

colleagues and fellow citizens while focusing on fostering and maintaining a sense of community. He will retire as the longest-serving town manager or administrator in the state, which is a well-deserved reflection of his dedication to public service.

I join the residents of South Kingstown and the entire state of Rhode Island in expressing deep gratitude for Mr. Alfred's contributions, and I wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. REX
GORDON, JR.

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2018

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of one of Mississippi's most devoted citizens and public servants, Mr. Rex Gordon, Jr. Mr. Gordon passed away on Saturday, December 2, 2017. William Faulkner, Rex Gordon's favorite author said, "To understand the world, you must first understand a place like Mississippi." Rex Gordon loved our great state and embraced everyone he encountered. His passion was to help others and through every role that he assumed, Mr. Gordon accomplished that task. As a public figure, Mr. Gordon led by example—always placing God, family, and community above himself.

Mr. Gordon met his wife, Patricia, while a student at Pascagoula High School. They were married in 1970. While Mrs. Gordon attended Mississippi University for Women, Mr. Gordon pursued his college education including one year at the University of Alabama where he was a walk-on football player under Coach Bear Bryant. He later attended the Mississippi College School of Law where he earned his law degree.

The Gordons moved to my hometown of Union, Mississippi in 1984. It would not be long before Mr. Gordon became a "fixture in the community" as Mrs. Gordon likes to say. He opened a private law practice in Union, and Mr. Gordon's life would soon become a public one in service to his fellow man. He served as Newton County Attorney and Union Municipal Judge for 30 years. He also served 20 years as attorney for the Union Public School District. Mrs. Gordon said her husband was known for his devotion to public service, but what many may not have known was that he never wanted to take credit for his good deeds. He was a humble man.

Mr. Gordon also devoted his time to his favorite sport—football. When he was not cheering for the Ole Miss Rebels, you could find him on a Friday night in the press box at the Union High School football stadium. He was known as the "Voice of the Yellow Jackets." You could say he was one of my high school's biggest fans. Mr. Gordon showed his team spirit every chance he got.

Mr. Gordon was an inquisitive man who was always eager for good conversation and a cup of coffee. He was the founder and charter member of Ward's Morning Coffee Club. The men Mr. Gordon fellowshiped with each

morning over coffee at Ward's Fastfood, served as the honorary pallbearers at his funeral. Mr. Gordon was also an active member at Union Methodist Church and known for his desire to cheer people up.

Most importantly, Mr. Gordon was a man of family and faith. He and his wife, Patricia, were married for 47 years. Together, they have two children and five grandchildren. Both daughters live close to home which the Gordons consider a true blessing.

Mr. Gordon will always be remembered for his many accomplishments, but perhaps more for his determination to rise above all obstacles in the pursuit of happiness. *Invictus*, Mr. Gordon's favorite poem, says it best. Therefore, I include in the RECORD the following excerpt:

Out of the night that covers me,
Black as the pit from pole to pole,
I thank whatever gods may be
For my unconquerable soul

It matters not how straight the gait,
How changed with punishments the scroll,
I am the master of my fate:
I am the captain of my soul.

My thoughts and prayers are with Mr. Gordon's family and friends.

MISCELLANEOUS TARIFF BILL
ACT OF 2018

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 16, 2018

Mr. HOLDING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Miscellaneous Tariff Bill.

As you know, I represent the great state of North Carolina which has more MTBs recommended by the ITC than any other state.

Of the 1,800 petitions from the ITC, around 330 of those were submitted by North Carolinians. This represents a tax cut for them of \$70 million in 2018 alone.

This legislation benefits a wide variety of manufacturers in my home state, and across the nation. Textile manufacturers like Glen Raven, or crop science companies around the Research Triangle Park, or appliance manufacturers in Charlotte, would all benefit under this plan.

Requiring American manufacturers to pay tariffs for imported products not made in the United States puts them at a competitive disadvantage to other countries. This bill is an opportunity to cut those tariffs, which are taxes, and have them reinvested in our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support this very important bill.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. GARY
CANTER

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2018

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the life of the co-owner of the

iconic Canter's Deli, Mr. Gary Canter—a beloved son, husband, and father—who passed away on December 26, 2017 at the age of 58.

