

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### **HON. RON KIND**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 30, 2019*

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was unable to have my votes recorded on the House floor on Monday, January 28, 2019 due to flight cancellations from heavy snow in Wisconsin. Had I been present, I would have supported the passage of all bills considered on the floor. In particular, I strongly supported the passage of H.R. 502, the FIND Trafficking Act, as this bill is an important step forward in preventing online marketplaces used for sex trafficking or illegal drug trafficking.

### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF GARDEN GROVE FIRE CHIEF TOM SCHULTZ

#### **HON. HARLEY ROUDA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 30, 2019*

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Tom Schultz, Fire Chief of Garden Grove, CA. This past weekend, Mr. Schultz died of stage 4 pancreatic cancer.

Chief Schultz devoted his life to ensuring the safety and security of all Orange County residents, spending three decades in the fire departments of Garden Grove, Fullerton, and Brea, CA.

In addition to his day-to-day work at the fire station, Chief Schultz trained and mentored young firefighters through his work as an instructor in Santa Ana College's fire technology program, and he was deeply involved in the management and leadership of the Orange County Fire Chiefs' Association.

I commend Chief Schultz for his years of service and extend my heartfelt condolences to his family and friends in this difficult time.

I ask all members to join me in remembering Tom Schultz—a public servant, family man, and leader—for a lifetime of service to the people and communities of Orange County.

### HONORING RANDY RANDAZZO

#### **HON. JIMMY PANETTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 30, 2019*

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Randy Randazzo for his service to the community of Carmel Valley, California. Mr. Randazzo has made a career out of service and has fostered an environment of collectiveness and compassion in his tight-knit community.

As a World War II Marine Veteran, Mr. Randazzo heroically served in the Bougainville

Campaign in the Solomon Islands. He served on the fleet that facilitated the Japanese surrender, signaling the close of World War II. Upon returning to his home of Carmel Valley, Mr. Randazzo dedicated his life to his community. He and his wife, Charlene, have owned and operated the local market in Carmel Valley Village, which has served as the cornerstone for the community. Randy is also active in the local Kiwanis Club, where he works to empower youth to change the world by investing in their futures.

Among his many achievements, Mr. Randazzo has been awarded Carmel Valley's Good Egg award for Citizen of the Year twice for his service to the community. Additionally, he has been recognized by the Carmel Historical Society for his contributions in organizing and establishing the Carmel Valley Community Center. Many called Mr. Randazzo the unofficial mayor of Carmel Valley, as the small, unincorporated community views his leadership as invaluable and irreplaceable.

I am immensely grateful for Randy Randazzo's distinguished service to his country and the residents of the central coast of California. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Mr. Randy Randazzo on his distinguished career and recognizing his outstanding citizenship and immense contributions to both Carmel Valley and the United States of America.

### HONORING JAMES BELT AT CONGRESSMAN VELA'S BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

#### **HON. FILEMON VELA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 30, 2019*

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of James Belt, a native of Harlingen, for his work and service in the great State of Texas.

Mr. Belt earned his Bachelor of Business Administration from the Pan American University, Edinburg, in 1968, and his Juris Doctorate from Thurgood Marshall School of Law at Texas Southern University (TSU) in 1977. After law school, he opened his law practice in South Dallas, where he served the African American community for almost 40 years. A lifetime member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Mr. Belt was also a member of the National Bar Association, the Texas Bar Association, J.L. Turner Legal Association, and the American Inns of Court.

As founder of the Dallas Black Criminal Bar Association, he was a well-respected leader and advocate for the advancement of his community, and inspired others to help those in need. He served on the TSU Board of Regents, the Dallas Area Rapid Transit Board, and the Texas Rural Foundation Board. He was the co-publisher of the Dallas Examiner. Mr. Belt received the "Living Legends" award

from the J.L. Turner Legal Association, and was recognized as "Business Man of the Year" by the alumnae chapter of TSU in 2010.

I am pleased to honor James Belt for his legacy of unselfishness and generosity. Mr. Belt's devotion to serving others makes him an outstanding role model for the people of the Lower Rio Grande Valley. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring James Belt, and recognizing his surviving family and friends on this special occasion.

### WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AND ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACT

#### **HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 30, 2019*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I reintroduce the Wildlife Conservation and Anti-Trafficking Act with Congressman DON YOUNG (R-AK), the Dean of the House.

I thank Congressman YOUNG (R-AK) for his support as my co-lead and original cosponsor on this important legislation, as well as our former colleague Congresswoman Madeleine Z. Bordallo (D-GU), who sponsored this legislation in the previous Congress.

Around the world, poachers, traffickers, and transnational criminal organizations responsible for human rights abuses are driving iconic wildlife to extinction. The Wildlife Conservation and Anti-Trafficking Act advances American leadership in tackling this global crisis. Our bipartisan bill would strengthen federal enforcement against the global trade in illegal wildlife and seafood products, while also providing dedicated funding for conservation efforts, at no expense to taxpayers.

Specifically, our bill would make serious wildlife trafficking violations predicate offenses under federal racketeering and anti-organized crime laws (RICO and Travel Acts). The bill would also engage whistleblowers, through monetary incentives, in providing actionable intelligence needed to bring down global wildlife trafficking rings. Under our bill, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would be authorized to station law enforcement officials and agency personnel abroad in high-intensity wildlife trafficking areas, as embeds in American embassies and consulates.

Any penalties, fines, forfeitures, and restitution paid to the U.S. government for criminal violations of the federal organized crime, racketeering, and money laundering statutes for wildlife trafficking offenses would support conservation efforts. This provides dedicated funding for in-country conservation efforts for highly trafficked and endangered wildlife species, at no expense to taxpayers under our bill.

Lastly, our bill includes provisions to crack down on illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing by foreign vessels or fraudulent seafood imports into the United States. According to the U.S. State Department, IUU

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

fishering often goes hand-in-hand with transnational organized crime, human trafficking and forced labor, and weapons and drug trafficking. American fishermen should never be expected to compete against fraudulent seafood imports harvested with slave labor, especially in the Indo-Pacific region.

Madam Speaker, again I thank Congressman YOUNG (R-AK) for his partnership as the original cosponsor on this important, bipartisan bill. I urge all Members to join us in cosponsoring the Wildlife Conservation and Anti-Trafficking Act.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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**HON. LLOYD SMUCKER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, due to illness I missed Roll Call vote No. 59. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 59.

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IN SUPPORT OF PAYCHECK FAIRNESS ACT

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**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I am proud to be a sponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act.

This Act is needed to stop discriminatory practices by employers against our mothers, wives, daughters, and granddaughters that do the same job as their male counterparts.

It is sad that today in America, women working full-time, year-round still earn 80 cents, on average, for every dollar earned by men.

Women of color face the brunt of the inequality, with African American women earning 61 cents, Latinas earning 53 cents, and Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander women earning 62 cents compared with white, non-Hispanic men.

This year marks the 10-year anniversary of President Barack Obama signing the Lily Ledbetter Act, which made it easier to sue in cases of pay discrimination.

This legislation that we are discussing today—the Paycheck Fairness Act—is but one small step towards that end.

The Paycheck Fairness Act, will strengthen the Equal Pay Act—passed more than 45 years ago—and as a result improve the law's effectiveness, and help to address the persistent wage gap between men and women.

The Paycheck Fairness Act would:

Clarify acceptable reasons for differences in pay by requiring employers to demonstrate that wage gaps between men and women doing the same work are truly a result of factors other than sex.

Deter wage discrimination by strengthening penalties for equal pay violations, and by prohibiting retaliation against workers who inquire about employers' wage practices or disclose their own wages.

The bill's approach would ensure that women can obtain the same remedies as

those subject to discrimination on the basis of race or national origin.

Provide women with a fair option to proceed in a class action suit under the Equal Pay Act, and allow women to receive punitive and compensatory damages for pay discrimination.

Clarify the establishment provision under the Equal Pay Act, which would allow for reasonable comparisons between employees to determine fair wages.

Authorize additional training for Equal Employment Opportunity Commission staff to better identify and handle wage disputes.

It will aid in the efficient and effective enforcement of federal anti-pay discrimination laws by requiring the EEOC to develop regulations directing employers to collect wage data, reported by the race, sex, and national origin of employees.

