

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING 100 YEARS OF THE BOLL WEEVIL MONUMENT IN ENTERPRISE, ALABAMA

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Mrs. ROBY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Boll Weevil Monument in the City of Enterprise, Alabama.

In 1882, John Henry Carmichael founded the city of Enterprise. Early on, Enterprise thrived primarily due to agriculture, specifically the cotton crop. Cotton was the catalyst that spurred the development of water and electric systems, the growth of the schools, and the opening of new businesses in the community. Enterprise, Alabama like many other towns and cities emerging in the southern United States, were economically dependent on the prosperity of the cotton crop.

The Boll Weevil, a small insect native to Mexico, made its way to the southern United States in the early 1900s, devastating cotton buds and destroying the viability of the crop along the way. Enterprise was not spared, as the Boll Weevil ravished Coffee County's cotton production and the city's agricultural foundation. The farmers and families of Enterprise suffered greatly from this economic blow, but they remained determined and solution-oriented.

In pursuit of relief from the economic hardship for the citizens of Enterprise, banker H.M. Sessions, county Agent John Pittman, and scientist Dr. George Washington Carver encouraged agricultural diversification. With favorable soil and weather conditions, relief came in the form of peanut seeds, which were brought to Enterprise in 1916 and grown by local farmer, C.W. Baston. In just one year, the peanut industry exploded in Enterprise, yielding over five million dollars and making the city a top peanut producer nationwide.

The Boll Weevil Monument that many in the community pass by every day was erected to recognize the role of the Boll Weevil in transforming Enterprise and compelling its citizens to “triumph over adversity.” This central monument symbolizes the adaptability, resiliency, and determination that embody the character of Enterprise and its citizens, past and present.

Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to join my constituents and the residents of Enterprise to honor the centennial of the Boll Weevil Monument on Main Street. This monument stands as a reminder to us all of what can be accomplished in the face of adversity. I am proud and forever grateful to represent this city and the people of the Second Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING SUPERVISOR LAURENCE CRABTREE

HON. TOM McCLINTOCK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Supervisor Laurence Crabtree, who is retiring after 50 years of service as an indispensable steward of our forests.

Laurence's passion for forest service began in his teenage years, when he worked as a smokechaser in a youth employment program at Clearwater National Forest in 1969. After working in a variety of seasonal positions as a firefighter, timber cruiser, and forester, Laurence spent twenty years as a District Timber Management Officer and District Resource Officer on Lassen National Forest.

After serving as a District Ranger at Humboldt-Toiyabe and Modoc National Forests, followed by two years at Plumas National Forest, Laurence took his skills to my congressional district, serving as Forest Supervisor of the Eldorado National Forest for more than six years. Indeed, Laurence has spent his life as an ardent servant of our forests and the millions of Americans who visit them each year.

Laurence was an explorer of our lands just as he was a protector, and his list of accomplishments speaks volume to his work. He discovered a rare moth in the Sierras that had not been seen for 140 years, then discovered a new moth in Nevada, aptly named *Pelochrista crabtreei*. He was awarded a Proclamation of Commendation from the Lassen County Board of Supervisors for his community involvement as the Big Valley District Ranger, as well as a Quality Step Increase for “furthering the trust and collaborative relationships with Central Nevada Counties and Tribes.” One of his proudest accomplishments was dedicating the Olympic Training Center at Echo Summit in El Dorado County as a California Historical Landmark to honor the special site used for training by America’s top athletes.

As wildfires ravaged nearly every corner of California, Laurence was at the forefront of making our forests environmentally sound and recreationally accommodating. Following the 2014 King Fire, Laurence’s role as an Agency Administrator contributed immensely to the King Fire Restoration Project, which quickly began a complete reforestation process. His work over the past six years in particular has led Eldorado National Forest to become a regional leader in timber production and hazardous fuel treatment. He has received multiple certificates of merit for excellence in leadership and management, highlighting his devotion to protecting the communities and unique wildlife that make our western forests so special.

Laurence's passion for serving his community extends beyond the forests. In both California and Nevada, Laurence served on school boards and chambers of commerce.

