

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT BRIAN L. ZATOR'S THIRTY-TWO YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AND AIR FORCE RESERVE

HON. TIM MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Citizen Airman Chief Master Sergeant Brian L. Zator upon the occasion of his retirement after 32 years of honorable service to our great Nation in the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserve.

Chief Zator was born on April 8, 1966 in Morgantown, West Virginia. He graduated from Saint Francis High School in Morgantown in 1984 and entered the Air Force in July that year. Upon graduation of Administration Management Specialist Course, he was assigned to the 62nd Air Base Group and then to the 446th Airlift Wing, McChord AFB, Washington, from 1984 to 1989, as an Administrative Specialist. In June 1989, he transitioned from the Air Force to the Air Force Reserve, joining the 911th Civil Engineer Squadron, Detachment Number 1, Morgantown, West Virginia as the Non-Commissioned Officer in charge (NCOIC), Management Assistant, of the Orderly Room. Then, in August 1991, he became an Air Reserve Technician, a dual hatted Citizen Airman, serving the Air Force Reserve Command as a Civil Servant during the week and again serving the Air Force Reserve Command as a member of the uniformed service during the weekends and whenever the nation called upon him with the 911th Airlift Wing, Civil Engineer Squadron, Pittsburgh International Airport, Air Reserve Station, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania. In 1995, he was promoted to the grade of Master Sergeant, taking on an active leadership role within the 911th Airlift Wing and within the Air Force Reserve Command. In 1997, he was selected as the winner of the Air Force Reserve Command Outstanding Civil Engineering Air Reserve Technician of the year award. That same year he was a member of the Air Force Reserve Command Outstanding Civil Engineering Squadron of the Year. In 1998, he alone was selected from thousands of his peers within the state, as the winner of the Air Force Association Outstanding Reservist Award for Pennsylvania.

In October 1999, he transitioned careers, both civilian and military, into the Financial Management career field. From October 1999 through October 2006, he was the Financial Management Superintendent as an Air Reserve Technician with the 911th Airlift Wing. In 2000, he again was promoted, this time to the grade of Senior Master Sergeant. Chief Zator was clearly being recognized by leadership within the Air Force Reserve Command for his abilities to assume additional responsibility and to lead within the 911th Airlift Wing. In 2001, he was again individually selected from

thousands of his peers within the state as the winner of the Air Force Association Outstanding Reservist Award for Pennsylvania. In 2003, he was selected as the winner of the Air Force Reserve Command Financial Services Civilian of the Year award, and in 2004 he was selected as the winner of the 911th Airlift Wing Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Year award. In 2005, he deployed to the 496th Air Base Group, Morón Air Base, Spain as a Deployed Paying Agent. That same year, and again in 2006, he was selected as the winner of the Air Force Reserve Command Financial Management Enlisted Superintendent of the Year award and the winner of the 2006, 911th Airlift Wing Civilian of the Year award. In 2006, he was promoted to the highest enlisted rank within the Air Force, Chief Master Sergeant. As a Chief Master Sergeant, one assumes responsibilities for all enlisted troops and serves as a guide and mentor for junior personnel, officer and enlisted, alike.

In November 2006 through January 2013, he served as the Chief of Financial Management for the 911th Airlift Wing. During that time, in 2007 and again in 2008, he was selected as the winner of the Air Force Reserve Command Comptroller Organization of the Year award, and in 2009, he was selected as the winner of the Air Force Reserve Command James E. Short Award for Outstanding Mentorship and Career Development. Then, in 2011, he was selected as the winner of the Air Force Reserve Command Financial Management Enlisted Superintendent of the Year and the winner of the 2011 Defense Finance and Accounting Service-Limestone's Partnership for Success Award. From January 2013 through September 2016, in Chief Zator's final military role within the Air Force Reserve, he was hand selected to be the Command Chief of the 911th Airlift Wing, Pittsburgh International Airport, Air Reserve Station, Coraopolis, Pennsylvania. During this time, Chief Zator served as the Wing Commanders' senior enlisted advisor on matters concerning troop welfare, effective utilization, and progress of the enlisted members of the 911th Airlift Wing. As an example of the work Chief Zator did on behalf of the 911th Airlift Wing, he went about forging partnerships with local educational institutions resulting in college level courses being taught at the 911th Airlift Wing. His vision came to fruition in January 2014, when the 911th Airlift Wing partnered with Robert Morris University and started teaching eight week General Education courses. These courses were part of the initiative to meet the forthcoming requirements for enlisted military personnel to have a Community College of the Air Force Associates Degree for consideration for promotion to Senior Master Sergeant and Chief Master Sergeant. Since this partnership, the 911th Airlift Wing has presented over 150 Community College of the Air Force Associate degrees to its members. The 911th Airlift Wing has gone from not being ranked in the top 25 percent of Community College of the Air Force Associates Degree graduates to being ranked Number 8 in

