

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMBATING IMPLICIT BIAS IN EDUCATION ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Combating Implicit Bias in Education Act. My bill would create a \$30 million grant program for schools to train teachers, principals and other personnel on implicit bias with respect to actual or perceived race, religion, sex (including sexual orientation and gender identity), disability, ethnicity and socio-economic status.

This year, a report by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights found that students of color with disabilities received far more severe and frequent punishment than their white counterparts. In December, the U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos eliminated the Obama Administration's guidance seeking to curb exclusionary discipline, undermining key steps toward dismantling discriminatory discipline practices in classrooms.

In 2017, the Georgetown Law Center on Poverty and Inequality released a report finding that people disproportionately think of Black girls as more adult-like and less innocent compared to their white peers. This bias has been linked to harsher treatment of Black girls in schools. Students experiencing implicit bias and even outright discrimination face far greater expulsion and suspension rates, fueling the school-to-prison pipeline and widening the student achievement gap.

This bill aims to reduce the effect of implicit bias on school discipline, academic achievement and academic attainment through research-based training for education personnel, and provides teachers with necessary tools to provide equal educational and constructive behavioral feedback.

Under my bill, the Institute of Education Sciences under the Department of Education would be tasked with evaluating and reporting on the effectiveness of the training.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

**HONORING ROSEMARY PARGA DURAN**

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. RoseMary Parga Duran as she retires from her position as Superintendent of Merced City School District. Throughout her 43 years in education, Dr. Parga Duran has made a positive impact on countless Merced schools and students.

Dr. Parga Duran earned her associate degree from Merced College and completed her bachelor's degree from California State University, Fresno (Fresno State). After graduating from Fresno State in 1977, she returned to Merced County to begin her teaching career at Planada Elementary School. Later in her career, she received a master's degree from California State University, Stanislaus

and a doctorate from the University of Southern California.

In 1985, she started her career with Merced City School District as a teacher and would later become an assistant principal, principal, and in 2002 was named the district's Associate Superintendent of Educational Services. Six years later, Dr. Parga Duran became Merced City School District's first female superintendent.

As the leader of Merced County's largest school district, Dr. Parga Duran has worked tirelessly to address the challenges facing the 18 schools in the district. She began her job as superintendent during the great recession and led the district through this period without any employee layoffs, while keeping the district's budget fiscally solvent. Dr. Parga Duran was an advocate for the successful passage of Measure M, a bond which provided funds for school campuses to modernize and receive necessary safety upgrades.

Under Dr. Parga Duran's leadership, Merced City School District received two Golden Bell Awards from the California School Boards Association for their STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) and preschool programs. She also oversaw the opening of Rivera Middle School and their STEAM Center. It is evident that Dr. Parga Duran's contributions to Merced City School District will continue to have an impact on our educators and future generations of leaders long after her retirement.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the career and accomplishments of Dr. RoseMary Parga Duran. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor her and the positive impact she has made in the lives of students and staff as she celebrates her retirement. I wish Dr. Parga Duran, her family, and Merced City School District the best as she retires at the end of this year.

**RECOGNIZING DR. MICHAEL CALIGIURI FOR HIS GROUNDBREAKING CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIELD OF MEDICINE**

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the exemplary career of Dr. Michael Caligiuri who has been elected to the National Academy of Medicine's Class of 2018, one of the single highest honors in the field of medicine and healthcare.

Dr. Caligiuri spent his formative years in Kenmore, New York, where he attended St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute. He then enrolled at the University at Buffalo to earn his undergraduate degree, and subsequently attended Stanford College for Medical School where he obtained his M.D.

Dr. Caligiuri utilized his education to the best of his ability to become a leader in his profession. He served as the CEO of The James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute, and he also directed The Ohio State University Comprehensive Cancer Center for fourteen years. In addition, he is the Immediate Past President of the American Association for Cancer Research, of which he was recently named a fellow.

