

from every walk of life and background. That has certainly been my experience here in this House, and during my Army service in Vietnam. I thank my friends and colleagues with whom I have served. My years in public service have allowed me to represent my home county of Morris for over 40 years, and also Essex, Passaic, Sussex Counties, and earlier on, Somerset. That would not have been possible without the love and support of my wife, Virginia, our two girls and my late father and mentor, Peter. The unsung heroes of my time in Congress are my staff, both in Morristown and Washington, who tend every day to the needs of 730,000 constituents.

During my time serving here there have been times of great tragedy including the terrorist attacks of 9/11 and the ravages of Hurricane Sandy on my home state. In my role on the House Appropriations Committee, I made sure that New Jersey's needs were met in both the immediate aftermath as well as over time in the wake of these events. I have proudly been able to secure key federal investments for New Jersey to strengthen our economy, our institutions of higher education, our hospitals and public transportation systems, to preserve open space and protect the environment and to better serve our veterans and our fellow citizens with mental illness and disabilities.

As Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, this past year I have had a singular focus on "getting our work done". We completed 12 appropriations bills left over from 2017, we passed all 2018 bills in record time through regular order, and three Disaster Supplementals historic in scope and the expediency with which we acted to help our fellow citizens. In my remaining year as chairman, I am determined to finish the FY18 bills and pass our FY19 bills through regular order. Every member, Republican and Democrat, will continue to have ample opportunity to directly impact the Congressional power of the purse and decide the best and highest use of limited taxpayer money. This will require—and I will happily devote—all my energies to this task.

Throughout my service in this House, my deepest devotion has been to supporting our Armed Forces, all volunteers, and their families, here and abroad, and those warfighters who have returned home with injuries and who depend on a functioning veterans' health care system. To those of you I have met while you served us overseas and to those of you that I have sat by your bedside, I hope and trust I have served you well.

I have worked in a bipartisan manner, not just in times of crisis but always, because I believe it best serves my constituents, my state and our country. My father reminded me often that we are temporary stewards of the public trust. I have sincerely endeavored to earn that trust every day and I thank my constituents and my home state of New Jersey for the honor to serve and I will continue to do so to the best of my abilities through the end of my term.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, on January 29, I was unable to vote on Roll Call votes 45 and

46. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call 45—Yes, and Roll Call 46—Yes.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RUBEN GALLEG0**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. GALLEG0. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained in my congressional district and was not present for two roll call votes on Monday, January 29, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: Roll Call Vote No. 45—S. 534, Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act of 2017, as amended—YES; and Roll Call Vote No. 46—H.R. 1457, To establish requirements for use of a driver's license or personal identification card by certain financial institutions for opening an account or obtaining a financial product or service, and for other purposes, as amended—YES.

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TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF JAZZ  
TRUMPETER HUGH MASEKELA

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the passing of South African jazz trumpeter, composer and anti-apartheid activist Hugh Masekela, who died January 23 after a long fight with prostate cancer. Mr. Masekela, 78, was honored in October at the 26th annual National Civil Rights Museum Freedom Awards in Memphis although he was too sick to make the trip from Johannesburg and the award was accepted by his son, Salema Masekela, in his place.

Masekela was an integral part of the African jazz scene in the 1950s and '60s with his band the Jazz Epistles. In response to South Africa's oppressive apartheid, which prevented large gatherings of black people from legally attending his bands' concerts, he went into exile in 1964, at the age of 21, first in Britain and then in the United States. In 1968, he had an international No. 1 hit—"Grazing in the Grass." He was also known for "Bring Him Back Home," an anthem calling for the release of the future South African President Nelson Mandela, imprisoned for 27 years for his anti-apartheid activities, and "Soweto Blues."

Masekela collaborated with a variety of activists and entertainers including Harry Belafonte, Jimi Hendrix, Otis Redding, Janis Joplin and Paul Simon, with whom he toured on the "Graceland" album concerts with Ladysmith Black Mambazo. He released more than 40 albums in his career and toured internationally until last year.

"My biggest obsession is to show Africans and the world who the people of Africa really are," he said on his official website.

