

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ANNOUNCING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2016 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION FOR THE 16TH DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2016 recipients of the Congressional Veteran Commendation in the 16th District of Illinois.

The eight veterans receiving this commendation have served this country honorably and fought for the freedoms we hold dearly. These veterans answered their country's call during World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, and they served with honor and distinction. As a fellow war veteran, I thank them for their patriotism and sacrifices on behalf of our nation.

After these veterans served their country, they came home to serve their communities. They are civic leaders, active citizens, and many continue to serve their military brothers and sisters through veteran service organizations. Although their mission has changed since returning to civilian life, their leadership and tenacity have not.

The recipients of the 2016 Congressional Veteran Commendation are: Lance Corporal Glenn Borvansky of Marseilles, IL; Seaman Charles R. Brown of Diamond, IL; Sergeant John F. Duback of Ottawa, IL; Specialist Four Wayne A. Eichelkraut of Ottawa, IL; Sergeant Mervin Eutis of Grand Ridge, IL; Master Sergeant Glen Maubach of Blackstone, IL; Specialist Five Harold R. Olsen of Arlington, IL; and Specialist Five Richard Sanders of Dixon, IL.

I am honored to be able to recognize these notable veterans. The recipients of this commendation serve as the embodiment of both military and civil service, and it is my hope they will inspire the next generation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I was absent due to a delayed flight into Washington. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on H.R. 5388 (Roll Call No. 335).

IN CELEBRATION OF MRS. EVEREE JIMERSON CLARKE'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 90th birthday of Mrs. Everee Jimerson Clarke of Pleasant City, Florida.

Everee was born on July 6, 1926, to Cynthia and Reverend William Jimerson in Pleasant City, Florida. While she moved to Jacksonville, Florida, as a child, she continued to maintain a strong connection with her hometown. She would regularly visit Pleasant City and attended Industrial High School.

She attended college at the historically Black institution Lincoln University, before moving to New York to attend Juilliard School of Music in the dance department. In 1960, she established the Everee School of Charm and Dance, while also becoming a political activist in Newark, New Jersey.

Since she returned back to Pleasant City in 1965, she has been active in local politics and business development. In 1975 and 1976, Everee was recognized by "Who's Who in Among Black Americans." In 1987, she was appointed by Governor Bob Martinez and the Florida Senate to serve on the Broward County Historic Preservation Board of Trustees.

Pleasant City is the oldest African American Community in Palm Beach County. She has been committed to preserving its history and providing educational and cultural events, as well as opportunities for its descendants.

Everee has received numerous awards for her service, including the Community Service Award from the Black Educators Caucus and the Daughters of the American Revolution. She was also awarded the Historic Preservation Award from the City of West Palm Beach, and the Fannie James Pioneer Achievement Award from the historical Society of Palm Beach County.

Mr. Speaker, on this momentous occasion, please join me in honoring Mrs. Everee Jimerson Clarke for her life of service and commitment to cultural preservation. I wish her a very happy 90th birthday, and many more years success and happiness to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Number 334 on H.R. 5525, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a weather-related flight cancellation. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM GRAVES

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 334, I was absent due to inclement weather. Had I been present, I would have vote Yes.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I was absent due to a delayed flight into Washington. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on H.R. 5389 (Roll Call No. 336).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 334, the End Taxpayer Funded Cell Phones Act of 2016, had I been present, I would have voted YEA.

HONORING MARIE SPAK UPON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished service of Marie Spak who will retire after 43 years as office manager in the State Attorney's office at the Tolland Judicial District.

I had the special privilege of witnessing Marie's diligent work for many years. First when I was an Assistant Public Defender and later as an attorney in private practice. Marie started her work with the judicial branch for the State of Connecticut in East Hartford during September of 1973. In 1974, she joined the State Attorney's Office, where she worked with four different State's Attorneys during her tenure. She is finishing her service as the most senior member of AFSCME in the Division of Criminal Justice.

● 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 had the privilege of witnessing her admirable and dedicated efforts during these years. Her command of the office operations, getting cases ready for court, lining up witnesses, and executing judgments for trials, probation, and incarcerations was outstanding. Her ability to perform was also shown in Marie never making a single mistake in the thousands of files she worked on. I honestly do not remember Marie ever making a mistake in the thousands of files she worked on, dealing with very sensitive issues such as citizens' property and personal freedom. She is extraordinary.

I also want to express my admiration for the way she handled all of the stress, drama, and emotion that were part of the office environment, day in and day out. Marie was incredibly "cool, calm, and collected" in that arena, while at the same time always willing to listen and help visitors to the office, if she could. Marie always had a sense of humor—there were days when life in the Tolland Judicial District felt like a sitcom, with laughs and eye rolls.

Also, at the same time, Marie balanced family life as a devoted daughter, wife, and mother. When I talked with Marie about her family, it was clear to me that they appropriately always came first. Now, Marie embarks on this new chapter of her life, with the ability to spend more, well deserved, time with her family. I would like to thank her again for her outstanding service for 43 years and for setting an example of diligent, hard work for the public good for our state and region.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, due to an unforeseen conflict, I unavoidably missed the following votes on June 21, 2016.

