

With our unacceptably high rates of gun thefts and teen and veteran suicides, there is no doubt that Barbara's efforts have already achieved that goal. While it has already seen great success in Broward, Lock It Up! has tremendous potential to save countless more lives as it grows across Florida and beyond.

I am pleased to honor Barbara, and I thank her for her service to our community.

REMARKS ON H.R. 1957, THE
TAXPAYER FIRST ACT OF 2019

HON. KATIE PORTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Ms. PORTER. Madam Speaker, while there are many beneficial provisions in H.R. 1957, Section 1102 should be stripped from the legislation. This section would prohibit the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) from ever establishing a free file system for taxpayers by codifying an existing contract between the IRS and private taxpayer preparation software companies (e.g. TurboTax, H&R Block, Intuit).

The National Consumer Law Center has previously written an opposition letter on this provision in the bill. Such a free filing system could save American taxpayers billions of dollars per year otherwise spent on taxpayer preparation services.

While individuals earning less than \$66,000 are currently eligible for free federal filing via private software companies due to the contract with the IRS, only 3 percent of such individuals take advantage of free filing, and millions more households outside the very modest income limit could benefit from an IRS-built system.

An IRS free file system could also have the benefit of ending a current, predatory practice: low-income taxpayers are upsold by taxpayer preparation services into costly add-on products like refund anticipation loans, which are essentially payday loans backed by future tax refunds.

Finally, even if the IRS does not have the capacity to build their own free file system, H.R. 1957 would preclude renegotiation of the current contract with private software developers in order to get better terms for taxpayers in a future, Democratically-controlled IRS.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. MAMIE
HUGHES' 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor a dynamic woman in my district. On May 3, 2019, Mamie Currie Hughes will celebrate her 90th birthday. While turning 90 is a major feat in itself, it's what she has done during these years that makes her so special. Mamie Hughes has been a civil and women's rights champion in Kansas City since the 1950's.

Born in Jacksonville, Florida, Ms. Hughes graduated from Stanton High School at sixteen years of age. At that young age, she left

Florida to attend Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee where she met her husband Leonard Hughes, Jr. Upon graduation in 1949, the couple married and moved to his hometown of Kansas City, Missouri.

Ms. Hughes taught elementary school upon arriving in Kansas City. By 1958, as a member of Community Committee for Social Action, she became part of a movement to abolish discriminatory practices of the major department stores in downtown Kansas City, Missouri.

During the 1950's and 60's she continued to fight segregation while also raising a family, after giving birth to five children. Even so, her commitment to her community never wavered. From 1957 through 1975, Ms. Hughes served with women of all races on the Panel of American Women, an organization that gave presentations describing how discrimination, racism and bigotry affects lives. These community discussions were often held in areas that blacks and other minorities were not welcomed. In 1972, Ms. Hughes was the first black woman elected to the Jackson County legislature where she served two terms. During her time in the legislature, Ms. Hughes was the Chair of the Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) Board of Directors and its Commission on Aging. While at MARC, she assisted with the implementation of the 911 emergency assistance development and worked on the establishment of the Meals on Wheels program that provides food delivery for senior citizens.

In 1978, my House colleague, Rep. JOHN LEWIS, interviewed Ms. Hughes and recommended her to President Carter, who appointed her the Regional Administrator to ACTION/VISTA, the predecessor of AmeriCorps VISTA and the United States government agency that serves as the federal domestic volunteer agency. The agency's responsibilities included the domestic volunteer programs established under the Office of Economic Opportunity including the Foster Grandparents programs and the Peace Corps. It also assumed logistical support responsibilities for the volunteer programs of the SBA's Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) and the senior companion programs that later became the Senior Corps.

After her federal service, Ms. Hughes' became President of the Black Economic Union (BEU) of Greater Kansas City, one of the country's oldest community development corporations. During her tenure at BEU, Ms. Hughes's efforts focused on the stabilization and preservation of buildings with historic significance. That work ultimately laid the foundation for the Cleaver Plan, which resulted in Kansas City's Historic 18th and Vine Jazz District.

In 1986, Ms. Hughes resumed her governmental service and became the City of Kansas City, Missouri's Ombudsman for the Bruce R. Watkins (BRW) Roadway. Her responsibilities included working on behalf of residents affected by the construction of the BRW Roadway. During her tenure with the city, Ms. Hughes' reputation as a fierce neighborhood liaison grew because of her tireless dedication to assisting those adversely affected.

Over her lifetime, Ms. Hughes has received various awards and honors too numerous to mention here. Most recently, however, she was included in a special group honored by former First Lady Laura Bush and inducted

into the University of Missouri at Kansas City's Starr Hall of Fame recognizing women who have made the Kansas City community a better place through impressive lifetime accomplishments.