Dr. Caligiuri has served as chairperson, or in other advisory capacities, for countless research organizations in addition to conducting several of his own research protocols. His groundbreaking research focused on the development and activation of human natural killer cells and their modulation to help treat diseases like leukemia and brain cancer. Since these discoveries, over one thousand patients with cancer have been treated with clinical protocols that were conceived in Dr. Caligiuri's laboratory.

In 2018, Dr. Caligiuri was named the President of the City of Hope in Los Angeles, a leading cancer research and treatment center. He conducted rigorous research and combined that with an inclusive leadership style to connect other healthcare institutions together in order to ensure the highest quality patient experience and care.

Dr. Caligiuri's breakthrough discoveries in NK leukemia and cutaneous T cell lymphoma has helped get him elected to the National Academy of Medicine, which according to The New York Times is, "the United States' most esteemed and authoritative adviser on issues of health and medicine, and its reports can transform medical thinking around the world".

The incredible distinction of election to the National Academy of Medicine has only been awarded to just over two thousand medical experts since 1970. Members are elected based on their professional achievement and commitment to service, and they do their selfless and consequential work without any compensation. No more than eighty members are elected annually. This speaks to Dr. Caligiuri's passion for healthcare, commitment to community service, and his overall talent as a medical professional. Complimenting the extraordinary accomplishments achieved during his career, Dr. Caligiuri is also a loving husband and a devoted father of three children.

Today we recognize Dr. Michael Caligiuri for becoming an innovative and influential leader both in the United States and around the world in not only engaging in exemplary research and treatment practices, but also advocating for the many people whose lives have been affected by the devastating reality of cancer.

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**HON. KAY GRANGER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to attend votes due to circumstances beyond my control. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 561; "nay" on Roll Call No. 562; "yea" on Roll Call No. 563; and "nay" on Roll Call No. 564.

**HONORING ARMY PFC. NATHAN P. BROWN**

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Army Pfc. Nathan P.

Brown, who was tragically killed on Easter Sunday, April 11, 2004, when a rocket-propelled grenade hit his Humvee in Samarra, Iraq, about 60 miles north of Baghdad, during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Nathan was a lifelong resident of South Glens Falls, New York. He enlisted in the New York Army National Guard immediately after graduating from South Glens Falls High School in 2002, in the aftermath of 9/11. Nathan was posthumously awarded The Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and the New York Medal of Valor for his bravery.

Friends and family of Nathan remember him as a generous and positive person, a brave soldier, and a beloved member of the community.

Next week, he will be inducted into The South Glens Falls Bulldog Pride Hall of Fame, in recognition of his sacrifice and commitment. This honor is a testament to Nathan's selfless pride for his country. Nathan gave the ultimate sacrifice, and for that we all owe him a debt of gratitude.

I am proud to stand and honor Army Pfc. Nathan P. Brown, a beloved member of the South Glens Falls Community, and a shining example of those who give their lives to protect our country and its interests. Please join me in recognizing Nathan Brown for his service, and in honor of his legacy.

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#### HONORING GREG M. CONGER

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#### HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the achievements of Greg M. Conger and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement. Mr. Conger has been a voice for working Californians by organizing and advocating for workers' rights. He has changed the relationship between employees and management forever. Greg M. Conger served as the President of UFCW Local 324, with 23,000 members in Orange County and the Long Beach area in Southern California.

Mr. Conger started as a meat cutting apprentice with Local 551 in 1976. This is where he started volunteering for various union committees and campaigns. In 1984, he was hired as a Union Representative. His efforts did not go unnoticed and one year later he was promoted to Executive Assistant to the President and worked on contract negotiations.

Mr. Conger was a senior strategist and top-level negotiator during the Southern California supermarket strike and lockouts that ran between October 2003 and February 2004. Over the course of the dispute, Mr. Conger worked to boost the morale of his members and even volunteered to be arrested twice in acts of civil disobedience. His leadership and commitment to the working community attracted the attention of the UFCW International Union, which elected him as an International Vice President in April 2004.