2014 to being ranked Number 2 in 2015 within the Air Force Reserve.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and a grateful Nation, I extend our deepest appreciation to Chief Master Sergeant Brian Zator for his many years of dedicated service. There is no question that the Air Force, Department of Defense, and the United States benefitted greatly from Chief Zator's visionary leadership, planning, and foresight, and we wish him and his wife, Lorie, and his son Nicolas, the very best.

TAMMY BANFIELD'S STORY

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, on August 17th, 2015 Tammy Banfield was on her way out the door with her 2 year old daughter when she heard a knock on the door that would change their lives forever. Brien, her partner and father to their daughter Kendal, was in the ICU. On August 23, 2015 he was pronounced dead at 38 years old. Brien was a hard worker, a brother, a friend, a partner, and most importantly the father to three amazing girls. He was someone who put others before himself and lent a helping hand whenever possible. Brien struggled with depression, anxiety and an addiction that started at the age of 8. Despite his problems, he always made time for his family. From singing the ABC's to their daughter to cooking her dinner and changing her diapers, Brien always put his family first. Kendal, to this day, still speaks lovingly of her father. Tammy wants no one else to go through her family's trouble and she has seen firsthand that it is possible to recover from addiction. Tammy has two brothers who were able to recover from the treatment and an ongoing, consistent support team. Each individual's support team looks different; for some it is groups like AA, NA and the up-and-coming HA, while others rely on family and friends who have recovered. None of these options are possible without the ability to first seek and receive comprehensive, quality treatment.

HONORING DR. PAUL MODRICH

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Paul Modrich, who grew up in Raton, New Mexico and won the 2015 Nobel Prize in Chemistry with Tomas Lindahl and Aziz Sancar. Dr. Modrich was awarded the Nobel Prize for explaining and mapping how the human body repairs mistakes in DNA replication during cell division, which experts say

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will aid future research into the treatment of cancer and various illnesses associated with aging.

Dr. Modrich grew up in Raton, a town of less than 7,000 people in northern New Mexico, and graduated from Raton High School in 1964. From a young age, he frequently took on science projects with an inquisitive spirit that made it no surprise to family and friends when he decided to pursue a career as a scientist. After graduating, Dr. Modrich headed east to study biology at MIT, then moved to Stanford for his doctorate in biochemistry. He has spent most of his professional career at Duke University, where he became the James B. Duke Professor of Biochemistry in 1988.

Despite the geographic diversity of his endeavors, Dr. Modrich credits his childhood in Raton as a key inspiration for his career in science. "There was huge biological diversity around me," he said. "Within five miles, the ecology can change dramatically. It was very thought provoking." Raton is a special place where deep roots and a strong connection to the land are hallmarks of this community, and these qualities have left a lasting impact on Paul Modrich.

Dr. Modrich's accomplishments serve as a reminder that New Mexico is home to immense talent. His success stands as a testament to the virtues of hard work, determination, and curiosity, and provide an example that will encourage young people in New Mexico and across the country to follow their dreams and change the world. Dr. Modrich has shown that just because you are from a small town does not mean you can't go on to do big things. Again, congratulations to Dr. Modrich on his tremendous achievement. The people of Raton and New Mexico are proud of him.

RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF MONTENEGRO'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Montenegro on the tenth anniversary of their independence, which will occur on Saturday, May 21.

Ten years ago this week, voters in Montenegro went to the polls in a referendum which posed the question, "Do you want Montenegro to be an independent state?" When the dust settled in the evening of May 21, 2006, 55.5 percent of voters chose to peacefully dissolve the union with Serbia.

Shortly thereafter, all five members of the United Nations Security Council recognized the newest country in the world. In a region marked by bullets and bombs, this was the beginning of a praiseworthy chapter in regional and trans-Atlantic history.

In addition, I am very pleased that this proud nation is on a path to become the newest member of NATO. Its inclusion in NATO will strengthen regional and trans-Atlantic security, and sends a strong message of strength to friend and foe alike.

Given that countries much larger than Montenegro often dominate our foreign policy, it is easy to overlook the importance of ten years of U.S.-Montenegro relations.

