

show us how we can look for ways to serve our community and country.

Mr. Speaker, Deputy Chief Hardt has been a true community servant in our Watertown for over three impressive decades of service. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today, and I wish him a restful retirement with plenty of time to spend with his family and friends.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 26, 2017*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to a family medical emergency, I had to return to my district in the early afternoon of Wednesday October 25.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 585, NAY on Roll Call No. 586, NAY on Roll Call No. 587, and YEA on Roll Call No. 588.

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RECOGNIZING PREVENT CHILD ABUSE AMERICA'S 45TH ANNIVERSARY

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**HON. DARIN LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 26, 2017*

Mr. LAHOOD Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to recognize a critical organization that supports residents of Illinois' 18th Congressional District, Prevent Child Abuse America, as they celebrate their 45th anniversary.

In 1972, Donna J. Stone founded Prevent Child Abuse America in Chicago, Illinois. Over the years, Prevent Child Abuse America has been a leader in promoting healthy development of children through prevention of child abuse. While the organization has expanded to chapters in all 50 states, the mission of Prevent Child Abuse America has continued to remain the same.

Prevent Child Abuse America is committed to preventing the neglect and abuse of children across our nation. Their Healthy Families America program makes services easily accessible to children across our country and allows Prevent Child Abuse America to reach nearly 100,000 families each year. With their state headquarters located in Springfield, Illinois, I am grateful for the services they provide to families in the 18th District and across Illinois.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Prevent Child Abuse America on their 45th Anniversary, and I wish them much success as they continue to provide essential services to families, in Illinois and across our country, for years to come.

IRAN BALLISTIC MISSILES AND INTERNATIONAL SANCTIONS ENFORCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2017*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1698, the Iran Ballistic Missiles and International Sanctions Enforcement Act. This legislation confirms the United States's mission to prevent Iran its developing their nuclear-capable ballistic missile program.

H.R. 1698 requires the President to impose sanctions on the Iranian government, foreign actors or people who supply technology and material to contribute to the Iranian ballistic missile program, and any party who contributes weapons or related material to Iran. This legislation also directs the President to investigate violations of these sanctions either by Iran or foreign entities and report all violations to Congress. In taking these actions, H.R. 1698 recognizes the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2231 from 2015 and commits to enforcing it by authorizing investigations of all ballistic missile tests to see if they are in violation of the resolution.

The investigations that this bill authorizes will help us better understand and identify the banks, companies, governments and other foreign entities that contribute in some way to the development of the Iranian ballistic missile program. It is crucially important that we take steps to recognize these key actors and punish them with sanctions. It is for these reasons that I am pleased to support this legislation.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 26, 2017*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call Number 581, on October 24, regarding the question of passage of H.R. 3898, the Otto Warmbier North Korea Nuclear Sanctions Act. Had I voted, I would have voted "yes."

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 26, 2017*

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, on roll call 580, I was unavoidably detained as a result of a death in the family. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

On roll call 588, I was unavoidably detained as a result of a death in the family. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

URGING EUROPEAN UNION TO DESIGNATE HIZBALLAH AS A TERRORIST ORGANIZATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 25, 2017*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 359, legislation urging the European Union to designate Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization and increase international pressure on the organization.

Hizballah has demonstrated its commitment as an organization to promoting fear, violence, and terror worldwide for decades through the murder of global citizens. Its 1983 attack on the U.S. Marine Compound in Beirut was the most deadly single-day attack on the United States Marine Corps since the battle of Iwo Jima in World War II. Our nation has condemned Hizballah as a terrorist organization and leveraged significant financial sanctions against it, but we believe more can be accomplished through international cooperation with our friends at the European Union.

With this resolution, we urge the European Union to condemn Hizballah in its entirety as a terrorist organization, rather than condemning its military wing alone, and ask them to stand with us to fight terrorism internationally. With increased financial pressure and more active international policing, together we can end Hizballah's terrorist activities and create a more peaceful and safer world. Cooperation between the European Union and the United States is crucial in the fight against transnational terrorism, and it is for this reason that I support this resolution.

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IN HONOR OF PATRICIA CLARK FOR HER FEDERAL SERVICE

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**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 26, 2017*

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Patricia Clark as she retires after more than five decades of service to the Federal Aviation Administration at the Patricia Clark Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center in Nashua. The people of the Granite State and throughout New England owe a debt of gratitude to Patty for ensuring the safety of pilots and fliers, as well as continuing the efficiency of our transportation system. Further, it should be noted that Patty has maintained perfect attendance throughout her decades of service, never using vacation leave or a sick day.

In 2013, during my first term in the U.S. House of Representatives, I was honored to have introduced legislation, H.R. 1092, that became law renaming the Nashua facility the "Patricia Clark Boston Air Route Traffic Control Center." Renaming this facility after Patty was the very least that could be done to honor her accomplishments to the air traffic control industry here in New England. I am honored to be able to recognize Patty once again on the occasion of her retirement from federal service.

On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I thank Patricia Clark for more than half a century of dedicated service to the Granite State. Her achievements will continue to benefit our state and industry. I am honored to recognize and congratulate Patty on her retirement and wish her the best of luck in the years ahead.

**CONGRATULATING COLLEGE WOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, A BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL**

**HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding school in my district that is being honored as a 2017 National Blue Ribbon School. It is a pleasure to congratulate College Wood Elementary School in Carmel, Indiana in celebration of this special occasion.

