

(EAPA). This illustrious award is given to an EAPA member who has made significant contributions to the employee assistance profession. In addition to this accolade, Bern was also the recipient of the EAPA Member of the Year in 2002.

Prior to his time in the House of Representatives, Bern served as a drug specialist in the United States Coast Guard, where he had the opportunity to hone his acute understanding of employee assistance. He continued his career in public service with the New Jersey State Police where he established the organization's employee assistance program.

Based on his background with the New Jersey State Police, it is no surprise that Bern was instrumental in establishing a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Capitol Police in 2000. Because of this important agreement, the men and women who guard our campus have access to the outstanding services provided by the CAO's Office of Employee Assistance.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored and humbled to stand before you and recognize Bern for his outstanding contributions and overall impact to the House of Representatives. I also want to thank his current staff Lisbeth McBride, Jennifer Lavan, Paul Tewksbury, Margot Hawkins-Green and all of the other staff members who have served under Bern's tutelage during the past quarter century.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge Bern's family. As you know, public service is an honorable and noble calling requiring great sacrifices to our time. Therefore, I would like to thank Bern's family, including his wife Donna, their daughters, sons-in-law, and grandchildren Jessica and Mather Hinders (Lily and Emmett) and Cynthia and Jonn Aitken (Alexander) for their generous devotion, unwavering support, and unconditional love.

Mr. Speaker, this legislative body and our grateful Nation owe Bern and his entire family a debt of gratitude.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE HUMAN TRAFFICKING FRAUD ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2017

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to reintroduce the Human Trafficking Fraud Enforcement Act of 2017 with my colleague Rep. TED POE.

In March 1931, the infamous gangster, Al Capone, was ultimately indicted for tax fraud. Today the IRS Criminal Investigations division continues to play a vital role in proving criminal activity and fraud. I believe that the IRS can play a similar role in cracking down on criminals profiting from human trafficking and prostitution.

This bill authorizes \$4 million to establish an office within the IRS to prosecute sex traffickers for violations of tax laws. The office would focus on the willful failure of traffickers to file returns, supply information, or pay tax where the taxpayer is an "aggravated" non-filer. In addition, the office would coordinate closely with existing task forces focused on sex trafficking offenders in the Department of Justice.

The bill also amends the Internal Revenue Code to increase criminal monetary and other penalties for attempts to: evade or defeat tax, willful failure to file a tax return, supply information, or pay tax, aggravated failure to file tax returns, fraud and false statements, and underpayment or overpayment of tax due to fraud. This offense will carry a maximum sentence of 10 years and a maximum fine of \$50,000.

The Human Trafficking Fraud Enforcement Act of 2017 also establishes a new felony offense for an aggravated failure to file to include failure to file with respect to income or payments derived from activity which is criminal under Federal or State law. This will target those involved in the promotion of commercial sex acts—pimps and traffickers—and not conduct of exploited persons in prostitution.

Last, this bill directly benefits those who are victimized by the traffickers by revising current IRS Whistleblower provisions so that women and girls who choose to come forward to cooperate in an investigation will be eligible to participate in the whistleblower program and may ultimately be granted up to 15% of any fines levied against the trafficker.

We must use every tool possible to take down traffickers, who have often proven elusive to apprehend and prosecute. I urge my colleagues to cosponsor this important legislation.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF MR. LARRY PISTORESI, SR.

### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and career of Mr. Larry Pistorosi, Sr., lifelong resident and deeply involved community member of Chowchilla. Mr. Pistorosi's unfailing drive to improve his community has been an inspiration to countless others who have crossed his path. His genuine character and love for the people of Chowchilla will be deeply missed by those fortunate enough to have known him.

Larry Pistorosi, Sr. was born in Berenda, California and raised in Chowchilla, where he spent his childhood and teenage years attending local schools. After graduating from Chowchilla High School in 1942, Mr. Pistorosi served in the United States Air Force for 3 years, and returned to Chowchilla to work as a car salesman with his father, Pete. After surmounting great success as a car salesman, Mr. Pistorosi eventually joined Pistorosi Chevrolet in partnership with his father, and brother Monte. After selling Pistorosi Chevrolet, Mr. Pistorosi continued working as a car salesman at Steve's Chevrolet until he celebrated his 92nd birthday.

