

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE HONORING DR. R.A.
GREGG, COMMISSIONER, NYSCAB

HON. MAX ROSE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Mr. ROSE of New York. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring Dr. R.A. Gregg for his consistently remarkable dedication to community affairs, community-police relations and his longstanding commitment to improving our community.

While Dr. Gregg has a varied professional portfolio ranging from Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer of a community affairs non-profit organization that serves New York State to political campaign committee Chairman to Director of Operations for a family established boutique law firm, his dedication to providing community affairs and improving community-police relations can be seen in all his endeavors. Most recently, Dr. Gregg was appointed the first Commissioner of the New York State Community Affairs Bureau, a nonprofit organization, by its Board of Governors. The NYSCAB is a volunteer organization comprised of community, nonprofit and clergy leaders as well as current, former and retired law enforcement officers and law enforcement and government officials that provides quality community affairs services to New York State, New York City and its residents.

Beyond his dedication to ensuring that quality community affairs services are provided to New York State, New York City and its residents, Commissioner Gregg has a passion for community-police relations. He is active in the law enforcement community and serves as a Chaplain or Chaplain (ex-officio) for numerous organizations including the New York City Department of Correction's Correction Officers' Benevolent Association (COBA), the New York State Court Officers Association, the New York City Police Department's Detectives Endowment Association (DEA) and the New York City Police Department's Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (PBA), among others. He also serves as the Chief of the Chaplains Unit for the Law Enforcement Employees Benevolent Association (LEEBA). Upon being appointed Commissioner of NYSCAB, he established the NYSCAB Volunteers in Police Service Unit to oversee and run the VIPS Program which is a locally-driven Citizen Corps program that allows community members to offer their time and talents to NYSCAB and local law enforcement agencies. The VIPS program is managed and implemented by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and has registered the NYSCAB VIPS with the national VIPS program.

For many years Dr. Gregg has been active in civic organizations. He serves as a Member of the Board of Directors or as a Member of the following organizations: Archdiocese of New York (Regional Advisory Board Member and School Advisory Board Member), African

American Clergy & Elected Officials—Brooklyn (Member), Bronx Clergy Task Force (Member), the Global Alliance of Hispanic Law Enforcement Professionals (Chair, Board of Chaplains), God's Whisper Burial Fund (Vice Chairman), the International Conference of Police Chaplains (Member), the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) (Member), National Baptist Convention (Member), the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives (NOBLE) (Regular Member), Clergy Leaders Council (Member) and Occupy the Block (a Founding Member).

Each aspect of Dr. Gregg's service to the community speaks to his complete nature and his dedication to improving the quality of life for the residents of the community as well as for the police community. I am proud to say that we have someone like Dr. R.A. Gregg living in our community and am very grateful for all the work he has done and continues to do to improve our community.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure and admiration that I stand before you today to honor Dr. R.A. Gregg for his many years of selfless and compassionate service to the Staten Island and Brooklyn community, and to all of our community's residents and acknowledge his latest recognition which he shall receive at the 2019 Somos Albany Conference held March 8–10, 2019 as well as recognize Dr. Gregg's milestone birthday which is on March 9th.

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HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, on January 15, 2019, the House of Representatives considered H. Res. 41, a resolution rejecting white nationalism and white supremacy as hateful expressions of intolerance that are contradictory to the values that define the people of the United States. I voted for the resolution because it cited accurately the misquote of my words by The New York Times and because I wholeheartedly agree with the rejection of white nationalism and white supremacy.

I write today to emphatically correct the quote once again to align with what I actually stated to The New York Times reporter and on the floor of the House of Representatives. As I stated on the House floor, what I actually said was “White nationalist, white supremacist—(there is a dash here as a pause) Western civilization, how did that language become offensive? Why did I sit in classes teaching me about the merits of our history and civilization—that is the end of the quote—just to watch ‘Western civilization’ become a derogatory term in political discourse today?”