Now, Laurence and his wife Denice will be returning to Big Valley, where he will undoubtedly continue his active involvement with his community while also spending more time with his family.

Gifford Pinchot was explicit in his first maxim for foresters, “A public official is there to serve the public and not run them.” Laurence Crabtree has done just that for 50 years, and I thank him for decades of devotion to safeguarding our national forests for the use and enjoyment of the American people.

HONORING MR. GREGORY RICH

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Mr. GOMEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gregory Rich, who after a 40-year career is retiring from the global healthcare company, Grifols. As a long-standing company executive, Greg has dedicated his professional life to serving patients through an unwavering commitment to excellence, integrity, and innovation.

My congressional district in Los Angeles is home to one of Grifols' three plasma-therapeutics manufacturing facilities and U.S. corporate offices. This is where Greg has spent the majority of his career. Greg's tenure in Los Angeles was marked by major investments in Grifols' facilities, the local community and most importantly, the people of El Sereno and surrounding neighborhoods.

A native of southern California, Greg graduated from California State Polytechnic University in Pomona, California with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting and data processing. Greg began his career as an auditor with Touche, Ross & Company, and later joined Alpha Therapeutic Corporation as director of corporate planning. Greg then relocated to Barcelona, Spain, to facilitate the company's joint venture with Laboratory Grifols, serving as the assistant director of finance. Greg was promoted to the position of Co-President of Laboratory Grifols, and remained in this position until returning to Alpha Therapeutic Corporation as vice president and general manager of international operations. He later became senior vice president and general manager for the parent company of Alpha Therapeutic Corporation.

In 2001, Greg became president and chief executive officer of Grifols USA, and currently serves as President and CEO of Grifols Shared Services North America, Inc. Throughout his tenure with Grifols and its predecessor companies, Greg has exemplified a culture of service to his colleagues in the U.S., Spain, and around the world. His collegiality and dedication to the values and mission of the company will be missed.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Greg and his wife Deborah on a remarkable career. We wish them every success in the future.

● 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.

HONORING VIDAL DÁVILA

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Vidal Dávila for his retirement from the National Park Service after almost forty-five years of service.

Mr. Dávila has been a passionate servant for our nation's national parks his entire life. He grew up regularly visiting national parks, cultivating a passion for protecting and preserving public lands from a young age.

Mr. Dávila has served in an impressive number of public lands across the United States, including Texas' Amistad Recreation Area, Texas' Big Bend National Park, and Texas' Guadalupe Mountains National Park. He also served in the Southwest Regional Office in New Mexico, the Great Basin National Park in Nevada, and, of course, South Dakota's Wind Cave National Park.

Wind Cave has greatly benefited from Mr. Dávila's leadership over the past twelve years. Mr. Dávila became Wind Cave's superintendent in 2007 and was awarded Superintendent of the Year for Natural Resources by the Midwest Regional Director for his hard work and dedication to the park. He also has served as a member of the NPS Midwest Regional Office Bison Leadership Team since 2013 where he helped facilitate coordination between bison parks and National Park Service leadership.

I commend Mr. Dávila for his outstanding record of service, dedication, and hard work. I extend my deepest congratulations to Vidal Dávila for his contributions to South Dakota and our nation's parks.

RECOGNIZING THE IOTA CHAPTER OF PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY INCORPORATED ON THEIR 100 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Iota Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Incorporated. The Iota Chapter was chartered on December 11, 1919, on the historic campus of Shaw University, making it the first Greek-lettered organization at Shaw, the ninth chapter in the history of Phi Beta Sigma, and the second chapter in North Carolina.

The Iota Chapter was founded by Jesse W. Lewis, who eventually became the fraternity's seventh International President. Mr. Lewis wanted to organize a Greek-lettered fraternity on Shaw's campus that exemplified the ideals of brotherhood, scholarship, and service and Phi Beta Sigma was a perfect fit. Sigma brothers to this day, hold deep convictions to use Phi Beta Sigma's ideals to better their communities.

