

CONGRATULATING SERGEANT
CARL COATS ON HIS RETIRE-
MENT FROM THE POLICE DE-
PARTMENT OF GRAPEVINE,
TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sergeant Carl Coats on his well-earned retirement from the Grapevine Police Department. After twenty-five years of dedicated service, Carl has distinguished himself as a respected member of the Grapevine police force.

Beginning his career with the United States Marine Corps, Carl attained the rank of Sergeant and served as a Marine Security Guard at the American Embassies in Prague, Czechoslovakia and Quito, Ecuador. Transitioning to law enforcement in 1990, Carl served four years as a correctional officer with the Cooke County Sheriffs Department in Gainesville, Texas. In addition to that experience, he graduated from the police academy and subsequently became Deputy Sheriff.

In 1994, Carl joined the Grapevine Police Department where he has devotedly served as Patrol Officer, Detective, CID Sergeant and Patrol Sergeant. As evidence of his dedication to professional development, Carl is a graduate of the School of Police Supervision through the Institute for Law Enforcement. Through rigorous instruction, Carl has also obtained his Master Peace Officer's License—the highest level of its kind.

Carl's colleagues, supervisors and community members have expressed their deepest appreciation for his accomplished service. Specializing in child protection and physical abuse investigation, Carl has earned twenty-four commendations to date. In 1999, Carl received the Life Saving Award for his rescue of a five-year-old autistic child from a swimming pool. The following year, he developed a multidisciplinary team approach to investigate shaken baby syndrome. Carl also received the 2002 Advocate of the Year Award from the Tarrant County Crime Prevention Resource Center, honoring his efforts in promoting safety for women and children in the community.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the excellence of Carl's work which has repeatedly been commended as an invaluable asset to both the City and the Grapevine Police Department. His legacy will leave a lasting mark. I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Sergeant Carl Coats for his numerous years of service.

THE GOLDEN LIONS CLUB

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Golden Lions Club for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

The Golden Lions Club has been serving the Golden community since 1942. Standing behind the International Lions Club motto of

"We Serve", the Lions Club offers their services to anyone that needs help with a project. With over 8,000 hours of volunteer service in 2019, the Golden Lions continue to make a positive impact within the community. From constructing public bathrooms and pavilions to providing eyeglasses and scholarships to school children; where there's a need, there's a Lion. Through funding efforts, engaging volunteers in community projects, and supporting local schools and students, the Lions Club has committed to making the City of Golden a better place to live, work, and play.

I congratulate the Golden Lions Club for receiving this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan. I thank them for their contributions to our community.

COMMENDING PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI AND THE IN- DIAN PARLIAMENT FOR PRO- MOTING STABILITY IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR

HON. GEORGE HOLDING

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. HOLDING. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the situation in Jammu and Kashmir.

As we all have seen, the Indian parliament passed legislation last month changing the status of the state of Jammu and Kashmir. They modified provisions that were an obstacle to economic development and promoted a sense of separatism.

Up until recently, Kashmir had been governed by Article 370, which was an outdated provision of law that the Indian constitution recognized as "temporary."

Article 370 might have worked well for those with political connections, but it denied economic opportunities for the people.

I also created a polarizing environment that was exploited politically. During the past decades, thousands of people lost their lives due to terrorist attacks. Several groups based in Pakistan were able to conduct cross-border terrorism that wreaked havoc on individuals and families, and led to a morbid economy.

The Modi government had to make a decision on whether to continue with the old policy or to pursue progress by changing the region's legal status.

Madam Speaker, the people of Jammu and Kashmir deserve better and Prime Minister Modi was right to take bold steps to address this situation. Changes to the status of Jammu and Kashmir passed Parliament by a two-thirds majority, which highlights the consensus on the need for this reform.

Even with these changes, those seeking to cause disruption have continued to promote violence.

Pakistan-based terror groups have recently floated posters warning common citizens against venturing out, going to work, and visiting public places. The groups have continued to engage in cross-border terrorism and have attacked civilians and children. These militant groups have also attacked migrant workers and those who are involved in the apple business, which is the chief crop of Kashmir.

