

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### WORKING FAMILIES FLEXIBILITY ACT OF 2017

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOYCE BEATTY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 2, 2017*

Ms. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition of the Working Families Flexibility Act, H.R. 1180.

Mr. Speaker, the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) already allows employers to let their employees earn paid time off.

That is why the bill passed by the House earlier this week, the Working Families Flexibility Act, H.R. 1180, would hurt working families by giving workers less time off, less flexibility and less pay.

Many workers frequently rely on their overtime earnings to make ends meet to help put food on the table, keep a roof over their families' heads, and pay bills.

Instead of paying workers for their overtime work, H.R. 1180 would permit employers to replace employees' overtime pay with vague promises that employees may be able to take comp time off at some unknown point in the future.

But the employer, not the employee, would decide when that time off is granted.

This bill provides no guarantees that workers could take their earned time off when they need it.

Employers could also unilaterally decide to "cash out" comp time in excess of 80 hours or discontinue their entire comp time program with just 30 days' notice.

This means that an employee's carefully crafted plan to bank time for a child's birth or a spouse's surgery could be thwarted by an employer's decision to cash out the employee's time or end the program all together.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is a bad deal for working families. It would strip employees of rights that the FLSA has provided for nearly 75 years.

If Republicans truly care about working families, they would support and help pass the Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act (FAMILY Act), H.R. 947, which would create a national paid leave insurance program modeled after the successful programs in California, New Jersey, and Rhode Island.

If Republicans truly care about working families, they would support and help pass legislation like Schedules That Work Act introduced by Congresswoman ROSA DELAURO in the 114th Congress.

The Schedules That Work Act would give workers more control over their schedules and incentivize predictability and stability in shifts and work hours.

If Republicans truly care about working families, they would support and help pass the soon to be introduced Raise the Wage Act sponsored by Congressman BOBBY SCOTT.

The Raise the Wage Act increases minimum wage, including the elimination of sub-

minimum "tipped" wage, which would lift 37.7 millions workers out of poverty.

People should not have to work more than 40 hours in a week and forgo pay to earn time to care for themselves or their loved ones.

I join my Democratic colleagues in fighting to protect attacks on pay and benefits for working class families instead, and will vote no on H.R. 1180.

### HONORING OFFICERS MAURO AND FRANCEMONE

**HON. JOHN KATKO**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2017*

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the heroic actions of two law enforcement officers from my district, Syracuse Police Department Officers Joseph Mauro and Kelsey Francemone.

Both of these officers put their own lives on the line in protection of our community: Officer Mauro, in October of 2016, when he was confronted by an armed suspect in the University Hill neighborhood and Officer Francemone on Father's Day of 2016, when she approached a fatal riot head on, only to be brutally attacked by an angry crowd.

For their bravery, Officers Mauro and Francemone were each nominated for the National Association of Police Organizations TOP COP Award. Next week, Officer Francemone will be honored as one of only a few nationwide winners of this prestigious award.

As a federal prosecutor, I worked alongside the brave men and women of the Syracuse Police Department for nearly twenty years. I have the utmost respect for these officers and their selfless actions.

Congratulations to Officers Francemone and Mauro, and I thank them for their commitment and dedication to making Syracuse a safer place.

### TRIBUTE TO A. H. PARKER HIGH SCHOOL IN BIRMINGHAM, ALA- BAMA

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2017*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding public high school in my district—the A.H. Parker High School Thundering Herd in Birmingham, AL. Parker High School has been at the cornerstone of education in the Birmingham community for nearly 117 years, preparing students for future leadership and life.

During the school year of 1899, a few Negro citizens of Birmingham called a historical mass meeting to draw up a petition in which they would request the Board of Education estab-

lish a tax supported school for blacks. Dr. W. R. Pettiford, president of the Alabama Penny Savings Bank, a black-owned financial institution, and Mrs. B. H. Hudson, a cashier of that bank, were the leading supporters of the effort.

The school officially opened as a high school for African-American children in the fall of 1900 with a freshman class of 19 students and one teacher. Arthur Harold Parker was appointed by the board to serve as the first principal. In 1939, Parker retired and the school was subsequently renamed in his honor.

