

INTRODUCTION OF THE LOW-WAGE
FEDERAL CONTRACTOR EM-
PLOYEE BACK PAY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Low-Wage Federal Contractor Employee Back Pay Act to grant back pay to federally contracted retail, food, custodial and security service workers who are furloughed during a federal government shutdown this fiscal year (fiscal year 2019). This bill applies to all three branches of the federal government. After the 2013 government shutdown, federal workers received back pay, but not federal contract workers. While I believe that all federal employees and federal contract workers should receive back pay after a shutdown, we know that we cannot get Congress to make whole all who are hurt by a shutdown. My bill focuses specifically on low-wage federal contract workers, some of whom work here on the Capitol grounds providing Members of Congress and congressional staff with daily services, because these are the workers most likely to be irretrievably hurt by lost wages during a shutdown.

Many federal contract workers earn little more than the minimum wage and receive few, if any, benefits. While some are unionized with a little better wage, all are the lowest-paid workers in the federal government and should not be penalized because Congress has failed to do its job to keep the government functioning. Congress, historically, has provided back pay to federal employees, who often work in the same buildings as these low-wage contract workers, furloughed during government shutdowns—but not to low-wage contract workers. However, both groups of workers deserve to be made whole after shutdowns. I recognize, of course, that contract workers are employees of contractors, but the distinction between federal workers and, at least, the lowest-paid contract workers, who, for example, keep buildings clean, fails when it comes to a deliberate government shutdown. Unlike many other contractors, those who employ low-wage service workers have little latitude to help make up for lost wages. Low-wage, federally contracted service workers can least afford the loss of pay during a shutdown and should not have to go without pay while everyone else in their federal buildings likely receives back pay.

The nation's capital is the high-profile home of the federal government's complicity with contractors who pay low wages through leases and contracts with federal agencies. At least this legislation would provide some parity to their low-wage federal contract workers.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. ANDREW
FITZGERALD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the life of Mr. Andrew Fitzgerald

of the United States Coast Guard, a hero and beloved member of the community who passed away at the age of eighty-seven.

Andrew Fitzgerald, a true American hero, lived an exemplary life of service, demonstrating a true commitment to our nation and our community. Born in Whitinsville, Massachusetts on March 19, 1931, he was always motivated to better his community. As a young man he joined the United States Coast Guard. He would then go on to be a part of the greatest small boat rescue in Coast Guard history and receive the Gold Lifesaving Medal.

On February 18, 1952, Mr. Fitzgerald and the crewmen aboard *CG-36500* responded to two large oil tankers in distress, the *Fort Mercer* and the *Pendleton*. They showed exemplary skill as they navigated through high winds, lightning, and monstrous seas. While on their way to the *Pendleton*, the severe thrashing of the waves caused their engine to stall. Mr. Fitzgerald demonstrated extreme heroism as he crawled into their engine compartment to restart it every time, so they could continue on their mission. Once they arrived at the *Pendleton*, one by one, they took 32 survivors off the pitching stern and brought them safely to Chatham Harbor.

Following his service in the Coast Guard, Mr. Fitzgerald went on to have a successful business career in Colorado. He married Gloria Frabotta in 1956, and together they had a daughter, Dawn and a son, Michael. Mr. Fitzgerald dedicated his life to caring for his loved ones, including volunteering at his local church. He was always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone who crossed his path.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the life of Andrew Fitzgerald. I ask that my colleagues join me in remembering his courageous actions, and those of his crewmen, that saved so many lives.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE SIGNING OF THE
MIGRATORY BIRD TREATY ACT

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 100th anniversary of the signing of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. This landmark law has protected cherished birds throughout North America while unifying environmentalists, hunters, and scientists for generations.

In New Hope, Pennsylvania, supporters of environmental preservation are gathering at the Bucks County Audubon Society at Honey Hollow on December 19, 2018, to celebrate the "Year of the Bird" in honor of the centennial celebration of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

It gives me immense pride to stand with them and their commitment to environmental stewardship for all animal species. As we celebrate the "Year of the Bird," let us remember the joy and beauty nature provides us, and strive for unifying goals of which the Migratory Bird Treaty Act is a prime model.

