

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF MICHAEL B. TRISTER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of civil rights attorney Michael B. Trister, who passed away on October 20, 2018. As family, friends and colleagues mourn the loss of a loving family man, a steward of justice, and a voice for the underrepresented, I ask my fellow members of Congress to join me in honoring Mike for his unwavering commitment to defending civil rights and his rich legacy as a lawyer, advocate, teacher, husband, father and grandfather.

Mike's legal career was marked by profound dedication to serving those in need. His first job out of law school was teaching and developing a legal services program at the University of Mississippi School of Law in the 1960's. There, his work serving the poor and marginalized drew the ire of the state's political hierarchy. When the University terminated its relationship with the program and told Mike he could not both continue to teach and work in the program, he sued in federal court—in *Trister v. University of Mississippi*—and won the right to do so.

Upon his reinstatement, and as part of his groundbreaking legal practice as the first Executive Director of North Mississippi Rural Legal Services (NMRLS), he focused on advancing the civil and economic rights of African Americans—in the process, contributing greatly to the transformation of poverty law practice in the state. In addition to overseeing school desegregation cases, Mike represented NMRLS lawyers targeted by local law enforcement and defended African American student protesters at the University who were facing both criminal prosecution and calls for expulsion.

In 1970, Mike moved to Washington, D.C., to work at the Children's Defense Fund, eventually serving as Vice President and General Counsel. He later co-founded the firm currently known as Trister, Ross, Schadler & Gold, PLLC. Over thirty years, he worked with a multitude of clients, providing counsel to progressive labor, advocacy, charitable, and political organizations. Mike's practice, at its core, focused on supporting social, economic, and political movements. Beyond his law practice, he also sought to improve the legal profession through teaching and community engagement. Among other things, Mike served as the Chair of the DC Bar Legal Ethics Committee and the DC Bar Rules of Professional Conduct Review Committee. He has been honored for his lifetime of advocacy, and for his many contributions to the profession.

Mr. Speaker, as Mike's wife Nancy Duff Campbell, son Noah Trister, daughter Karen Trister Grace, son-in-law Peter Grace, and grandchildren Jeremy and Mara Grace celebrate his lifetime of achievements and his de-

votion to his family, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Mike's dedication to advancing civil rights and progressive causes, which began during an era that sorely needed courageous voices.

HONORING BRYAN FISCHER

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Bryan Fischer for his contribution to our state.

As a member of the 6th District Agriculture Advisory Committee, Bryan regularly met with my team to discuss emerging agriculture issues that are impacting Indiana's farmers. Bryan is an important business and civic leader in Shelby County and our state is better off today because of his extraordinary leadership and service.

On a personal note, Jennifer and I cherish our friendship with Bryan and his wife, Celeste. Not only does Celeste make the best cookies in Shelby County, but she and Bryan are both passionate leaders who care about providing opportunity for the next generation that grows up in Shelby County.

Both Bryan and Celeste were among my earliest and most vocal supporters. They are loyal friends and wise advisers. I want to thank the Fishers for their friendship and support of my work in Congress. I wish them continued success in all that God has planned for their family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Mr. KINZINGER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained yesterday, November 13, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 416; and YEA on Roll Call No. 417.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY GIOVANIELLO

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to our country have been exceptional. After working for many years in the residential and commercial real estate industries, Jerry Giovaniello is retiring from the National Association of REALTORS.

After earning a graduate degree in history from New York University, Mr. Giovaniello fulfilled an ROTC commitment to the U.S. Army, serving as an officer in Vietnam and Washington, D.C. from 1968 through 1970. After his military service, Mr. Giovaniello worked as a policy analyst and writer for *National Journal*, a weekly magazine covering the federal government and public policy issues. Later, Mr. Giovaniello began working on Capitol Hill where he served as chief of staff for two members of Congress from California—Rep. Jerry Pettis, R-Calif., 1972 to 1976, and Rep. Jim Lloyd, D-Calif., 1976 to 1981.

From 2001 until his retirement this year, Mr. Giovaniello served as the senior vice president of government affairs and chief lobbyist of the National Association of REALTORS, the nation's largest professional association, representing more than one million members involved in all aspects of the residential and commercial real estate industries. Mr. Giovaniello managed the association's government affairs staff of approximately 40 people in Washington, D.C. He also served as NAR's advocate for members of Congress from California, Washington, Nevada, Hawaii and Oregon.

Jerry and I have worked closely together on a number of issues. Perhaps the most consequential was our successful effort to stop large national banks from entering the real estate business. Had the banks prevailed, it would have left home buyers and sellers with fewer choices and higher loan fees. More crucially, it would have made the economic crisis of 2008 even more severe. We all owe Jerry a debt of gratitude for taking on that fight and winning it.

Mr. Giovaniello has contributed immensely to the betterment of our nation and I am proud to call him a fellow American and my friend. He played a major role advancing policies that helped Americans realize their dream of owning a home. To conclude, Mr. Speaker I want to thank Mr. Giovaniello for his service to the residential and commercial real estate industries—his dedication, insight and passion will be greatly missed.

CONGRATULATING MRS. JENNIFER HOMENDY ON HER CONFIRMATION AND SWEARING-IN TO THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mrs. Jennifer Homendy on her confirmation and swearing-in as a Member of the National Transportation Safety Board. Mrs. Homendy was confirmed unanimously by the Senate on July 24, 2018 and sworn in on August 20, 2018. As a member of the Transportation and Infrastructure committee, and having worked alongside her for twelve years, I

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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

am especially proud to recognize this distinct honor.

