

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE  
JOSEPH M. GAYDOS, SR.

**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2015*

Mr. MICHAEL F. DOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Joseph Matthew Gaydos, Sr., a member of this body for twelve terms and a tireless advocate for working Americans. He passed away on Saturday, Feb. 7, 2015. He was 88 years old.

Born July 3, 1926, Mr. Gaydos was the youngest of seven children. His parents, Helen (Elena) Megella and Joann (John) Gajdos, (later changed to Gaydos) emigrated from Hungary and first settled in Greene County, Pennsylvania. Mr. Gaydos was born in Brad-dock, but grew up in Glassport where he attended Glassport High School before joining the Navy during World War II.

After returning from the war, he attended Duquesne University and then the University of Notre Dame Law School. Following his graduation in 1951, he served as general counsel to the United Mineworkers Union District 5. He also served as Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania and Assistant Solicitor of Allegheny County before entering politics.

Mr. Gaydos served briefly as a state senator for the 45th District from 1967 to 1968 before being elected to fill the seat left vacant by the death of U.S. Representative Elmer Holland. He was sworn in as a Member of Congress on November 5, 1968; he was the first Slovak-American to serve in Congress. He subsequently served nearly 25 years as the Representative for Pennsylvania's former 20th District.

In Congress, Mr. Gaydos was a strong supporter of the steel industry and a dedicated advocate for his constituents. He founded the Congressional Steel Caucus in the early 1970's, and he was one of the first to alert the public to the consequences of subsidized foreign steel being dumped on the American market. Through the Congressional Steel Caucus, Mr. Gaydos encouraged members "to strengthen trade law enforcement from unfairly subsidized and dumped steel imports," United Steel Workers spokesman Gary Hubbard said to the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review. "He sponsored bills for job safety in industrial workplaces and the coal mines."

In addition, Congressman Gaydos played an important part in drafting the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, which protects workers' pensions.

Shortly after retiring, Mr. Gaydos joined his son's law firm in 1992 and the name changed to "Gaydos, Gaydos & Associates". Mr. Gaydos remained with the firm handling Governmental Relations until 1994 when he retired for the second and final time.

In a recent interview, Joseph Gaydos, Jr. described his father as a humble, hardworking man who had a pragmatic attitude and took the concerns of his constituents very seriously.

"He was never somebody who needed to drive a big car and have the fanciest of things," Joseph Gaydos, Jr. said. "He was a regular fellow who told us to always remember where we came from."

Mr. Gaydos was a proponent of actions over words, his son said. "Don't tell me what you're going to do," Joseph Gaydos, Jr. recalled him saying often. "Show me what you've done."

Mr. Gaydos strived to live up to his own advice and often quoted "A Politician's Prayer," a poem his wife wrote early in his career:

So as a public servant / I pray to God above  
For guidance and humility / and a little bit  
of love.

And after my life's ended / and I lay down to  
rest

I'll know I can truly say / I've done my very  
best.

Mr. Gaydos' friends, family and constituents can all attest to the fact that he did indeed do his very best. Joe Gaydos was a dedicated, hardworking public servant who spent his life championing the interests of working men and women. We could use more men and women like him in public life today.

Joe Gaydos was a good man. I was proud to know him, and I want to extend my deepest condolences to his family and friends on their loss.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DAVID P. ROE**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2015*

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Friday, February 13, 2015 because of a serious illness in my family. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call #81—NAY

Roll Call #82—AYE

Roll Call #83—AYE

### RECOGNIZING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2015*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lunar New Year and to applaud the significant contributions made by Chinese Americans to American life and culture.

Yesterday, Thursday, February 19, marked the first day of the "Year of the Goat."

The Lunar New Year, or "Nian," is a tradition that has been celebrated for more than a thousand years by the Chinese and other persons of Asian ancestry.

The Lunar New Year is cause for celebration in communities all across our country but might I say that no city does it better than my home city of Houston, which will be hosting

the Annual Lunar New Year Houston Celebration this coming weekend.

Celebrants will be treated to a variety of festivities, including parades, festivals, art exhibits, and musical performances.

Mr. Speaker, Americans of Asian Pacific ancestry have positively influenced our country through their strong commitment to family, faith, hard work, and service.

They have enhanced and shaped our national character with centuries-old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural customs of their communities.

Asian Americans have enriched our culture and economy and made significant contributions in every area of American life from the arts and humanities, to the natural and social sciences, to business and the economy, in government, sports, the military, and technology and innovation.

