

ACS is more than sufficient to determine citizenship statistics within the U.S. We must ensure that all individuals are counted in the decennial census, thereby providing accurate allocation of federal funds and representation in Congress, not reduce participation by already undercounted minorities because they fear answering questions that are already addressed elsewhere.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING KEVIN TURPIN FOR RECEIVING THE TIDEWATER CHAPTER HUMANITARIAN AWARD

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Kevin Turpin on receiving the 2019 Humanitarian Award for the Tidewater Chapter of the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities. This is an amazing accomplishment.

This award recognizes Kevin's lifetime of service and commitment to the promotion of respect among people of diverse backgrounds. As Executive Director of the Life Enrichment Center, he serves the local community by providing tutors for children struggling in school or at home. He has gathered over 250 volunteers to serve the children, and the ministry continues to expand. The positive impact will be seen for many generations.

Kevin's dedication to strengthening bonds among people of different racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds is truly inspiring. I am proud to honor and recognize his leadership and the role he plays in making our community a better place. The Tidewater Region has significantly benefited from his presence.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 100th anniversary of The American Legion, the nation's largest wartime veterans' service organization.

Through the years, The American Legion has evolved from a group of World War I veterans into one of the most influential nonprofit groups in the United States. Today, membership stands at over two million in more than 13,000 posts worldwide. The posts are organized into 55 departments: one each for the 50 states, along with the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, France, Mexico, and the Philippines.

The Legion is a nonpartisan, not-for-profit organization, with a strong grassroots involvement in politics and the legislative process. The Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation, and vol-

unteerism. The organization belongs to the people it serves and the communities in which it thrives.

The Legion stands behind the issues most important to our nation's veterans, backed by resolutions passed by volunteer leadership. Legionnaires' sense of obligation to their community, state, and nation drives their advocacy for veterans and their needs.

On March 15, 1919, members of the American Expeditionary Force convened in Paris for the first American Legion caucus. Congress chartered the group that September. That November, delegates to The American Legion's first National Convention established the Legion's values of service to community, state, and nation. Those values would form the Legion's four pillars upon which this great organization of men and women still stands: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth.

These pillars remain in place to support veterans, national security, patriotism, and the children and youth of America, the future of our great nation. Based on these pillars, the Legion has built programs with an unparalleled impact on American society during its first century of service.

The Legion has influenced considerable social change in America and won substantial victories for veterans, advocating for the establishment of the Veterans Administration, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the G.I. Bill. The G.I. Bill helped make higher education, home ownership, and future employment possible for veterans; it also provided an opportunity for veterans to dispute the characterization of military discharge, which had been at the discretion of the commanding officer without an explanation. Eventually, this policy led to the founding of the Board of Veterans Appeals.

For decades, the Legion also fought to strengthen the nation through a non-mandatory "Universal Military Training" so our country would be prepared in the event of war. Out of this belief came the Reserve Forces Act of 1955, which launched the modern Reserve component of our military, as well as the National Guard.

The Legion has also produced or supported many important programs for children and youth. Some of these are well-known to many Americans, including American Legion Baseball, one of the nation's most successful amateur athletic programs; Boys I Girls State and Girls I Boys Nation; the National Oratorical Contest; The American Legion Veterans & Children Foundation; the Boy Scouts; and scholarships. Around the country, the Legion has also sponsored the Junior ROTC, youth law enforcement academies, and a Junior Shooting Sports program.

Since 1989, victims of disasters have received tens of millions of dollars from the Legion's National Emergency Fund. The Legion has also funded research to help veterans who have suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder, Gulf War Illness, burn pits, and other service-connected problems and diseases. In the 1980s, the Legion partnered with Columbia University to prove Agent Orange killed thousands of Vietnam War veterans, made many more sick, and caused birth defects among their children. Eventually, the Legion sued the federal government so that affected

veterans and their families could get the necessary care they needed and were owed.

