

CELEBRATING THE LIFETIME OF EXCELLENCE IN MINISTRY AND EDUCATION OF JESSE BERNARD BILBERRY, JR.

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Mr. RICHMOND. Madam Speaker, I join former Congressman Cleo Fields and the entire Baton Rouge community today in honor of Reverend Jesse Bernard Bilberry, Jr. Rev. Bilberry has spent the entirety of his life dedicated to educational and community development. Revered as a trailblazer throughout his lifetime, Rev. Bilberry most recently retired after 34 years of pastoral service at Mt. Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church in Baton Rouge.

Rev. Bilberry was born on May 12, 1929 in Marion, Louisiana the oldest of ten children of Jesse Bernard Bilberry, Sr. and Joe B. Bilberry. He was baptized at the age of 14 at the Bloomberg Grove Baptist Church in Farmerville, Louisiana. Rev. Bilberry went on to earn his Bachelor of Arts degree from Southern University and A&M College. An Army veteran, Rev. Bilberry was honorably discharged from the United States Army after serving from August 18, 1951 to July 21, 1953.

After Rev. Bilberry's return from the Army, he went on to marry Verda Lee Hamilton on December 23, 1953. The couple has one daughter, Cassandra Gail.

Rev. Bilberry began a new chapter in life after marriage that started his esteemed trajectory in educational and community development. He began his career as the principal of Tensas Rosenwald High School in St. Joseph, Louisiana from 1956 to 1969. During this time, he completed his Master of Education from Louisiana State University in 1957. He was also awarded the Human Rights Award for Creative Leadership in Education in 1968.

In 1969, Rev. Bilberry took his talents back to Southern University where he served as the Freshman Complex Director until 1971. He then implemented and directed the inaugural Office of High School Relations at Southern from 1971 to 1973. The following year, Rev. Bilberry was promoted to Director of Admissions of Southern University, where he served this role until 1984.

During his early years as Director of Admissions for Southern, Rev. Bilberry first became acquainted with Mount Pilgrim Baptist Church in 1975. He was later ordained a Deacon and asked to serve as the Chairman of the Finance Committee. By 1981, he became an Associate Minister.

Rev. Bilberry retired from Southern University and the State of Louisiana in 1984. That same year, he accepted the pastorate of Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church. Rev. Bilberry continued his studies of the church and graduated from Christian Bible College in 1988 with a Master of Theology and a Doctorate of Theology in 1990.

Throughout his lifetime, Rev. Bilberry has received numerous awards and recognition, including Minister of the Year in 1989 from the Early Risers Kiwanis Club, two-time recipient of the M.S. Tally Walk on the Water Award from the Department of Christian Education in 1991 and 1992, and the Frontiersman Award

from the Sunday School Publishing Board of the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. in 1993 for his work leading a mission trip to Dominica, West Indies.

Rev. Bilberry has also dedicated his time to a plethora of scholastic and service-oriented organizations, including the Southern University and A&M College Board of Supervisors, supervisor and instructor for the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education, and a member of East Baton Rouge Parish Ministers Conference, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, and Phi Delta Kappa Honorary Society.

Rev. Bilberry's trajectory in leadership continued as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Crestworth Learning Academy, President of the Fourth District Missionary Baptist Association, and State Director of the Louisiana Missionary Baptist Congress of Christian Education.

Rev. Bilberry has led a life of exemplary service, leadership, and compassion that has resonated throughout the entire Baton Rouge community and the state of Louisiana. His lifetime body of work should be well known and celebrated not only by those he has influenced throughout the years, but by all who seek to make a difference in this world through the vocation of ministry and education.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life and work of Rev. Jesse Bernard Bilberry, Jr. and wish him luck in his retirement.

CONGRATULATING DR. STEPHEN BASH ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Stephen Bash for his retirement. Dr. Bash currently serves as Professor of Pediatrics, Section of Cardiology, in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Peoria.

Dr. Bash has had a long and distinguished career as a doctor. He graduated from Indiana University Medical School in 1967 and began his medical career with an internship at Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester, New York. Dr. Bash then returned to Indiana where he completed his Pediatric Residency and a Pediatric Cardiology Fellowship at Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. Academia has also been an important aspect of Dr. Bash's career as he worked as an instructor at the Fort Wayne Family Practice Residency and an assistant professor at the University of Illinois. Additionally, Dr. Bash served our country honorably as a Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Navy and was a visiting cardiology consultant for the Riyadh Armed Forces Hospital in Saudi Arabia. Dr. Bash is part of several professional societies and has received several awards for his work. I would like to wish Dr. Bash well as he begins his well-earned retirement and thank him for his many contributions to medical research.

It is because of dedicated leaders such as Dr. Stephen Bash that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Dr. Stephen Bash on his retirement and thank him for his service to our country.

MIGUEL GARCIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Miguel Garcia for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Miguel Garcia is a student at Pomona High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Miguel Garcia is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Miguel Garcia for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

MEMORIAL HERMANN KATY HOSPITAL EARN 'A' RATING

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital for earning an 'A' rating from The Leapfrog Group's Fall 2018 Hospital Safety Grade.

Memorial Hermann Katy was one of only 855 hospitals in the United States given an 'A' rating from the Leapfrog Group, a national organization committed to improving health care quality and safety for consumers and purchasers. The Hospital Safety Grade assigns an A, B, C, D or F grade to hospitals across the country based on their performance in preventing medical errors, infections and other harmful incidents among patients in their care. By consistently striving for and achieving excellence, Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital has set the bar high for hospitals around the country.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital for being recognized with an 'A' rating along with 855 other hospitals across our great nation. Thank you for your dedication to providing quality care to our Katy community.