Notable Chinese Americans who have distinguished themselves in the field of the arts and humanities include the two-time Academy Award winning cinematographer, James Wong Howe; Ang Lee, the Academy Award winning director; Maya Lin, the architect who designed the iconic Vietnam Veterans Memorial; I. M. Pei, the famous architect and designer of the Louvre Pyramid; Amy Tan, the best-selling author of *The Joy Luck Club*; Yo-Yo Ma, the world-renowned cellist; and the legendary Bruce Lee, who revolutionized the martial arts film genre.

In the field of business, American life has been enriched by the contributions of Steve Chen, the co-founder of YouTube; Jen-Hsun Huang, the co-founder and CEO of NVIDIA, the computer graphics card company; Min H. Kao, co-founder of Garmin, the GPS software giant; William Wang, the founder and CEO of Vizio; and Jerry Yang, co-founder of Yahoo!

Mr. Speaker, Connie Chung made history as the first Chinese American woman to co-anchor a major network's national news broadcast, as did Norman Bay, the first Chinese American United States Attorney; and Thomas Tang, the first Chinese American federal judge.

Many contemporary Chinese Americans have risen to occupy some of the most important positions in the nation, including my colleagues, Judy Chu and Grace Meng, the first and second Chinese American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives; Dr. Steven Chu, Nobel laureate in Physics and United States Secretary of Energy from 2009–2013; Hiram L. Fong, the first U.S. Senator of Chinese ancestry; Ed Lee, the Mayor of San Francisco; and Gary Locke, former Secretary of Commerce, Ambassador to China, and only Chinese American ever to serve as a Governor.

Mr. Speaker, Kurt Lee was the first Asian American Marine Corps officer and he was followed by John Liu Fugh, the first Chinese American officer to be promoted to the rank of Major General in the United States Army and Coral Wong Pietsch, the first female Chinese American Army General; and it is a source of great pride that the Congressional Medal of

• 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.

Honor was awarded to Francis Wai, so far the only Chinese American to have been so honored.

In the fields of science, engineering, and medicine, Chinese Americans have made significant contributions that have fundamentally changed the way we live and work, including those of Min Chueh Chang, the co-inventor of the first birth control pill; Charles Kao, the 2009 Nobel laureate in Physics who pioneered the development and use of fiber optics in telecommunications; Yuan-Cheng Fung, the founder of modern biomechanics; and NASA astronauts Leroy Chiao and Edward Lu.

Mr. Speaker, according to most recent data reported by the Census Bureau, there are more than 423,609 businesses owned by Chinese Americans generating \$142.8 billion in economic output towards the U.S. economy, along with creating over 780,000 jobs.

As the Member of Congress from the 18th Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to represent a district rich in cultural and ethnic diversity and with a vibrant Chinese-American community.

Mr. Speaker, there are more than four million Chinese-Americans in the United States and Texas is home to more than 167,000 of them; of this latter number, approximately 25 percent, or 43,940, Chinese-Americans live in Harris County, making it the tenth largest community of persons of Chinese heritage in the nation.

Mr. Speaker, Chinese-Americans have made much progress in the United States since May 10, 1860, the date the first trans-continental railroad was completed.

That massive construction project transformed our country for the better and could not have been completed had it not been for the labor of Chinese immigrants.

Despite the enormous progress made challenges still remain of person of Chinese ancestry, particularly the nation's antiquated immigration system which needs to be reformed to make it fairer and more humane.

Celebrating the Lunar New Year helps us to remember how much our country has benefited from the energy, creativity, and service of Chinese Americans.

I encourage all Americans to take part in activities marking this important occasion.

#### RECOGNIZING THE PEOPLE OF BAHRAIN

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2015*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, four years ago, thousands of Bahrainis protested for basic freedoms like the freedom of assembly and expression.

Today, I recognize the people of Bahrain in their ongoing struggle for fundamental human rights.

In many instances over the last four years, protesters have been met with violence, detention, and an unfair judicial system.

Many protesters have alleged they were tortured while in detention.

The government of Bahrain is an important ally and has taken positive steps in response to protests, but much more must be done.

Today I remind my colleagues of Dr. King's famous words, "injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

Today, due to rising instability, areas of Bahrain are considered "off limits" to U.S. military and their families stationed there.

If this trend continues, the security of the region and of the United States could be at risk.

The United States must work with the government and the protesters, firmly and respectfully, to ensure stability in the region, for all people of Bahrain.