Had I been present I would have voted as follows:

On roll call No. 334, I would have voted "nay" (June 21) (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 5525, "End Taxpayer Funded Cell Phones Act of 2016.")

On roll call No. 335, I would have voted "yea" (June 21) (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 5388, "Support for Rapid Innovation Act of 2016.")

On roll call No. 336, I would have voted "yea" (June 21) (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 5389, "Leveraging Emerging Technologies Act of 2016.")

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I was absent due to a delayed flight into Washington. Had I been present, I would have voted nay on H.R. 5525 (Roll Call No. 334).

IN RECOGNITION OF ALDER CREEK MIDDLE SCHOOL RECEIVING A SCHOOLS TO WATCH AWARD

HON. TOM MCCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. MCCLINTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate the students, faculty, and staff of Alder Creek Middle School in Truckee, California for receiving the 2016 Schools to Watch award, which is presented to the top 145 middle schools nationwide. This is a great accomplishment for Alder Creek and Northern California.

The Schools to Watch award recognizes Alder Creek's academic excellence, developmental responsiveness, and social equity after a rigorous review process to identify middle schools achieving excellence in each category.

Alder Creek has exemplified academic excellence by challenging its students and encouraging them to use their minds in ways that surpass typical middle school curriculum. The instruction and assessment at schools recognized for receiving the Schools to Watch award are aligned with ideals that focus on every student's understanding of essential concepts and skills that are applicable beyond the classroom. The teaching methods at Alder Creek involve a variety of engaging and effective activities, allowing students' talents to flourish.

Additionally, Alder Creek is praised for its ability to successfully address and accommodate the various developmental challenges of early adolescence and the needs of each of its students. Alder Creek provides each student with a personalized environment that supports unique ethical, social, physical, and intellectual aspects of development. Alder Creek's teachers support every student's curiosity and creativity in a well-organized, encouraging environment coupled with relevant curriculum catered to the personal interests of the adolescents.

Mr. Speaker, Alder Creek Middle School has earned a prestigious spot as one of the best in the country. I am honored to share this proud moment with the nation and congratulate Alder Creek's faculty, staff, and students on their tremendous accomplishment.

HONORING K-9 OFFICER DARA AND OFFICER ANDREW KALET

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize K-9 Officer Dara and her handler, Officer Andrew Kalet, of the City of Auburn Police Department, for their valiant actions in quickly apprehending and securing a dangerous and high risk suspect who fled police on February 26, 2013.

The fleeing suspect had attempted to dispose of valuable evidence, but thanks to K-9 Officer Dara's fearless and efficient actions, officers were able to recover this evidence, and no officers were hurt while working to apprehend the suspect.

Though K-9 Officer Dara is now retired, her actions secured the safety of everyone involved in a volatile situation and she deserves to be properly recognized for her heroic actions. I am honored to pay tribute to K-9 Officer Dara and Officer Andrew Kalet for their brave actions that led to a safe ending of a tense situation.

I would also like to recognize all K-9 Officers and their handlers for the extraordinary work they do each and every day. K-9 Officers approach every situation, no matter how dangerous with complete and total confidence and fearlessness to protect their human partners. K-9 Officers are an asset to all law enforcement and I am proud to recognize them for their service.

PERSONALIZE YOUR CARE ACT 2.0

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, one of the most difficult and challenging situations any family faces is dealing with circumstances surrounding end of life. From sweeping changes to how care is delivered, to the rise of personalized medicine, patients today have more treatment options than ever before. With these medical advances, the line between life and death can sometimes be blurred, which has changed the way we must talk about how we want to live and die.

There is substantial evidence that suggests the care individuals want to receive at the end of life is not necessarily the type of care they do receive. Oftentimes patients receive aggressive treatment that not only substantially shortens the length of life, but the quality. Other times, patients find the health care system undervalues the quality of their life, withholding treatments they would otherwise want to receive.

To this end, individuals should have the opportunity to participate actively in making decisions about their health care throughout their lives and receive care consistent with their values, goals, and informed preferences. Patients should feel empowered to make informed choice about the health care they want and to have their care decisions blurred by their providers and family.

During the Affordable Care Act debate, I saw an opportunity to apply lessons learned in Oregon with its landmark comprehensive palliative care programs that give patients more of a say about the medical treatment they want at the end of life. I worked to ensure that Congress included a payment for doctors to talk to patients and families about advance care planning in the Affordable Care Act. Unfortunately, this provision wasn't included in the final legislation due to a breakdown of the legislative process.

Last year, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) finalized a new benefit, allowing doctors to receive reimbursement to have voluntary advance care planning conversations with their patients. For the first time, the federal government has placed a value on these critical doctor-patient discussions.

Yet my work to improve end-of-life care is far from over, and it is for these reasons that