

government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC).

As a result, I was absent for roll call votes 557 and 558. Had I been present, I would have voted no on roll call 557, final passage of the Dangerous Synthetic Drug Control Act, H.R. 3537, because it adds new synthetic drugs to Schedule I, expanding mandatory minimum sentences and hindering research on these substances.

I would have voted yes on roll call 558, final passage of H.R. 5392, the No Veterans Crisis Line Call Should Go Unanswered Act. I strongly support H.R. 5392, which will help support veterans experiencing emotional or mental health crises by requiring the Department of Veterans Affairs to develop a plan to ensure that every call paced to the Veteran Crisis Line is answered by a live person.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF LAWRENCE DICKHAUS

HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my long-time constituent, Mr. Lawrence Dickhaus of St. Petersburg, Florida, who sadly passed on September 24, 2016, surrounded by his loved ones.

Having moved to St. Petersburg from the suburbs of Cincinnati, Ohio, Lawrence embodied many of the sacrosanct values that embody the American spirit such as a love of God, strong work ethic, unbridled optimism, the belief in helping others, and a wonderful sense of humor that was enjoyed by everyone he met. A hard-working, blue-collar plumber by trade, Lawrence was also a professional musician as demonstrated by the thousands of lives he touched through his music by entertaining the residents of St. Petersburg with his band, The Downtowners, at the St. Petersburg Pier. His love of music was also demonstrated by the many hours he gave volunteering for the Northeast High School Viking Band. Lawrence was also a lover of recreational fishing, a love that his children and grandchildren have enjoyed, following his example; and a baseball fan who cheered tirelessly for the Tampa Bay Rays.

These admirable qualities in Lawrence made him a loving husband to his wife of 65 years, Phyllis. They also made him an incredible father to his children Debbie, Phil, Marty, Brian, Rob, Patrick and Mary; as well as his nineteen grandchildren, and nineteen great grandchildren. As evidenced by such a large family, it is no wonder that so many residents of my district call the Dickhaus family their friends and neighbors.

Mr. Speaker, I now ask my colleagues to join me and the Dickhaus family in celebrating and honoring the incredible life of Lawrence Dickhaus. His long life as a family man and musician demonstrated his commitment to improving the lives of everybody he touched and worked for. His good nature will be greatly missed by the residents of St. Petersburg.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JUDGE SARAH EVANS BARKER FOR HER 32 YEARS OF EXCEPTIONAL SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF INDIANA

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Judge Sarah Evans Barker and to her exceptional public service. The District Judges of The U.S. District Court, Southern District of Indiana signed a resolution naming Courtroom 216 in Judge Barker's honor, commemorating her 32 years of service. It is where Judge Barker has worked for much of her judicial career. The courtroom resides in the Birch Bayh Federal Building, which has been home to Indiana's Federal Court for over 100 years. The building and the "Sarah Evans Barker Courtroom" is sculpted from Indiana limestone and houses ornate decorative features, and it remains a place where history is made. This courtroom is the first Indiana courtroom to be named for a female judge, and it is fitting that Judge Barker should be the first woman to be honored as she also holds the distinctions of being the first female Assistant U.S. Attorney, first female federal judge, and first female chief judge for the United States District Court in Indiana. She has been a tireless advocate for women's leadership and a great connector of women throughout her career. The people of Indiana's Fifth Congressional District are forever grateful for Judge Barker's contributions to the Hoosier community and our country, and it is my privilege to honor her today.

A lifelong Hoosier, Judge Barker was born in Mishawaka, Indiana. She earned her bachelor's degree in 1965 from Indiana University and later earned her Juris Doctorate from the American University Washington College of Law in 1969. She started her career as a Legislative Assistant to Congressman Gilbert Gude of Maryland and Senator Charles H. Percy of Illinois, eventually working as special counsel to the Senate Government Operations Subcommittee. After her time in Washington, D.C., Judge Barker continued her public service in Indianapolis as an Assistant United States Attorney from 1972 to 1976 under United States Attorneys Stanley B. Miller and James B. Young. She then joined the Indianapolis law firm of Bose, McKinney & Evans where she became a partner. After her time in private practice, in 1981 President Ronald Reagan appointed Judge Barker as the United States Attorney for the Southern District of Indiana and later, in 1984, he appointed her as the first female federal judge for the United States District Court, Southern District of Indiana.

