

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF MS. FELICIA KAHN

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Ms. Felicia Kahn, a political activist for nearly 70 years who tirelessly fought for an array of causes, especially those that benefited women, and minorities. Ms. Kahn died on June 21, 2018 at the age of 91.

Ms. Kahn, who cast her first vote for Harry Truman when he won the presidency in 1948, worked last year in LaToya Cantrell's successful mayoral campaign. Ms. Kahn's work on Cantrell's campaign occurred shortly after she attended her tenth Democratic National Convention in 2016. At age 90, she was the second oldest delegate.

Ms. Felicia Schornstein was born on July 11, 1926. She graduated from Newman School and Newcomb College, where she majored in sociology. While in college, she joined the League of Women Voters of New Orleans and helped register women to vote.

After graduation, Ms. Kahn gained a job with the city Welfare Department, where she witnessed the problems stemming from segregation. She supported the integration of the league, and she worked with Betty Wisdom to create Carrolton Central, an organization that helped low-income residents in that part of the city get the services they needed.

Ms. Kahn left her city job when she married Mr. Charles N. Kahn, Jr., but she remained active in politics, serving as president of the League of Women Voters and as a board member.

Ms. Kahn, who became a real estate agent, worked in political campaigns and joined the league in lobbying for passage of the Equal Right Amendment. She also was a member of the Historic District Landmarks Commission and the Central Business District Landmarks Commission.

Ms. Khan was a member of the National Council of Jewish Women, the Independent Women's Organization, the New Orleans Coalition, the National Women's Political Caucus, Common Cause, the Alliance of Concerned Taxpayers, and the Alliance for Affordable Energy.

Ms. Kahn ran unsuccessfully twice for a seat in the state House of Representatives, but she represented Louisiana as a delegate to the National Women's Conference in Houston in 1977. She was a member of the Democratic State Central Committee, and the state Democratic Party gave her a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016.

Ms. Kahn was a giant in the city of New Orleans, and her work and passion gained her admiration throughout the country. One was never confused about her values or priorities, she was always in pursuit of the upward mobility and wellness of everyone. With her death, we lost a champion for the advancement of women, and our commitment should be to carry on that work with the same determination and vigor.

We will miss Ms. Kahn's passion and vitality. Our city and the nation is better off because of the work she carried out each day.

Ms. Khan is survived by her son, Charles N. "Chip" Kahn III of Arlington, Va; two daugh-

ters, Elizabeth Kahn of New Orleans and Felicia Kahn Michelson of Atlanta; a brother, Richard Schornstein of New Orleans; and three grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I celebrate the life and legacy of Ms. Felicia Kahn.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on roll call No. 287 & No. 288. Had I been present to vote on roll call No. 287, I would have voted 'Yea'. Had I been present to vote on roll call No. 288, I would have voted 'Yea'.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote for Roll Call votes 269, 270, and 271 on June 19, 2018. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: Yea on Roll Call vote 269, Yea on Roll Call vote 270, and Yea on Roll Call vote 271.

HONORING THE CAREER OF DR.
PATRICK MASON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Patrick Mason who is retiring as president and CEO of the California Foundation on the Environment and the Economy (CFEE) after more than 30 years of service. Dr. Mason is a legend in the field of environmental and economic policy.

Since 1984, Dr. Mason directed all foundation activities, including strategic planning, issues development, conferences and study travel projects. Under three decades of his direction, CFEE has been instrumental in making California a world leader in renewable energy, water conservation, and telecommunications.

Initiated in 1970, CFEE established itself as an independent, nonprofit institution that works to forge consensus on environmental, transportation, and economic growth issues. The foundation creates collaboration between state lawmakers and agencies, business, labor, and academic and community leaders in California.

Dr. Mason, who earned his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Colorado Boulder in 1978, served as president of the San Francisco Chapter of the National Association of Business Economist, director of the California Security Bank, and ran an active consulting practice as a forensic economist.

