

measure, it does not solve the larger issue. Also, repeatedly increasing and lowering salary caps is inefficient and costly.

There is precedent for reserve services in the Department of Homeland Security. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) responded to Hurricane Harvey, Hurricane Irma, Hurricane Jose, and Hurricane Maria by mobilizing temporary on-call reservists and Cadre On-Call Response/Recovery (CORE) personnel to assist with rescue and recovery.

The Department of Homeland Security Reserve Service Act establishes adapts this model for other pervasive, yet unpredictable national security requirements. The bill establishes a reserve service, comprised of skilled, ready-to-work former employees, including retirees that can be temporarily mobilized to fill personnel shortages and meet emergent demands.

This reserve service allows components to be innovative in structure and application. While some positions could mirror existing ones, components are encouraged to find new ways to call upon a reservist's skill set, in whole or in part.

For example, if a retired United States Secret Service agent has expertise in planning for the United Nations General Assembly, but is not able or does not want to carry a gun and/or meet the physical demands required in some protective missions, they could fill a critical planning role, freeing permanent personnel or other gun carriers for other assignments. Under this bill agencies are urged to find innovative approaches that decouple skills held by reserve service members from those required of full-time employees.

Rather than maintaining the status quo, this program represents an opportunity to curb costs by capitalizing on investments taxpayers and agencies have already made in the human capital of former employees while simultaneously preserving institutional knowledge and experience.

I urge my colleagues to join me in helping the Department of Homeland Security perform their mission critical duties of investigation, patrol, response, security, protection, recovery, and inspection by supporting this act.

MARIAH FERNANDEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Mariah Fernandez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Mariah Fernandez is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Mariah Fernandez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Mariah Fernandez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth

award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO CITY OF FLORENCE,
ALABAMA COMMEMORATING THE
200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize the great City of Florence, Alabama, as it celebrates its 200th Anniversary. I am honored to serve the people of Florence, which is located in Alabama's 5th District.

By way of background, on March 12, 1818, General John Coffee saw the potential for a settlement on the banks of the Tennessee River, and he founded Florence, Alabama. General Coffee led the Cypress Land Company, and these visionaries established what they envisioned as a bold, new prosperous settlement.

At this time, these founding fathers of Florence commissioned an Italian surveyor named Ferdinand Sannoner. In deciding on a name for the new settlement, he named it Florence after the beautiful and historic city of Florence, Italy.

Through the years, the city grew steadily and many businesses and educational institutions were established in Florence. The city became known for having a legacy of industry, music and the arts, education, and architecture.

Today, Florence stands as a testament to the Tennessee Valley's rich heritage, and I am proud to celebrate Florence today. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the City of Florence on this momentous occasion of its 200th Anniversary and wish the city the best for another 200 years.

IN HONOR OF DOROTHY R.
(DOTTIE) SPINDLE

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of Fairfax County's leading citizens, Dottie Spindle, who is retiring as Secretary of The 123 Club after 27 years of service.

The 123 Club was formed over 30 years ago by a group of Northern Virginia Business Leaders who were interested in promoting economic development in Northern Virginia and George Mason University. Since that time, Fairfax County has blossomed into one of the most vibrant business corridors in the nation, and George Mason University has grown to house over 35,000 students at the graduate and undergraduate level, making it the largest University in Virginia.

Through the last 27 years, Dottie Spindle has served as Secretary (a volunteer position), coordinating meetings, reaching out to speakers, and keeping the books on an evolving membership of movers and shakers across

Northern Virginia. The 123 Club has hosted Governors, Senators, Congressmen, State Legislators, Cabinet officers and leaders in economic academia. Though membership has changed, along with a growing and diverse business establishment, Dottie Spindle has been the one constant, holding together a band of eclectic community leaders and scheduling meetings, ensuring quorums and keeping the group together.

A long time employee of Dewberry, a large engineering firm in Fairfax, Dottie has announced her well-earned retirement, and will be stepping down this spring from both entities. The 123 Club and the citizens of Fairfax County will greatly miss her, as she has made a substantial mark serving behind the scenes.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Dottie Spindle for her contributions to our community.

COMMEMORATING WOMEN'S
HISTORY MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 31st observance of March as Women's History Month.