Madam Speaker, in order for Jammu and Kashmir to flourish, there must be peace and

stability. Individuals and families need to feel safe when they leave their homes and go to work.

The steps that Prime Minister Modi and the Parliament have taken are needed, they're good for the long-term stability of the region, and they should be applauded.

FULL UTILIZATION OF THE HARBOR MAINTENANCE TRUST FUND ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 28, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2440 the "The Full Utilization of the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund Act."

In 1986, Congress enacted the Harbor Maintenance Tax to recover the operation and maintenance dredging costs for federally-authorized ports from maritime shippers.

This is a direct levy on importers and domestic shippers using coastal or inland ports and is typically passed along to U.S. taxpayers on the purchase of imported goods.

These revenues are deposited in the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund within the Treasury Department, from which Congress appropriates funds to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for harbor maintenance dredging.

According to the Army Corps of Engineers, navigation channels at our nation's 59 busiest ports are available less than 35 percent of the time.

The American Society of Civil Engineers estimates that our nation's ports and harbors will need additional investment of \$15.8 billion between now and 2020 just to meet the demands of larger and heavier ships that will use the Panama Canal.

H.R. 2440 ensures that the Harbor Maintenance Trust Fund is used for its intended purpose—the maintenance of federally-authorized harbors.

This will enable the Army Corps of Engineers to dredge all federal harbors to ensure that they are to their constructed widths and depths.

The act also provides critical federal funding—\$34 billion—for infrastructure investment for our coastal and inland harbors over the next decade.

The bill achieves this task without raising taxes.

This bill also authorizes the expenditure of the expected \$25.5 billion in new revenue over the next decade, for our critical port harbor needs.

And, the bill authorizes the appropriation of additional funds for harbor maintenance needs.

As is clear, the need to ensure that this port, and similar such ports, stay open and operating as much as practical is vital.

The failure to do so can impact employment, the economy, and the livelihoods of countless individuals and businesses.

Ports are uniquely vulnerable to any number of disturbances, including those produced by weather, abuses by those who utilize the ports, and naturally-occurring wear-and-tear to the ports.

One such example of this naturally-occurring phenomena which requires remedial efforts is dredging.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, dredging is the act of removing silt and other material from the bottom of bodies of water.

NOAA goes further to explain that dredging is a routine necessity in waterways around the world because sedimentation gradually fills channels and harbors.

In the aggregate, this filling of channels and harbors can prevent the movement of vessels.

Dredging increases the depth of navigation channels, and thus plays a vital role in the nation's economy.

The Port of Houston is one of the largest in the world.

The Houston region is the country's top area for exports and the area surrounding the Port of Houston is home to the largest petrochemical manufacturing complex in the Western Hemisphere.

Due to its strategically advantageous location, the ingenuity of the 200 private companies that constitute the Greater Port of Houston, the Port of Houston is the number one port in foreignwaterborne tonnage.

And the most recent available statistics support the primacy of the Port of Houston.

The Greater Port of Houston complex is ranked sixth among U.S. container ports by size, and is the largest gulf coast container port—handling 69 percent of U.S. Gulf Coast container traffic—and is the largest Texas port, with 45 percent market share by tonnage, and 96 percent market share in containers.

To wit, more than 200 million short tons of international cargo were handled in 2018 alone.

As such, this redounds to the benefit of the economy.

Nationally, the greater port supports 3.2 million jobs, boasts more than \$801.9 billion in economic value and produces \$38.1 billion in tax revenue.

As a Senior Member of the House Homeland Security Committee, with a significant global port near my congressional district, I will work tirelessly towards enactment of this legislation.

That is why I urge all Members to join me in voting for H.R. 2440.

