

would prohibit the Department of Defense from deploying strategic assets of the United States in the Republic of Turkey.

Since the 1960s, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has had a nuclear sharing policy whereby NATO members can host U.S. nuclear weapons as part of a broader NATO nuclear posture. Enacted during the Cold War, this nuclear sharing policy was intended to deter the posture of the Soviet Union by involving non-nuclear NATO allies alongside the United States, the United Kingdom, and France.

Turkey, a NATO ally, was once considered a friend of the United States. In recent years, however, it has strengthened its alliances with Russia, Syria, and Iran. Notably, Turkey's military incursion into Syria that targeted U.S. Kurdish allies and its purchase of advanced Russian anti-aircraft missile systems undermine U.S. national security. President Erdogan's domestic policies have also become increasingly autocratic, as he has cracked down on freedom of speech and political freedoms. As Turkey develops stronger relations with geopolitical adversaries to NATO, it is time to reconsider any future deployment of strategic assets.

Madam Speaker, this bill would prohibit funds authorized to be appropriated or otherwise made available for fiscal year 2020 or any fiscal year thereafter for the Department of Defense from being obligated or expended for the future deployment of any strategic assets of the United States in the Republic of Turkey.

I thank my colleague, Representative Gus Bilirakis, who is introducing this measure with me, as well as my colleagues, Representatives JACKIE SPEIER and DARREN SOTO, who are original cosponsors. I urge my colleagues in the House Armed Services Committee, and the rest of my colleagues in the House of Representatives, for their swift consideration and support of this urgent and bipartisan legislation.

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE
OF BOBBY KUMAR KALOTEE

HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Mr. SUOZZI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent dedicated to a life of service, Dr. Bobby Kumar Kalotee. Dr. Kalotee has, for decades, worked tirelessly to serve people in his community, both locally and abroad.

Dr. Kalotee has lived the American dream. Born to a poor family in India, Dr. Kalotee came to America at the age of 21. After years of hard work as a bus boy and shoe shiner, Dr. Kalotee was able to save enough money to start his own business and truly embrace his entrepreneurial spirit.

Though successful in business, Dr. Kalotee felt unfulfilled without performing service to support those around him. For decades, Dr. Kalotee has promoted health and science on Long Island and has served on the Board of Directors of the Nassau University Medical Center and the Board of the New York Institute of Technology, where he received an honorary doctorate in science in 2001. He also

was the Chairman of Spartan Health Science University Saint Lucia, where he received a doctorate in philosophy in 2016.

Dr. Kalotee is the International Chairman of Friends for Good Health, a charitable organization with a mission to bring healthcare professionals to places in need all over the world. On a recent mission to El Salvador, he and the Friends for Good Health team served over 5,000 people in 4 different cities. For all his good work, Dr. Kalotee has been recognized or received awards from over 300 organizations.

Dr. Kalotee is very active in politics in New York. Dr. Kalotee was Chairman of Nassau County Independence Party, Vice-Chairman of New York State Independence Party and National Executive Director of Independence Party of America. Dr. Kalotee was National Chairman of Reform Party from 2007 to 2010.

Dr. Kalotee's commitment to serving others is representative of the Indian-American community at large here in the United States. Throughout my time in public office, I have seen the Indian-American community in my district pull together to raise up everyone around them. In discussions with fellow Members of Congress, such as my friends Raja Krishnamoorthi from Illinois and Carolyn Maloney from New York, we have marveled at the true dedication of people like Dr. Kalotee to make our country a better place for all, and I count myself lucky to have such a man call my district home.

Dr. Kalotee has been married to his wife for over 30 years and has 5 children, all of whom inherited the patriotism of their father.

I commend Dr. Bobby Kumar Kalotee for everything he has accomplished and wish him well in all his future endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE CITY OF
LEBANON, TENNESSEE, ON ITS
BICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN W. ROSE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Mr. JOHN W. ROSE of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Lebanon, Tennessee, in honor of its 200th anniversary. Lebanon is the county seat of Wilson County, located just east of Nashville.

Lebanon was formed in 1802 and officially incorporated on November 23, 1819. The city's name derives from the area's countless Eastern Red Cedar trees, reminiscent of Mount Lebanon's famous cedar forests described in the Bible.

With approximately 35,000 residents, Lebanon demonstrates what it means to be a tight-knit community. This town was built on a solid foundation of hard work and family values, and it has continued to show these unwavering attributes over the course of its 200-year history.