PASSING OF LARRY "PETE"
PETERSON

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, Larry "Pete" Peterson of Yuba City, CA, was born on April 23, 1936, and passed away on October 11, 2018 at Rideout Hospital in Marysville. Pete retired from the United States Air Force as a Tech Sergeant after serving 43 years and served in the Korean Conflict and the Vietnam War. Pete continued to serve his community as an officer with the Yuba City Police Department and after retiring, served 25 years as a Reserve Officer.

Pete was a member of the Episcopal Church and participated in the activities of the VFW Post 2563, Yuba City American Legion post 705, Disabled American Veteran Chapter 6 Sacramento, CA, and the Thomas T Smith Masonic Lodge No. 78 in Marysville, CA. Pete was an active participant in the Kiwanis Club. He served as past president and past Lt. Governor. Pete was the founder of The Hope Of America Scholarship Program. He was also a George F. Hixson Fellow. He received numerous awards and recognition from retired Police Chief Richard Doscher and retired Deputy Chief George Carey.

Pete is preceded in death by Debra Peterson and Sandra Pankey-Peterson, wives; his daughter, Nicole Peterson; his son, Lawrence F. Peterson, Jr.; and his brother, Paul Peterson.

He leaves to grieve a stepson, Aaron Pankey; his stepmother, Vivian Peterson; his sisters, Florence Dent-Hunter and Loretta Johnson; his brother, Vincent Peterson; daughters-in-law, Alfreda Peterson and Connie Peterson; five grandchildren; three great-granddaughters; one great-grandson; and numerous sisters and brothers-in-law, cousins and friends.

HONORING DARIUS ANDERSON

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Darius Anderson for his outstanding business acumen and host of contributions to his community.

Darius Anderson is a founder and contributing member of a variety of businesses. About 20 years ago, he became the Founder and CEO of Platinum Advisors, a government affairs firm that works all throughout California. He also is the Founder and CEO of Kenwood Investments, a California Opportunity Fund that has been a fixture in many communities since 2000. On top of that, he is a Managing Member of Sonoma Media Investments, a newspaper publisher. He also served as the Chief of Staff for the Yucaipa Companies and was the Vice President of External Affairs for Ralphs Grocery Stores, Inc. between 1993 and 1998.

Darius Anderson has dedicated years of hard work and his own personal time for the betterment of his community. He was the

Chair of the National Advisory Council for the UC Berkley Institute of Governmental Studies, and is now a member of the Board of Directors of the George Washington University Graduate School of Public Management's Council on American Politics, California Building Bridges, Sonoma State University Green Music Center and is a Co-Chair of the Friends of the UCSF Center for Reproductive Health Advisory Board.

Darius Anderson has no plans to slow down. His next big undertaking is the Treasure Island Development Project, an effort to redevelop the former Naval Station Treasure Island in the San Francisco Bay.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and recognizing Darius Anderson for his lifetime of success and positive contribution to dozens of California communities.

UPON THE OCCASION OF THE DEPARTURE OF DONNA RUTHERFORD FROM THE EAST PALO ALTO CITY COUNCIL

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Donna Rutherford who is leaving the city council of East Palo Alto after a total of 25 years of service to the residents of her remarkable community. Donna is a steady voice of reason and a warm, committed person who welcomes all who enjoy her city's diversity, opportunity, and vitality.

East Palo Alto is a city in the midst of great change. As a town of nearly 30,000, the community is at the crossroads of two major highways, deep in the heart of Silicon Valley. Donna Rutherford understands that the economic forces shaping East Palo Alto must not be allowed to change the diverse population of the community but instead be harnessed to create opportunity for all its residents.

Central to opportunity is housing, and as a councilwoman Donna Rutherford advocated for and supported the construction of affordable housing for all populations. While Mayor, she approved of, and then joined in turning the ground for, a long-awaited senior project—University Avenue Senior Housing. On the council, she consistently spoke about the need to develop the city's parcel on Weeks Street, a project that will come to fruition in the next few years thanks in part to her vote. She also supported the use of a city-controlled lot that will soon become a supervised, nighttime parking location for residents living in their recreational vehicles.

Her dedication to opportunity did not begin with the council. As a school volunteer while her children were in elementary school, she attended school board meetings so frequently that some thought she was a district employee. She ran for the school board and was successful, serving from 1988 to 2000, including some of the most difficult years of school funding by the state.

