

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY ZATINA
FOR HER DISTINGUISHED CAREER

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Zatina and recognize her years of distinguished service with Beaumont Health.

Mary Zatina was the Senior Vice President of Government Relations and Community Affairs at Beaumont Health. In this role, Zatina advanced Beaumont and Oakwood Healthcare's relationship with government leaders, significantly improving the well-being of patients community-wide. Zatina joined Oakwood from the Office of the Governor, where she served as an advisor to Governor Jennifer M. Granholm and chief of staff to First Gentleman Daniel Granholm Mulhern. Prior to her career in the state government, Zatina was the Senior Vice President and Director of Corporate Communications and Strategy at Campbell-Ewald and Director of Corporate Communications for the MichCon/MCN Energy Group.

Throughout all her professional endeavors, Mary Zatina has been recognized as a dynamic, accomplished, and effective leader who strives to effect meaningful and lasting change. She has used all her experiences to enhance Beaumont's partnerships with local, state, and national officials, chambers of commerce, and community leaders at all levels, enabling Beaumont to strengthen its outreach and expand its services. Beyond this, Zatina has also been an active member of her local Michigan community. She is a member of the American Arab Chamber of Commerce, the Michigan Fitness Foundation Board of Directors, the Southwest Solutions Board and Development Committee of the Greening of the Detroit, and serves on the Citizens Advisory Committee for the University of Michigan-Dearborn. In addition, she was a founding member of the Arab-American Women's Business Council and the Chicago Boulevard East Block Club. Zatina's work has earned her widespread acclaim, evident in her designation as a Fall 2017 Arab American Business Woman of the Year and a Crain's Detroit Business "40 Under 40" Honoree.

Still, Mary Zatina's accomplishments and accolades only scratch the surface. Put simply, Zatina is a good person with a kind heart. Despite her busy life, she is dedicated to uplifting everyone she encounters and is always willing to lend a helping hand. Zatina is known amongst her friends, family, and colleagues as an accomplished chef, master gardener, and friend who will always do the right thing. Moreover, she is a creative hostess who is welcoming of all, whether it be at spontaneous gathering or one of her famous annual parties.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mary Zatina for her accomplished career at Beaumont Health. We deeply appreciate her dedication to improving the lives of others and wish her the best of luck in her future endeavors.

PARTISAN IMPEACHMENT
PROCEEDINGS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, even before President Donald Trump was elected, Democrats have been scraping for any excuse, threatening impeachment to overturn the election results. It is shameful that House Democrats are wasting time and money, over \$30 million dollars, on this Impeachment Hoax instead of fixing trade deals, funding our military, and addressing issues that create jobs.

House Speaker NANCY PELOSI continues to move forward with these warrantless attacks which undermine the results of the last election, nullifying 63 million votes. House Democrats should stop misleading the American public and work for those who put them in office. This partisan witch hunt diverts attention from the President's successes.

The lives of Americans have truly changed for the better under President Trump. The unemployment rate has record lows, wages have continued to increase, and there is record job creation, showing that President Trump keeps his promises.

In conclusion, God Bless our Troops, and we will never forget September 11th in the Global War on Terrorism.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DIVERSIFYING BY INVESTING IN EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS TO IMPROVE OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH ACT

HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support the Diversifying by Investing in Educators and Students to Improve Outcomes For Youth (DIVERSIFY) Act.

It should be a guarantee that all students in our country are taught by expert teachers and attend schools where the teacher workforce reflects our nation's rich diversity.

However, research tells us that while people of color comprise 40 percent of our nation's population and majority of our public school students, only 20 percent of all teachers are people of color.

One of the barriers to a well-prepared and diverse teacher workforce is the high cost of college and student loan debt.

High quality teacher preparation is also more likely to be financially out of reach for students of color, while the high cost of college and increasing student loan debt burdens hits students of color especially hard as they are more likely to come from families that are unable to contribute financially to their higher education.

These facts come at a time when college affordability has reached crisis levels.

Today, more than two-thirds of individuals entering the field of education borrow money to pay for their higher education, resulting in an average debt of about \$20,000 for those with a bachelor's degree and \$50,000 for those with a master's degree.

