

December 6, 2017: No on Roll Call No. 658; No on Roll Call No. 659; No on Roll Call No. 660; Yea on Roll Call No. 661; Yea on Roll Call No. 662; No on Roll Call No. 663; and Yea on Roll Call No. 664.

December 7, 2017: No on Roll Call No. 665; No on Roll Call No. 666; Yea on Roll Call No. 667; Yea on Roll Call No. 668; Yea on Roll Call No. 669; No on Roll Call No. 670; and Yea on Roll Call No. 671.

December 11, 2017: Yea on Roll Call No. 672; Yea on Roll Call No. 673.

December 12, 2017: Yea on Roll Call No. 674; No on Roll Call No. 675.

#### HONORING JOEL PRIEST

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joel Priest. Joel is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 495, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joel has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joel has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Joel has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joel Priest for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HYDRAULIC INSTITUTE

#### HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, almost every member of Congress says a need in their district is more good jobs. Good business people that provide good jobs are not recognized enough. That is why I rise today to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Hydraulic Institute and pay tribute to the exceptional role that pump manufacturers have played in improving the delivery of water to American homes, American industry and American agriculture over the past century. Today, pump systems touch the lives of every American and the Hydraulic Institute has a central role in developing the policies and standards needed for safe, reliable and efficient pump operations.

On April 18, 1917, the nation's leading pump manufacturers met in the La Salle Hotel in Chicago for the purpose of forming a trade association that would "promote friendship and cooperation among manufacturers in improving overall pump performance." The Hydraulic Institute provides the technical expertise required to set pump standards that reflect the evolving priorities of society.

In recent years, energy efficiency has emerged as a national priority and the Hydraulic Institute has worked closely with the United States Department of Energy to improve the efficiency of pumping systems. These systems now account for over 20 percent of domestic electrical energy use and the standards, laboratory testing and labelling advanced by the Hydraulic Institute will ultimately save consumers and businesses billions of dollars.

Pumping systems protect our communities from flooding and fires, deliver drinking water to our homes, irrigate our farms and bring water and fuel to American manufacturers.

As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Clean Water Caucus, I am keenly aware of the role that pump manufacturers play in providing safe, clean, affordable water to our citizens. It is my honor to stand today to acknowledge the 100th Anniversary of the Hydraulic Institute and to wish their continued success in advancing standards that improve the lives of every American.

#### TAX BILL

#### HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I would like to include into the RECORD the following article:

#### TAX BILL WOULD TRIGGER CUTS TO VITAL PROGRAMS

[Nov. 14, 2017]

The Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010 (SPAYGO) created a budgetary enforcement regime to offset net deficit increases that would otherwise result from new laws affecting direct spending or revenues. SPAYGO in essence keeps a running tab of the deficit effects of all such laws, including laws enacted through the budget reconciliation process. If, at the end of a session of Congress, the SPAYGO scorecard shows a net debit for the upcoming year, numerous direct spending programs will get hit with an across-the-board cut to "pay for" that debit.

The Republican tax bill released last week would increase deficits by \$1.5 trillion over ten years. If Congress does not enact offsetting budgetary savings or provide some other remedy, enactment of this bill will trigger massive automatic program cuts every year for the next ten years. The tax bill's deficit effects would trigger SPAYGO cuts that would lead to outright elimination of many programs and still would not be enough to offset the tax bill's costs in full.

Damaging SPAYGO cuts resulting from the tax bill would include:

A 4 percent reduction in Medicare payments. Over ten years, this would add up to hundreds of billions of dollars. (SPAYGO caps the Medicare cut at 4 percent.)

A doubling of loan origination fees for federal student loans, making college more expensive for millions of students.

Elimination of funding for programs subject to uncapped SPAYGO across-the-board reductions. Some of the largest programs that would be zeroed out include:

Social Services Block Grants, which are flexible grants to states. They support a variety of initiatives serving low-income and vulnerable individuals such as adult protective services, special services to persons with disabilities, adoption services, case management, health-related services, transportation support, foster care, substance abuse serv-

ices, home-delivered meals, independent and transitional living, and employment-related services.