#### SUPPORTING THE GERARDO HERNANDEZ SECURITY ACT

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2015*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 720, the Gerardo Hernandez Airport Security Act of 2015, and in tribute to the bill's namesake.

On November 1, 2013, a gunman opened fire in Los Angeles International Airport, killing TSA Officer Gerardo Hernandez and wounding three others before being apprehended. Mr. Hernandez's death was the first time a TSA officer had been killed in the line of duty since the agency's creation following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The tragic shooting at LAX jolted the city of Los Angeles and underscored the need to increase airport preparedness throughout the country. I believe the legislation we are voting on today is an important step in meeting that need.

H.R. 720 is a bipartisan bill that will direct the Department of Homeland Security to identify best practices for airport incident planning and to give necessary technical assistance to all airports under TSA's security supervision. The bill aims to verify that each of these airports have individualized working plans for responding to security incidents, including active shooters, acts of terrorism, and incidents that target passenger-screening checkpoints. The Department will be required to submit a report to Congress detailing its outreach findings so that Congress can continue its oversight role on this issue.

We owe it to Mr. Hernandez and his family to ensure that our airports are prepared and passengers protected. I urge my colleagues to join me in support of H.R. 720.

#### IN HONOR OF JAMES "JIM" D. TACKETT

**HON. DOUG LAMBORN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 20, 2015*

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, Jim began his journey by enlisting and attending basic training December 1, 1972, assigned by the Army to a region in Alaska September of 1973, and left active duty December 22, 1978. Arriving in Colorado in 1983 with his wife and two sons, Jim dabbled in car sales. He joined the Colorado National Guard in 1987 and stayed in until his retirement in 2002. His adventures with the Department of Veterans Affairs began as a work-study student at Fort Carson in March 1986 and then hired by El Paso County February 22, 1988 as an Assistant Veteran

Service Officer to assist veterans and surviving spouses with completing disability claims.

During Jim's 27 years of service to veterans with the El Paso County Veteran Services, he received numerous awards for his outstanding efforts to serve local veterans and became a part of the community that he worked so tirelessly to help in any way he could. Jim has also been an invaluable advisor to me on all topics related to veterans' affairs. I greatly appreciated his service when he was a member of my Veterans Advisory Board for 8 years.

In 1999, Jim collaborated with local veteran organizations to create the El Paso County Homeless Standdown Committee. He served on the standdown committee for 15 years and helped coordinate the annual Standdown event to assist homeless veterans.

Since 2000 Jim has served as President of the Colorado Veterans Resource Coalition, a non-profit organization to assist with veterans' homeless issues, which is operated in collaboration with numerous other veteran service organizations. As part of this Coalition, Jim has provided executive oversight of the purchase and operation of the Crawford House, two transitional housing buildings, and an apartment complex, which provides services such as safe emergency housing for veterans who are homeless, receiving mental health care, and/or safe transitional low income housing.

From 2003 to 2008, Jim served on the Executive Board and as the Vice President of the National Association of County Veteran Service Officers. During this time Jim ensured numerous Colorado County Veteran Service Officers were accredited through the National organization.

Jim played a critical role in the planning of the new national cemetery in southern Colorado. In 2006, Jim was appointed to the Pikes Peak National Veterans Cemetery Committee and has been instrumental in the upcoming construction of a Veterans Cemetery in El Paso County that is anticipated to be open in 2018. Jim also served on a joint committee to name the new Colorado Springs VA Clinic.

Jim was appointed as the El Paso County Veteran Service Officer in 2008, and immediately began an expanded outreach program to ensure El Paso County veterans are aware of local veteran services and programs. Since this program, the Veteran Service Office has almost doubled the yearly office visits which has resulted in a 190 percent increase in the number of claims for veterans and their dependents, and has made the El Paso County Veteran Services Office one of the most active offices in the United States.

In 2014, Jim served on my Veteran Affairs Clinic Naming Committee which honored our local hometown hero, WWII Medal of Honor recipient, PFC Floyd Lindstrom. He also served on the clinic's Grand Opening Committee to open one of the largest VA Community-Based Outpatient Clinics in the United States. During this year, Jim also coordinated with Home Depot to construct a Veterans Memorial at Bear Creek Regional Park that honors El Paso County Veterans and their outstanding service.

Jim is one of the most intelligent, highly respected and dependable service officers in the great state of Colorado. He has given every bit of his heart and soul to the Pikes Peak community and he remains one of the most influential community leaders. I am very proud