According to my actual words, the question “how did that language become offensive?”

clearly referred only to the term “Western Civilization”. I was not asking how the terms white nationalist and white supremacist have become offensive. If there is any doubt as to the accuracy of this accounting, I would direct you to the CSPAN video of my floor remarks from that day, January 15, 2019.

As the descendant of abolitionists and Union soldiers who fought and died to purge this land of the crime of human slavery, I well know why certain terms—such as white nationalist and white supremacist—are offensive. And I always have and always will reject them completely.

I stipulate that the RECORD reflects precisely my words, which are those of a man who loves his country and all its people and will continue to work for the betterment of our society for all Americans, who are all endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights and are equal under the law.

—
HONORING JUDY HAWLEY

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Judy Hawley, who devoted her life to serving the people of Corpus Christi, Texas.

Ms. Hawley received the 2018 nomination for the Texas Transportation Hall of Honor, due in large part to her commitment and advocacy for transportation infrastructure investment and policy decisions.

Some of Ms. Hawley's community involvement includes: eight years in the Texas House of Representatives, Commissioner for the Port of Corpus Christi Authority from 2004 to 2016 (serving as Chair during the last two years), chair of the Corpus Christi Regional Economic Development Corporation, chair of the Texas State Aquarium Board, and co-chair of the Chamber Infrastructure Committee.

Furthermore, Ms. Hawley served as the former chair of the I-69 Advisory Committee. During her tenure, she played a pivotal role in guiding the growth of essential trade corridors linking ports, waterways, trains, airports, and highways from the Rio Grande Valley and the Coastal Bend, creating opportunities for local jobs and commerce.

If not for Judy Hawley, critical issues, such as the need for a rail master plan, an enduring replacement for the Harbor Bridge, and the development of Interstate 69 would not have received the kind of attention they warranted.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks and appreciation to Judy Hawley for her incredible service and devotion to the people of Corpus Christi and the 27th District of Texas.

● 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.

IN HONOR OF 40 YEARS OF YES TO YOUTH: MONTGOMERY COUNTY YOUTH SERVICES

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the Fortieth Anniversary of one of my community's finest service organizations, Yes to Youth—Montgomery County Youth Services.

Established on February 2, 1979, Yes to Youth (Y2Y) has faithfully served the Montgomery County community for four decades. Their noble mission is to empower teens and their families by building up their existing strengths, expanding their access to opportunities, and overall, enhancing their lives. Their selfless service, hard work, and dedicated commitment to this mission has inspired and positively affected countless lives in our community.

Y2Y first began providing services to teens facing crises through the launch of their crisis hotline. As the organization expanded over the years, so too did the scope of the services offered to those in need. Today, the organization offers a wide variety of resources and initiatives to serve teens and their families. To name just a few, Y2Y offers group and family mental health counseling, school presentations on crisis situations, suicide prevention, emergency youth shelter, outreach program from homeless teens, and a support program for young adults.

These services have not only saved countless lives, but they have made Montgomery County a better place to call home. The qualities that Y2Y and its volunteers embody represent the best in our society, and today is about making sure they know the tireless work they do to improve our community does not go unnoticed.

It is my absolute honor to congratulate the Y2Y team today as they celebrate four decades of extraordinary service. I know I speak for the entire Eighth Congressional District of Texas when I say, thank you. Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Y2Y's Fortieth Anniversary and their positive impact on the Montgomery County community.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL MICHAEL "MOSES" THOMPSON

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retirement of Colonel Michael "Moses" Thompson. As a member of the United States Air Force, "Moses," his call sign as an F-16 pilot, plans his retirement after 24 years of dutiful service to his country.

With his long and successful career in a many number of leadership positions, Colonel Moses Thompson will officially retire in the summer of this year. His career began at the United States Air Force Academy in 1991 where he majored in Political Science and International Relations. He became an F-16 Pilot of the 14th Fighter Squadron, then joined

the 79th Fighter Squadron in 1999 as Chief of Standardization and Evaluation. Continuing his love of flight and earnest ability to help others, Moses started instructing young and hopeful pilots, then becoming an Air Liaison and Flight Commander in Fort Benning, Georgia. In 2007 he received an MBA from the University of Maryland University College, and soon after finished another master's degree, this time from the United States Air Force Command and Staff College. After more positions in leadership as a commander in Germany and senior advisor to the Iraqi Ministry of Defense in Baghdad, Moses Thompson is now the Chief of Advanced Weapons Systems at the U.S. Air Force Headquarters Air Combat Command.