Vocational Rehabilitation State Grants, which help states assist individuals with physical or mental impairments in developing new work skills and finding employment.

Commodity Credit Corporation farm price supports, which help stabilize and support farmer's incomes.

Crime Victims Fund, which provides compensation to victims of crime and supports victims' services.

Prevention and Public Health Fund, which expands investments in programs to improve health, primarily through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Trade Adjustment Assistance, which helps workers who have lost their jobs due to trade-related circumstances, such as an increase in imports.

#### HONORING CHAUNCEY LEE WAGNER

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Chauncey Lee Wagner. Chance is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1096, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Chance has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Chance has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Chance has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Chauncey Lee Wagner for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

#### TRIBUTE TO A WORDSMITH

#### HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an integral part of my communications team, Renn Osborne. Renn proved to be a valuable asset and a dedicated team player who helped articulate the mission of the Homeland Security Committee and our Members. He first served as an intern in the Committee's press office, then as a Press Assistant, and finally rising to the position of Deputy Press Secretary.

Renn effortlessly juggled print media requests with the daily challenges of the Committee's fast-paced press office. His sound judgment, quick action, and strong political acumen helped shape the Committee's message development. Renn was crucial in communicating the Committee's actions to help protect the American people.

His abilities were on display at the 53rd United States-Mexico Interparliamentary Group Meeting in Mexico City this past summer. The meeting transpired at a pivotal time, and Renn's efforts were key in communicating the close historic, economic, and cultural bonds that have been forged as a result of the U.S.-Mexico relationship over the past 192 years.

I am pleased that Renn has continued his public service on Capitol Hill as the speechwriter for Senator ROB PORTMAN. I look forward to seeing him continue to grow and develop as a wordsmith and as a communicator who is happy to serve his fellow citizens.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1,  
TAX CUTS AND JOBS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 19, 2017*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to express my appreciation for the hard work of those who made the Conference Report possible.

Thank you to the expert drafters at the House and Senate offices of legislative counsel who worked together on the Conference report after having worked for so many months with the House Ways and Means Committee and Senate Finance Committee on the underlying bills: Henry Christrup, Scott Probst, Fiona Heckscher, and House Legislative Counsel Wade Ballou; and Mark McGunagle, Allison Otto, Vince Gaianni and former Senate Legislative Counsel Jim Fransen.

Thank you also to the hardworking team of JCT economists, lawyers, and accountants, who support all aspects of our work on tax legislation:

Nick Bull, Jim Cilke, Tim Dowd, Chris Giosa, Lucas Goodman, Rob Harvey, Tom Holtmann, Paul Landefeld, Joe LeCates, Kathleen Mackie, Jamie McGuire, Pam Moomau, Rachel Moore, Jake Mortenson, Chris Overend, Brandon Pecoraro, Zach Richards, Heidi Schramm, David Splinter, Lori Stuntz, Brent Trigg, Jeff Arbeit, Nita Asher, Lillian Aston, Paul Chen, Gordon Clay, Adam Gropper, Andrew Grossman, Nick Gutmann, Viva Hammer, Heather Harman, Harold Hirsch, Deirdre James, Sally Kwak, David Lenter, Bert Lue, Tricia McDermott, Paul McLaughlin, Veena Murthy, Cecily Rock, Kristine Roth, Karl Russo, Natalie Tucker, and Kashi Way.

And a special thank you to JCT chief of staff Tom Barthold for his excellent leadership of this outstanding team.

HONORING JOHN GIBSON

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize John Gibson. John is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy

Scouts of America, Troop 96, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

John has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years John has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, John has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. John organized and led a blood drive at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in Gallatin, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending John Gibson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MAYOR SUZETTE  
COOKE

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and congratulate Suzette Cooke, the Mayor of the City of Kent, on her retirement. The citizens of Kent will miss her commitment, unstoppable work ethic, and passion.