It will require the U.S. Department of Labor to reinstate activities that promote equal pay, such as: directing educational programs, providing technical assistance to employers, recognizing businesses that address the wage gap, collecting wage-related data, and conducting and promoting research about pay disparities between men and women.

More importantly for our young ladies going into the workforce it will establish a competitive grant program to develop salary negotiation training for women and girls.

As a Member of the Women's Caucus I have been fighting for pay equity for American women since before I arrived here as a Representative in 1995, and I believe that equal pay for equal work is a simple matter of justice.

Wage disparities are not simply a result of women's education levels or life choices.

In fact, the pay gap between college educated men and women appears first after college—even when women are working full-time in the same fields with the same major as men—and continues to widen during the first 10 years in the workforce.

Further, this persistent wage gap not only impacts the economic security of women and their families today, it also directly affects women's retirement security tomorrow.

Now is the time for additional proactive measures to effectively address wage discrimination and eliminate loopholes that have hindered the Equal Pay Act's effectiveness.

I urge my colleagues, both men and women to support equality in rights and pay for all Americans by supporting the Paycheck Fairness Act.

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HONORING DR. TWANA COOKS-ALLEN AT CONGRESSMAN VELA'S BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION

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**HON. FILEMON VELA**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Mr. VELA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Twana Cooks-Allen of Harlingen, Texas for her exceptional service to the Rio Grande Valley.

Since earning her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology and Marriage and Family Therapy, Dr. Cooks-Allen has been an esteemed professional in mental health for over 30 years.

Dr. Cooks-Allen's experience includes support to the Department of Homeland Security

and the Department of Defense, as well as local and state agencies in Minnesota, Missouri, Illinois, and Texas. Throughout her career, she has helped patients struggling with depression, post-traumatic stress disorder, chronic suicidality, substance abuse, sexual assault, pedophilia, eating disorders, schizophrenia, and personality disorders.

Dr. Cooks-Allen currently works as Marriage and Family Counselor at the Veterans Affairs Texas Valley Coastal Bend Healthcare System in Harlingen. She is also the proud founder of the Veteran Kids/Teen Program at the Veterans Outreach Center. The program provides children of veterans with emotional, psychological, and educational assistance.

A true champion, Dr. Cooks-Allen also spends her spare time helping our veterans and their children. Every year she hosts a one-week summer camp with activities, meals, and snacks for the children of veterans. Her goal is to create a place for these children to discuss their concerns and fears and to receive support from their peers, while enjoying activities. Not only does she dedicate her time to these programs, Dr. Cooks-Allen also funds many of the activities herself.

I am pleased to recognize Dr. Twana Cooks-Allen for her generous and invaluable support in Texas' 34th Congressional District. Whether working at the VA or volunteering with veterans, our district and the State of Texas are forever grateful for her work. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking her, her family, and friends on this special occasion.

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TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF MARY ALICE O'CONNOR

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**HON. MARK DESAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 30, 2019

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mary Alice O'Connor, a longtime resident of the Bay Area.

Born in January 1943 to an Irish Catholic family, Mary Alice grew up in Chicago, Illinois. In 1968, she headed to the West Coast and eventually settled in the Bay Area. While raising three children, Mary Alice worked in her family's printing business and later for a telephone company.

Mary Alice was always passionate about philosophy and spiritualism. In 1991, she pursued her goal of bringing peace, joy, and compassion to the world by becoming an ordained Unity minister. She served the community through ceremonies for weddings, memorials, blessings, and other events. Mary Alice also taught inherent beauty and self-expression through spiritual rehabilitation sessions, working to promote physical and spiritual healing.

In the early 2000s, Mary Alice became the Executive Director of the Mt. Diablo Peace and Justice Center in Walnut Creek, CA. During her leadership, the peace center became an engaged and energetic community partner.

Mary Alice passed away on December 3, 2018. She is survived by her sister Margaret O'Connor; her children Glory Marshall, Sikwaya Condon, and Shasta Lockwood; and her grandchildren Chavez Li Condon, Moses Lockwood, and Jacob Lockwood; her former husband Pat Condon, and her partner Willard Davis.