Gary was born on March 18, 1959 to Alan and Elizabeth Canter. Gary was the grandson of Ben Canter, who started Canter's Deli with his brothers in 1931 in Boyle Heights. The deli was later moved to Fairfax in 1953 and has been one of the oldest and most famous eateries in Los Angeles.

Gary's career at the deli spanned over 43 years. He began working in the bakery at the age of 15, selling rye bread, danishes, and coffee cakes. After a few years, he moved to the deli counter and sold corned beef, pastrami, and brisket. By the age of 21, he was promoted to manager and oversaw 125 employees and the day-to-day operations of the 24 hours a day, 7 days a week restaurant. Gary helped expand Canter's Deli to Las Vegas in 2016 in two locations, the Linq and the Tivoli Village.

Gary was a person with a big heart and personality. He lit up any room he walked into and was known for calling those who he cared for, "Buddy Buddy".

Gary is survived by his wife, Traci, his daughter, Jenifer, and his parents, Alan and Elizabeth, whom I hope take comfort in the way Gary lived his life. May his memory be a blessing to us all.

RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN MICHAEL
SCOTT FOR HIS 16 YEARS OF
SERVICE AT THE GLOVERSVILLE
POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Captain Michael Scott on his retirement from the Gloversville Police Department after 16 years of service.

Since starting with the Gloversville Police Department in 2000, Captain Scott has been instrumental to the Department's growth and success. After serving as a patrol officer, police sergeant, and administrative sergeant, he attained the rank of police captain in 2016. To name just a few of his important contributions to the Department, Captain Scott oversaw the implementation of body worn cameras, energy device programs, and the transition of the department from the Uniform Crime Report to the Incident Based Reporting system. One of Captain Scott's proudest accomplishments is serving in the role of Accreditation Manager in the NYS Law Enforcement Accreditation program that the Department earned for five years. Captain Scott also held the position of public information officer, where he handled media requests, distributed press releases, and more. A true public servant, Captain Scott served in the Navy and the National Guard prior to his career in the Gloversville Police Department, which included deployment in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank Captain Scott for his years of hard work and dedication to his community, and wish him all the best in the years ahead.

HONORING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT MAJOR RAY V. WILBURN (RET.)

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2018

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of retired United States Marine Corps Sergeant Major Ray V. Wilburn, who passed away on January 2, 2018 at the age of 98. Born in Wolf City, Texas in 1919, Sgt. Maj. Wilburn hitchhiked 75 miles to enlist in the Marine Corps in 1939. Following the outbreak of World War II, he was assigned to 3rd Artillery Battalion, 10th Marine Regiment in the Solomon Islands. His unit eventually saw combat on the islands of Guadalcanal, Tarawa, and Tulagi.

At the beginning of the Korean War, Sgt. Maj. Wilburn was an artillery instructor at Camp Del Mar, California, but in 1951 he received orders to serve with the 2nd Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment in Korea. His unit was assigned to Artillery Valley where they endured constant barrages of enemy fire from 122mm rounds.

In 1967, Sgt. Maj. Wilburn was sent to Vietnam with the 1st Medical Battalion where he was lauded by his superiors for his leadership and mettle. Nightly Viet Cong mortar attacks forced he and his fellow Marines to perform their duties in flak vests and helmets.

The Marine Corps granted Sgt. Maj. Wilburn's request to serve more than 30 years, however in 1971 he was forced to medically retire after 31 years of service. If given the opportunity, I have no doubt that Sgt. Maj. Wilburn would have served his beloved Marine Corps another 31 years. I would like to pass along my condolences to his family and friends, and I thank God everyday for men like Sgt. Maj. Wilburn. Semper Fi.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2018

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote for roll call vote 18 on January 16, 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call No. 18.

AFRICAN GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT AND MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE ACT MODERNIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3445, African Growth and Opportunity Act and Millennium Challenge Act ("AGOA and MCA Modernization Act"), because it provides assistance to certain sub-Saharan African countries to improve their economies and foster trade with the U.S.

I have long supported trade ties between the United States and sub-Saharan Africa, as I believe this trade relationship would be mutually advantageous for both parties involved.

