

With programs like the one envisioned by this bill, teachers could far more easily transfer their skills to another participating state. Teachers would benefit from the ability to more easily relocate, while schools and districts would have superior options for filling teacher shortages. Above all, students will benefit from rigorous standards set by their home state and will have increased access to high-quality teachers.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Interstate Teaching Mobility Act.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ROMEO LOMAS

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Romeo Lomas for his dedicated service to his fellow Texans.

Romeo Lomas served as the longest tenured County Commissioner in Kleberg County. He was adored by the people in his precinct, who convinced him to run for office in 1979 after a career as a barber and an enlistment in the U.S. Army. For 38 years, Mr. Lomas played an integral role in the development of his community by championing causes for the poor and elderly. Lomas was a staunch proponent of voting rights and encouraged citizens to participate in the electoral process. He was a strong advocate of equal opportunities for workers in Kleberg County and supported wage raises. While Mr. Lomas accomplished much in life, one of his greatest achievements during his time in office was the establishment of the Kleberg County Human Services Department which continues to provide hot meals and public transportation for disabled and elderly citizens in the area today.

Romeo Lomas was born on September 3, 1937 to Santiago and Estella Lomas in Kingsville, TX. He was married to Doris Lee Lomas, who lost her battle with cancer in July, 2014. He is survived by his daughter, Crystal Runyon, one granddaughter, Luna Lee Runyon, and a sister, Hilda Garcia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Romeo Lomas for his lifetime of service to our community. I considered him a friend and a role model, and his loss will be felt for a long time to come.

HONORING DELILAH RUMBURG ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER 23 YEARS OF SERVICE AS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA COALITION AGAINST RAPE

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my sincere congratulations to my constituent, Delilah Rumburg, on her upcoming retirement after more than 23 years of service as Chief Executive Officer of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR).

Delilah began her service to our community in 1981, at ACCESS York, a domestic vio-

lence shelter in the 4th Congressional District. In her own words, she knew she found her life's work and later joined PCAR as its CEO in 1995. Since then, she has led PCAR's tremendous growth and outreach to communities in Pennsylvania and throughout the Nation. Delilah served on the Pennsylvania Task Force for Child Protection, as the Civilian Deputy Co-Chair of the Department of Defense Task Force on Sexual Assault in the Military Services, and as Co-Chair of the U.S. Department of Defense Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies.

Delilah's tireless dedication, professionalism and passion towards ending sexual violence has touched the lives of countless people and challenged all with whom she served to be the best. Her legacy of service to our community and Nation truly is admirable.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I commend and congratulate Delilah Rumburg on her tireless service, and wish her and her family continued great success in their future adventures.

MARKING THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I join in celebrating the twenty-seventh anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), legislation I was proud to introduce and shepherd to passage with bipartisan support.

Few laws have had as broad an impact as the ADA, which reshaped the very landscape of America for people with differing abilities, literally opening doors and, with them, opportunities. It has enabled millions to live with greater independence and dignity, and it continues to inspire other nations to adopt their own laws guaranteeing equal access and equal opportunity for all.

I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues in both parties to build on the ADA's successes and ensure that the promise of America can be kept in full for those with disabilities.

IN HONOR OF NEW YORK STATE ASSEMBLYWOMAN NETTIE MAYERSOHN'S BABY AIDS BILL

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of former New York State Assemblywoman Nettie Mayersohn, and her landmark law, commonly known as the "Baby AIDS" bill, that was enacted in New York State On June 26, 1996. The Baby AIDS bill requires mandatory testing of infants for the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) and HIV antibodies, and authorizes disclosing the results to infants' doctors and guardians.

Before the Baby AIDS bill became law, infants born in New York State were tested for

the HIV antibody through studies that the New York State Department of Health initiated in 1987. But confidentiality laws at the time required these tests to be anonymous. Therefore, the guardians and doctors of the infants who tested positive were kept in the dark about the results. This caused nearly sixty percent of the 1,500–1,800 infants who tested positive per year to be sent home without diagnosis or treatment. As a mother myself, I cannot imagine the horror of being legally barred from knowing the health status of my child. That is why I am proud to recognize Assemblywoman Mayersohn for her relentless efforts on the behalf of New York families.

