

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of Florida and my neighbors across Tampa Bay, I am proud to honor Amy Shimberg for her formidable efforts and selfless devotion to the people in our community. The time and energy she put into making Tampa Bay a better place to live are unmatched. Volunteering thousands of hours to those in need must be celebrated. Amy Shimberg taught us the true meaning of the word *mitzvah* and her legacy as a tireless advocate will live on and inspire others in the community.

HONORING THE LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE OF RUSS BURNS TO THE OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL 3

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Russ Burns upon his retirement as the Business Manager for the Operating Engineers, Local 3. As a third-generation operator and Local 3 member, Russ Burns grew up living and breathing Local 3. He began his career with Local 3 in 1979 as a crane operator for various construction projects such as high rises, bridges, refineries, and large treatment plants throughout Northern California. In 1994, Russ joined the staff of the union as a business representative in the Fairfield District. Russ was unanimously appointed treasurer, serving until 2005 when he was sworn in as financial secretary. In 2006, he was elected Business Manager. Russ Burns has influenced and inspired countless Operating Engineer members beginning with their apprenticeship training to being fully qualified journeyman level professionals. Russ Burns has been an integral part of the Operating Engineers Local 3, and he will be greatly missed as he moves on to the next chapter of his life. Please join me, and the men and women of California's 3rd Congressional District, in thanking Russ Burns for his outstanding service. We wish him all the best in his retirement and his future endeavors.

COMMENDING MR. RICHARD D. MILTON ON HIS CONTRIBUTION TO THE HELLFIRE MISSILE

HON. MO BROOKS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. BROOKS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Richard D. Milton, a key contributor to the development of the Hellfire missile.

In the 1960s, Mr. Milton worked with a team at the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Research, Development, and Engineering Center (AMRDEC) on Redstone Arsenal to find practical uses for lasers in the medical and military fields. By 1965, Mr. Milton found a unique role for lasers on the battlefield, and that by illuminating a target with a laser, a missile could be guided to that target.

In March of 1979, Richard Milton's invention, the Missile System Using Laser Illu-

minator, became U.S. Patent 4,143,835. U.S. Patents 6,166,803, 6,296,803, and U.S. Patent 6,305,797 can also be attributed to Mr. Milton. The invention of laser guided missiles contributed to the creation of the Hellfire missile, and this revolutionized America's defense. The ability to be launched from various platforms, the use of missiles by military personnel under the protection of cover, the ability for long range and multiple launches, and accuracy of hit are all battlefield advantages of the Hellfire missile.

Mr. Milton's coworkers often refer to him as "Dick" and speak highly of his brilliance and everyday problem-solving skills. Mrs. Debbie Jordan, a coworker, says, "Working with Dick and watching how he thought and attacked each problem was a great gift for a just out of college engineer."

Madam Speaker, the new-age ideas Richard Milton offered in the 1960s revolutionized many U.S. ally's missile systems and the U.S. precision in missile defense we have today.

I commend Mr. Richard D. Milton for his innovation and passion for public service to the American people.

IN HONOR OF RUTH LINDSAY BURGESS

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a special woman, Ruth Lindsay Burgess, of Lexington, Kentucky. Born in 1923 in Connersville, Pennsylvania as the only daughter in her family, she grew up hunting with her father and brothers. She was known as quite a sharp shooter.

Ruth Lindsay enlisted in the Army on May 15, 1945. She bravely served in the South Pacific as a nurse, caring for injured American soldiers during heavy fighting. She earned the rank of 2nd Lieutenant and earned a Victory Medal.

Mrs. Lindsay was discharged on March 11, 1946. She returned home where she met and married her husband Frank Burgess, who also served in World War II. They had three daughters. Mrs. Burgess worked as a hospital nurse and then did private care nursing until she retired. She was an avid volunteer for American Legion Post 24. Ruth Lindsay Burgess passed away on July 27, 2019 at the age of 95.

Mrs. Burgess and her fellow veterans are true heroes. As members of the "Greatest Generation", they willingly served to protect and defend the freedoms that we enjoy today. I am humbled to honor the service of Mrs. Ruth Burgess before the United States Congress.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MARTIN M. MEDELLIN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Mr. Martin Morin Medellin. Martin passed away on July 24,

2019 at the age of 93. Martin was a distinguished WWII veteran and beloved member of the Madera, California community.