In 2012, he participated in UNESCO's International Jazz Day at the United Nations General Assembly Hall in New York City with Richard Bona of Cameroon, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Danilo Perez, Derek Trucks and Susan

Tedeschi, Jack DeJohnette, Herbie Hancock, Jimmy Heath, Zakir Hussain of India, Angelique Kidjo of Benin, Lang Lang of China, Romero Lubambo of Brazil, Shankar Mahadevan of India, Wynton Marsalis, Christian McBride, Dianne Reeves, Wayne Shorter, Esperanza Spalding, Hiromi Uehara of Japan.

Masekela returned to South Africa in 1990 when Mandela was freed and has been a vocal voice for freedom. I join fans and activists around the world in paying tribute to a giant of African culture and the arts.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, had I been present for the vote today on S. 534, Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act (Roll Call No. 45), I would have voted aye. This bill would require authorization to interact with minor amateur athletes to report any suspected incidents of child abuse, including sexual abuse, to the sport's governing body.

Additionally, had I been present for the vote on H.R. 1457 (Roll Call No. 682), I would have voted aye. This bill would allow banks and other financial institutions nationwide to use an individual's state-issued driver's license or personal identification card to verify the individual's identity when using a mobile device to initiate mobile banking or other online service.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, due to a personal commitment, I was unable to vote on the following: Roll Call No. 35 and Roll Call No. 36. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

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RECOGNIZING RONN OWENS ON  
HIS DISTINGUISHED CAREER

**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI as well as Representatives MARK DESAULNIER, ANNA ESHOO, JOHN GARAMENDI, JARED HUFFMAN, RO KHANNA, BARBARA LEE, ZOE LOFGREN, JERRY MCNERNEY, JACKIE SPEIER, MIKE THOMPSON, and I rise to recognize Ronn Owens for his lifetime of service to the San Francisco Bay Area as a radio journalist of the highest caliber.

Ronn, a resident of San Francisco, launched his daily radio talk show on KGO 810 in 1975. He has covered everything from politics to pop culture, and his show has been called the "ultimate town hall meeting." He became known as a voice of reason, balancing

issues so that listeners can make up their own minds. In an era of divisiveness and shock radio, Ronn gave listeners a space in which both sides could be heard and have productive discussions.

His thousands of guests have included Presidents Barack Obama and Jimmy Carter, Senators DIANNE FEINSTEIN and Barbara Boxer, Gov. Jerry Brown, Democratic Leader NANCY PELOSI, Steve Martin, John Oliver, Neil deGrasse Tyson, Martin Short, Sam Donaldson, Bill Maher, Condoleezza Rice, Madeleine Albright, Benjamin Netanyahu, JOHN MCCAIN, Joe Montana, Tony Bennett and Willie Mays.

Ronn has won numerous awards over the years and was inducted into the Bay Area Radio Hall of Fame in December 2007 and the National Radio Hall of Fame in Chicago in 2015. The National Association of Broadcasters presented him with the prestigious Marconi Award for Major Market Personality of the Year Award in 2003 and again in 2010.

Talkers Magazine named Ronn one of the Top 25 Greatest Radio Talk Show Hosts of All Time, ranking him 13th and the top local personality in the country. His book, "Voice of Reason: Why the Left and Right are Wrong," was published in 2004.

By bringing newsmakers into his studio in a friendly but probing way, Ronn Owens has vastly enriched the Bay Area's knowledge and culture for more than four decades. His incisive analysis has helped generations of Californians and online listeners around the globe better understand and enjoy the world around them.

It was my great honor to be the guest during his last full show on Friday, January 12. He will continue on the air with a 10-minute "Ronn Owens Report" each weekday.