When Assemblywoman Mayersohn was informed that existing New York State law was preventing babies with HIV from being treated, she immediately took action by introducing the Baby AIDS bill in the New York State Assembly in 1993. As lawmakers, we all know that bills can go through multiple versions and can face criticism from the community. The Baby AIDS bill was no different. Assemblywoman Mayersohn worked tirelessly to show opposition groups that the Baby AIDS bill would allow infants to receive the treatment that they desperately needed and their guardians and doctors to be informed about their condition. As Assemblywoman Mayersohn said, "I went to bed with it, and I woke up with it." Assemblywoman Mayersohn's efforts paid off, and it is no wonder that Assemblywoman Mayersohn's colleagues gave her a standing ovation after the final version of the Baby AIDS bill passed in the assembly in 1996.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to say that due to Assemblywoman Mayersohn's hard work, every infant in New York State is legally required to be tested for HIV and require hospitals to inform the infant's parent or guardian of the results. Statistics gathered soon after the law was enacted showed a 98.8 percent success rate in the number of HIV infants identified and connected to treatment. According to the New York State Health Department, from 1998 to 2013, Assemblywoman Mayersohn's Baby Aids law saved an estimated 900 infants from a lifetime of HIV. I am truly honored to recognize Assemblywoman Mayersohn, fondly known as "Nettie", and her law that truly improved the quality of life for so many New Yorkers.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER OF STEVE HAMMOND

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Steve Hammond on the occasion of his retirement as CEO of Visit Sacramento, the City of Sacramento's innovative tourism bureau. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Hammond for his leadership and commitment in the community to promoting Sacramento and refining its image as a tourist destination.

Since being appointed to the position of CEO in 1999, Mr. Hammond has overseen a hugely successful campaign to re-brand Sacramento as a major attraction to visitors. He has encouraged businesses to hold events and conventions in Sacramento, capitalized on

the city's sports and entertainment opportunities, and spearheaded an inventive campaign to brand Sacramento as America's Farm-to-Fork Capital. By taking advantage of Sacramento's unique location in the heart of California's Central Valley, Mr. Hammond launched a movement that has revitalized Sacramento's restaurant scene and boosted business for local hotels and farmers.

In great part due to Mr. Hammond's dedication to his agency, Visit Sacramento's budget has grown from \$2 million to \$11 million, and its staff has more than doubled. In addition, Mr. Hammond is an extraordinarily active member of the community: He sits on the Boards of the Sacramento Downtown Partnership, the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, the Sacramento Regional Sports and Education Foundation, and the Sacramento Hotel Association.

Mr. Speaker, I stand to pay tribute to Steve Hammond, outgoing CEO of Visit Sacramento, as his friends and colleagues celebrate his well-earned retirement. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring his tenacity and dedication on behalf of the people of Sacramento, as well as his creativity in building up my beloved hometown as a destination for business, food, and culture.

TRIBUTE TO CHRISTOPHER
WILLIAMSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Christopher Williamson, a dedicated individual who devotes his life to protecting and defending the communities of South Carolina. Mr. Williamson has recently been appointed as the South Carolina Highway Patrol's first African American commander.

From the time he joined in 1988, Williamson has led a rewarding career within the South Carolina Highway Patrol. Williamson is a native of Darlington, South Carolina and was born into a family whose values were founded on hard work, personal integrity and community service. He graduated from Fayetteville State University in 1985 with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science and a minor in Police Science. Soon after college, Williamson began his career within the law enforcement realm as a Correctional Officer with the South Carolina Department of Corrections.

In 1986, Williamson accepted a position with the Darlington County Sheriff's Department as a Deputy and within two years, he joined the South Carolina Highway Patrol. His service on the Highway Patrol showed his great dedication, leadership, and dedication. He rose through the leadership ranks by eventually becoming Lieutenant Colonel in 2011 and last month, he was appointed the Commander of the South Carolina Highway patrol. As Commander, he is responsible for overseeing all Patrol operations statewide.

Mr. Williamson's service to his community is not limited to his position as Commander. In 2014 he received a master's degree in Clinical and Behavioral Counseling. He has served as a Youth Advocate Counselor in Berkeley County, a Camp Counselor, and even founded his

own non-profit organization that provides mentoring and life skill services for youth. He works hard to prepare youth within his county to become productive members of society. He is a fellow member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., and he represents our fraternity by providing service to the world around him.