IN RECOGNITION OF LOUIS J. GOODMAN, PH.D., CAE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Louis J. Goodman, Ph.D., CAE, as he retires after 22 years at the helm of the Texas Medical Association.

In his role as Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Goodman has

helped to strengthen the Texas Medical Association as it has grown more than 50 percent since 1997. Today the organization, our nation's largest state medical society, represents nearly 53,000 physician and medical student members—including myself.

A committed leader, Dr. Goodman has spent more than three decades serving the Texas Medical Association and its members since he first joined the staff in 1987. He previously held positions with the American Medical Association and the former Michael Reese Medical Center in Chicago. In the span of his career, Dr. Goodman has published more than 100 professional articles and papers.

Dr. Goodman also holds the appointment of Adjunct Professor of Public Health at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, is an honorary member of the American Medical Association, treasurer of the Physician Advocacy Institute and past president of The Physicians Foundation, the American Association of Medical Society Executives, and the Texas Society of Association Executives. Dr. Goodman serves on the executive committee of the Texas Civil Justice League, the TMA Insurance Trust Board of Trustees, and is chairman of The Coalition of State Medical Societies.

As Dr. Goodman retires from a distinguished career, I thank my friend for his steadfast service to Texas and wish him the best of luck in the chapters to come.

HONORING THE CAREER OF DEB WARNER

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Deb Warner, who retired from CenterState CEO on February 15, 2019. Throughout her career, Ms. Warner has utilized her policy expertise to empower local businesses in the Central New York region.

Beginning her career in advocacy at the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce in 1982, Ms. Warner took leading roles in implementing the Ambassador Committee, the Buy Local Committee, and the Total Quality Management training program. Following the Greater Syracuse Chamber of Commerce's merge with CenterState, Ms. Warner shifted her focus to growing the Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) industry in Central New York. Most notably, Ms. Warner successfully advocated before members of Congress from both sides of the aisle to designate Central New York as an FAA UAS Test site and create the NUAIR Alliance, a non-profit aimed at operating and overseeing UAS testing.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing the career of Deb Warner. Over the course of her 30 year career in advocacy, Ms. Warner has been a powerful promoter of our region. Her insight has left a permanent impact on Central New York's economy and has helped lead local industries to great success.

YANIRA ALVARADO ISLENOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Yanira Alvarado Islenos for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Yanira Alvarado Islenos is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Yanira Alvarado Islenos is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Yanira Alvarado Islenos for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BICYCLE COMMUTER ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Bicycle Commuter Act of 2019. This bipartisan legislation will reinstate the bicycle commuter tax benefit, modify the benefit to be used in concert with parking and transit benefits, and expand the bicycle benefit to include bikeshare.

The bicycle is the most efficient form of urban transportation ever devised. Cycling reduces carbon emissions, provides enormous physical and mental health benefits, and is one of the most cost-effective modes of transportation available. Communities across the country have realized these benefits and substantially invested in building better bike networks and improving facilities for biking to work. Across America, more than 100 communities of all sizes have installed or permitted bikeshare systems, supporting a nationwide network of nearly 5,000 stations, more than 100,000 bikes, and more than 120 million trips since 2010. These investments are one of the reasons that rates of biking to work have nearly doubled since 2000 while driving and public transportation rates have increased by 16 percent and 26 percent, respectively.

Despite these impressive developments, there is currently no commuter tax benefit for biking to work. Public Law 115–97 suspended the bicycle commuting reimbursement benefit through 2025, taking away a valuable financial incentive for people who choose to bike to work. The Bicycle Commuter Act reverses the benefit's suspension, changes the structure of the benefit to be more flexible to, and adds bikeshare as eligible for the benefit. Employees don't commute the same way every day and our commuter tax benefits should reflect that. The Bicycle Commuter Act provides the flexibility that people need while also

incentivizing a clean and healthy mode of transportation: the bicycle.

CONGRATULATING DR. JITENDRA SHAH ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Jitendra Shah for his retirement. Dr. Shah currently serves as the Director of the Pediatric Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory at the Children's Hospital of Illinois at St. Francis Medical Center in Peoria.

Dr. Jitendra Shah has had a long and distinguished career as a doctor, which began after he graduated from the Medical College at Maharaja Sayajirao University in Baroda, India in 1969. Following graduation, Dr. Shah completed an internship and his residency at Shree Sayaji General Hospital in Baroda, India, the Albert Einstein Medical Center and Philadelphia General Hospital in Pennsylvania. Dr. Shah did a fellowship in Pediatric Cardiology at St. Christopher's Hospital for Children in Philadelphia, and then led research at the Congenital Heart Disease Research & Training Center's Hektoen Institute for Medical Research in Chicago, Illinois. He has also served in the academic world, most recently as Clinical Professor of Pediatrics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine in Peoria. Dr. Shah is a part of many scientific organizations and has received two teaching awards for his time in academia. I would like to wish Dr. Shah well as he begins his well-earned retirement and thank him for his many contributions to medical research.

It is because of dedicated leaders such as Dr. Jitendra Shah that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Dr. Jitendra Shah on his retirement and thank him for his service to the Peoria community.

HAYLEE LAITURI

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Haylee Laituri for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Haylee Laituri is a student at Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Haylee Laituri is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Haylee Laituri for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.