Dr. Mason's many achievements include working as a research economist and re-

search director for the California Labor Federation at the AFL-CIO. Also, he was the chief economist for the Association of Bay Area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Patrick Mason as he begins a new chapter in his life. Dr. Mason's dedication and commitment over the last 30 years has left a lasting impact at CFEE. I wish he and his family continued health and happiness.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK SANFORD

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. SANFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to attend votes, as my flight back to Washington was delayed by five hours due to weather. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 269; YEA on Roll Call No. 270; and YEA on Roll Call No. 271.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA ZONING COMMISSION HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Zoning Commission Home Rule Act. This bill would give the District of Columbia the authority to appoint all members of the D.C. Zoning Commission (Commission). Currently, the Commission consists of two federal officials (the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) and the Director of the National Park Service (NPS), or their designees) and three mayoral appointees, subject to D.C. Council approval. The federal officials are members even though the Commission has no authority over federal property.

Land use is a quintessential local matter in our country. Despite the D.C. Home Rule Act, which gave the District jurisdiction over its local matters, 40 percent of the members of the Commission are federal officials, who are unaccountable to the more than 700,000 residents who live in the District. The federal government would lose nothing as a result of this bill because the federal government's land-use interests in the nation's capital are protected by federal law and federal agencies.

The Commission creates the zoning maps and regulations, which must "not be inconsistent with the comprehensive plan for the national capital." The mayor is responsible for the local elements of the comprehensive plan, subject to D.C. Council approval. The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPCC), which is the central federal planning agency for the federal government in D.C. and approves federal projects here, is responsible for the federal elements of the comprehensive plan. This bill would not alter the comprehensive plan process or the authority of NCPCC and the Commission.

This bill would immediately remove the AOC and the Director of the NPS from the Commission, and the Commission would, at least initially, consist solely of the three mayoral appointees. The District would have the authority

to reconstitute the membership of the Commission through local legislation.

This is an important step to increase home rule for the District, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF MASTER SERGEANT GARY GORDON

HON. BRUCE POLIQUIN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. POLIQUIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate this year's 25th Anniversary of the death of Master Sergeant Gary Gordon, U.S. Army Special Forces.

MSG Gary Gordon was an extraordinary man and soldier, serving as Sniper Team Leader, United States Army Special Operations Command with Task Force Ranger in the Battle of Mogadishu. He went above and beyond the call of duty on October 3, 1993 in Mogadishu, Somalia, giving his own life to save another.

Since MSG Gary Gordon's heroic death in 1993, his beloved family, the Town of Lincoln, and our Great State of Maine have never forgotten his service and sacrifice. It has become tradition for the people of Lincoln, Maine to pause and honor MSG Gordon, their hometown hero, each and every year.

This year, on June 30, 2018, we will pay tribute to his life with MSG Gary Gordon Day, including a 5k run and walk and a yard sale fundraiser to erect his memorial statue in The Town of Lincoln's Veterans Park. The memorial will feature MSG Gordon's Medal of Honor citation, as well as a plaque with the names of all the American soldiers killed in 1993 in Somalia.

Today, the legacy of Master Sergeant Gary Gordon and his selfless sacrifice lives on in the Town of Lincoln. We are so proud that this man lived, and hailed from the heart of our Great State of Maine. I am humbled and honored to serve in the United States Congress on behalf of the Gordon family and the residents of Lincoln, Maine, who are always looking to honor the memory our brave heroes like MSG Gary Gordon.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, please join me in recognizing the 25th Anniversary of the death of Master Sergeant Gary Gordon, and in assuring his family, friends, and community that he will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO MYLO "MIKE" JOHNSEN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Mylo "Mike" Johnsen, who passed away in California on Thursday, April 26, 2018. Mike, a devoted family man, served his nation in World War II, and volunteered with senior and youth organizations in his community. He will be deeply missed.