Lebanon is home to a number of sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places and is a certified Tennessee Main Street program. The Historic Public Square maintains its long-standing charm with beloved sites like the Capitol Theatre, while still serving as a hub for industry and business through the Lebanon-Wilson County Chamber of Commerce, located in the heart of the Main Street District.

Countless successful businesses call Lebanon "home," including the corporate headquarters of Cracker Barrel, America's "Old Country Store." The city's many local businesses benefit from the unique opportunities afforded through Lebanon's own Municipal Airport, which provides easy access for industry and trade.

Lebanon is the longtime home of Cumberland University, founded in 1842. The four-year private institution has an enrollment over 2,500 students and 110 academic programs.

The city of Lebanon is also home to Cedars of Lebanon State Park. The park boasts 1,139 beautiful acres and welcomes visitors from across the country to enjoy its eight miles of hiking trails and 117 campsites.

Tennessee's largest fair, the nationally-known Wilson County Fair, is hosted in Lebanon at the James E. Ward Agriculture Center. Families from across Tennessee—and the entire country—journey to Lebanon to participate in the annual tradition.

The city is also the proud home of the Wilson County Veterans Museum and Plaza, which forever memorializes those from Wilson County who have served our great country. A true treasure, the museum honors the service of our veterans and preserves countless artifacts dating back to World War I.

I hope my House colleagues will join me in celebrating this bicentennial achievement of Lebanon, Tennessee. The town and its residents have continued to show the strong faith and values of Tennessee since the days when its first public square was built over the Town Spring. I wish Lebanon and its citizens much prosperity and happiness over the next 200 years and beyond.

TRIBUTE FOR NELSON RODRIGUEZ

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of a leading Fort Worth Hispanic leader, Mr. Nelson Rodriguez. Mr. Rodriguez was the founder and owner of The Nelrod Company of Fort Worth and a steadfast leader in the development of Hispanic chambers of commerce in Texas and across the nation. He passed away last month after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer.

Mr. Rodriguez began his entrepreneurial career as a 10-year-old shoe shiner in south Texas. He worked in the family grocery store throughout his youth and returned to manage the family business after completing his bachelor's degree from the University of Texas at Austin. He went on to run an award-winning newspaper, as well as organize other entrepreneurs to form the United States Hispanic Chamber of Commerce where he became the first chair and president at the young age of just 27.

The next year, Nelson moved to Washington, D.C. following his appointment to serve in the Reagan administration. During his tenure in our government, he served as the youngest Senior Executive at the Department of Commerce, won the Secretarial Achievement Award at the Department of Transportation, and the Affordable Housing Award at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Nelson was a family man, a business man, and a community man. He was a valuable pioneer who helped pave the way for minority businesses in Fort Worth and across our country. Nelson and his wife shared 45 years of marriage together with their four sons, three daughters, and four grandchildren. He will be sorely missed by our great city of Fort Worth.

RECOGNIZING GREG WATSON

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Greg Watson, one of my Congressional staff members who will be departing my office soon for a great opportunity to work in the White House.

As one of my Legislative Assistants, Greg has been a valuable member of Team Scalise, and I will miss his expertise and guidance on the issues he so capably handled while in my office. Not only has Greg been my lead technology and telecommunications staffer, and primary Energy and Commerce Committee advisor, he has also worked each and every day serving my constituents in Louisiana's First Congressional District.

I am grateful to Greg for his years of service in my office, and I congratulate him on this exciting new chapter of his career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AYANNA PRESSLEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Ms. PRESSLEY. Madam Speaker, due to a health appointment, I was unable to be present on the floor for votes on Monday, November 18, 2019.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 625, YEA on Roll Call No. 626, and YEA on Roll Call No. 627.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THE LATE CONGRESSMAN JEROME "BOB" TRAXLER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise in remembrance of the late Representative Jerome "Bob" Traxler, who served honorably in this House from 1974 to 1993. Bob was laid to rest this past week. A proud son and representative of the Thumb region of Michigan, including Saginaw, and his hometown of Bay City, please let me extend my deepest sympathies to his devoted wife, Jean, his daughter Sarah and son-in-law Christopher, his two stepchildren Greg and Caroline, and to his nine grandchildren.

Bob was born and raised in 1931 in Kawkawlin, Michigan. He earned his undergraduate degree from Michigan State University in 1953 and subsequently his law degree

from the Detroit College of Law in 1959. Ever the public servant, he served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955. After his military service, he began his law career as the assistant prosecutor in Bay County from 1960 to 1962. He demonstrated his skill and knowledge of the law and soon thereafter was elected to the Michigan House of Representatives, where he served from 1962 to 1974. During this tenure, he served as the Majority Leader of the House from 1965 to 1966. It was during this time he began to pursue a bill that helped establish the Michigan Lottery. And with this legislative action, so came his nickname "Bingo Bob".

