

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing my colleagues to join me in recognizing these extraordinary Buffalo State Bengals and in congratulating them as they obtain their undergraduate degrees. Their dedication and drive will propel them to success, and I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

CRUZ SARMIENTO

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to dedicate some time to honor one of my constituents, Mr. Cruz Sarmiento, for the inspirational life he led.

Mr. Sarmiento passed away on January 29, 2018 peacefully, at the age of 95, and his life should and will be remembered. Mr. Sarmiento's life embodies this country's greatest ideals—opportunity, determination, and the American dream.

Born in Juarez, Chihuahua in 1922, Mr. Sarmiento spent his early years in both Mexico and America, but it was his dedication to family that kept him in Juarez, as he cared for his grandmother. There, he met his beloved wife, Juanita, and together they returned to the U.S. He worked diligently to provide for his family of 8 children, emphasizing the importance of education to them. After moving the family to California and performing a variety of jobs, he seized opportunity through investments and was able to retire at age 65. He and his wife flourished during this long retirement.

Mr. Sarmiento's life sets an example for all; his hard work, perseverance, and sacrifice earned him the respect of all who met him. Mr. Sarmiento could always be relied on to help others, whether he was helping coworkers fill out documents when they could not read or write in English, or when he co-founded Mayas, an organization that held dances with proceeds funding the scholarships of future students. His selflessness and dedication to all communities around him was admirable. Mr. Sarmiento is survived by his family, including his children and his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His family will carry on the values of his legacy. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Mr. Sarmiento for the inspiring example his life has set, and I thank him for coming to America and enriching the lives of all around him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber for Roll Call votes 51 and 52 on Monday, February 5, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call vote 51 and Nay on Roll Call vote 52.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MR. JOHNNY JACKSON, JR.

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Mr. Johnny Jackson, Jr., a former New Orleans city councilman, state representative and Ninth Ward community leader, who died on January 24, 2018 at the age of 74.

A New Orleans native, Mr. Jackson was a 1961 graduate of George Washington Carver High School. He earned his bachelor's degree from Southern University at New Orleans in 1965, and his master's degree in social work from Tulane University in 1980.

In 1968, Mr. Jackson became director of the Desire Community Center and was its leader during the time of the 1970 standoff between New Orleans police and members of the Black Panther Party. He used the center to offer breakfast and tutoring programs for children.

In 1971, Mr. Jackson was elected to the Louisiana state legislature, as only the body's third African-American member. He served in the state House of Representatives for 14 years from 1972 until 1986. Mr. Jackson became the New Orleans delegation's floor leader soon after his election and was a founding member of the state's Legislative Black Caucus. He also served as a delegate to the 1973 convention which rewrote the state constitution.

Mr. Jackson was recruited to run for the state legislature by members of the Ninth Ward political organization Southern Organization of United Leadership, better known as SOUL. He was a member of the group and later a founding member of another political group, DAWN, which stood for Development Association for Wards and Neighborhoods.

In 1985, Mr. Jackson and Ms. Delories P. Francois started the Desire Community Housing Corporation Staff Christmas Show and gift exchange for the neighborhood kids. Eventually, the program grew into a community event. The purpose of this program was to provide Christmas gifts for children in the Desire-Florida areas and was extended to the City of New Orleans. The program grew to provide bikes, computers, and toys to kids within the city.

From 1986 until 1994, Mr. Jackson served as the District E representative on the New Orleans City Council, representing New Orleans East and the Lower Ninth Ward.

Mr. Jackson was a former board member of Total Community Action, Inc., the New Orleans East Economic Development Foundation, Desire-Florida Area Community Council, and the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Foundation. He also chaired the "Gospel is Alive" program, and was former president of WWOZ public radio.

Mr. Jackson became a member of the Zulu Social Aid and Pleasure Club, Inc., in the 1980's. He soon thereafter became an active fundraiser for the club, which earned him an appointment to the Zulu Board. After the death of former King, Mr. Fred Thomas, Mr. Jackson was appointed as captain of the Zulu Diamond Cutters, a position he held for almost 28 years.