U.S. government assistance to Montenegro has aimed to help the country advance toward Euro-Atlantic integration, increase its ability to fight organized crime and corruption, strengthen its civil society and democratic structures, and provide stability in the fragile Balkans.

Meanwhile, American business leaders likewise play a vital role. For example, the Stratex Group is the largest American investor in Montenegro. The CEO was one of the first Jewish families to flee the scourge of Soviet Communism settling in our great country. Today, his company is working alongside our Embassy and recently just hosted airmen from the Air War College. Only two places in Montenegro fly the American flag: the U.S. Embassy and the Stratex properties.

Beyond strengthening our formal diplomatic alliance, my colleagues here in Congress must endeavor to creatively promote business and cultural diplomacy—in Montenegro and around the world. We must encourage our diplomats to have a greater appreciation for American investments in emerging democracies.

I believe that with a full commitment to rule of law, transparency and an independent judiciary, Montenegro will achieve its stated goal of further attracting American investors and, in the process, strengthen the trans-Atlantic community.

With the focus of Congress, I am confident Montenegrin government leaders will fully commit to prioritizing these critical reforms and educating a new generation about conducting corruption-free business in the 21st century. As Chairman of the Montenegro Caucus, I will continue to support Montenegro, and I will continue to support a stable, secure Europe based on collective self-defense, free trade and economic freedom, the rule of law, and democracy.

PEOPLE LIE—NUMBERS DON'T

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today on this Restoration Tuesday, I rise to bring attention to the continued voter suppression affecting Americans around the country during this election year and the ongoing battle to protect the constitutional right to vote.

It has been said that new restrictive voting laws were made to prevent voter fraud, but there is little evidence showing a significant problem. It has been said that having certain photo IDs are a simple request for those seeking to vote, while thousands of Americans such as the elderly, college students and city-dwellers who use public transportation and others lack such newly required IDs. Much is done in the name of noble reasons, but often the truth lies not in words but in deeds and results. The truth is this—Americans want to vote, but these new suppressive state voting laws are making it especially difficult.

Here are some numbers: Seventeen states have introduced new voting procedures to be in place for the November election, more than half of which are being challenged in court. In all, over 30 states across the country have implemented new restrictive laws aimed at blocking the American people from the ballot box. After the Supreme Court decision in the

Shelby case, the state of Alabama closed over 30 DMVs, the most common location to receive a photo ID. Strict voting ID laws in Texas could leave up to 600,000 voters without the proper ID. Also in 2008, Arizona had 400 voting polls. They went down to 200 voting polls in 2012 and now in 2016 they are down to 60.

Across the nation, voting polls have been shut down and voters have been shut out. New photo ID laws have been passed and eligible voters have been passed up. With so many new state laws that have made it harder for voters to get to the polls, we must take a hard look around and ask the question—why don't we want people to vote? Why make voting for eligible voters harder and not easier? Are these new laws really about preventing voter fraud? The leaders in Congress need to have answers to these questions. Suppression of the right to vote is especially un-democratic and ultimately un-American.

In the midst of this devastating blow to our democratic process, here are some numbers that we can be proud of: Virginia Governor Terry McAuliffe recently restored voting rights to about 200,000 individuals with a past felony conviction. On March 10th of this year, Maryland also restored the right to vote for an estimated 40,000 individuals with past felony convictions. It is encouraging to see examples of leaders who believe in our democracy and believe in the Constitutional right to have one's voice heard through their right to vote.

I don't have to remind anyone that this is an election year. But when I look around and see the ongoing suppression of the right to vote, I feel obligated to remind us all of what is at stake in this election. Every voice matters, every vote matters. Unfortunately, if eligible voters continue to be hindered by these new suppressive state laws; every voice will not be heard. Every potential vote will not be counted.

Voting rights need to be protected and eligible voters need proponents of the Constitution and the democratic process to fight for them—to fight for their rights. The suppression needs to stop, the oppression needs to stop, and the excuses need to stop. There is too much at stake this election year and Congress needs to stand up and do something about it now.

On this Restoration Tuesday, I give us all the charge to battle against the continued suppression of the American vote and stand strong by our principles of democracy, liberty, and justice for all.

Mr. Speaker, my Republican colleagues should join the 168 members of Congress and support H.R. 2867—the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015. Let's restore the Voting Rights Act of 1965. It is the right thing to do.

ANGELS OF ADDICTION

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, Angels of Addiction is an organization created by Anne Marie Farley Zanfagna about a year after the death of her youngest daughter, Jacqueline Zanfagna. Jacqueline died of a heroin overdose on October 18, 2014. At the time of