I want to list several women who made history with their election to the U.S. House of Representatives:

1. Congresswoman Jeanette Rankin of Montana who was the first elected woman member of the House of Representatives;

2. Congresswoman Patsy Mink of Hawaii was the first woman of color and the first Asian American woman elected to Congress;

3. Congresswoman Shirley Anita Chisholm of New York who was the first African-American Congresswoman member of the House of Representatives; and

4. Congresswoman ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN whom we have the honor of working with is the first Hispanic woman elected to serve in Congress;

5. Senator TAMMY BALDWIN of Wisconsin is from the LGBTQ community to serve in this body and the first to serve in the United States Senate; and

6. NANCY PELOSI, the first woman elected Speaker of the House of Representatives.

National Women's History Month can be traced back to March 8, 1857, when women from New York City factories staged a protest over working conditions.

International Women's Day was first observed in 1909.

In 1981, Congress passed a law authorizing the President to proclaim March 7, 1982 as "Women's History Week."

It was a modest beginning, but very significant to women because it started a societal and cultural change in how women—and especially young girls—saw themselves within American story.

In 1987, Congress expanded the week to a month and every year since, Congress has passed a resolution for Women's History Month, and the President has issued a proclamation.

This month we recognize Women's History Month by noting the fundamental role women have played in shaping America's history.

But a month is not enough to make known the significant contributions of women to the success of the United States of America.

We taught our girls about 'Rosie the Riveter' who represented the millions of American women who went to work on assembly lines to manufacture tanks, planes, and weapons for the defense of this nation during World War II.

America has been blessed to have the contributions of American women heroes in the fields of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM).

Women like Sally Kristen Ride, the first woman sent into space; Eileen Marie Collins, the first woman space shuttle pilot; and Grace Murray Hopper, an American computer scientist and United States Navy rear admiral.

Admiral Hopper developed the first compiler for a computer programming language, which made it possible to program computers without using punch cards.

There are many women in the State of Texas and in the city of Houston who have made significant contributions to the American story:

1. Congresswoman Barbara Jordan of Texas was the first African American woman elected to the House of Representatives;

2. Kathryn "Kathy" Whitmire was the first woman elected to serve in the Houston City government; and

3. Mae Carol Jemison was the first African American woman astronaut.

I was proud to have been a cosponsor of the "National Women's History Commission Act," signed into law by President Barack Obama in December 2014 and which established a commission to study the potential for creating a National Women's History Museum and submit to the President and Congress a report containing recommendations on a plan of action for the establishment and maintenance of a National Women's History Museum in Washington, D.C.

The Commission delivered its report to Congress in November 2016 which contains the following recommendations:

1. America deserves a physical national museum dedicated to integrating women's distinctive contributions into our culture and history.

2. The Museum should be built on a highly prominent location close to other museums on or very close to the National Mall.

3. The Museum should be composed of a strong permanent collection with supplemental exhibits or objects on loan from other museums and archives, including components of the Smithsonian.

I agree and that is why I strongly support and am an original co-sponsor of H.R. 19, the "Women's History Museum Act," which establishes a comprehensive women's history museum within the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, DC to provide for the collection, study, and establishment of programs related to women's contributions that have influenced the direction of the United States.

A National Women's History Museum is needed to ensure that when the story of our nation is told that the role of women is represented in the narrative of our nation.

But there is much that remains to be done to ensure that women receive the same opportunities as their male counterparts and are equally represented in the public, civic, and economic life of the nation.

Women represent more than 50 percent of the population and cast more than 50 percent

of the votes in the last several national elections but no woman has yet been elected to serve as President or Vice-President of the United States, although Hillary Clinton made history by becoming the first woman to win the nomination of a major political party and won 65,853,516 votes, nearly 3 million more than her opponent, the current President.

Today, on average women still make only 77 cents for every dollar made by men and this gap is wider for African American and Hispanic women.

Nearly two-thirds of minimum-wage workers are women.

The poverty rate—14.5 percent for women—remains the highest in two decades.

Family and medical leave protections fail to cover nearly half of full-time employees.

Women-owned businesses continue to lag behind men-owned businesses. The average revenue of women-owned businesses is only 27 percent of the average revenue of men-owned businesses.