Mr. Jackson, always having a heart for the community, with the help of the Zulu Social

Aid and Pleasure Club, Inc. revived the Desire Carver Housing Corporation's original vision and formed the Zulu Toys for Tots Christmas Talent Show, which focused on raising money and collecting toys for underprivileged youth.

Mr. Jackson loved the city and the people of New Orleans. His legacy will forever be a part of the city and his dedication to community embodies the spirit of New Orleans. We cannot match the sacrifices made by Mr. Jackson, but surely we can try to match his sense of service. We cannot match his courage, but we can strive to match his devotion.

Mr. Jackson's survivors include his wife, Mrs. Ara "Jean" Parker Jackson, his mother, Mrs. Josephine Jackson; two sons, Kevin Jackson of New Orleans and Johnny Jahl Jackson of Houston, Texas; four daughters, Kenyatta Jackson Morris of Dallas, Texas, Johann Jackson of Tampa, Florida, and Jeanne Jackson and Samantha Spears, both of New Orleans; two brothers, Brandon Jackson, Sr. of New Orleans and Kevin Jackson of Slidell; two sisters, Cynthia Webster of Slidell and Cheryl Robinson of New Orleans; 13 grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Mr. Johnny Jackson, Jr.

HONORING MIKE FITZSIMMONS

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Mr. Mike Fitzsimmons, Spokane's News Scope host on KXLY Newsradio 920 for his years of service to Eastern Washington. As an award-winning radio and television journalist, news director, and talk radio host, Mr. Fitzsimmons has served the people of Eastern Washington for more than 40 years. Mr. Fitzsimmons retired at the end of 2017 and I am pleased to recognize his accomplishments and contributions to our great community.

Mr. Fitzsimmons famously covered the eruption of Mount St. Helens in May of 1980 where he spent 56 continuous hours reporting about the effects of this unique event on Eastern Washington. In 1996, Mr. Fitzsimmons held another marathon broadcast during the giant regional power blackout known as Ice Storm '96. Outside of reporting, Mike served as a radio and television anchor for Unlimited Hydroplane Racing for 45 years.

In addition to his career on radio and TV, Mr. Fitzsimmons has also dedicated his time to Gonzaga University where he is a Senior Lecturer of Integrated Media. He teaches courses relating to media law, public relations, broadcast writing, and media literacy. He has aimed to provide platforms for interpretation and critical analysis of the current fast-paced media environment.

I would like to thank Mr. Fitzsimmons for his years of dedication to the people of Spokane and Eastern Washington, and wish him the best of luck in the next chapter of his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NORTH-
WEST METROPORT CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Northwest Metroport Chamber of Commerce as it marks 30 years of service to the North Texas community.

Formed in 1986 as the Roanoke Business Association, this organization has enjoyed significant growth, expanding service to include Argyle, Haslet, Justin, Northlake, Trophy Club, and Westlake. In its 30 years of service, the Northwest Metroport Chamber of Commerce has also grown from eight founding members to more than 420. These members—past and present—have worked diligently to create, promote, and enhance growth for the business community.

Since its inception, the Northwest Metroport Chamber of Commerce has sought to positively impact leadership, stewardship, and business relationships for the benefit of all six of the communities it represents in the Northwest Metroport region.

There is no doubt that the Northwest Metroport Chamber of Commerce leaders and members have made meaningful contributions to their communities and the North Texas region, and I am grateful for their steadfast service.

IN HONOR OF JENNIFER FRIZZEL
FOR HER 15 YEARS OF SERVICE
AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF
NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere gratitude for Jennifer Frizzel as she moves on after fifteen years from her role leading public policy work for Planned Parenthood of Northern New England.

Throughout Jennifer's long career as an advocate for reproductive rights and improved access to family planning resources, she has helped support women across New Hampshire in obtaining well-deserved quality healthcare. Whether it's been advocacy to protect buffer zones outside of clinics or fighting against a lawsuit to prevent the opening of a Planned Parenthood in downtown Manchester, Jennifer has made invaluable contributions to our state and the country. Her commitment and compassion have improved the lives of countless women in need, and she has cultivated a better future for Granite State women and families.