Mr. Williamson's career has taken him across the state of South Carolina and he has touched many lives. His humble upbringing and genuine qualities have enabled him to effectively serve his community. Throughout his career, he was actively involved in community service and has received numerous honors and awards for these efforts. He has made history by being appointed to this position and I am proud to call him a fraternity brother and personal friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in recognizing this barrier-breaking public servant, and to wish him Godspeed and continued success. Col. Christopher Williamson is a pioneer and an innovator in the law-enforcement arena and has earned the respect of the great state of South Carolina.

CELEBRATING THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF NAS-KINGSVILLE

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Naval Air Station (NAS) Kingsville as it marks 75 years of service to the U.S. Navy and our nation.

Located in Kingsville, Texas, the Naval Air Station was opened on July 4, 1942. Inspired by the establishment of the nearby Naval Air Station in Corpus Christi, a group of Kingsville civic leaders approached Navy officials at NAS Corpus Christi about creating a military airfield in February, 1941. While they did not receive official permission at that time, NAS Corpus Christi's commanding officer, Captain Alva D. Bernhard, expressed enthusiasm about the idea.

After the December 7, 1941 Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Captain Bernhard predicted a military build-up including the influx of new trainees which would exceed the capacity of NAS-Corpus Christi, and plans to construct a new airfield in Kingsville began.

The airfield was quickly built on 3,000 acres of land bought from the B.O. Sims family. During World War II, the airfield, designated as "P-4," housed four squadrons. The squadrons taught gunnery skills for combat air crews, in addition to fighter and bomber tactics. After the war, the base was given to the City of Kingsville, which leased it to the Texas College of Arts and Industries. It was primarily used by the Department of Agriculture and expanded under the college's ownership.

The base was reactivated as a military installation in April, 1951, as an auxiliary air station, and trained roughly 300 aviators a year during the mid-1960s. In 1967, Congress approved \$3.8 million in funding for NAS-Kingsville, allowing it to improve operation and maintenance facilities, as well as troop housing. The base was re-designated as a naval air station on August 9, 1968. In 1990, it became the headquarters for Training Air Wing Two, a mission that continues today.

Training Air Wing Two includes Training Squadron Twenty One and Training Squadron Twenty Two. Around 150 students report to Training Air Wing Two annually for Undergraduate Jet Pilot Training. The Naval Air Station at Kingsville currently occupies 23,000 acres of land, spread across four sites, and employs around 1,350 people, in addition to training 50 percent of Navy and Marine Corps tactical jet pilots every year. Its economic impact on the surrounding community is also significant, as it provides roughly \$110 million dollars to the local area. This economic impact is matched by the installation's community outreach program, which includes school mentorship assistance and community self-help program assistance.

NAS-Kingsville has a long history of supporting both the local community and the country, and will continue to do so for years to come. I rise today to congratulate them on 75 successful years.

HONORING THE CHRISTIAN
RECORDER

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 165th Anniversary of The Christian Recorder. As the oldest periodical continually published by African-Americans in the United States, The Christian Recorder is the heart of the African Methodist Episcopal Church.

Originally founded in 1848 as The Christian Herald, the publication has been a leading voice for African-Americans ever since. It relocated to Nashville in 1852 with a new name, The Christian Recorder. Twenty-one editors have led The Christian Recorder including John Thomas III, the current leader and the first layperson to serve in this prestigious role.

The Christian Recorder is a reputable news service for religious news. It serves as the voice of two million members of the AME Church in thirty-nine countries around the world.

Its reach extends far beyond the Sunday School Union in Nashville where it is headquartered. From offering guidance to slaves during the Civil War to the battle for voting rights and fighting segregation, The Christian Recorder has been a pioneer for Civil Rights and equality for African-Americans.

I am proud to salute The Christian Recorder for its courageous efforts and its more than 165 years of service to the community.

HONORING NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY IN NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 26, 2017

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nashville Public Library as the 2017 Library of the Year. This national honor, awarded by Library Journal and Gale Cengage Learning, recognizes public libraries for their