As a public figure and role model for the people of Chowchilla, Mr. Pistorosi's track record has excelled above and beyond what most would consider as impressive. Mr. Pistorosi joined the Chowchilla Rotary Club in 1949 when he was 25 years old, and did not miss a single meeting for 68 years. He was a founder of the Board of Directors of the Chowchilla District Memorial Hospital, which was created in 1954, and has served under virtually every position on the Board, including

Director, President, and permanent Chair of the Finance Committee. Mr. Pistorosi also served in the Chowchilla Chamber of Commerce since 1970, where he had perfect attendance for 46 years.

To list every accomplishment and public service provided by Mr. Pistorosi would require far more time than we have here today. However, it should be stated firmly that few people, if any, have served the community of Chowchilla in the same capacity, and with the same fervor as Mr. Pistorosi did throughout the course of his long, fruitful life. He is remembered by his family and friends, including his wife of 44 years, Velma, his sons Larry Pistorosi, Jr., Jerry Danieli, and Kent Danieli, his sisters Violet and Irene, his brother Monte, and many members of his extended family, 10 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and career of Mr. Larry Pistorosi, Sr., one of the most recognizable and hard-working figures in the community of Chowchilla. The level of devotion he has provided to the people around him has proven to be an unparalleled catalyst for the growth and advancement of Chowchilla.

#### RECOGNIZING DR. JOHN SMITH

### HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. John Smith for his work as the Senior Health Services Advisor for Gainesville's own Fieldale Farms—one of the largest independent poultry producers in the world.

Dr. Smith holds a degree in veterinary medicine from the University of Georgia, a master of science in medical microbiology, and a master of avian medicine in poultry. He joined Fieldale Farms in 1991 and has continuously dedicated himself to the poultry and egg industry since that time. In 2004, Dr. Smith received USPOULTRY's Lamplighter Award for exemplary service to the poultry and egg industry. He has been an active member of the USPOULTRY Foundation Research Advisory Committee for 16 years, and has taken many steps in order to foster the success of Georgia's poultry industry.

Each year, the Workhorse of the Year collar is awarded to an individual who has shown steadfast service and valuable leadership to USPOULTRY and the poultry industry.

Dr. Smith was awarded the Workhorse of the Year Award at the International Poultry Expo in Atlanta as a direct result of his loyalty, dedication, and leadership within the USPOULTRY organization and Fieldale Farms. The presentation of these awards to Dr. Smith shows that his service has benefited the poultry industry in northeast Georgia and at a national level. I commend Dr. Smith for service that has strengthened a local community and respected industry.

## TRIBUTE TO DARYL BUSCH

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to Riverside County, California, are exceptional. Last month, Daryl Busch completed his service on the Board of Directors of the Southern California Regional Rail Authority ("Metrolink"). He began his service on the Board in January of 2005 and served as Vice Chair between the years of 2015 and 2016.

Daryl Busch brought valuable expertise to the Board through his service as Mayor of the City of Perris and commissioner of the Riverside County Transportation Commission. Daryl ushered in a new era of service that included a fourteen percent service expansion, the introduction of express trains, bike cars, quiet cars, service to sporting events throughout the region, and increased coordination with other regional transit providers including airports. During Daryl's service at Metrolink, major capital projects were pursued including the procurement of the Guardian Fleet, the new Tier 4 locomotives, development of the Ground Power Plug-In program, Positive Train Control and Perris Valley Line Expansion.

Daryl brought a tremendous amount of passion and enthusiasm to the agency, as he helped increase ridership on Metrolink, resulting in reductions in traffic congestion and air emissions, and providing Southern California commuters with a safe, reliable, efficient, and cost-effective means to travel. Daryl also helped institute an enhanced safety culture at Metrolink; he was essential to the implementation of lifesaving equipment onboard Metrolink trains such as crash energy management technology and inward and outward facing cameras.

I have had the privilege of knowing Daryl Busch for many years. Daryl's contributions to the Metrolink system have generated an admirable legacy as well as many friends and colleagues that will miss him. I applaud Daryl's service and I will truly miss working with him. His service and his achievements will have a longstanding and truly positive impact on our community.