Bob was elected to the United States Congress after winning a special election in April of 1974. He arrived in Washington, D.C. in the midst of the Watergate scandal that was shaking the nation. I believe that as a witness to such a troubling time in our republic; it resulted in his development into a successful Congressman. He recognized that the purpose of Congress was to represent and help his fellow constituents, to echo their voices so the concerns of all were heard throughout the halls of Congress.

During his eighteen-year tenure in the House of Representatives, Bob tirelessly served the people in his district. He loved interacting with them whenever he was home to the point where it was not work for him. His example is one from which all in Congress could learn. He rose through the Committee ranks, gaining respect from House Leadership and colleagues, and eventually served on the exclusive House Appropriations Committee as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Veterans' Affairs, Housing and Urban Development, and Independent Agencies. Through his work on the Committee, he was able to advance projects in his district such as the EPA research vessel named the "Lake Guardian". His wide ranging interests asserted that NASA had a champion for the Hubble Telescope, that veterans were cared for, that local communities received back from the federal government their community development allocations, and that Michigan State agricultural interests were defended in the Farm Bills. After years of dutiful service, Bob retired in 1993.

As his colleague for ten years, I learned a great deal from Bob. He took the time to illustrate what the position entailed and how very important it was to remember who sent a Member to Congress. He often reflected on the power imbalance in U.S. society and worked to give a greater voice for people of ordinary means. After retirement, Rep. Traxler went on to support his alma mater by serving on the Michigan State University Board of Trustees and the Mackinac Island Park Commission. Though Bob was an MSU Spartan and I, a Wisconsin Badger and Michigan Wolverine, he and I were dear colleagues and more importantly, dear friends. He tutored me in the intricacies of the appropriations process, for which I shall always be grateful. Particularly because our region has a tougher lift when competing for federal attention.

I hope it is of some comfort to his loved ones, and to the people that he represented, that his being and indefatigable spirit are now freed from Earth's binds; may his soul rise high and shower our precious world with peace, justice, and good humor from sea to shining sea.

With a heavy heart, golden memories, and abiding appreciation, may I extend my deepest

gratitude for the life of Congressman Bob Traxler of Bay City, Michigan, and to his family and the people of Michigan he loved and treasured so dearly, for sharing him with our nation.

LONGEST-SERVING CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY CHIEF CLERK E. DOTSON WILSON

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Mr. E. Dotson Wilson, retiring after a 40-year career with the California State Assembly, the longest-serving Chief Clerk in the history of that body.

Over his long career, Mr. Wilson has proven his passion for service and for improving governance. We all know that the smooth functioning of the people's elected representatives depends on a well-trained staff operating at a leadership level within the Capitol. Mr. Wilson made it his mission to assure that, whatever the political discussion, legislators had what they needed to do their jobs. The fact that he has been unanimously affirmed as Chief Clerk for every Assembly session since his selection for the post in 1992 is a testament to the esteem in which he has been held by the 482 different legislators who have served during his 27-year tenure.

The Chief Clerk serves as the chief parliamentarian of the 80-member California Assembly and is responsible for publishing the official documents of the House; and keeping all the bills, papers, and records of the proceedings of the Assembly. Mr. Wilson not only produced legislative materials to assist Members and legislative staff, but he created training videos, annotated guides and a book on California's Legislature. These materials are invaluable both to new legislators and to everyone wishing to understand how their government works.

Prior to serving as the Chief Clerk, Mr. Wilson served under Assembly Speaker Willie L. Brown Jr., first as an Assembly Fellow from October 1979 to 1980, then as his Special Assistant. Speaker Brown nominated Mr. Wilson to be Chief Clerk of the Assembly in 1992, and he was reelected 14 times.

Mr. Wilson saw first-hand the impact of housing discrimination and other injustices growing up in the Bay Area city of Albany, California. The trials he saw his family endure propelled him to seek change, and resulted in a lifetime of public service. Mr. Wilson has worked on a wide range of legislative issues over his long career, including housing, public employees, retirement and labor. He took special interest in supporting academic success for California's youth, including student athletes.

Mr. Wilson exemplifies what it means to be a public servant. I congratulate him on his long service and his well-deserved retirement. It was an honor to serve alongside Mr. Wilson during my time in the Assembly.