The school's first graduation was held June 3, 1904, at the historic 16th Street Baptist Church, which is now part of the Birmingham Civil Rights National Monument. Fifteen students received diplomas at the ceremony.

In September 1910, the school moved to a temporary location—the Lane Auditorium—and began offering skills for women such as sewing, knitting, and child care. By that time the enrollment was about 100 students. Construction of a permanent facility began in 1923, and by 1929, the school had an industrial building, a library, and a gymnasium. By 1937, the school had an enrollment of over 2,700.

The school continued to grow steadily to 3,761 students in 1946. Due to the large number, the school became known as the "Largest High School for Negroes in the World."

In 2004, acclaimed journalist Michele Norris, host of All Things Considered with National Public Radio, chronicled Parker's story in "Parker High: Integration's Unfulfilled Promise," a look at the paradoxical effect integration had on all-black schools such as Parker. For Norris, the story is personal as her father and five uncles all attended Parker.

Parker's current principal, Darrell Hudson, assumed leadership of the school in 2013. Principal Hudson is a veteran educator of the Birmingham and Montgomery, AL, public school systems, who truly believes all students can learn through hard work, determination, and the right educational environment. He is a graduate of Alabama State University and Auburn University of Montgomery.

Principal Hudson is a faithful member of Sixth Avenue Baptist Church in Birmingham, AL, and an active member with the Alabama State University National Alumni Association, as well as Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. Principal Hudson was also recently appointed to the Board of Directors for his Alma mater, Alabama State University.

Notable graduates of Parker include, among others, jazz music legends Sun Ra and Erskine Hawkins; Nell Carter, Tony award-winning actress; Oscar Adams, Jr., the first African American Alabama Supreme Court Justice; Arthur Shores, noted civil rights attorney; Alma Johnson Powell, wife of former Secretary of State Colin Powell; Eric Bledsoe, star NBA player with the Phoenix Suns; and the current Mayor of Birmingham, William A. Bell.

On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama, and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

outstanding educational institution and its 117-year commitment to public education.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LASALLE COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

**HON. ADAM KINZINGER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2017*

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the LaSalle County Historical Society's Museum in Utica, Illinois. The LaSalle County Historical Society was formed in 1907 and acquired their first building, the 1848 Canal Warehouse in 1967. Since then, the museum campus has grown to a one-room school house, a Heritage Center, a blacksmith shop, and a barn from 1875.

Their mission statement says "To search out, procure and preserve in permanent form, facts and data in the history of the County of LaSalle as related to persons, places and all objects therein. In order to meet said purpose, the primary duty of the Society shall be to discover, collect, and preserve any facts or relics pertaining to the history of LaSalle County and to encourage the study of LaSalle County heritage, its times and people."

The Museum spans the long and varied history of LaSalle County, including artifacts from the Native Americans and earliest settlers of this region to the carriage that Abraham Lincoln used to travel to the famous Lincoln-Douglas debate held in Ottawa, Illinois.

The building itself, a nineteenth century warehouse situated along the historic I&M Canal, served as a warehouse for the local cement mill and a general store before becoming Utica's first post office in 1849. The LaSalle County Historical Society saved the historic warehouse from destruction and now the region is one of the most popular Illinois vacation destinations with 2.2 million annual visitors.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 16th Congressional District, the citizens of LaSalle County, and the millions who have enjoyed learning about the history of LaSalle County at the Museum, I sincerely congratulate them on achieving this milestone. The importance of preserving and appreciating our history cannot be overlooked and the dedication of the LaSalle County Historical Society and all of their volunteers is a key part of this time honored tradition. I look forward to what they will accomplish in the next fifty years.

IN RECOGNITION OF NORM ARCHIBALD

**HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2017*

Mr. ARRINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Norm Archibald, Mayor of the City of Abilene, Texas, "The Key City." Norm is a native Texan from San Be-

nito. He and his wife Nancy have lived in Abilene for more than forty years. When he is not representing Abilene as Mayor, Norm serves as Vice President of the Hendrick Health System in Abilene where he is responsible for the development of the Health System through the Hendrick Medical Center Foundation. He holds a bachelor's and a master's degree from Texas A&M University, a master's degree from Abilene Christian University, and a doctorate degree from Texas Tech University. Norm is the father of two beautiful children, Bryan and Betsy, and grandfather to four grandchildren, Hunter, Hudson, Margaret, and Archer. During his childhood years, Norm achieved the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America.

