

time, he was the youngest person named to the presidency of the College, as well as the youngest college or university president in the nation. He also did extraordinary work as the Founder and Chairman Emeritus of the Conference of National Black Churches. Bishop Adams had a longstanding and dedicated commitment to serving the cause of civil rights, and to bettering the lives of children through education. I personally witnessed his remarkable life and devotion in the fight for justice and I am truly grateful and honored to acknowledge him.

Bishop Adams is survived by his loving wife, Dr. Dolly Deselle Adams, their three children and eight grandchildren, for whom we offer our thoughts and prayers.

Mr. Speaker, I'd like to offer my gratitude for the work done by Bishop Adams, and honor his legacy and belief that "the strength of the African American community network allows it to support each other and come together".

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 11, 2018*

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, on January 10, I was unable to vote on Roll Call votes 005 through 013. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call 005—No; Roll Call 006—No; Roll Call 007—No; Roll Call 008—Yes; Roll Call 009—Yes; Roll Call 010—Yes; Roll Call 011—Yes; Roll Call 012—Yes; and Roll Call 013—Yes.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MARK POCAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 11, 2018*

Mr. POCAN. Mr. Speaker, during my medical recovery, I missed the following roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

December 13, 2017  
 No on Roll Call No. 676  
 No on Roll Call No. 677  
 No on Roll Call No. 678  
 No on Roll Call No. 679  
 No on Roll Call No. 680  
 December 14, 2017  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 681  
 No on Roll Call No. 682  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 683  
 No on Roll Call No. 684  
 December 18, 2017  
 No on Roll Call No. 685  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 686  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 687  
 December 19, 2017  
 No on Roll Call No. 688  
 No on Roll Call No. 689  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 690  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 691  
 No on Roll Call No. 692  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 693  
 No on Roll Call No. 694  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 695  
 December 20, 2017  
 No on Roll Call No. 697

No on Roll Call No. 698  
 No on Roll Call No. 699  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 700  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 701  
 No on Roll Call No. 702  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 703  
 December 21, 2017  
 No on Roll Call No. 704  
 No on Roll Call No. 705  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 706  
 Yea on Roll Call No. 707

#### RECOGNIZING VETRI VELAN AND KATHY SHIELD

### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 11, 2018*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the tremendous advocacy of two UC Berkeley students whose diligent work mobilized graduate students around the country against the greatest tax scam in American history.

When President Trump and Congressional Republicans introduced legislation to reform the tax code, many of us recognized it for what it was—a blatant attempt to provide millionaires and billionaires with large tax breaks, while eliminating many of the provisions that provide the working class and the poor with means to improve their standing in society.

This terrible bill, passed without proper debate and process just before the holidays, will permanently stack the deck in favor of the rich and well-connected. In fact, we know that 83 percent of the bill's benefits go to the richest 1 percent of our society. To pay for these unnecessary tax breaks for the rich, the bill adds more than \$1 trillion to the national debt—a debt that our children and generations to come will continue to bear.

In the face of this immoral redistribution of wealth to the rich, people around the country were rightfully outraged, and many of my constituents were strongly opposed to its passage.

In particular, I would like to recognize two of my constituents for their efforts to highlight a particularly damaging section of the original bill, and commend them for their actions to have it removed from the final package.

Soon after the horrible GOP tax bill was introduced, Vetri Velan, a physics PhD student at UC Berkeley, developed an analysis of the bill. With the majority of doctoral and master students receiving institutional or fee waivers, Vetri realized that if tuition remissions were deemed taxable, graduate students could see their tax bill grow by 200 percent. It would also make it harder, and even impossible, for low or middle-income students to attend graduate school.

Vetri partnered with Kathy Shield, a fellow Cal student pursuing a Nuclear Engineering PhD to develop a tax calculator allowing any graduate student to determine their new tax liability under the House proposal. This allowed students to write and call their elected officials with specific information about the negative impact of the new tax bill.

And they didn't stop there. Vetri and Kathy then organized graduate students at UC Berkeley and around the country to contact 87 offices in 18 states to express outrage over this provision.

Because of their great work this harmful provision was removed from the final bill. Vetri & Kathy have saved thousands of dollars for graduate students across the country, and have ensured many hard working students will continue to have access to graduate school.

On behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, I'd like to thank Vetri and Kathy for their exceptional work to ensure all students have equal access to higher education, and most importantly for staying woke.

#### HAPPY 125TH ANNIVERSARY UVALDE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

### HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 11, 2018*

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th Anniversary of Uvalde Volunteer Fire Department, a critical community institution and group of dedicated individuals in South Texas.

The Uvalde Volunteer Fire Department was founded in 1892, just 36 years after Uvalde County was established by Reading Wood Black, a twenty-two year old from New Jersey. In addition to fighting fires and educating the people of Uvalde on fire safety and prevention, this Department regularly participates in community events, like the Newspapers in Education and Christmas Posada and Parade, truly going the extra mile for public service.

Today I applaud the countless members of the Uvalde Volunteer Fire Department who have helped to keep Uvalde safe. The positive impact of this volunteer fire department resonates across Texas' 23rd Congressional District.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 11, 2018*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, January 11, 2018, I was unavoidably detained for rollcall vote 14. Had I been present for rollcall vote 14, I would have voted "YEA".

#### THANKING CHRISTIAN MORGAN FOR HIS SERVICE TO MISSOURI'S 2ND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

### HON. ANN WAGNER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 11, 2018*

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, today I include in the RECORD a tribute that means a great deal to me, my family, and my staff. Tomorrow we bid farewell to my Chief of Staff of five years, Christian Morgan.

Every day, Christian has exemplified the conservative principles for which my office fights. His love for his family, faith in Jesus Christ, and undying belief in what our country stands for have led my office from the day I was sworn in, and his presence will be felt

long after his departure. Christian led by example; he was always the last to leave the office and the first to arrive. He guided, motivated, and empowered my staff and myself through fiscal cliffs, our historic fight against human trafficking, and countless pieces of legislation that improved our community in St. Louis.

I owe Christian a great debt of gratitude that I will never be able to fully repay, and today

we bid him, the man who steered the ship, a fond farewell. It is a sendoff to a person who always kept a level head, was slow to anger, and quick to listen and lead with a spirit of humility. Christian truly embodies our guiding mission to serve a cause greater than oneself and be a voice for the most vulnerable. We wish him the very best moving forward, and we are grateful for Christian Morgan's service

and sacrifice to our office, the Second District of Missouri, and our Great Nation.

May he always remember these words in Romans 5: 4–5, "Endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us."