At one point, students approached the city council with a study showing that East Palo Alto had more liquor stores per capita than surrounding communities. The council took note, and Donna celebrated their investment of time and energy, noting years later that stu-

dents have so much potential to make a difference. Liquor stores have gradually given way to a thriving retail center, a hotel and office complex and other improvements to East Palo Alto's quality of life.

As a councilmember, Donna Rutherford represented the city on the San Mateo County Vector Control District board, as an alternate on C/CAG—an agency formed from cities throughout San Mateo County, on the county library board, and the wastewater management board. She is also the city's alternate on numerous other important boards impacting the quality of life of residents.

Mr. Speaker and Members, East Palo Alto is definitely a city on the move. It will miss the leadership of Donna Rutherford, but her moral authority and authentic voice of concern, filled with wisdom, will continue for many years to come. She once noted of her childhood neighborhood, Hunters Point, that she loved living near the bay. The winds sometimes blow hard across both Hunters Point and East Palo Alto, two communities with a vast bay shoreline, but the winds will never extinguish the will to serve that lives within the heart of Donna Rutherford. Donna Rutherford is a friend and colleague whose guidance I will miss as East Palo Alto continues to evolve. I know she will still be available to offer her sage advice.

As she retires from the council, I wish her, her husband, Joe, and her children Trevor, Roxanne, and Damaris well in the years to come and we know that new adventures await this relentless leader of East Palo Alto.

IN APPRECIATION OF SACHA HAN FOR HER DEDICATED CAREER OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. ROYCE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to today to recognize one of my longest serving staff members—Sacha Han. Sacha grew up in Fullerton, California in the heart of my Congressional District.

She came to my office as a High School student, seeking to intern and learn more about the government. We don't take many High School students as interns, but Sacha was smart, poised, and wise beyond her years, and she was a great addition to my District Office. When Sacha graduated from High School, she came East to attend the George Washington University, right here in Washington, D.C. Once again, Sacha interned in our office, doing such a good job that we hired her for a full-time staff position upon her graduation from college.

Sacha became such a key part of my staff, that when she announced that she was leaving the office to attend Nursing School, we persuaded her to continue to work part-time while she attended school. She not only continued through nursing school, but she has remained on my staff to this day—20 years after she first walked into my District Office.

Sacha is a joy to work with, and I am grateful for her service to the constituents of the 39th District of California, to my office, and to the House of Representatives. In addition to working two jobs, she is also a wife to Eduardo, and a mother to Bianca and Liam. I know that they too are very proud of Sacha.

I thank Sacha, and wish her and her family all the best.

PERSECUTION OF THE BAHAI

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to condemn Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority.

While the global community is rightfully concerned about Iran's ties to international terrorism and its destabilizing activities in the region, we must not forget those who struggle for religious freedom and basic civil liberties in Iran.

As the largest non-Muslim religious minority community in Iran, the Baha'i people have long been subjected to severe religious persecution by the Iranian regime. Several of its leaders have been arrested, and members have been executed. According to the 2018 International Religious Freedom Report, Iranian authorities have arbitrarily detained over 1,000 Baha'is over the past decade.

The Baha'i people are routinely and systematically discriminated against on the basis of religion. Since 2014, officials have infringed on the economic pursuits of the Baha'i by closing over 600 of their shops.

In addition, Baha'i children are regularly denied access to schools and higher education. Even if they are permitted to attend school, they are not free to learn about their religion or participate in religious practice. If they do, they face harassment and potentially expulsion.

The discrimination and persecution of this community is shameful and inexcusable. The social teachings of the Baha'i Faith—including the equality of all humans, regardless of gender, race, or class, and the principle of each individual's responsibility to investigate the truth—are universal values that should be guaranteed. These are human rights we must protect.

The United States and the international community must not ignore this egregious abuse and blatant discrimination against the Iranian Baha'i community. We must stand up to the Iranian regime and hold it accountable for its actions.

By passing H. Res. 274, we shine a light on the persecution of the Baha'i, and hopefully move us one step closer to true religious freedom in Iran.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. HANS MUMM

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 19, 2018

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Hans Mumm for his government service and significant contributions to the U.S. Military's Information Operations. Dr. Mumm is currently a futures researcher for the National Geospatial Intelligence Agency. In this position, he uses his UAV and robotics expertise to design policy for advanced technologies and studies the consequences of its