These are just some of the accomplishments and programs The American Legion provides for our veterans and youth. Our country would not be as strong as we are today without the Legion's advocacy, services, and compassion for its fellow Americans during times of war and times of peace.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking The American Legion for its 100 years of exemplary leadership, dedicated service, and outstanding commitment to ensuring our country remains strong for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING APRYLE CRISWELL JACKSON

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, in honor of Women's History Month, I want to recognize Apryle Criswell Jackson, an educator for the School District of Osceola County, Florida. Apryle graduated Cum Laude from California University of Pennsylvania with a double major. She was one of a very few women in the 1970s to participate in the coaching certification program there.

Apryle has taught for 39 years. She started in the Elizabeth Forward School District in Pennsylvania and has spent the last 36 years in Osceola County. She has always taught "at risk students" in grades kindergarten through Adult Ed.

Apryle has always been an advocate for children. She has donated her time to various athletic programs in Osceola County. Apryle was one of the first coaches when Buenaventura Lakes started their Little League program. She has served on the board of directors for numerous organizations throughout Osceola County. She is a First-Class Girl Scout and recognized the need for a program in Osceola County. Apryle worked diligently to start the Friendship Service Unit for Girl Scouts. She is also an advocate for children with disabilities in the county. She encouraged the music director at Harmony High School to start a music program for special needs students this school year.

Apryle has been active in the Osceola County Education Association for over 35 years. She has been president for the last eight years fighting for better working conditions of all educators in Osceola County. Under her leadership, OCEA has held numerous events for children. They recently distributed over 10,000 books to students. In 2017, following the tragedy of Hurricane Maria, Apryle worked with local agencies to host an event where evacuee students, and their families from Puerto Rico, could get the assistance they needed and distributed books to all children in Spanish and English. Under her leadership OCEA has developed numerous programs to support children in our community.

Apryle's dedication to serving those in our community is an inspiration to all. Apryle Criswell Jackson, for that we honor you.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARILYN PRYLE, 2019 PENNSYLVANIA TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Marilyn Pyle, who was named the 2019 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year by the Pennsylvania Department of Education at their annual professional development conference on December 10, 2018. Marilyn was selected as the Teacher of the Year from a competitive field of twelve finalists for her dedication to students, unparalleled commitment to her field, and her innovative methods of pedagogy.

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Scranton, Marilyn began her teaching career with the Jesuit Volunteer Corps in Kathmandu, Nepal. In 1996, she received her Master's degree in education, also from the University of Scranton. While teaching in Braintree, Massachusetts, Marilyn earned her Master of Fine Arts in creative writing from Emerson College. She is a National Board Certified teacher in secondary English and reading instruction and has experience teaching at the middle school, high school, and college levels.

In addition to extolling the virtues of literature and the art of writing to high school students, Marilyn has devoted much of her career to educating educators. She is steadfastly dedicated to the field of teaching and has challenged educators to "create an inspired classroom." She is also an advocate for the indispensable place the humanities have in our education system. Marilyn is the author of seven books about teaching reading and writing, and she speaks regularly at local, state, and national conferences. As Teacher of the Year, she will continue to speak, educate, and inspire both pre-service teachers and experienced teachers at events and meetings across Pennsylvania.

In addition to her work in the classroom and many speaking engagements, Marilyn is an ardent community volunteer and advocate. Together with Catholic Social Services, she facilitates an English-as-a-second-language conversation group for refugees in the Scranton area.

It is an honor to recognize Marilyn Pyle as the 2019 Pennsylvania Teacher of the Year. Her level of dedication to her students, her profession, and her community has been remarkable. Marilyn has always possessed an unwavering zeal for teaching and a belief that, with the right tutelage, any student can succeed, and that has produced wonderful results. May she continue to energize and inspire students and teachers alike for many years to come.

HONORING DR. CASSANDRA NEWBY-ALEXANDER FOR RECEIVING THE TIDEWATER CHAPTER HUMANITARIAN AWARD

HON. ELAINE G. LURIA

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mrs. LURIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Dr. Cassandra Newby-Alexander on receiving the 2019 Humanitarian Award for the Tidewater Chapter of the Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities. This is an amazing accomplishment.