For many decades prior to serving as Mayor, Suzette Cooke was a devoted public servant. She was the Executive Director of the Renton and Kent Chambers of Commerce, the Economic Development Manager for the City of Burien, the Recreation Supervisor for Seattle Parks, and Director of the Kent Senior Center. She also served three terms in the Washington State House of Representatives, where she chaired the Committee on Children and Family Services.

Under her leadership as Mayor, Kent has grown from a small, farming town, to a sizable city boasting a population of 125,000. Mayor Cooke has created a welcoming environment for people from a range of different backgrounds in a city that has become one of the most diverse in the country.

In addition to Suzette Cooke's duties as Mayor, she has remained an active volunteer and has served with organizations that help better the community she loves. Impressively, she has chaired the Kent Firemen's Relief and Pension Fund Board, the King County Flood Control Zone District Advisory Committee, and the South County Area Transportation Board. She has also been a member of the King County's Regional Transit Task Force and the King County Board of Health.

On top of her professional and civic engagements, Mayor Cooke has also found the time to remain an avid recreationist and has summited eight of Washington State's tallest mountains. It seems clear that, for her, no challenge is insurmountable.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I recognize Mayor Suzette Cooke on her retirement. It has been a privilege to work with dedicated leaders like Mayor Cooke. I thank her for her service to her community and wish her all the best in retirement.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
ARTHUR RADFORD BAKER, JR.

**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 21, 2017*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate a distinguished public servant, and one of the "dedicated men and women of law enforcement." Mr. Arthur Radford Baker, Jr., will retire from the Federal Bureau of Investigation on December 31 of this year, after 30 years of service.

During his tenure at the FBI, Art has served in various capacities. He has led colleagues as a supervisor on counterintelligence and espionage matters out of the Baltimore Field Office, using sophisticated investigative techniques straight out of Hollywood spy thrillers. He has investigated organized crime, including La Cosa Nostra and Asian and Russian syndicates, out of the Detroit Field Office. Art even attained the highest marksmanship award the Bureau has to offer, qualifying for his name to be enshrined on a wall at Quantico as part of the FBI's elite "Possible Club." In large part, though, it has been Art's service to our country as a Congressional detailee that stands out as one his fondest memories, including many legislative successes to which he contributed that are now memorialized and framed as "redlines" of passed laws.

Art served faithfully for nearly 3 years as a detailee from the FBI to the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations. During his tenure, Art was a consistently reliable and capable staffer and legal counsel, and a great colleague. He was particularly beloved by our departed colleague and friend, the gentleman from North Carolina, Congressman Howard Coble.

In his work at the Judiciary Committee, Art staffed Chairman Lamar Smith and Subcommittee Chairman Coble for a multitude of assignments, including issues that spanned a spectrum of pressing matters, including Patriot Act hearings and legislation on child exploitation and trafficking. Art was a dedicated, crucial staffer upon whom Members could rely.

After returning to the FBI, Art served with distinction in the Office of Congressional Affairs (OCA). His service in OCA spanned a transitional era in American history, including the 9/11 terrorist attacks, the espionage leaks of Robert Hanssen, and the resulting reformulation of the FBI. Through it all, Art was a vital cog in our nation's premier law enforcement agency, and a steadfast friend to the Judiciary Committee. It is often said in Washington that legislating is the "art" of the possible. How appropriate that we say that today.

Throughout his career, Art Baker has been a loyal public servant. For years, my staff has relied on his insight, his wise counsel, and his consistent ability to make us laugh. Many marvel at his various skills and interests, earning him a legitimate moniker as a "Renaissance Man." We expect that the forthcoming stage of his life in retirement will not be any less varied or adventurous.

I salute Art for his many years of distinguished service.