The National Blue Ribbon designation, given by the United States Department of Education, is awarded to both public and private schools across our great nation. Started by President Reagan and given annually since 1982, the award celebrates great American schools that achieve very high learning standards or are making significant improvements in the academic achievements of their students. In my district and across the country, the award recognizes the great educators, students, and parents who have worked so hard to ensure our children reach their full potential and achieve academic success.

For all of these reasons and many more, I am so proud that College Wood Elementary School is receiving this prestigious designation. It is a wonderful acknowledgement of the school's commitment to providing young Hoosiers an exceptional education. While hundreds of schools nationwide were nominated, only 342 schools were designated as 2017 National Blue Ribbon Schools. Of the 342 schools, College Wood Elementary School was one of seven Indiana schools to receive recognition, making this recognition all the more impressive.

All College Wood Elementary students are supported by a host of staff members in addition to the classroom teacher. Because of this, students are able to receive personalized instruction in several subjects. College Wood Elementary strives to challenge each and every student to reach their fullest potential. With the help of this dedicated staff, academic teams representing College Wood have consistently scored in the top twenty-five percent of participating schools. Their hard work is deservedly rewarded with this Blue Ribbon Award.

As an advocate for education and youth, I also want to acknowledge how important it is to our nation's future to encourage and raise a new generation of Americans who have the skills and knowledge to succeed both in and out of the classroom. Students like those at College Wood Elementary School give me hope that we will accomplish this vital mission. Their outstanding work is an inspiration to students, educators, and parents across the nation. Once again, congratulations to College Wood Elementary School. I am very proud of you.

COMMENDING DANIA E. RODRIGUEZ FOR 20 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE ASSOCIATION OF STATE AND TERRITORIAL SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Dania E. Rodriguez for her 20 years of service with the Association of State and Territorial Solid Waste Management Officials (ASTSWMO).

Dania has been serving in the capacity of Executive Director of the Association of State and Territorial Waste Management Officials in Washington, D.C. since July 2013. She previously served as the Deputy Executive Director of ASTSWMO for six years. During her time at ASTSWMO, she served as the liaison between the states and numerous federal agencies to work on policy issues.

Dania keeps the ASTSWMO running smoothly by providing support to the ASTSWMO staff and Board of Directors. She manages the day-to-day operations to include the association's budget, cooperative agreements.

Dania graduated from Hood College in Frederick, Maryland where she received a B.A. in Political Science. She also holds an Executive Certificate in Nonprofit Management from the McCourt School of Public Policy at Georgetown University. She worked for the American Petroleum Institute before starting her career at ASTSWMO.

Dania has an impressive record of experience and expertise in technical, financial and policy development in environmental work. She holds comprehensive knowledge of state and territorial environmental programs. Dania has been a true friend and advocate of Guam and the region.

She was the first Executive Director of ASTSWMO to directly collaborate with Guam and assist with the development of the first Zero Waste Conference held in Micronesia. She also played a vital role in making the first EPA Pacific Islands Environment Conference come to life for Guam, the CNMI and America Samoa.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I commend Dania for her outstanding service to our community throughout her career. I extend a sincere *Si Yu 'us Ma 'āse* (thank you) and look forward to her continued contributions to our island and nation.

**OTTO WARMBIER NORTH KOREA NUCLEAR SANCTIONS ACT**

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 3898, the Otto Warmbier North Korea Nuclear Sanctions Act of 2017. This legislation imposes heavy economic sanctions on North Korea.

These sanctions will signal to North Korea and its enablers that the United States con-

demns North Korea's current nuclear and long-range missile programs. Specifically, the bill would impose conditions and oversight of foreign banks that seek to open American accounts for any North Korean or any agent of North Korea.

As United Nations Ambassador Nikki Haley stated, "[c]ountless innocent men and women have died at the hands of North Korea, but the singular case of Otto Warmbier touches the American heart like no other." In remembrance of Otto Warmbier, this bill demonstrates to North Korea that its human rights violations and military actions are unacceptable. North Korea's nuclear and long-range missile programs have been a noted threat to our security for many years and its frequent missile testing in the past year demonstrates the even greater risk they now pose. By supporting H.R. 3898, we are showing North Korea that there are consequences to its pursuit of nuclear warfare and we intend to increase economic pressure on it each time they show willingness to use force against us or our allies.

We have a responsibility to do all that we can to protect American citizens. H.R. 3898 will discourage North Korea from further developing their nuclear weapons program and take a much-needed step towards the goal of international peace, and this is why I support this legislation.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on October 25, 2017. As a result, I was absent for Roll Call votes 585 through 587. Had I been present for Roll Call vote 585, on agreeing to Amendment No. 3 to H.R. 469, I would have voted yes; had I been present for Roll Call vote 586, on agreeing to Amendment No. 4 to H.R. 469, I would have voted yes; and had I been present for Roll Call vote 587, on agreeing to Amendment No. 6 to H.R. 469, I would have voted yes.

**HONORING MARYLAND AND DELAWARE'S LAW ENFORCEMENT**

**HON. ANDY HARRIS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 26, 2017

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my gratitude for the bravery of Maryland and Delaware's law enforcement officers and the officers of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

On October 18, a deranged gunman opened fire at Emmorton Business Park in Edgewood, Maryland and a used car dealership in Wilmington, Delaware. Three victims were killed and three more were wounded that day.

I pray for the families of the fallen victims and for the recovery of the injured. Thankfully, our state and local law enforcement and our ATF officers responded quickly to the crisis, and apprehended the shooter after he fled the scene.