On behalf of New Hampshire's Second Congressional District and all those who have benefitted from Jennifer's work, I thank her for her incredible service and congratulate her on all that she has accomplished. I wish her the best of luck in the years ahead, and I look forward to our continued work together to make New Hampshire an even better place to live, work, and raise a family.

IN SUPPORT OF H. RESOLUTION
724

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 724. This is an important resolution and I am proud to support it.

The recent wave of sexual harassment allegations has been an important moment for our country. The last many months represent a sea change in how we, as Americans, talk about and respond to allegations of sexual misconduct.

Fortunately, it has empowered women to share their story through the #MeToo movement. This movement has made the country realize that allegations of sexual harassment touch all pockets of society, including, sadly, the Congress of the United States.

These allegations have exposed numerous allegations against congressional offices. This is concerning because it tells us that those who come to our nation's capital and serve the country they love must contend with unwanted harassment.

Further still, and prior to this thoughtful legislation, victims of abuse had to contend with the separate and various office policies, if any at all, of every individual member. This is disorienting and unhelpful.

Congress must set the example. That is why I am proud to support H. Resolution 724. H. Res. 724 would set mandatory anti-harassment and antidiscrimination policies for house offices.

Additionally, this Resolution would establish an Office of Employee Advocacy to provide legal assistance and consultation to employees of the House regarding procedures and proceedings under the Congressional Accountability Act.

And, critically, it would list sexual harassment as a violation of the House code of official conduct.

Mr. Speaker, if we are going to be able to speak with a moral voice about the problem of sexual harassment, then we must begin with this institution.

That is why I am proud to support this legislation.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
GEORGE P. SHADID

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of retired State Senator George P. Shadid, of Peoria, Illinois, who devoted his life to serving his community and the State of Illinois. George left us on February 3rd, and will be greatly missed by family, friends, former colleagues, and his community.

George was born on May 15, 1929 to Edna Massad Shadid and Philip A. Shadid; one of nine children born to the proud Lebanese immigrants. On May 30, 1953, George married Lorraine K. Unes. They had two children, George Jr., who sadly passed away in 2005, and James, who currently serves as chief U.S.

District Judge for central Illinois. George and Lorraine were also blessed with four grandchildren.

Throughout his life, George embodied the role of a true public servant, dedicating his life to serving others. He started his long career in public service as a police officer for the Peoria Police Department. After serving in that capacity for twenty-three years, in 1976 he was elected Sheriff of Peoria County. In 1993, George was appointed to serve as State Senator of the 46th District of Illinois, representing Peoria, Tazewell and Fulton counties. In the Senate, George became lifelong friends with then State Senator Barack Obama. He retired from the Senate in 2006. He was a mentor and friend to many, and was admired by colleagues on both sides of the aisle. He will be remembered for his great sense of humor, his honesty, and his commitment to finding commonsense, bipartisan solutions with the goal of bettering his community and the State of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize the late George Shadid on his extraordinary work and service to the State of Illinois. I am grateful for George's contributions to our community, and my condolences are with his loved ones at this difficult time. It is because of dedicated and selfless leaders such as former Senator Shadid that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District.

THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF SRI
LANKA'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation:

Whereas, Sri Lanka is a free, independent, and sovereign nation—a unique country with a rich history, dating back to its flourishing civilization of the 2nd Century B.C.;

Whereas, Sri Lanka is celebrating the 70th Anniversary of its independence;

Whereas, Sri Lanka has developed its economy based on its agriculture, cultivation of semi-precious stones, and manufacturing industries. And although Sri Lanka experienced invasions and rule by the Portuguese, Dutch, and British, Sri Lanka regained independence through a peaceful and constitutional process in 1948;

Whereas, after 70 years of independence, Sri Lanka has emerged as a key South Asian country committed to democracy, free market economics, and sound development policy;

Whereas, this year also marks the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between free Sri Lanka and the United States of America and bi-lateral relations between the U.S. and Sri Lanka have always been strong;

Whereas, trade and investment between the U.S. and Sri Lanka continue to grow. Recent U.S. goods exports were \$372 million. U.S. exports consisted primarily of industrial machinery, medical instruments, aircraft parts, lentils, paper, specialized fabrics and textiles for use in the garment industry, fruits, and pharmaceuticals. Sri Lanka is currently the