Martin was born on January 30, 1926 in Texas. During his grade school years, his parents and their eight children moved to Madera, where they set deep roots in the community. Martin attended Howard Elementary School and left Madera High School before he could graduate to join the United States Army. Martin and his four brothers honorably served our country during World War II. During his service in the Army, Martin was deployed to France.

Martin was awarded multiple medals for his honored military service, including the Silver Star, Bronze Star, and the Purple Heart. Additionally, in 2014 Martin received an honorary high school diploma from Madera High School. Several of these medals were in recognition of his act of bravery on a French battle field that saved the lives of 283 U.S. soldiers. Martin and his commander rescued soldiers who were pinned down by a German machine gun nest. Despite being shot through his shoulder and neck by a German sniper, Martin pushed on and was only treated later despite his injuries. After the conflict, Martin was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Upon his return from military service, Martin settled in Madera and married the love of his life Madeline. Together they were the proud parents of two daughters and a son. Martin was very involved in local organizations and forged many lifelong friendships. Martin was a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 1981 of Madera and was a member of the distinguished Honor Guard for the post.

Martin was preceded in death by his wife Madeline, his daughter Judie, and Grandson Kevin. He is survived by daughter Toni, son Reg, grandchildren Rob, Nina and Jamie, and great grandchildren Maddie, Tommy, Cheyanne, and Alyssa.

Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in paying tribute to honored veteran Martin Morin Medellin. His service to our country and community will not be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. KIMBERLYDAWN WISDOM

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom for her appointment to the Advisory Committee on Minority Health in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health. This achievement is worthy of commendation.

Dr. Kimberlydawn Wisdom, M.D., M.S., is the Senior Vice President of Community Health & Equity and the Chief Wellness & Diversity Officer at Henry Ford Health System. Formerly, Dr. Wisdom served as Michigan's and the nation's first state-level Surgeon General from 2003 to 2010 and was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve on the Advisory Group on Prevention, Health Promotion and Integrative and Public Health in 2012. In

addition, Dr. Wisdom has served on the faculty of the University of Michigan Medical School's Department of Medical Education since 1987 and has taught as an adjunct professor in U of M's School of Public Health. Dr. Wisdom's work focuses on health disparities, health care equity, chronic disease, unhealthy eating habits, and infant mortality, to name a few.

Throughout her professional endeavors, Dr. Wisdom has witnessed firsthand the importance of a diverse and inclusive workforce that can provide equitable treatment to patients. Dr. Wisdom's exceptional efforts have been instrumental in improving the health of those disproportionately affected by poor health outcomes, and her work continues to make a difference in patient care. Dr. Wisdom's passion and professional expertise makes her an excellent addition to the Advisory Committee on Minority Health, where she will assist the committee in discovering ways to improve the health of racial and ethnic minority populations.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Dr. Kimberly Dawn Wisdom on her appointment to the Advisory Committee on Minority Health. We are grateful for her lifetime of impactful work and wish her many years of continued success.

INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a resolution to support the goals and ideals of the American Legion on their 100th anniversary. The American Legion is our country's largest wartime veterans service organization and has advocated for a countless number of veterans, servicemembers, families, and communities.

Federally chartered by Congress in 1919, the American Legion evolved from a group of war-hardened World War I veterans to one of the most influential nonprofit organizations in America today. The Legion is committed to mentoring youth, sponsoring beneficial programs in our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security, and continuing devotion to our fellow servicemembers and veterans.

The nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization has given countless hours of service and produced millions of dollars in donations at local, state, and national levels. While American veterans have valiantly served to protect our country and interests around the world, the contributions from the Legion assist these veterans and their families during times of need and stand behind the issues most important to our nation's veterans.

The Legion now has approximately 2 million members of the Armed Forces and veterans in its membership in over 13,000 posts worldwide. A gift from the people of Indiana, the National Headquarters of The American Legion is located in Indianapolis near the Indiana War Memorial Plaza. As the Representative

for the 7th Congressional District of Indiana, I am proud to have such an important and meaningful organization, headquartered in Indianapolis, especially one that has done so much for the well-being of our country's veterans and communities.

Among other notable members, three Hoosiers have served as National Commander of the American Legion. Paul V. McNutt, George N. Craig, and Frank I. Hamilton all served in the highest echelons of leaderships at the Legion as National Commander.

Paul McNutt was an American diplomat and politician who served as the National Commander of the American Legion (1928 to 29), 34th Governor of Indiana (1933 to 37), high commissioner to the Philippines, administrator of the Federal Security Agency, and Chairman of the War Manpower Commission and ambassador to the Philippines.