The Iota Chapter has produced many prominent alumni who have contributed enormously in the fields of medicine, speech pathology, education, and dentistry, including my father,

Dr. G. K. Butterfield, Sr. who entered Shaw in September 1919 after fighting in World War One. On his 22nd birthday, February 9, 1922, he was initiated into the Iota Chapter. My father graduated from Shaw in 1922 and graduated from Meharry Medical College as a dentist in 1927. He returned to North Carolina, married my mother whom he met at Shaw, and moved to Wilson, North Carolina where he remained until he passed away at the age of 95. During his lifetime, my father was active in Phi Beta Sigma and became a well-respected civil rights leader in our hometown, and was even elected to the Wilson City Council in 1953 during the dark days of segregation.

Shaw University was the first historically Black institution of higher education in North Carolina and is among the oldest historically black colleges and universities (HBCU) in the nation. In many ways, Shaw, with the help of the Iota Chapter, has been an institutional pioneer for civil rights. During the 1960's, Shaw and members of the Iota Chapter were leaders of numerous marches and demonstrations that took place on the streets of Raleigh and across North Carolina in the fight for civil rights and the end of segregation.

Phi Beta Sigma has blossomed into an international organization of leaders. No longer a singular entity, members of the Fraternity have been instrumental in the establishment of the Phi Beta Sigma National Foundation, the Phi Beta Sigma Federal Credit Union, and the Fraternity's sister organization, the Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, which was founded in 1920.

Madam Speaker, to this day, the Iota Chapter continues to be a vital chapter of Phi Beta Sigma and a leading role model for community service in North Carolina. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Iota Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma on its centennial.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on December 9, 2019 during roll call no. 655, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 4761, DHS Opioid Detection Resilience Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea." I was also unavoidably detained during roll call no. 656, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass, H.R. 4739, Synthetic Opioid Exposure Prevention and Training Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HAPPY 10TH BIRTHDAY TO THE SUGAR LAND LOCATION OF THE HOUSTON MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCE

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land as they celebrate their tenth birthday.

Inspiring and encouraging minds both young and old to learn about how our world works helps make us a smarter, more educated society. The Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land does just that—sparking inspiration within the minds of the visitors that walk through its halls and exhibits.

This year marks this institution's tenth birthday—a milestone achievement for a museum. From their Space Science collection and the Hall of Paleontology to the newly-added Hall of Technology, the Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land has facilitated the education and growth of countless people in TX-22.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to the Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land on their tenth birthday. Here's to many years ahead inspiring people of all ages to learn more about our world.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER CHRISTOPHER RAGSDALE

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 11, 2019

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize those men and women who continue to serve this great Nation with honor—men such as Lieutenant Commander (LCDR) Christopher Ragsdale, United States Navy.

For the past year, LCDR Ragsdale served on my staff as a Congressional Defense Fellow. A 2007 graduate of the United States Naval Academy, LCDR Ragsdale is a proud Surface Warfare Officer who served in MCM Crew *BULWARK* and onboard USS *COMSTOCK* (LSD-45) and USS *BENFOLD* (DDG-65). During his assignment in my office, LCDR Ragsdale provided senior-level input for defense, veterans, foreign affairs and intelligence matters. Additionally, he executed his work as a liaison to the constituents of Virginia's First Congressional District with distinction.

Furthermore, LCDR Ragsdale provided exceptional support to me as a staff liaison to the House Armed Services Committee in my role as the Seapower and Projection Forces Subcommittee Ranking Member. LCDR Ragsdale dutifully provided me with guidance on what the Navy's path forward should be in critical areas such as training, readiness, and manning. His recent experience in the surface community was invaluable to my work in Congress.

As the Co-Chair of the Congressional Shipbuilding Caucus and the Co-Chair of the Navy-Marine Corps Caucus, I relied on LCDR Ragsdale to organize quarterly events with government, military, and private sector leaders. These events allowed key decisionmakers to work together for the advancement of our future Naval Officers as well as the construction and repair of the ships on which they will serve.

LCDR Ragsdale also directly contributed to my goal of providing excellent constituent service to the people of the First District. He was responsible for bringing numerous constituent inquiries to a successful conclusion, and he leveraged his personal and operational