

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

I am introducing the bipartisan Personalize Your Care Act 2.0, legislation that will strengthen end-of-life care by establishing new models of care delivery that will better manage advanced illness, improve quality of care, and enhance training, resources, and tools for providers, patients, and their families.

Ideally, health care should work in sync with social, psychological, and spiritual support as the end of life approaches. Care near the end of life must be patient-centered and family-oriented. This legislation is supported by patient advocates, physicians, nurses, and the faith community, who understand how advance care planning fundamentally improves quality of care and quality of life. To that end, I ask my colleagues to join me and support this important piece of legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I was delayed in my return to Washington, D.C. due to inclement weather and missed the following votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"No" on roll call No. 334, on the End Taxpayer Funded Cell Phones Act of 2016 (H.R. 5525); and,

"Yes" on roll call No. 335, on the Support for Rapid Innovation Act of 2016 (H.R. 5388); and,

"Yes" on roll call No. 336, on Leveraging Emerging Technologies Act of 2016 (H.R. 5389).

HONORING WAYNE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY CRAIG PAGNOTTI

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Craig Pagnotti of the Wayne County Sheriff's Department. On Saturday, May 28, 2016, Deputy Pagnotti apprehended two different suspects, each on a separate felony charge, over the course of the day.

On May 28, around 9:00 a.m., Deputy Pagnotti responded to a domestic complaint in Lyons, New York. Upon arrival, the suspect, who had an outstanding warrant for his arrest, fled the scene on foot. Without hesitation, Deputy Pagnotti pursued and apprehended the suspect, pulling a tendon in his arm while taking the suspect into custody. Deputy Pagnotti was admitted to the hospital, where he received a cast for his injured arm.

Shortly after being discharged from the hospital, Deputy Pagnotti continued with his shift and pulled over a vehicle for speeding, just outside of Arcadia, New York. After Deputy Pagnotti discovered drugs in the vehicle, the suspect fled on foot, striking the Deputy in the face and arm. Shortly after the suspect was apprehended, Deputy Pagnotti was taken to the hospital and diagnosed with a broken left arm.

I am honored to recognize Deputy Pagnotti for his heroic actions on May 28, 2016. Dep-

uty Pagnotti's efforts in this situation exemplify the commitment and dedication of the Wayne County Sheriff's Department. I want to thank Deputy Pagnotti and all those serving in law enforcement in Wayne County and throughout the 24th District.

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. 335 the Support for Rapid Innovation Act of 2016, had I been present, I would have voted Yea.

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 335 on H.R. 5388, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a weather-related flight cancellation. Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

TRIBUTE TO TROOPER SHAUN SMITH

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Trooper Shaun Smith of the New York State Police. On Thursday, June 2, 2016, Trooper Smith saved the life of a 12-year old child.

On June 2, Trooper Smith, who was off-duty at the time, was swimming laps at the Norwest Family YMCA in Lysander, New York, when he noticed a 12-year old suddenly go into cardiac arrest and fall underneath the water. With the help of the 12-year old's friend, Trooper Smith pulled the boy out of the water and immediately began administering CPR. Shortly after, a lifeguard assisted in applying an AED to the 12-year old boy. Trooper Smith was also assisted by a registered nurse and a respiratory therapist who happened to be in the area during the event.

I am honored to recognize Trooper Smith for his heroic actions on June 2, 2016. The 12-year old boy is now fully recovered thanks to his brave actions. Trooper Smith's efforts in this situation exemplify the dedication of the New York State Police. I want to thank Trooper Smith and all New York State Police officers for their bravery and commitment to serving our communities.

IN RECOGNITION OF LIEUTENANT COLONEL SEAN C. BRAZIEL

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the service of Lieu-

tenant Colonel Sean C. Braziel, who serves as the Strategic Operations Officer for the Marine Corps Intelligence Activity (MCIA). Sean will retire from the Marine Corps on September 1st, 2016, after 20 years of distinguished and faithful service to this great nation. Throughout his unique career, Lieutenant Colonel Braziel has had the opportunity to serve our country in capacities that span intelligence analysis, policy, and operations.

Prior to his current assignment, Lieutenant Colonel Braziel served as the head of Intelligence Plans and Policy for Headquarters Marine Corps, and as the Marine Corps liaison officer to the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) where he planned sensitive, strategic operations and briefed cabinet-level officials to positively affect U.S. national security objectives. At the CIA, he also served as the chief of crisis operations, leading joint military and interagency teams to more than 27 countries serving in combat operations on 13 separate deployments in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other contingency areas. As a major, Lieutenant Colonel Braziel served as the intelligence officer for the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit where he led the intelligence effort for crisis and contingency operations, and integrated the first Marine Special Operations Company detachment to deploy aboard U.S. Navy shipping. Sean was the head of the Imagery Branch for MCIA where he tasked and integrated national collection assets to support Marine Corps and Navy operations in the wake of 9/11. He also served as the Air Combat Element intelligence officer for the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, the air combat intelligence officer, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing, and the Marine Aircraft Group-16 intelligence officer.

In addition to his distinguished career as a Marine, Sean has used his talents to inspire the youth of this nation as a head coach for junior hockey and is a volunteer coach and speaker to USA Hockey's National Team Development Program in Plymouth, Michigan. He has led and developed athletes and diverse teams toward success, including the 2015 U-18 AA Youth Hockey National Championship. He has spoken at the semi-annual NCAA Division I Coaches Symposium on ethics in coaching and leading elite teams.

Lieutenant Colonel Braziel is married to the former Janet Jumper of Burke, VA. He has one son, Collin, and he and Janet have two daughters, Claire and Chelsea. The love and support of his family has aided and strengthened Sean throughout his service and I congratulate them as well on this special occasion. I am proud to share in the celebration of Lieutenant Colonel Braziel's military career. As he and his family move to this next chapter of life, I wish Sean "fair winds and following seas" as he embarks on his future endeavors. Semper Fidelis, Marine.

SIT-IN PROTEST ON GUN SAFETY LEGISLATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues sitting in on the House floor in tribute to the victims of the Orlando nightclub shooting and all those who