Ever since her appointment in 1984, Judge Barker has been an influential member of the bench. She has shaped judicial practice and policy through her appointments to numerous committees and commissions. In 2004, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist appointed her to the Special Study Committee on Judicial Conduct and Disability, otherwise known as the "Breyer Committee." Chief Justice John G. Roberts asked the Committee to continue its

work and reappointed Judge Barker. In addition, she works on the Judicial Conference of the United States, with the Executive Committee, Long Range Planning Committee, Standing Rules Committee, Budget Committee, and Judicial Branch Committee as well as a number of 7th Circuit committees. She served as president of the 900-member Federal Judges Association from 2007 to 2009 and currently sits on their Board of Directors.

She has been, and continues to be, a dynamic member of the community through her work with various organizations. Judge Barker is an active member of the Morgantown United Methodist Church. She is a member of the Indiana Academy which seeks to encourage and promote charitable, scientific, literary, and educational goals in conjunction with institutions dedicated to these same objectives in the state of Indiana. She also sits on the boards of the Indiana Historical Society, the Indiana University Health Partners, and Conner Prairie. Higher education has a special place in her heart as she is a trustee on the advisory board for Indiana University, as well as its law schools. She has also been a part of search committees for IU law school deans, an IU chancellor, and two IU presidents. She was also appointed by Governor Mitch Daniels to participate in the Indiana Bicentennial Commission. Judge Barker is a member of the Gathering, the Lawyers Club and the Downtown Kiwanis Club of Indianapolis where she shares her wit, good humor, and sharp mind with all in attendance.

Judge Barker has been recognized for her work and contributions through many honors and awards. These awards include the Trailblazer Award given by the Indiana Commission for Women. She has been designated as a Distinguished Alumna of Indiana University. She was given the Living Legend award by the Indiana Historical Society. She was presented the Silver Gavel by the Indianapolis Bar Association. Several Midwestern colleges and universities have conferred ten honorary degrees upon her.

Not only has Judge Barker received many awards and honors, but she continually seeks to nominate deserving women in the community to be recognized. I had the honor to first hear Judge Barker speak at my own law school commencement from the Robert H. McKinney School of Law at Indiana University in May of 1985. Her dedication to provide guidance to young lawyers is inspiring. She is personally committed to championing the women of our community and has been an essential mentor to me as well as many others. Judge Barker is an amazing connector, by providing opportunities for Hoosier women to meet, socialize, and develop professionally. She is an exemplary role model for public servants, and I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for all the wonderful contributions she has made to the Hoosier community. Judge Barker has been a teacher, counselor, and friend to many aspiring public servants.

Despite her long tenure on the bench, Judge Barker cares deeply about each case that comes through her courtroom; she demonstrates genuine care with her decisions, particularly sentencing decisions, which greatly impact lives. Judge Barker has undoubtedly left an immensely profound influence on the court, and it is quite fitting that this beautiful and historic courtroom be named in her honor. On behalf of all Hoosiers, I'd like to congratulate Judge Barker on her success and wish

her, her husband Kenneth, three children, and five grandchildren much joy as they celebrate Sarah's place in history.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE
JAMES PEARCE BRICE

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Congressman BOB GOODLATTE, I submit these remarks to commemorate the life of The Honorable James Pearce Brice, a devoted jurist and public servant to the Commonwealth of Virginia, who was born in Roanoke, Virginia, on August 7, 1926, and passed away on September 15, 2016, at the age of 90.

In our years of practicing law, both Congressman GOODLATTE and I had the pleasure of arguing in front of Judge Brice. We benefited from the expertise and wisdom he shared, as a street lawyer and a personal mentor, accumulated from an accomplished life.

At the age of 16, Judge Brice entered the Virginia Military Institute. He joined the Merchant Marines, as soon as he turned 18, during World War II. He bravely served as a helmsman on an oil tanker in the North Atlantic and suffered the loss of his brother, Robert, on Omaha Beach in 1944.

Before war ended, Judge Brice joined the United States Army and became a Japanese translator and interrogator. With his intelligence and flare for foreign languages, he continued serving with distinction in the Army Counterintelligence Corps in northern Hokkaido after Japan surrendered.

Upon returning from abroad, Judge Brice went back to school and obtained his bachelor's degree from the University of Virginia, then earned his law degree from Washington and Lee University in 1954.

