

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS G. HUNGAR

HON. PAUL D. RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express the appreciation of the entire House of Representatives to Thomas G. Hungar for his exemplary service as General Counsel of the House. Tom has been a faithful defender of this institution, its Members, and its prerogatives since his appointment in 2016. Tom's distinguished legal career has included service in all three branches of government. In the Judicial Branch, he served as a law clerk in the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit and the Supreme Court of the United States. In the Executive Branch, he served in the Office of the Solicitor General at the Department of Justice, including as Deputy Solicitor General. Having presented oral argument before the Supreme Court in 26 cases, Tom is one of our Nation's leading appellate lawyers and an expert on constitutional law.

Tom began his Legislative Branch service with the House in 2016, as one of only a small number of lawyers ever to serve as General Counsel of the House. Under Tom's guidance and leadership, the General Counsel's Office has provided sophisticated and invaluable legal advice and has been a trusted institutional resource for Members, Officers, Committees, and staff, regardless of political affiliation. Through excellent legal work and counsel, undertaken with zeal for the best interests of the House, Tom and his office have earned the respect of Members on both sides of the aisle.

When the House's institutional interests were at stake, Tom's legal advice was always tailored to safeguarding the House's constitutional prerogatives and protecting the House's vital role in our constitutional structure. Tom successfully litigated cases defending and protecting the House's constitutionally based subpoena authority. Tom also defended the House and its Officers to preserve and protect the House's longstanding practice of opening each legislative day with a prayer. Additionally, under Tom, the House has filed amicus briefs articulating its position on the proper interpretation of the Appropriations, Rulemaking, and Speech or Debate Clauses of the Constitution. Numerous Members, Committees, and Subcommittees relied on Tom's extensive litigation expertise in connection with investigative and oversight activities. Finally, Tom defended House Members, Officers, and staff in judicial proceedings at both the trial and appellate levels and advised Members and Committees in connection with their interactions with both private and other governmental entities.

I know that Tom will continue his exceptional work wherever the next chapter of his impressive legal career takes him. On behalf

of the House of Representatives, I express my deepest gratitude to Tom for his dedication to this institution, and I extend our very best wishes to him, his wife Jaye, and their children, Brett, Claire, Lance, and Paige.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAKARAI FAGORALA

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Dakarai Fagorala, who passed away on Sunday, August 12, 2018. Dakarai was only 17 years old and just shy of his 18th birthday when he passed as a result of injuries sustained from a fatal car accident.

Dakarai recently graduated with honors from Deer Valley High School in Antioch, California, where he also played on the basketball team. He was an exceptional young man, working a part-time job to save money for college and help his family during his school years.

He participated in the 2016 National Youth Leadership Forum for National Security-Diplomacy and competed in the 2016 Amateur Athletic Union's "Jam on It" Tournament.

Dakarai took great pride in his community and looked for ways to give back. He was a Junior Deacon at Fellowship Church in Antioch and regularly volunteered at homeless shelters in Contra Costa County, cooking and serving meals to veterans and seniors.

Dakarai was a shining light who touched the lives of everyone he met. Our community mourns the loss of Dakarai Fagorala, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, on December 12, 2018, I was recovering from an eye surgery and was therefore unable to be present for the votes on the motion on ordering the previous question on the Rule providing for consideration of the Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018, the rule providing for consideration of the Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018, and agreeing to the Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018.

Had I been present for Roll Call No. 431, on the motion on ordering the previous question on the Rule providing for consideration of the

Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018, I would have voted NO.

Had I been present for Roll Call No. 432, on the rule providing for consideration of the Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018, I would have voted NO.

Had I been present for Roll Call No. 434, on agreeing to the Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 2, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018, I would have voted YEA.

KATHRYN WIRKUS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Kathryn Wirkus for her hard work and dedication to the people of the 7th Congressional District.

Since I met Kathryn in 2012, she has become a friend and an instrumental member of my team. For more than seven years, she has worked in my congressional office as part of the constituent services team and handled the issues of military and Veterans affairs and aerospace. Her time as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Air Force brought a wealth of knowledge on Veteran's issues and a shared experience she that she was able to relate to with the Veterans she helped. She has been a tremendous asset to our team and to the constituents we serve. Her relationships with liaisons at federal agencies and within the community helped ensure she was always able to help answer questions, direct folks to the appropriate resources, secure long-deserved medals and recognition for Veterans, and even secure money or benefits that were owed to Veterans in the district.

Prior to serving in my congressional office, Kathryn worked on behalf of Veterans across the state in the Colorado Department of Veterans Affairs. Prior to that, she served in the United States Air Force for 27 years, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. Her dedication, particularly to women Veterans, is commendable and is shown through her work in forming the Colorado Women's Veterans organization, which she is the current Vice President.

Kathryn has a true gift for working with Veterans and understanding the issues and challenges they face. Her good nature and sense of humor always help make Veterans and constituents feel comfortable and welcome. I extend my deepest appreciation to Kathryn Wirkus for the difference she made in the lives of many people in our community and for her service to our country. I will be forever grateful for her service to our team, the district, and the United States of America. I wish her all the best in her next chapter.

• 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.

RECOGNIZING THE BRAVERY OF
DARRYL TRAPPS

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Syracuse firefighter Darryl Trapps, who serves as an emergency responder at the Carrier Dome during Syracuse University basketball games. During the December 4th game against Northeastern University, Mr. Trapps performed CPR on a patron suffering from a medical emergency. The actions of Mr. Trapps and others in attendance saved the man's life.