Even with his demanding professional career, Norm has always carved out time to serve his community, especially through his work with the Abilene/Taylor County Health Board, the United Way, the YMCA, the Boy Scouts of America Board, Junior Achievement, the Military Affairs Committee of the Abilene Chamber of Commerce, and the Abilene Metropolitan Planning Organization. More recently, Norm has been serving our country through his membership on the EPA's Local Government Advisory Committee.

Norm became Mayor of Abilene in 2004 after four years of serving on the Abilene City Council. He was re-elected in 2005, in 2008, in 2011, and again in 2014. Now, after seventeen years on the Abilene City Council and thirteen years as Mayor, Norm has chosen to step down to make way for new leadership. He has been a strong, effective, and passionate advocate for the values and interests that are important to Abilene and the Big Country. Mayor Archibald devoted his tenure to improving quality of life, long-term water resources, Dyess Air Force Base, and local government.

Mr. Speaker, the people of Abilene and the people of our nation have been fortunate to have a man like Norm dedicate so much of his time, talents, and energy to building a better and stronger city. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Norm as he completes his successful tenure as Mayor of Abilene and in thanking Norm and his wife, Nancy, for all their years of outstanding public service and exceptional contributions to the city of Abilene and the Big Country.

HONORING HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF MIKE DOWNEY

**HON. JARED HUFFMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2017*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sheriff Mike Downey, a longtime member of Humboldt County's law enforcement community, on his retirement.

Sheriff Downey's service to Humboldt County has been exemplary. Mike moved his family to Humboldt County and first became a deputy sheriff in 1986. He was assigned to the Marijuana Eradication Team in 1988, earning several awards for service to the Campaign Against Marijuana Planting. He was promoted

to Field Training Officer in 1989, and then to Sheriff's Corporal in 1992. In 1994, Mike was selected as Resident Deputy to Shelter Cove. Three years later, he was assigned as Sheriff's Sergeant to the Garberville station, and was awarded the Outstation Deputy of the Year in 2000. In 2003, Mike was promoted to the rank of Sheriff's Lieutenant in charge of North Area Command patrol operations.

Mike's professional development has been stellar over the tenure of his service. He was awarded every level of certification offered by the CA Commission on Peace Officer's Standards and Training (POST), including Intermediate, Advanced, Supervisory, Management, and Executive Certificates, and graduated from POST Command College. On May 7, 2006, Mike was promoted to Undersheriff under Sheriff Gary Philp. He was elected as Sheriff of Humboldt County and took office on January 1, 2001.

Sheriff Downey has been a role model for excellence in professionalism and community policing throughout his career. In addition to his professional contributions, he has served the Humboldt County community through the Eureka Rotary Club, The Red Cross board of Directors, as the President of the Law Enforcement Chiefs Associations of Humboldt, and through the Board of Directors for the California State Sheriffs' Association.

Mr. Speaker, Sheriff Mike Downey's commitment to the safety and peace of Humboldt County is commendable and worthy of recognition. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending our congratulations to him.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. MCCREADY'S 3RD GRADE CLASS

**HON. DAVID A. TROTT**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 4, 2017*

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bright young artists in Mrs. McCready's 3rd grade class at Franklin Road Christian School in Novi, Michigan.

I know that artists get their start long before high school and college, learning to expand their imagination and foster their creativity in classrooms just like Mrs. McCready's.

In an effort to highlight young artists from across Michigan's 11th Congressional District, this year, I announced the 1st Annual "Color my Capitol" Program.

Brimming with talent, Mrs. McCready's students were eager to showcase their amazing artistic skills and take part in this one-of-a-kind program.

Let me tell you, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. McCready's 3rd graders did not disappoint. Their creations are unique, innovative, and imaginative. Their colorful artwork embodies our country's bright and promising future with these sharp young minds leading the way.

It is my utmost honor to have their artwork displayed in my Congressional district office in Troy, Michigan for everyone who visits to enjoy. Each and every time I walk into my office, I am reminded of their talent.

Congratulations to Mrs. McCready and the young artists she has the pleasure of teaching.