He launched his legal career in private practice back in his hometown of Roanoke. He spent time working for the Veterans Administration, and then the United States District Attorney's Office, as an assistant prosecutor. Judge Brice was dedicated to his vocation. At the age of 42, he was appointed to the bench of the Roanoke General District Court, where he served as judge from 1967 through 1987. He retired as the chief general district judge of the 23rd Judicial Circuit, but continued to travel across the commonwealth as a substitute jurist until the early 2000s.

Judge Brice had a tremendous impact on many of our communities, as well upon countless individuals all across the region. Judge Brice will be remembered as a family man and a friend to many. We always appreciated his outgoing nature and shared his love of history. Judge Brice left the repeated impression of being a compassionate and fair arbiter, and he will be forever remembered by how much he believed in redemption. May his spirit of fairness and compassion remain with us. He will be greatly missed, but his legacy and influence will be long remembered across the entire western region of Virginia.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Judge Brice's wife of 62 years, Phyllis; his three sons, James, Steven, and Michael; his three

grandchildren, Taryn, Trey, and Melissa; his family, friends, and many loved ones. May God give them comfort during this difficult time.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I missed votes on September 26th, 2016, while recovering from a surgical procedure. Had I been present, I would have voted YES on Roll no. 557 and YES on Roll no. 558. I applaud my colleagues on passage of H.R. 5392, the No Veterans Crisis Line Call Should Go Unanswered Act. Recent reports show that as many as one-third of calls to VA's veterans' crisis line go unanswered. Mr. Speaker, this is as unacceptable as it is appalling and I intend to push Secretary McDonald for answers and see that this atrocity is quickly rectified.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF NORTH MISSISSIPPI
RURAL LEGAL SERVICES

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the 50th anniversary of North Mississippi Rural Legal Services (NMRLS).

This organization, formed in 1966 at the University of Mississippi, makes it possible for low-income and elderly residents to have access to legal services they could not otherwise afford.

North Mississippi Rural Legal Services' attorneys provide a wide range of counsel in 39 counties across North Mississippi. Their cases are as diverse as the people they serve. Attorneys have built cases to preserve civil rights, protect vulnerable children, and defend the elderly.

North Mississippi Rural Legal Services has committed leadership in Executive Director Ben Thomas Cole II and Director of Litigation Ruby White. While serving as District Attorney of Mississippi's First Circuit Judicial District, I saw firsthand the dedication to NMRLS of my former colleagues Nebra Porter of Tupelo and current NMRLS board member and Brian Neely of Tupelo who served on the NMRLS board for ten years. North Mississippi Rural Legal Services' attorneys work tirelessly to ensure that the ability of citizens to exercise their rights under the law is not contingent on their ability to navigate the legal system on their own. I look forward to hearing of the good work they will continue to do in the communities of North Mississippi.

I commend North Mississippi Rural Legal Services as they continue their pursuit of justice for all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 26, 2016, I was absent from the House and missed roll call Nos. 557 and 558.

Had I been present for roll call No. 557, motion to suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 3537, the Dangerous Synthetic Drug Control Act of 2016, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for roll call No. 558, motion to suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 5392, the No Veterans Crisis Line Call Should Go Unanswered Act, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, on September 26, 2016 I was absent for recorded votes Number 557 and Number 558.

On Roll Call Number 557 I would have voted no, and on Roll Call Number 558 I would have voted yes.

CELEBRATING THE COUNTRY OF
GEORGIA'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY
OF REGAINING ITS INDEPENDENCE
FROM THE SOVIET UNION

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the country of Georgia's 25th anniversary of regaining its independence from the Soviet Union. In these two short decades, Georgia has embraced freedom and made remarkable progress.

Georgia has worked to become a leading example of democracy in a region where dictatorship is all too common and is reaping the fruits of free market reforms that bolster growth by reducing government regulation, fighting corruption, and simplifying the tax code. Through these efforts, Georgia strengthens its commercial, political, and security ties with the West—particularly with the United States through a strategic partnership built on shared democratic principles.

Georgia has been a steadfast ally of the United States, strongly supporting U.S. security initiatives in the fight against terrorism and is the third largest contributor of troops to the Global War on Terror's Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan.

These accomplishments shine all the more when taken in context of the challenges Georgia continues to face from Russia's voracious appetite for aggression in the region.

Today marks the 23rd anniversary of the fall of Sokhumi, Georgia, to Russian troops and local separatist forces in 1993. The brutal massacre, torture, and expulsion of hundreds of thousands of ethnic Georgians from their