Our nation's service scholarship for teachers—The TEACH Grant Program—has not increased to keep up with the rising cost of college.

While college cost have increased, the TEACH Grant has been cut each year for most of its existence.

Failing to protect and increase the TEACH Grant limits the program's potential to support high needs schools in ensuring that all students are taught by a well-prepared and diverse educator workforce.

I urge this body to pass this bill.

CONGRATULATING REV. JESSE TURNER IN RECOGNITION OF HIS DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rev. Jesse Turner of Pine Bluff on his recent selection to receive the Distinguished Service Award on behalf of the 400 Years of African American History Commission.

This award is given to those who have made a lasting commitment to community service and work to commemorate the contributions of African Americans to our nation's history. Rev. Turner easily fits this description and is well deserving of this honor by the commission due to the profound impact he has had in his community.

As the pastor of the historic Elm Grove Baptist Church, Rev. Turner's commitment to service has touched the lives of individuals across the country. The City of Pine Bluff issued a proclamation in his honor, highlighting his decades of work promoting African American history in the State of Arkansas and the impacts it has had on the people in his community.

I'm proud to know of men like Rev. Jesse Turner and the commitment he has demonstrated to public service over his lifetime. His is a life well lived and truly is part of "The Distinguished 400."

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARIE GREENWOOD

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, each and every day we must honor the legacy of those who came before us; those who dedicated their lives to promoting freedom and forging the path on which all future generations walk.

Today, I wish to honor the life and work of Ms. Marie Greenwood whose long and full life was devoted to creating a more equitable and just society for countless Coloradans. Marie passed away on November 18th at 106 years old.

As one of the first Black teachers to be hired by Denver Public Schools in Colorado, Marie spent her entire teaching career fighting segregation and uplifting students through one simple creed: every child can learn.

A first-grade teacher for 30 years, Marie guided educators throughout her long and illustrious career in the importance of early literacy programs. "Teaching first grade was the

joy of my life," she once said, "I believe it is there that one lays the beginning of a sound education foundation upon which a child can continue to learn successfully."

Marie continued her passion for literacy by participating in the Each One Teach One program which aims to improve early literacy by building vocabulary through hands-on community projects. This program allows students to contribute to their communities while building topical vocabulary.

To Marie's four children, to her entire family, and to all those who loved and admired her, I share my condolences and my gratitude for the exceptional dedication and progress made possible by Marie's life and work.

TRIBUTE HONORING VICTORIA BARNES ANDERSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and wish a happy birthday to a Centenarian and constituent who serves as an example for how we all might live to see 100 years of life. Mrs. Victoria Barnes Anderson is celebrating this remarkable milestone on December 23, 2019, an added blessing during our nation's most joyous season.

The daughter of a foreman, Mrs. Anderson grew up on a sharecropper's farm in Pineville, South Carolina, and was the fifth of eight children born to parents, William and Mariah Barnes. She attended Barhill Elementary School and later Dubass in Bonneau. She was forced to quit school in the sixth grade when the bus service stopped. However, she later went back to school at night so she could help her children with their homework.

She was married to the late James Anderson, and the couple was blessed with eight children. To support the family, she was a domestic worker earning just \$5 to \$10 per day. The family did not have much, but never went without. The Andersons were able to put three children through college, an accomplishment she attributes to the Grace of God.

Since she was a young child, Mrs. Anderson has had a great faith. She attended Sunday School and church at the Good Shepherd Reformed Episcopal Church until her marriage, when she joined Bethel United Methodist Church. She has been a member there for 81 years, participating in many ministries: Junior and Senior Choir, Vice President and President of United Women, Women's Day Program Chairperson, Prayer Band Member, and Harvest Day Program Co-Founder. Mrs. Anderson frequently says, "I've been serving the Lord a long, long time, and I'm not tired yet."

During her more active days, Mrs. Anderson had a number of hobbies such as gardening, canning, and cooking. She still cooks from time to time with family assistance. Mrs. Anderson enjoys singing and her favorite song is "Your Grace and Mercy." As a devout Christian, Mrs. Anderson's favorite book is the Bible, and her favorite scripture is Psalm 27, "The Lord is my light and my salvation, whom shall I fear?"