Since 2004, Mr. Trapps has worked as an emergency responder at the Carrier Dome. Mr. Trapps diligently monitors athletic events for emergencies and, before December 4th, no serious incidents had occurred during his tenure. However, before the December 4th game, a patron went stiff in his seat and began suffering a cardiac event. Mr. Trapps recognized the severity of the situation and jumped into action.

Mr. Trapps arrived to the man's section and, upon discovering the man had no pulse, began performing chest compressions. Mr. Trapps was surrounded by concerned attendees but his emergency response skills and training allowed him to block out any sort of distraction. He administered chest compressions while a doctor performed rescue breathing, both of them trying to keep oxygen flowing to the patient's brain.

Emergency Medical Technicians arrived with a defibrillator shortly after Mr. Trapps began assisting the man. They administered two shocks to the man's chest with Mr. Trapps continuing chest compressions between the shocks. On the third shock, the man's pulse returned and he was taken to Upstate University Hospital for further treatment. Mr. Trapps had successfully saved the man's life but immediately returned to his duty.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in honoring the courageous actions of Darryl Trapps. His composure during this chaotic situation was no easy task and his efforts saved the life of another individual. I applaud Mr. Trapps, as well as first responders around the country, whose daily actions save countless lives.

RECOGNIZING LAKE ROAD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lake Road Elementary School of Poplar Bluff, Missouri for being recognized as a National Blue Ribbon School in 2018, a distinction bestowed upon only 349 public and private schools across the country.

The National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes public and private elementary, middle, and high schools based on their overall academic excellence or their progress in closing achievement gaps among student subgroups. This award affirms Lake Road Ele-

mentary School's hard work in creating an environment for educational attainment that is recognized as a symbol of exemplary teaching and learning.

Lake Road Elementary provides a model for success to all schools by creating a nurturing environment that promotes student development through problem solving and exploration. Principal Erica Weadon inspires a passionate and purposeful mindset that resonates throughout the entire organization, from the teachers, administrators, students, and parents. This accomplishment will pay dividends for years to come as Lake Road Elementary continues to grow and flourish.

On behalf of the Eighth Congressional District of Missouri, it is my great privilege to congratulate the entire Lake Road Elementary School community for this remarkable achievement.

IN RECOGNITION OF WALTER R.
BROOKS, JR.

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life of Walter R. Brooks, Jr., founder of Cape Cod Today, who passed away at the age of eighty-seven.

Mr. Brooks has been a pillar of the community, serving as a voice for Cape Cod. Born in 1930 to Walter Rollin Brooks, Sr. and Evelyn Mae Brooks, he was raised as an only child in Woodbury, Connecticut. At an early age, he knew he wanted to follow in his father's footsteps and pursue a career in journalism. Following his graduation from the University of Connecticut, Mr. Brooks went on to serve as a publisher, managing editor, promotion and marketing director for the Village Voice, the New York Post, the Greenwich CT Times, the Naugatuck Daily News, the Amherst MA Journal-Record, the Enfield CT Press, the Cape Codder, and MPG Communications.

In 1959, Mr. Brooks spent a summer in Provincetown, where he met and married the love of his life, Patricia. Their love of Cape Cod would lead them to settle in Harwich in 1965, where they raised their two sons, Todd and Jay. After moving, Walter and Patricia, who were devoted to improving the accessibility of news outlets, launched a Cape Cod tourism publication entitled Best Read Guides. In 1998, his passion for his community led him to establish, Cape Cod Today. One of the nation's first online-only local news websites, Cape Cod Today has been an integral part of the Commonwealth.

Mr. Brooks has always put the people of Cape Cod first, constantly trying to figure out how to better his home. He has stepped up at every point to improve our schools and our community by using his newspaper to hold institutions and individuals accountable to the people.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Walter R. Brooks, Jr. for his dedication to bettering our community. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his commitment to journalism and the people of Cape Cod.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
TOM TORLAKSON

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with Congressman MIKE THOMPSON to recognize Tom Torlakson for his dedicated and passionate service to our community.

A recipient of the Merchant Marine Service Medal, Tom began his life-long commitment to service as a fireman in assignments such as Guam, Vietnam, and Thailand. After his service, Tom attended the University of California Berkeley, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in History, a Life Secondary Teaching Credential, and a Master of Arts in Education.

Tom has served as a teacher for the Mount Diablo Unified School District, a councilman for the City of Antioch, a county supervisor for Contra Costa County, and as a legislator in both the California State Senate and State Assembly. During his tenure in the California State Legislature, Tom fought to increase funding for education, implement school nutrition programs and physical education, and improve school safety. He also led the charge for making the California public school system more inclusive by eliminating the achievement gap, reducing the dropout rate, and funding afterschool programs.

As the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Tom brought his experience and drive to the California Department of Education where he continued his vow to improve our state's public education system. During his two terms, Tom set new standards for testing student achievement, expanded programs that meet the needs of children outside of the regular school day, and oversaw a record high school graduation rate. Tom is also the chair and founder of the California Task Force on Youth and Workplace Wellness, where he has continued to promote healthier meals and physical activity for students.

Tom Torlakson has left a positive impact on the California public school system and its students, and the community at large. While his leadership and enthusiasm will be dearly missed in his official capacity, he will surely continue to contribute to California. I join with Congressman MIKE THOMPSON in thanking Tom for his service to our County, our state, and our students, and wish him the best in his retirement.

HONORING ROBERT E. MOORE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 17, 2018

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Robert E. Moore, a pillar in the Mississippi Delta.

In the year of 1945, Robert was born on the 21st day of April. Raised in Greenwood, Mississippi, Robert received his undergraduate degree from Jackson State University and a graduate degree from the University of Southern Mississippi.

Moore was a United States Marine Corps Veteran. He served in Vietnam and was a Purple Heart Recipient.