Germany, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bosnia, Iraq, Afghanistan and Brussels. He studied and mastered Arabic at the Defense Language Institute. He served the Joint Staff, at the Pentagon, working on Iraq, and later, broader Middle East issues, as a Joint Staff Planner. After deployment to Baghdad, Iraq, in 2006 Colonel Barrett became a staff officer at the National Security Agency.

In June, 2012 the Colonel was deployed to Afghanistan with the NATO training Mission as the Senior Advisor to the Afghan National Army (ANA). His work with the ANA prevented over a dozen "Insider Attacks" from Afghan Soldiers or infiltrators on U.S. and Coalition soldiers. After saving countless lives in Afghanistan he came home and returned to NSA as a valuable asset providing firsthand knowledge from his time in the Middle East as he directed the Afghan Mission Management team as a Senior Strategist.

His extraordinary service has earned Colonel Barrett numerous decorations and awards including the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Meritorious Service Medal (2 OLC), the NATO Medal, the German Armed Forces Proficiency Badge, and the Knowlton Award for Excellence in Military Intelligence, and he was presented with the MacArthur Leadership Award in 2000 by the Chief of Staff of the Army.

Additionally, he has been a loving husband and father of four and even made time to coach youth soccer, lead three Habitats for Humanity Church Youth Ministry Builds, and climb to the peak of Kilimanjaro with his then 16 year old son.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Edmund J. Barrett is a great American whose self-sacrifice, leadership, and love of country exemplifies the American spirit. I join his family, friends, and all of New Jersey in wishing him a happy retirement and thanking him for his outstanding service to our country.

#### RIDLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD GRANT

### HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the students of Ridley School District for receiving a grant of nearly \$100,000 to support community service and work on behalf of their community.

For almost 15 years, horticulture classes offered at Ridley High School have provided students the opportunity to grow and harvest fresh fruits and vegetables through the use of greenhouses. A growing interest in these classes has led the school district to expand the program into a year-long student effort to donate their fruits and vegetables to a local food bank. The grant, from the State Farm

Youth Advisory Board, will allow the school district to build more greenhouses and expand the program into the summer, when students can volunteer their time to continue working on their harvests. This will mean more food is sent to those who need it and fewer members of the Delaware County community will go hungry.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the students of Ridley School District and commend them on their hard work and community service.

#### LA FONDA'S MEXICAN RESTAURANT

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud La Fonda's Mexican Restaurant for receiving the City of Wheat Ridge's Council Partnership Award. Selected by the Wheat Ridge City Council, the Council Partnership Award recognizes businesses showing strong community ties and a positive reflection of Wheat Ridge values.

La Fonda's Mexican Restaurant has been a staple of the Wheat Ridge community for decades, and is well known for its delicious Mexican food as well as its rich history. Mexican immigrant Luis Abarca and his partners founded the restaurant in 1971 and were at the forefront of Mexican food becoming a mainstream American tradition. Just as the Abarca family was a critical partner in supporting Colorado culture, La Fonda's Mexican Restaurant is a generous partner and contributor to the Wheat Ridge community today.

I applaud La Fonda's Mexican Restaurant for being the recipient of this well-deserved honor by the City of Wheat Ridge, and I congratulate them on their success.

#### IN TRIBUTE TO DENNIS G. BABCOCK

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 22, 2015*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Dennis G. Babcock, a loyal veteran and resident of Enfield, Connecticut who passed away last month.

Born in Albany, New York in 1940, Dennis served in the U.S. Navy's submarine force from 1958 to 1960. After his service in the Navy, Dennis moved to Connecticut in 1960 where he would launch a 37 year career at Pratt & Whitney Aircraft. A self-identified "post-Korea, pre-Vietnam" veteran, Dennis served as a stalwart advocate for the Connecticut veterans. He served veterans across my district as a driver and advocate for the Disabled American Veterans group.

After joining the Enfield Chapter in 1995, Dennis was appointed commander, remaining in that post until 2015. Dennis was exceptionally devoted to his fellow veterans, pouring his heart out to those who gave their lives for this country. He was a firm believer that "vets help vets," and he would regularly clock in more than 250 miles per day shuttling veterans across the state to their medical appointments.