According to his family, Mike was the last known living soldier of his World War II Army Battalion. He spent four years in the Army and

was part of the 535th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion. The unit was based and trained at Camp Hahn, California, which is now the location of the Riverside National Cemetery. The 535th landed on the beach during the invasion at Normandy on D-Day, June 6, 1944, fought throughout France and Belgium, including at the Battle of the Bulge and were eventually part of the Victory in Europe on May 8, 1945. We are forever indebted to Mike, who helped liberate Europe from tyranny.

Survived by his wife of 69 years, Mike cherished spending time with his family, which included five children, 12 grandchildren, 25 great grandchildren, and 13 great-great grandchildren. Mike worked 32 years for Rockwell/Boeing as a Quality Assurance Inspector and Engineer, contributing to many projects including Apollo Missions 3 through 17, B1 Bomber, MX missiles, three space shuttles and Navstar, the first satellite navigation system. Mike was a member of the Free Masons for over 50 years and an active adult leader with his children's various organizations, sports and activities. When Mike retired in Las Vegas, he taught western line-dancing at senior centers for 25 years and supported community events for children with intellectual disabilities at the Professional Bull Riders Finals until he was 91 years old.

I extend my heartfelt condolences to the Johnsen family, his friends, and everyone fortunate enough to know Mike. Although Mike may be gone, the many contributions he made to his country, community and family will have a lasting impact.

HONORING THE CAREER OF TOM MELIUS, MIDWEST REGIONAL DIRECTOR OF THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tom Melius on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service after nine years as the Midwest Regional Director. For more than 30 years of distinguished Federal service, Tom has been a leader who is always focused on the Service's mission to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people.

As the Director of the Midwestern Region of the USFWS, Tom skillfully oversaw more than 1,000 people based at eight field offices, and an area encompassing 1.5 million acres of land in Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri and Ohio. Tom also led the national effort to protect the monarch butterfly: the state insect of Minnesota and synonymous with the imagery of the great plains throughout the Midwest. Under his stewardship, the program became a national model for other pollinator and wildlife conservation programs.

Prior to his posting in the Midwest Region, Tom oversaw the vast and rugged terrain of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Alaska region and served as Assistant Director for External Affairs in the Washington, D.C., Office

from 2003 to 2006. There he led the national programs for Public Engagement, Congressional and Legislative Affairs, and the office of Native American Liaison.

Tom has also conducted substantive conservation for the Service while he was Assistant Director for Migratory Birds and State Programs. In this role he acted as the Service's representative on issues regarding the management and conservation of migratory birds and the implementation of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan and wetlands programs.

In 2014, Tom was named one of four U.S. Commissioners on the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and advised the sea lamprey control program, which became one of the most successful invasive species programs in the history of international conservation. His efforts in guiding this program directly improved the health of the vast habitat and ecosystem that is the Great Lakes. In turn, he ensured that the lakes would remain healthy and true to their natural characteristics well into the future.

Before joining the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Tom served as a staff member on Capitol Hill, rising to a senior position on the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, where he crafted policy for fishery management with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Coast Guard; and for coastal programs with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. He also advised the Committee on international conservation matters involving wildlife trade, marine mammals and endangered species. His thorough understanding of the legislative process has likely played a significant role in his ability to be an incredibly effective leader at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Tom Melius' career is exemplary of the impact that committed federal employees have on their work and the people who they serve. Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the exceptional career of Tom Melius, a champion for the environment and the women and men of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN J. "JACK" TIFFANY II

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 25, 2018

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of my friend, Connecticut state representative and lifelong dairy farmer, Mr. Jack Tiffany. We lost Jack this past February, and I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the life of this dedicated public servant, who spent thirty years representing the 36th district of Connecticut.

John J. Tiffany II, or "Jack" as we knew him, was a native of Lyme, Connecticut. The valedictorian of the Old Lyme High School class of 1950 went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in dairy production at the University of Connecticut. He then served his country in the Army Corps of Engineers before finally settling into his life as a dairy farmer, a tradition he carried on like the seven generations of Tiffanys that came before him.

Jack got his start in local politics when he was elected to the Lyme Board of Selectman.