

INTRODUCTION OF THE ORGANIC ACT OF GUAM REFORM ACT OF 2017

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation to amend the Organic Act of Guam to prohibit salary changes for the Governor of Guam, the Lieutenant Governor of Guam, and Senators of the Guam Legislature until after a general election of the Legislature has passed. During last year's election, the people of Guam made clear that they disapproved of salary changes made in previous years for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and members of our Legislature, and my bill would ensure that any changes to the salaries of our local elected officials are appropriately deliberated and considered consistent with how Congress handles these matters.

The Organic Act of Guam establishes the framework of the Government of Guam but it is silent on provisions regarding changes in salary for the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, or members of the local Guam Legislature. Changes can be made and implemented at anytime simply by changing local law, and this has caused division in our community. Over the past several years, local policymakers and the people of Guam have debated pay increases that were proposed and instituted shortly after the 2014 general election. While I believe that these issues are up to local policymakers, and ultimately the people of Guam to decide, the Organic Act should provide safeguards regarding salaries for these elected officials that will prevent divisiveness in our community. The bill that I am introducing today would prevent the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Senators from increasing their salaries until after an intervening election of the Legislature has occurred. This is similar to the 27th Amendment to the Constitution that prohibits Members of Congress from increasing their pay until after an intervening election, and it is consistent with a request made by the Guam Legislature for me to introduce an amendment to the Organic Act for this purpose.

This bill is a step towards improving accountability for elected officials in Guam and is consistent with public opinion in Guam and the views expressed by the Guam Legislature. I encourage its adoption and urge my colleague to pass this legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHRIS STEWART WINNING HIS THIRD CONSECUTIVE SCHOOL GEOGRAPHIC BEE

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Langley School's very own, Chris Stewart, on winning the school-wide National Geographic Bee for the third consecutive year and for advancing to the statewide competition. Chris, an eighth grader attending the Langley School in McLean, advanced to

the school-wide Bee sponsored by the National Geographic Society after scoring the highest in a preliminary qualifying test earlier this year. His impressive achievement is not only a testament to his hard work and dedication, but also the exemplary teachers and faculty at the Langley School who helped cultivate Chris's intellectual intrigue.

At the beginning of every school year, the National Geographic Bee begins at the local level, then advances to the state and eventually national levels through a series of oral and written geography exams with questions ranging from the locations of mountain ranges and rivers to the names of cities and countries. Chris not only displayed his impressive knowledge of world geography, but also showed great confidence and poise, as he and his peers competed on stage in front of the entire school. As Langley School's winner, Chris will move on to compete at the state level, with a chance to eventually compete for a college scholarship at the national competition in May.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Chris Stewart for winning the Langley School's Geographic Bee for the third consecutive year. This achievement shows his dedication to his education and studies, and he is fully deserving of this recognition. It is a privilege to represent him, and I wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING PASTOR GILLETTE O. JAMES

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great religious, spiritual, and civic leader, Pastor Gillette James, of Beth Eden Baptist Church as he retires after more than 46 years of faithful service to his community.

Pastor James graduated from the University of San Francisco with Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees, and completed additional studies at Oxford University in England.

Pastor James joined the Beth Eden community in 1970 as an Assistant Pastor. Then only a year later, he accepted the call to lead the congregation of Beth Eden Baptist Church after the retirement of Pastor A.C. Dones. Under his strong leadership, the church built fifty-four units of senior housing and purchased other rental housing units for the community. Beth Eden also built a new sanctuary and administrative wing, and hired an architect for a new Family Life Center that is under development, vastly increasing the resources offered to the community of West Oakland.

Pastor James is truly an inspiration to other aspiring clergy, helping forty two other members complete coursework at accredited seminaries during his tenure, and twelve of those received advanced degrees. His leadership has been invaluable to those who have worked under his guidance to achieve their dreams of becoming ministers themselves.

Pastor James has also been a strong advocate for the role of women in church leadership positions. At one point, he was ousted from the California State Baptist Convention for his strong stance for women's involvement in the ministry. He has since been restored in

the Convention, and they heeded his direction to keep churches that fully recognize women clergy. Pastor James' commitment to the rights of women in leadership positions has never wavered, and I am sure owes much to the example of his wonderful wife, the late Dr. Rosa James.