RECOGNIZING PHYLLIS GREEN FOR HER RETIREMENT AS SUPERINTENDENT OF ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize Phyllis Green for her retirement as Superintendent of Isle Royale National Park. Through her decades of leadership and commitment to our natural heritage, Phyllis has become an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

A U.P. native, Phyllis grew up surrounded by some of the most pristine natural landscapes our country has to offer. It should therefore not be surprising that she found her calling for conservation work at a young age. In high school, she led multiple clubs dedicated to environmental conservation before attending Michigan Technological University and

earning an undergraduate degree in forestry. Her 41-year professional career saw her serve in a variety of conservation and land management roles, including as supervisor of Ottawa National Forest.

As Superintendent of Isle Royale, Phyllis oversaw significant improvements to the operations and management of the park, including the implementation of a solar power system, invasive species control, and most recently, the reintroduction of the Gray Wolf to the island. This endeavor has required intensive ecological work and cooperation between the National Parks Service, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, USDA, and the State University of New York. Thanks in part to her leadership, the species introduction is well on its way to long-term success, with 17 wolves currently calling the island home.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to congratulate Phyllis Green for her decades of service and her retirement as Superintendent of Isle Royale National Park. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a dedicated individual. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Phyllis all the best in her future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF HERBIE FLORES

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Mr. Heriberto "Herbie" Flores, my constituent from western Massachusetts, who recently received the prestigious Pynchon Award. The Pynchon Award, which is named after the founder of Springfield, Massachusetts is given to those individuals who have made exceptional contributions to their community. This award is a testament to Herbie's hard work, dedication, and exemplary character.

Originally from Puerto Rico, Herbie grew up harvesting tobacco for a \$1.25 an hour. After leaving the island, Herbie proudly served our country with distinction in the United States Army during the war in Vietnam. Through this experience he learned firsthand of the plight and hardship of poverty and decided to dedicate his life to helping those less fortunate in our community.

Herbie is very well known for his many leadership roles and non-profit work in Springfield and throughout New England. He is the founder of the New England Farm Worker's Council, a nonprofit human services agency dedicated to improving the quality of life for low-income workers through education, job training, and living assistance. In addition, Herbie also served as the President of Brightwood Development Corporation which provides housing and development opportunities to Springfield's North End. Also, Herbie has served as the Chairman of Partners for Community, which works around New England to provide employment and other social services to populations with special needs.

Once again, Madam Speaker, I am proud of Herbie for receiving the Pynchon Award and for being an exemplary pillar of our community. I have had the pleasure of knowing and working alongside Herbie as Mayor and as a

Member of Congress and I am proud to call him a friend. I cannot think of anyone that brings a stronger personal commitment to those in our society that have been overlooked. To Herbie and his wife Grace Taylor, I want to wish them all the best in their future endeavors and say thank you on behalf of the United States of America.

GOLDEN UNITED

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Golden United for receiving the Golden Mayor's Award for Excellence.

Golden United is a non-partisan, resident-driven effort to engage Golden area community members across all walks of life to find common ground and act with respect and dignity in strengthening the community. Golden United launched in 2017, gathering residents of different backgrounds and asking them to identify shared values and initial actions. Their mission continued through community forums, rallies, annual events, task forces, supporting other community events, and most recently, hosting a Candidate Forum for the upcoming election. This organization is an example of democracy in action "of the people, and for the people."

I congratulate Golden United for receiving this well-deserved honor by Mayor Marjorie Sloan. I thank them for their contributions to our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JODY B. HICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. HICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following votes due to the passing of my father.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 585; YEA on Roll Call No. 586; NAY on Roll Call No. 587; NAY on Roll Call No. 588; NAY on Roll Call No. 589; NAY on Roll Call No. 590; YEA on Roll Call No. 591; YEA on Roll Call No. 592; YEA on Roll Call No. 593; YEA on Roll Call No. 594; YEA on Roll Call No. 595; YEA on Roll Call No. 596; NAY on Roll Call No. 597; YEA on Roll Call No. 598; YEA on Roll Call No. 599; YEA on Roll Call No. 600; YEA on Roll Call No. 601; and NAY on Roll Call No. 602.

IN RECOGNITION OF COMMANDER JUSTIN GOSS

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 31, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of Commander Justin D. Goss, United States Navy. After 20 years of dedicated service to our great nation, today marks his retirement from active duty.