Mrs. Anderson has lived through six wars and 18 presidents. She says the proudest mo-

ment in her life was witnessing the election of President Barack Obama. Mrs. Anderson never imagined she would see the election of the first African American President of the United States of America. Her response was simply, "Look at God."

In addition to her 8 children, she has 30 grandchildren, 68 great-grandchildren, and 49 great-great-grandchildren who love and cherish her.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in offering congratulations and a special happy 100th birthday to Victoria Barnes Anderson. Her longevity has set an example for all of us and inspires us to persevere no matter the circumstances. I am pleased to honor her for her lifelong devotion to faith and family.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, on December 5, 2019, I was not recorded on Roll Call Vote No. 651 on H. Res. 741, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4) Voting Rights Advancement Act and providing for consideration of the resolution (H. Res. 326) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding United States efforts to resolve the Israeli-Palestinian conflict through a negotiated two-state solution. I would have voted Aye.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MONTGOMERY FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Montgomery Fire Department in Montgomery, Texas.

From its inception in February of 1969, the Montgomery Fire Department has protected and served the entire Montgomery area—approximately 232 square miles—in the Eighth District of Texas, including the Cities of Montgomery, Dobbin, Walden, and Bentwater. This area was originally covered by two fire departments, the Montgomery and the Walden Volunteer Fire Departments but the two merged in 1982 to keep up with the growing population of the county.

As more and more people came into the area, more fire stations were built in Walden, Cape Conroe, the City of Dobbin, and Montgomery. In 1989, in response to growing demand for their services, the Montgomery Fire Department hired its first full time firefighter, and in 2001 they opened another station in Bentwater that housed both volunteer and full-time firefighters.

Today, the Montgomery Fire Department has five manned stations and an administrative building. Their full staff includes a Fire Chief, four Battalion Chiefs, 51 full-time firefighters, and 25 part-time or volunteer firefighters.

The Montgomery County Fire Department employs the use of three booster trucks, five pumper, three tankers, and one All-Terrain-Vehicle. This equipment allows the fire department to respond to fires, car accidents, and any other emergency or natural disaster in Montgomery County.

Under the leadership of Fire Chief Brian Edwards, the fire department serves Montgomery County by offering not only protection from fires and other emergencies, but education and prevention. It's incredible to see just how much they've grown these past 50 years.

I would like to thank the Montgomery Fire Department for half a century of service, and congratulate them on a job well-done. The entirety of Montgomery County is grateful for their service and keeping our community safe. Congratulations on 50 prosperous years, and we look forward to 50 more.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DAUGHTERS OF PENELOPE

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 6, 2019

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark an important anniversary. Last month, the Daughters of Penelope, an international woman's organization and affiliate organization of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), celebrated its 90th anniversary on November 16. Founded in San Francisco, the Daughters of Penelope originally worked to improve the status and well-being of women and their families. They also sought to provide women with the opportunity to make significant contributions to their communities and country. After successfully achieving many of their early goals, the Daughters of Penelope now promote the ideals of ancient Greece: philanthropy, education, civic responsibility, and family and individual excellence, achieved through community service and volunteerism.

I am a proud Greek-American. As a young boy, my grandparents, parents, aunts and uncles instilled in me an appreciation for our beautiful Greek culture, which focuses on family, community, and faith. As Co-Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on Hellenic Issues, it is with great pride that I see these values shine through the Daughters of Penelope today, across all its 250 chapters worldwide. Through the exceptional Penelope House in Mobile, Alabama and Penelope's Place in Brockton, Massachusetts, the organization vigorously supports efforts to combat domestic violence in Greece as well as the United States. The development of these shelters brought renewed hope to many areas with suffering families who previously did not have access to the same level of care.

As a member on the Health Subcommittee of the Energy and Commerce Committee, I am impressed with the organization's efforts to provide financial support and raise awareness for medical research on treatments for breast cancer, Thalassemia (Cooley's anemia), muscular dystrophy, and Alzheimer's disease. The Daughters of Penelope are also a leading sponsor of the U.S. Department of Housing