This award recognizes Dr. Newby-Alexander's lifetime of service and commitment to the promotion of respect among people of diverse backgrounds. Her thought-provoking books, such as *Virginia Waterways* and the *Underground Railroad*, have educated many on the importance of the Underground Railroad for freedom seekers in our state. Dr. Newby-Alexander's input on the Jamestown-Yorktown Foundation, Virginia Law Foundation, and the Historical Commission of the Supreme Court of Virginia is invaluable.

Dr. Newby-Alexander's work shows her dedication to strengthening bonds among people of different racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. I am proud to honor and recognize Dr. Newby-Alexander's leadership and the role she plays in making our community a better place. The Tidewater Region has significantly benefited from her presence.

CONGRATULATING SENIOR OFFICER SCOTT RHODES ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT OF GRAPEVINE, TEXAS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Scott Rhodes on his well-earned retirement from the City of Grapevine, Texas Police Department after twenty-nine years of dedicated service as a law enforcement officer.

Scott is a hardworking and highly respected officer of the Grapevine Police Department. He has honorably served his community since beginning his distinguished career with the Paris, Texas Police Department in 1990. Scott would go on to serve as an officer in Grand Prairie, Texas and then Glen Heights, Texas until joining the Grapevine Police Department in 1996 as a patrol officer.

Throughout his twenty-two years as an officer in Grapevine, Scott has received 34 police commendations as evidence of his outstanding service and professionalism. Furthermore, he has earned meritorious service bars for Special Service, Certificate of Merit, Good Conduct, Safe Driving, Police Service, FTO Officer, Honor Guard Member, Crime Prevention, Police Instructor, Police Diver, and U.S. Presidential Protection.

Scott is a Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) instructor, Firearms Instructor, Crime Prevention & Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) Spe-

cialist, and Mental Health Peace Officer. He also holds certifications in ATV, Advanced Diver, Dry Suit Diver, and Nitrox Gas Diver and specializes in active shooter preparedness and asset protection training. Additionally, Scott served on the Board of Directors for the Texas Crime Prevention Association Inc. (TPCA) as Treasurer, Sergeant at Arms, and President. He serves as Chairman of the TCP A/TCOLE Training Advisory Review Board and has been instrumental in the inception, planning, collaboration, and implementation of the statewide TCOLE recognized Certified Crime Prevention Specialist Certification. In 2012, Scott was awarded Life Membership to the organization and received the Overall Crime Prevention Specialist Award in July of 2014. Scott is a member of the Texas Chisholm Trail Crime Prevention association and was awarded their Crime Prevention Specialist of the Year award in 2012.

Scott's contributions to the law enforcement operations in the City of Grapevine and beyond have helped to ensure countless officers were adequately trained and prepared for the challenges they face in their everyday duties. His legacy will leave a lasting mark on the City of Grapevine and the Grapevine Police Department for many years to come.

Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure to recognize the exhaustive efforts Scott has contributed to the City of Grapevine, and the State of Texas. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing Senior Officer Scott Rhodes for his many years of service.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR ULISSES TAYMES

HON. AUMUA AMATA COLEMAN RADEWAGEN

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

Mrs. RADEWAGEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight the service of Major Ulisses Taymes, who was the Executive Officer for the 9th Mission Support Theater Support Group—Pacific Battalion located in American Samoa.

In American Samoa, our men and women of the Armed Forces are very important to us. The people of our islands take great pride in being patriotic Americans and our people are known for a high rate of service in our military. In particular, our U.S. Army recruiting center ranks number one in the nation in enlistment rate.

To that end I would like to recognize all the work Major Taymes has done to prepare our Army Reserve Soldiers for success by providing them with the necessary resources and guidance, and for his efforts to instill pride and professionalism in the units.

He has an extensive list of military awards and decorations including the Bronze Star, two Meritorious Service Medals, a Joint Service Commendation Medal, and numerous other awards. He is a graduate of the prestigious Harvard University.

In honoring this outstanding officer today, we also express our deep appreciation to all who serve, including the many in uniform from American Samoa serving with distinction all over the world.

In American Samoa, we've come to appreciate Major Taymes as one of our own, and