Mr. Speaker, Democrats know that when women succeed, America succeeds.

That is why in July 2013, House Democrats unveiled "When Women Succeed, America Succeeds: An Economic Agenda for Women and Families."

This agenda addresses the need to ensure that women get equal pay for equal work.

It helps ensure work and family balance by allowing working parents to support their families and care for their children.

And it recognizes that expanding educational opportunities, increased job training, and investments in women entrepreneurs are essential for women's success in our economy.

American women have made great strides over the last 100 years—but the fight for equal opportunity and to provide women with the economic security and opportunities they deserve and their families need is far from over.

We cannot rest until all of America's mothers, wives, and daughters truly have the same opportunities as America's fathers, husbands, and sons.

STATE OF MINNESOTA RESPONDS TO PRESIDENT'S FISCAL YEAR 2019 BUDGET PROPOSAL

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 13, 2018

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I recently held a hearing in St. Paul, Minnesota's capital city, to receive feedback on President Trump's fiscal year 2019 budget proposal. I am deeply appreciative for the input from the State of Minnesota, the University of Minnesota, Ramsey County, Washington County, the City of Saint Paul, and vital nonprofits like Lutheran Social Services, Clean Water Action, the Alzheimer's Association, Habitat for Humanity, Community Action Agencies, the Sierra Club, and the Minnesota Council on Nonprofits.

The testimony I heard was clear and unambiguous, the President's budget will harm every aspect of our community—students, seniors, low-income families, housing, the environment, refugees, and the list goes on and on. If a White House intentionally wanted to write a budget that shredded vital services to

communities and essential services to school districts, local governments and state agencies this is that destructive, dangerous document.

As this Republican Congress limps along trying to finish work on the fiscal year 2018 federal budget (nearly six months past the start of the fiscal year), we are now starting appropriations work for 2019. I expect there to be largely bipartisan agreement that President Trump's budget will be largely rejected in favor of some bipartisan common sense, if such a thing exists anymore.

I include in the RECORD the following testimony from Eric Hallstrom, Deputy Commissioner, Minnesota Management and Budget and it clearly articulates what is at risk in our state if Mr. Trump's backwards agenda is advanced:

Good Morning. For the record, my name is Eric Hallstrom and I am Deputy Commissioner at Minnesota Management and Budget, the state's budget agency. On behalf of Governor Dayton and the State of Minnesota, thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the president's budget proposal.

Federal budget decisions have a direct impact on the services Minnesotans receive. In considering the budget proposal, we appreciate your attention to the profound effects federal budget and fiscal policy decisions have on the State of Minnesota. The president's budget contains deep cuts in programs that have a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable Minnesotans, including children, the elderly, and those living in poverty.

As you are aware, at the state government level we adopt balanced budgets on a two-year cycle. We make budget decisions based on revenue projections that look out two and four years into the future. Governor Dayton has spent the last seven years working hard to right out state's fiscal ship by ensuring Minnesota's budget is balanced. Under Gov. Dayton's leadership, we corrected the 6 billion dollar deficit left by the previous administration. We restored the state's credit ratings to be some of the highest in the nation. And nine out of the last ten budget forecasts showed positive balances, compared to the decade of deficits before Governor Dayton took office. While we always face risk that our revenue projections will fluctuate, we are seeing more uncertainty and risk at what we can expect in federal funding levels than at any other point in recent history.

The President's Fiscal Year 2019 budget cuts domestic programs by a total of \$3.6 trillion. In the absence of substantial new spending by the State, the consequences of these cuts would be an increase in hunger, poverty and inequality in Minnesota. The President's budget cuts would undermine the well-being of children and families, lead to increases to Minnesota's uninsured rate and homeless population. These cuts will result in our land and waterways being less clean, our economic progress will be slowed, and education opportunities will be denied to many Minnesotans. In order to avoid these outcomes, the cuts would shift costs to the state. Yet even if the State of Minnesota attempts to bear as much of the burden as it can, we will simply not be able to make up for the cuts outlined in the president's draconian proposal.

With the limited time I have, I'd like to discuss a few major areas of the state budget that will experience the most severe impacts. First I will start with health and human services.

Health and Human Services: Over the next decade, the president's budget calls for cutting more than \$800 billion from Medicaid—