After a lengthy and dedicated career, Colonel Thompson will now retire with his wife Ali. He has been described as a "powerful, inspiration, and effective leader," known for his integrity and ability to "make the difficult look easy." As previously stated, he has had many titles and many honorable positions, but his selfless action and dedicated service are what keep Americans safe. People like Moses are special and rare, and our country is blessed to have had him serve our people.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the many accomplishments of Colonel Michael "Moses" Thompson, honoring his love of country and service he has given to our great nation.

CELEBRATION AND RECOGNITION OF NILDA L. WILSON

HON. ADRIANO ESPAILLAT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, Nilda L. Wilson has been a longtime leader in the Dominican community. She was among the original co-founders of many non-profit charities including the Dominican Medical Society Women's Chapter, Dominicanos Pro-Ayuda A La Niñez, and many more philanthropic activities supporting the community.

Nilda L. Wilson with her husband Dr. James A. Wilson, have for over 40 years managed and operated one of the earliest Dominican medical practices in Washington Heights in New York's 13th Congressional District.

They were among the first Dominican medical practices in Northern Manhattan first established in 1966 on the corner of 178th St. & Audubon Ave. and remained in the same location serving the Dominican community through their retirement in 2006.

Nilda L. Wilson has always felt a strong and enduring responsibility to care for those in need of health care especially in Washington Heights and Northern Manhattan. Ms. Wilson and Dr. Wilson have maintained and strengthened their ties to the Dominican Republic helping sponsor medical students and trainees coming to the United States.

Nilda L. Wilson and her remarkable family have reached extraordinary professional success and continue to give back to the Dominican-American community.

RECOGNIZING THE EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF KAZAKHSTAN'S NUR OTAN PARTY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Nur Otan party in Kazakhstan for its twentieth anniversary and the convening of its eighteenth Congress in Astana, Kazakhstan later this month. The Nur Otan party has made Kazakhstan's growth in the region, and around the world, its core mission through "Kazakhstan 2050".

This strategy seeks to place the country in the top 30 global economies by 2050 by investing in not only economic sectors; but through social initiatives as well. For instance, President Nazarbayev, Chairman of Nur Otan, has singled out investments in public housing, education, small business, economic diversification, and energy.

Madam Speaker, we must encourage such development, but we must also never forget the role Kazakhstan has played in our fight against terrorism and the immense role the country has played in the global cause of non-proliferation. In Afghanistan, Kazakhstan has provided invaluable support for supply lines used by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Coalition, while also conducting joint military training programs with American and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) forces in the Central Asian steppes. As for non-proliferation, Kazakhstan, under President Nazarbayev's steady leadership, has not only relentlessly championed the cause of nuclear disarmament, but it has also established the world's first-ever Low Enriched Uranium Fuel Bank, in order to ensure stable civil nuclear energy use worldwide.

Madam Speaker, it is abundantly clear that Kazakhstan has been, and continues to be, a strong partner of ours in Central Asia, and it is my hope that the U.S.-Kazakhstan relationship will continue to strengthen to the benefit of both countries.

HONORING MAYOR JOE D. HERMES

HON. MICHAEL CLOUD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

Mr. CLOUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Joe D. Hermes, an Edna native who dedicated his life to public service and his community.

Mayor Hermes first moved to Edna when he was six years old and has considered it his home ever since. His first public service role came as council member from 1979 to 1987. He was then elected Mayor in 1987. After forty devoted years of serving the people of Edna, Mayor Hermes has decided to retire.

Since Mayor Hermes took office, Edna has built three parks and a swimming pool, purchased and restored property for the city, moved City Hall from the building that now accommodates the Edna Police Department, and navigated the community through difficult economic times.