**FAIR RATEPAYER ACCOUNTABILITY, TRANSPARENCY, AND EFFICIENCY STANDARDS ACT**

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 587, the Fair Ratepayer Accountability, Transparency, and Efficiency Standards Act (Fair RATES Act), which amends the Federal Power Act to permit administrative and judicial review of any rate change filed by a public utility that takes effect without the approval of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

The need for this change became evident in the wake of a New England Forward Capacity Market Auction in 2014, which occurred at a time when FERC only had 4 Commissioners.

When the New England Forward Capacity Market Auction issue was addressed by FERC, the Commissioners split evenly over the question of whether the auction results were just and reasonable.

Since FERC did not disapprove the auction results, wholesale electricity prices in New England increased dramatically.

So, while rates went up, none of the affected parties could challenge the decision or resulting rate increase, and, therefore, no rehearing or judicial review was possible.

H.R. 587 provides those who want to challenge a similar rulings or non-decisions by FERC the ability to challenge the decision administratively or in the courts.

The bill ensures that stakeholders have recourse when a non-decision by FERC has very real consequences for consumers, producers and others.

This bill would also improve the process by which FERC votes are reconsidered.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 587.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, on Friday February 3, 2017, I was unable to vote on roll call vote No. 78: Passage of H.J. Res. 36, Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the final rule of the Bureau of Land Management relating to Waste Prevention, Production Subject to Royalties, and Resource Conservation, Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

## RECOGNIZING RAND ROWLAND

**HON. DOUG COLLINS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work of a Georgia Tech basketball player. Rand Rowland started on the team as a walk-on, but recently received a scholarship to play basketball for his final semester.

Rand arrived at Georgia Tech from White County High School in Northeast Georgia in 2013, and spent most of his college career as a practice player with the Yellow Jackets. Recognized by head coach Josh Pastner as a "phenomenal young man," Rand worked constantly with the team to improve its overall performance in any way that he could—even as a practice partner. His commitment to the team did not go unnoticed.

Assistant coach Eric Reveno said in regards to the decision to award Rand the scholarship, "What we do as basketball coaches isn't always fair, the right guys don't get rewarded all the time, it's nice when the right things do happen."

Rand earned his business degree in December, and is now beginning a second degree in the School of History and Sociology, hoping to become a college basketball coach himself, one day.

Currently, Rand's main focus is working on the scouting team. During his college career, he has played in nine games, for a total of 19 minutes, and he's still working to score his first career points for the Jackets. On and off the court, Rand has been made a valuable asset to his team. I congratulate Rand on receiving this scholarship at Georgia Tech, which he has said encourages him to follow his dreams and become a coach.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the diligence and dedication this young man has shown to his team and to his dream. Rand is a role model for fellow students and team members, and a source of pride for Northeast Georgia.

**RECOGNIZING THE PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. VAL MCWHORTER**

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my constituent, Val McWhorter, for his inclusion in the 23rd edition of *The Best Lawyers in America* in the practice areas of Arbitration, Construction Law, and Mediation, and for his designation as the 2017 Lawyer of the Year in the practice area of Construction Law in Washington, D.C. A testament to his standing in the field of Construction Law, these well-deserved honors were awarded to Mr. McWhorter on the basis of high praise and feedback from both his peers and clients alike. Such acclamations of Mr. McWhorter's work should come as no surprise, given the more than \$500,000,000 he has recovered on behalf of his clients in state and federal court, mediations, and private negotiations.

Additionally, I want to congratulate Mr. McWhorter on the 25th anniversary of his induction into The Moles Organization, a national organization of individuals involved in the completion of heavy construction projects, including tunnels, bridges, highways, and dams. Founded in 1936, The Moles Organization is a respected institution whose members represent the best of American industry. First elected to membership in 1991, Mr. McWhorter's commitment to The Moles Organization led to his appointments last year to both the Publicity Committee and the Award Committee. Mr. McWhorter's longtime membership, and his recent leadership, in this esteemed organization deserve much recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Val McWhorter on his remarkable achievements, and in thanking him for his years of contribution to the practice of Construction Law in the Washington, D.C. region.

## TRIBUTE TO NATASHA JOHNSON

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 6, 2017*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community