Additionally, Pastor James has emphasized education as a key area of importance in his service to Beth Eden's community. Beth Eden's Scholarship Committee awards scholarships to high school graduates and college students to ensure that the youth of Oakland remain engaged and committed to their education.

On behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, I take great pride in joining the Beth Eden community to salute the extraordinary Gillette O. James as he retires as Pastor of Beth Eden Baptist Church, and wish him many years of joyful retirement.

RECOGNIZING JOHN NARIGI

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate John V. Narigi for being named the 2016 Citizen of the Year by the Monterey Peninsula Chamber of Commerce and to recognize Mr. Narigi's leadership in our community on the Central Coast.

Mr. Narigi is a native of Gig Harbor, Washington and graduated from Gonzaga University. In 1993, Mr. Narigi made a permanent move from Washington to the Monterey Peninsula. Since his move, Mr. Narigi has played an important role in leading the Monterey Plaza Hotel & Spa's executive team. Among his many other accomplishments, Mr. Narigi has served as President and remained an active board member for the Monterey County Hospitality Association and has served on the Monterey Commercial Property Owners Association, the Cannery Row Business Association, the Monterey Bay Issues and Candidates Political Action Committee, and the Coalition of Peninsula Businesses.

He has proven himself to be a natural leader by transforming and raising the profile of local organizations that have improved the lives of residents and visitors alike. Mr. Narigi has dedicated his life's work to improving nonprofits, local small businesses, Monterey County leadership boards, and youth sports.

Mr. Narigi served as the Chairman of the Board for Rancho Cielo, a community organization dedicated to helping underserved youth in Monterey County become self-sufficient through vocational training and education. His commitment to the work done at Rancho Cielo is a testament to how much he cares about his community and making sure that our young people have opportunities to succeed.

As someone who has dedicated a lifetime to public service, it is my honor to recognize Mr. Narigi's tireless involvement on the Central Coast. Mr. Narigi's commitment to improving the well-being of our community is an inspiration to us all.

HONORING FRANK SCHUCHAT

HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to a departed Colorado expert in and asset to wise trade relations.

Frank Schuchat ("Shook-It") sat on the U.S. Commerce Department's Rocky Mountain District Export Council. He provided myself and other members, of the Congress news and local perspective on trade policy. His perspective will be missed.

A graduate in history at the University of Colorado and with a law degree from Georgetown, Frank was counsel in the U.S. International Trade Commission and a clerk on the DC Court of Appeals. After that he honed his legal craft in firms both in Washington and Denver. This is where he learned that words matter in trade relations.

An eager globe trotter, Frank developed respect and admiration for citizens abroad. He was a kind and friendly traveler, a global mensch.

With that attitude, in 1997 he was named as honorary counsel to Belgium. Through that position he facilitated a greater understanding of trans-Atlantic partnerships and, most importantly, crafted beer. He did his best to enlighten beer brewers and consumers.

But Frank was at his personal best as a successful stand-up comic. Fluent in Dutch, he could deliver political satire in two languages. He knew that words matter here too.

Even in his memorial he shows his true colors, asking that donations be sent to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

In short, Frank Schuchat displayed deep intellect, a conscience for others.

IN HONOR OF ELLEN GRUNEWALD

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my constituent, Ellen Grunewald, who will be departing from her role in Loudoun County after nearly thirty years of dedicated service to our community and to congratulate her on receiving a Resolution of Appreciation from the County Administrator, Tim Hemstreet. As the Director of Family Services, Ms. Grunewald oversaw a plethora of the county's programs, and her work ethic and exemplary demeanor will certainly be missed.

Ms. Grunewald began her career of service to Loudoun County as an Assistant Director of Social Services in 1989. Throughout the course of her entire career with the county office, she watched Loudoun County flourish and transform into one of the most affluent and prosperous counties in America. She held a variety of positions and had many responsibilities, including serving as the Coordinator of the Young Parents Network and as a Supervisor of the Emergency and Supportive Services Unit. Her ability to wear many hats and serve in various capacities positioned her well to eventually become the Director of Family Services in 2010.