We congratulate Ronn on his fine work and many accomplishments, and we wish him the very best with his newest endeavor.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House Chamber on Monday, January 29, 2018, recovering from a medical procedure. Had I recorded my vote, I would have voted:

"Yea" on roll call no. 45, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, S. 534, the Protecting Young Victims from Sexual Abuse and Safe Sport Authorization Act;

"Yea" on roll call no. 46, on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 1457, to establish requirements for use of a drivers license or personal identification card by certain financial institutions for opening an account or obtaining a financial product or service, and for other purposes.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, due to a personal conflict, I was unable to make votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 38; Pres on Roll Call No. 39; Yea on Roll Call No. 40; Yea on Roll Call No. 41; and Yea on Roll Call No. 42.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for Roll Call votes on No. 45 and 46 the evening of January 29, 2018. I would have voted in favor of S. 534, sponsored by Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN; I would have voted in favor for H.R. 1457, sponsored by Representative TIPTON.

#### CELEBRATING EDWIN AND SANDRA HAMILTON'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. Edwin Richard Hamilton and Mrs. Sandra Elaine (Thompson) Hamilton.

Edwin and Sandra were married on February 3, 1968 in Cartersville, Georgia by the Reverend Charles McPherson.

Reaching the wonderful milestone of a golden anniversary shows such a great commitment to your spouse and family. This marriage stands as a blessing and an encouragement to me and all those who know this couple.

Please join me in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton a very happy and blessed anniversary. May God bless them with many more years of happiness and health.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF JOAN GILLAM MANDA

### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Joan Gillam Manda, who passed away on January 20, 2018.

Joan Gillam Manda was born on October 19, 1923, in Maryville, Missouri, where she was active in church and school during her youth. A proud Tiger, Joan graduated from the University of Missouri—Columbia with a degree in Journalism in 1945. Joan was a devoted wife to her husband, Ed Manda, whom she married in 1947. Joan and Ed moved to Pleasant Hill, Missouri, where they raised their four children. She enjoyed staying involved with her children's lives and was very supportive of their many activities growing up.

As an active member of the First Presbyterian Church, Joan was devoted to her faith and to her community, where she spent much of her time volunteering. She also proudly competed as a co-pilot for several years in the All Women's Transcontinental Air

Race, where she and her pilot once won the competition.

Joan truly knew how to live her life to the fullest. She was well known for her pursuit of adventure and traveled world-wide throughout her life. In recent years, she enjoyed listening to her grandchildren's stories of their own adventures across the globe. A proud grandmother of 11 and great-grandmother of 15, Joan took delight in keeping up with her many family members through social media.

I would like to offer my deepest condolences to Joan's family and friends, by whom she will be greatly missed. Joan's commitment to her family, her faith, and her community will be forever cherished in the hearts of the many people she touched throughout her life.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast votes on the following legislative measures due to family medical reasons. If I were present for roll call votes, I would have voted No for the following votes: Roll 35, January 19, 2018: On Motion to Table, H. Res. 705, Impeaching Donald John Trump, President of the United States, of high misdemeanors; Roll 36, January 19, 2018: On Passage, H.R. 4712, Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act; Roll 37, January 19, 2018: On Motion to Adjourn; Roll 38, January 20, 2018: On Ordering a Call of the House; Roll 40, January 20, 2018: On Tabling Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, H. Res. 708, Waiving a Requirement of Clause 6(A) of Rule XIII with Respect to Consideration of Certain Resolutions Reported from the Committee on Rules, and Providing for Consideration of Motions to Suspend the Rules; Roll 41, January 20, 2018: On Ordering the Previous Question, H. Res. 708, Waiving a Requirement of Clause 6(A) of Rule XIII with Respect to Consideration of Certain Resolutions Reported from the Committee on Rules, and Providing for Consideration of Motions to Suspend the Rules; and Roll 42, January 20, 2018: on Agreeing to the Resolution, H. Res. 708, Waiving a Requirement of Clause 6(A) of Rule XIII with Respect to Consideration of Certain Resolutions Reported from the Committee on Rules, and Providing for Consideration of Motions to Suspend the Rules.

I would have voted Present for the following vote: Roll 39, January 20, 2018: On Call of the House.

I would have voted Aye for the following vote: Roll 43, January 20, 2018: On Motion to Fix the Convening Time.

#### HONORING PASTOR DR. WAYNE COFIELD AND WHITFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH

### HON. TOM GRAVES

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2018*

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Dr. Wayne