In September 2003, Mr. Conger became President of Local 324. After just five weeks in his new role, he led Local 324 during the 141-day strike and lock-out—the longest and costliest retail strike in American history. Mr. Conger and UFCW Local 324 changed the relationship between employees and management

forever by empowering workers to stand up for themselves in the face of intense pressure. He was at the forefront of the dynamic movement that sought to build successes of recent years.

Today, we celebrate not only his advocacy and success, but his future. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Greg M. Conger for his commitment to serving the community by being the greater voice for our workers.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

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#### HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on September 24, 2019 during roll call no. 541, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, as Amended, H.R. 3190, BURMA Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

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#### RECOGNIZING WESTERN REGION DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR KARRIE SCHINDLER

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#### HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Karrie Schindler who has been selected as the Pennsylvania Advocacy and Resources for Autism and Intellectual Disability's Western Region Direct Support Professional of the Year. Ms. Schindler has dedicated her life to lifting-up and improving the lives of individuals in our community with autism. She is a beacon of compassion and dedicates her time to providing in-home care to those with disabilities so they can lead self-directed lives in their communities.

Since 2013, Ms. Schindler has provided Home and Community Habilitation care to a special woman named Maryann. Throughout the years, Ms. Schindler has helped Maryann live a full and active life and engage with her community.

Sadly, in December 2018, Maryann's mother unexpectedly passed away. Following this tragedy, Maryann was forced to move to Florida, away from the community she loved and the support system she had fostered throughout her years with Ms. Schindler.

Late one January night, Ms. Schindler received a call from Maryann that she was at the airport and didn't know what to do. Without hesitation, Ms. Schindler sprang into action. She drove straight to the Pittsburgh airport to pick Maryann up. It wasn't long before Ms. Schindler and her family made the decision to become Life Sharing providers and welcome Maryann into their home permanently.

Madam Speaker, Karrie Schindler has demonstrated extraordinary selflessness and compassion in her work with Maryann. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Schindler on her selection as the Pennsylvania Advocacy and Resources for Autism and Intellectual Disability's Western Region Direct Support Professional of the Year.

HONORING SIOBHAN McVAY AS A RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

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#### HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Siobhan McVay of Delran High School in Delran, New Jersey, as a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST).

Each year, the PAEMST recognizes outstanding K-12 teachers for their contributions to the teaching and learning of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and computer science. Recipients of the award are widely respected by their peers, displaying strong expertise in STEM education, and having made a lasting positive impact on their students. Only 108 teachers from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. territories receive this selective recognition each year.

I commend Mr. McVay for his fine work as an educator and mentor to his students, building important skills that will help them succeed in a rapidly developing world. STEM education is a building block to an increasingly complex economy that relies on a strong technological skill set. Today's students with strong STEM backgrounds will be those that discover a cure for cancer, help to bring an end to climate change, and gets an American on Mars. The important skills that Mr. McVay's students develop from his instruction will bring important individual achievements, and will aid our nation in the future.

I'm proud to say that we have excellent quality teachers in New Jersey like Mr. McVay, and I look forward to seeing his important work develop in the growth and success of his students.

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#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF GRACE QUINN GOODPASTURE

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#### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 21, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Grace Quinn Goodpasture for being selected as a recipient of a Student-Athlete-Scholarship from the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association.

Grace attends the Steward School in Ashland, Virginia, where she played 4 years of Varsity Soccer, lettering all four years. She was also a member of the Varsity Cross Country and Dive team, lettering in those as well. She says community service is a core value of her family and has always been a part of her life. She has earned her Gold Award in the Girl Scouts and was a Senate Page for the Virginia Senate. Her spirit of service should inspire all of us.

I commend her on receiving this recognition for her distinguished scholastic, leadership, and sportsmanship. This recognition of her work in the community, in the classroom, and