Mrs. Homendy has committed her professional career to improving safety and fighting for consumer protection. As Staff Director of the Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee, she was instrumental in the passage of a number of key bills and has a record of rigorous oversight of the implementation of Congressional mandates. Under her guidance, major authorization bills including the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient, Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011, the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act of 2016, the Protecting Our Infrastructure of Pipelines Enhancing Safety (PIPES) Act of 2016 contained important provisions that have demonstrably improved safety and efficiency.

In addition to her work on Capitol Hill, she advocated for the fair and safe conditions for the men and women of the nation's transportation workforce during her time with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the AFL-CIO Transportation Trades Department. She also recently completed the Stennis Fellowship, a high honor for senior congressional staff who are dedicated to public service and improving our Congress as an institution.

Her impact on transportation safety extends to the farthest reaches of our transportation network, and I am grateful for her service and expertise. As a policymaker, I look forward to her thoughtful contribution to the National Transportation Safety Board. Based on her experience and the legacy she created as a congressional staffer, I think we can all trust that she will continue to be a strong advocate for making our transportation and infrastructure systems safer.

Beyond her impressive public service, Jennifer has also found time to become an accomplished runner and triathlete, and is a dedicated and loving mother and wife.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Jennifer Homendy on this award and on the accomplishments throughout her career. The National Transportation Safety Board is fortunate to have such an exceptional Member, and the safety of the American public will surely benefit from her expertise. I wish her the best as she begins her term.

HONORING JOHN MEREDITH

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize John Meredith for his contribution to our state and Wayne County.

John is a brother in Christ, and I have appreciated his prayers and encouragement over the years. I always enjoy the time we get to spend together and count him among my close friends. John is also a community leader, a successful entrepreneur, and has been very active in promoting Republican values for years. He has had an incredible impact on Wayne County and on our state.

I also want to thank John for support of my work in Congress. I wish him continued suc-

cess in all that God has planned for him and his family.

RECOGNIZING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL TREASURY EMPLOYEES UNION

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Treasury Employees Union (NTEU) in celebration of their 80th anniversary.

Created in 1938, the NTEU's mission has always been to make sure federal employees are treated with respect and dignity. For 80 years the NTEU's continued advocacy has strengthened employee rights and direct support to more than 150,000 employees.

The backbone of our federal government and its agencies is our workforce, and we must take care of these dedicated employees if we want our nation to thrive. We must fight for quality healthcare plans, retirement benefits, and livable wages for employees. I am grateful for all the NTEU has done in support of our federal workforce, our state and our country.

On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I want to thank the National Treasury Employees Union for all they have done, and will continue to do, for our federal workforce.

TRIBUTE TO CRAIG BIDDLE

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to former California State Senator Craig Biddle, who passed away on Sunday, September 23, 2018 in Florida. Craig served the people of California and Riverside County in many ways throughout his life and he will be deeply missed.

While growing up, Craig developed a deep passion for playing the French horn. He even spent three summers at the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan and intended to spend his life as a musician. Then, while attending Occidental College, he turned his focus and attention to the law. He eventually sold his horn to pay for the first semester of law school at USC. After graduating, he moved from South Pasadena to Riverside, where he became a deputy district attorney. He served there four years, before becoming a public defender.

Craig decided to leap into politics and had his sights set on becoming district attorney. In an effort to bolster his name recognition for a future district attorney campaign, he decided to run for the California Assembly as a Republican. In an unexpected turn of events, Craig wound up winning that race and was elected to serve in the Assembly. Craig would later become the Assembly majority leader from 1969 to 1971. He then resigned to run for the state Senate. Craig won that race and represented the Riverside area in the Senate for

one term. Throughout his legislative career, Craig was an effective advocate for laws requiring the use of breathalyzer tests for suspected drunk drivers and for clean air policies that required cars to undergo smog checks. After leaving office, Craig started a law firm in Sacramento, which he ran before retiring in 1995.

Craig is survived by his wife Patricia Kelley and three children, Eric, Nancy and Lisa Biddle Canez. He had four grandchildren. I want to extend my heartfelt condolences to the Biddle family, his friends, and everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him. Although Craig may be gone, the many life-changing contributions he made in Riverside County and throughout California will have a lasting impact.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUIS V. GUTIÉRREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Mr. GUTIÉRREZ. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the chamber on Tuesday, November 13, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call votes 416 and 417.

HONORING GINGER BRADFORD

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, on behalf of the entire 6th Congressional District of Indiana, to recognize Ginger Bradford for her contribution to our state.

Ginger has served Ripley County and the City of Versailles with honor and distinction for years. It has been a pleasure to work with her, and our state is better off today because of her extraordinary leadership and service.

On a personal note, Ginger is among my favorite people that I met on this journey in Congress. She is smart, strong, honest, and loyal. With Ginger, you always know where you stand.

I will be forever grateful for her friendship and support of my work in Congress. The entire Messer family, including my wife Jennifer and our kids, have thoroughly enjoyed every moment we have spent with her and Bill. I wish her continued success in all that God has planned for her family.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MAUREEN HAGAN

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 14, 2018

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Maureen "Maggie" Hagan, 74, who died peacefully on November 6, 2018 surrounded by her family.

Maggie was a teacher in Warren City schools for 38 years, where she was an active