In 2016, 39 of the 48 countries in sub-Saharan Africa were designated as AGOA-eligible, according to the House Foreign Affairs Committee's report on the bill.

Top imports to the U.S. under AGOA include energy products, transportation equipment, and textiles, according to the International Trade Administration.

The Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) is a foreign aid agency that provides grants to lower-income countries for specific projects to promote economic growth.

It invests in countries through compacts—which have ranged from \$66 million in Cape Verde to almost \$700 million in Morocco and Tanzania—as well as smaller "threshold agreements" that help countries become eligible for a compact, according to the committee report.

It has distributed \$10.8 billion through compacts and \$583.6 million through threshold agreements.

With Africa's consumer spending expected to reach one trillion dollars, now is the time to accelerate this important trade relationship.

The AGOA program and the MCC would have new responsibilities and reporting requirements under an amended version of H.R. 3445.

Under H.R. 3445, the president would have to establish a website for AGOA that includes information about technical assistance provided by the U.S. Agency for International Development's regional trade hubs and links to U.S. embassies in AGOA countries.

After each U.S.-Sub-Saharan Africa Trade and Economic Cooperation Forum, H.R. 3445 would require the president to publish the outcomes and an assessment of progress made by members and the private sector toward meeting previous commitments.

Under H.R. 3445, the State Department would have to direct U.S. embassies in sub-Saharan Africa to promote AGOA and link to the AGOA website on their websites.

The president would be directed to: Develop policies and encourage the provision of technical assistance to facilitate trade cooperation among AGOA countries;

Train businesses and government officials on how to access AGOA benefits; and

Provide capacity building for African entrepreneurs and trade associations.

H.R. 3445 would set new requirements for AGOA's website and outreach work.

H.R. 3445 would modify country eligibility criteria for MCC compacts and allow countries to enter into concurrent compacts.

According to a committee summary, H.R. 3445 would redefine and stabilize movement between the low income and lower middle income candidate country pools, consistent with authorizing language that has been carried in annual appropriations bills since FY 2012.

According to the committee report, countries would be eligible for assistance if their per capita income does not exceed the lower middle income country threshold established by the World Bank's International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which is \$4,035.

Countries would be eligible for low income assistance if their per capita income is among the 75 lowest countries.

Otherwise, they would still be eligible for lower middle income assistance.

The formula under current law is not based on an income ranking.

If changes in a country's income caused it to move between categories, its assistance level would change after two subsequent fiscal years.

H.R. 3445 would also require countries to demonstrate a commitment to supporting civil society to be eligible for participation.

Before being selected for participation, the MCC would have to report to its governing board on the country's treatment of civil society and any laws it has that regulate the freedom of expression, peaceful assembly, and internet use.

The reports would be required before the board approved compacts for the next seven years.

A country's improvement on criteria that were relevant to its initial compact would be considered when determining eligibility for a subsequent, non-concurrent compact.

We should support the efforts of the AGOA program as it provides assistance to sub-Saharan African countries, improves these countries' economies, and helps to facilitate trade between these countries and the U.S.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3445.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WORLD WAR II VETERAN JOSEPH A. BRUNO

HON. ELISE M. STEFANK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 18, 2018

Ms. STEFANK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Joseph A. Bruno, a World War II Veteran who passed away on December 20, 2017.

Originally from Willsboro, New York, Joe enlisted in the United States Army in the Fall of 1942, where he served his country as a member of the Signal Corps. After completing signals training at Plattsburgh State Teachers College in June of 1942 and receiving follow-on training, Joe deployed to England with his unit. On July 22, 1944, Joe's unit landed in France, where he worked to establish a trans-Atlantic communications capability. Later, during the Battle of the Bulge, Joe and his unit were rushed to the front lines to hold the line against a German advance. Following the German surrender in 1945, Joe was slated to be shipped to the Pacific theater. His unit received word of Japan's surrender while at sea, and his ship was diverted to Boston.

In October of 1945, Joe was discharged from the Army at the rank of Technician Fifth Grade and returned to his hometown in Willsboro, where he worked with the railroad until his retirement in 1979.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to offer my deepest condolences to Joe's family and friends. Joe was an exemplary member of the community and his service to his country will not be forgotten.