As the Director of Family Services, Ms. Grunewald oversaw programs that provided assistance with food, housing, finance, and other needs to those living in poverty. This type of casework can be difficult and often very disheartening, but over the past 6 years she kept a strong, positive attitude and was able to help hundreds of families in Loudoun County. She also started new initiatives, such as the Family Engagement Process, in which she was able to help divert 62 children from placement in foster care. Ms. Grunewald went above and beyond in her role, and she will certainly be missed.

On behalf of the entire Tenth District, I thank Ms. Grunewald for her dedicated career of service to Loudoun County. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a truly commendable public servant. I wish her and her family all of the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING GLEN O. KLIPPENSTEIN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pause to honor a constituent of Missouri's 6th Congressional District and someone I am especially proud to call my friend, Glen O. Klippenstein, upon being honored with the Jay B. Dillingham Award for Agricultural Leadership and Excellence by the Agribusiness Council of Kansas City.

Glen was born in Canada and grew up working on the family cattle operation. His family emigrated to Pennsylvania when he was 11, and it was there that he would attend Penn State University and turn down a job running former President Dwight D. Eisenhower's farm outside Gettysburg.

He and a friend would later move to Missouri and establish GlenKirk Farms. GlenKirk became one of the premier cattle operations in the nation, selling over 7,000 bulls and 7,500 females across all 50 states and internationally in 22 countries and earning a place in the Hereford Heritage Hall of Fame. Glen would later serve in the Missouri state legislature in both the Senate and the House of Representatives. Glen is a tireless worker who is dedicated to aiding the agricultural community, serving as the two-term chairman of the National Beef Promotion and Research Board; as chairman of the American Polled Hereford Association; as director of the National Cattle-men's Association; as member and vice chairman of the Federal Agricultural Mortgage Corporation Board; and as the CEO of the American Chianina Association.

Mr. Speaker, I could list many more organizations that Glen has guided and worked with over his very distinguished lifetime. However, I ask that you join me, Glen's wife Linda, their children Brian, Brett, Noel, and Ivan, their grandchildren and the agricultural community in congratulating Glen O. Klippenstein on this accomplishment and wishing him God's blessings in the years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. DRAGO CVITANOVICH

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Drago Cvitanovich, co-founder of Drago's Seafood Restaurant, who passed away on February 4, 2017 at the age of 94.

Mr. Cvitanovich was born in 1922 in Yugoslavia, now Croatia, and fled the communist rule of his homeland after World War II. He fled to Germany and worked as a civilian employee of the United States Army. Later, Mr. Cvitanovich moved to Canada and worked for a lumber company. In the spring of 1958, he took a trip to New Orleans to visit family and experience his first Mardi Gras. It was there that he met Ms. Klara Buconic, a fellow Croatian, who was also visiting her family. Three weeks later, they were married in Buras, Louisiana.

The first Drago's restaurant in New Orleans was in Lakeview, but it was not named for Mr. Cvitanovich. It was owned by his sister, Gloria, who named it after her husband, Drago Batinich. Mr. Cvitanovich would work for nine years at his sister's restaurant and two years with Acme Oyster House in the French Quarter. In 1969, Drago and Klara Cvitanovich opened their restaurant in Metairie's Fat City neighborhood. Since that time, Drago's Seafood Restaurant has grown to three locations and more than 450 employees.

Mr. Cvitanovich cultivated relationships with hundreds of other Yugoslav immigrants who had settled in south Louisiana and made their living in the fishing, shrimp and oyster industry. Mr. Cvitanovich's restaurant became popular for the quality of its seafood.

In 1995, Mr. Cvitanovich served as the king of Metairie's Argus parade on Mardi Gras. In 2013, Drago and Klara Cvitanovich were inducted into the Louisiana Restaurant Association Hall of Fame. In 2014, Drago and Klara Cvitanovich received the Ella Brennan Lifetime Achievement Award from the New Orleans Hospitality Foundation also created an award honoring his legacy, the Drago Cvitanovich Award for Outstanding Philanthropy by an Entrepreneur.

Mr. Cvitanovich's wife preceded him in death. His survivors include his two sons Tommy and Dr. Gerry Cvitanovich and eight grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Drago Cvitanovich, a beloved husband, father, and grandfather.

2017 SANTA CLARA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF LAW CELEBRATION
OF ACHIEVEMENT, MARCH 25,
2017

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 13, 2017

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor my friend, Don Polden, who has received Santa Clara University School of Law's 2017 Edwin J. Owens Award.