Craig was the 39th Governor of the State of Indiana from 1953 until 1957. A lawyer and veteran of World War II who was promoted to serve as a division command staff, Craig first gained popularity in the state as National Commander of The American Legion (1949 to 50). Craig served four years with the 80th U.S. Infantry Division in General George Patton's hard-hitting Third Army. He participated in all the bitter fighting of the Patton campaigns in northern France, in the Rhineland, in the Ardennes and in Germany. Through battlefield promotions he reached the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Hamilton was born in Indianapolis, the home of American Legion National Headquarters, on January 6, 1923. He attended public schools, graduating from Wiley High School in Terre Haute; earned his BS degree from Indiana University, and received his LLB and Doctor of Jurisprudence degrees from the Indiana University Law School. He enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve in 1942, and went on active duty later that same year. In 1945 he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant at the Infantry School in Ft. Benning, Georgia, and served with the U.S. Army of Occupation in Japan. He was separated from active service in 1946 but held his commission until 1953, when he resigned with the rank of First Lieutenant.

Hamilton was a practicing attorney in his home community of Greensburg. He was a member of the Decatur County and Indiana State Bar Association. He served as chairman of the Indiana State Veterans Commission and as a member of the Governor's Economic Committee of the Ninth District of Indiana. Hamilton was extremely active in a number of civic, fraternal, professional and service organizations including: Past Exalted Ruler, Benevolent Protective Order of Elks, Lodge 475; President and Chairman of the Board of Lambda Corporation of Sigma Chi social fraternity; Chairman, Indiana University Varsity Club of Decatur County; President, Decatur County Bar Association, and Deacon of the Presbyterian Church. He held membership in many other social and fraternal organizations, including several Masonic Orders.

Another notable figure in the Legion's history includes former Marine Corps Lieutenant General Carol Mutter. She is the first woman in the history of the United States Armed Forces to be appointed to a three-star grade. She retired from the Marine Corps on January 1, 1999, and her last active duty assignment was as Deputy Chief of Staff, Manpower and

Reserve Affairs (DC/S, M&RA) at Marine Corps Headquarters in Washington, D.C. Mutter currently resides in Indianapolis, Indiana and is a member of Legion Post 438.

Finally, I applaud The American Legion for its more recent efforts in recognizing the military contribution of African-Americans and working to reflect that historical contribution in their leadership ranks. For example, Willie D. Ransom was appointed national sergeant-at-arms of The American Legion on August 30, 2018, at the 100th National Convention in Minneapolis. The sergeant-at-arms preserves the order at national meetings and performs such other duties as may be assigned by the National Executive Committee or national officers.

A Vietnam-era veteran, Mr. Ransom retired from the U.S. Army as a master sergeant. Willie is a member of Maj. Charles A. Ransom American Legion Post 186 in Midlothian, Va. The post was named in honor of Willie's son, U.S. Air Force Maj. Charles A. Ransom, who was killed in action on April 27, 2011, while serving in Kabul, Afghanistan. Willie is a past department commander of Virginia and has also served as the Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation chairman for the department.

I recognize the organization and its members for their unrelenting dedication to improving the lives of servicemembers and veterans across the country. With the American Legion's success depending on active membership, participation, and volunteerism, I look forward to working alongside the organization to ensure another 100 years of excellence.

I urge my colleagues to join me in passing this resolution to recognize The American Legion on its 100th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING VERMALENE SMITH'S VSO SERVICE

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 16, 2019

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Vermaleene Smith of Jonesboro, Arkansas, who faithfully served as the Craighead County Veterans Service Officer the past 12 years. Without a doubt, our country's 18-plus million veterans would be much better served if every VSO had Ms. Smith's knowledge, determination, and passion.

When I first took office in 2011, Ms. Smith literally opened her office doors to my veteran's caseworker, allowing her to observe and learn the VA processes so we could best serve veterans in the first congressional district of Arkansas. Since then, Ms. Smith readily made herself available to my office, offering us advice and direction when veterans experienced complex issues or bureaucratic red tape.

If a veteran had a need, Ms. Smith pinpointed a resource to fill it. She often located suits or clean clothes for veterans facing job interviews. She found places for veterans to live while in transition, even contacting local hotels to provide lodging. She made sure no veteran was buried without a proper funeral. And in situations where Ms. Smith did not have an available resource, she organized efforts to create one.