In 2016, Ms. Hughes penned her autobiography entitled Mamie Who? The Life and Times of a Colored Woman, chronicling her efforts against racism and championing women's rights. For over 70 years she has fought for equal rights for all and for the improvement of Kansas City as a whole. Because of her incredible service to our community, I would like to congratulate her on celebrating her 90th birthday and thank her for making Kansas City a better, more just place for all to live.

HONORING THE 17TH INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL OF LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the 17th International Festival of Language and Culture (IFLC).

The International Festival of Language and Culture has been bringing talented youth from around the world together to express their cultures in song, dance, and other artistic performances since 2002. The first festival was launched in Turkey, and since 2013 it has been held in countries all over the world, including Germany, Australia and Romania. The IFLC has also hosted shows in the United States since 2015, when IFLC became established in Washington, D.C. and registered as a U.S.-based nonprofit organization. The IFLC is committed to contributing to world peace and dialog by gathering young people from around the world regardless of their race, religion or language to share music and dance performances together.

This year, the IFLC will host a show and reception in Washington, D.C. on April 29, 2019 with more than 80 participants from over 16 countries performing.

Madam Speaker, for these reasons, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring this annual celebration and showcase for diverse talent from across the world.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
ELIAS W. "CHUCK" HADDAD

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Chuck Haddad, who passed away on Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at the age of 85. The namesake of the Haddad car dealerships in Bakersfield, California, Chuck was an esteemed local businessman and philanthropist and most importantly, a friend to many in our community including myself.

Chuck's life story is a true embodiment of the American dream. Having grown up in Lebanon, he moved to the United States to attend

Wabash College in Indiana. However, as Chuck soon found out, the Midwest gets a bit colder than the Mediterranean climate where he was raised. Fortunately, he found a suitable alternative in the great state of California, where he moved shortly thereafter to attend Stanford University in Palo Alto. It was here that Chuck's automobile career began when, while shopping for a car of his own, the dealer was so impressed with his bargaining skills that he offered Chuck a salesman position on the spot. Within a year he was the dealership's General Manager. Chuck went on to open his own dealership in East Los Angeles in 1973, followed by Haddad Dodge in Bakersfield, California in 1974. Chuck and his family owned the Dodge dealership, Haddad Kia, and have ownership stakes in Nissan of Bakersfield, BMW of Bakersfield, and Bakersfield Chrysler Jeep FIAT.

Outside of his dealerships, perhaps the professional accomplishment Chuck was most proud of was winning a landmark court case against the Internal Revenue Service (IRS). In *Bakersfield Dodge Inc. v. The IRS*, the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that car dealerships have the right to allocate certain financial resources for tax purposes, benefitting automotive dealers across the country. Anyone that knew Chuck would be unsurprised to hear how proud he was to have been able to help others. In fact, Chuck helped countless people in the Bakersfield area by his generous contributions to charitable causes such as research for juvenile diabetes, arthritis, heart disease, cancer and leukemia. He also provided leadership and guidance on the California State University Bakersfield's business advisory panel, the Greater Bakersfield Chamber of Commerce, and the Kern County Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, just to name a few.

But Chuck was most proud of the great love story of him and his late wife, Inger. Together as parents to James and Lisa, John and Meredith, and Jeff and Tina, and grandparents to Michael, Ryan, Allie and Ryan, Jacob, Joshua and Maci, their lives were filled with many memorable moments. As a husband, father, grandfather and friend, we will always remember Chuck's devotion to family. As a philanthropist, Chuck's commitment to community was evident through his many civic contributions as well, most notably through the National Automobile Dealers Association. Through the association, he was dedicated to fostering relationships with our local, state and federal elected officials recognizing the importance of effective leadership. Chuck held true to his conservative principles as was evident in his support of helping candidates who shared these values pursue successful campaigns. As a member of the Kern County Republican Party, he received the 2016 Republican of the Year Award, where his tireless efforts on behalf of a grateful party were recognized.

The measure of a man's life can be found in his character, in his optimism, in his joy and humor, in his courage and passion for what is good and right and in his love for family, neighbor and country. This was the life of Chuck Haddad.

On behalf of the 23rd Congressional District of California, we remember my friend, Chuck Haddad, and extend our most heartfelt condolences to the Haddad family.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CARL
MCGEE, JR.

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today, I rise in recognition and celebration of the life of a fellow Texan and decorated WWII Veteran, Carl McGee, Jr. His commitment to his community, the Great State of Texas, and the United States of America represents the best of our country and I encourage all members to join me in honoring this American hero's life.

In December of 1941, as the world inched ever closer to the Second World War, 18-year-old Carl McGee, Jr. made the decision to enlist and serve his country. He began training at the Army Air Forces Technical School, at Chanute Field III, and was later appointed to the Air Corps Advanced Flying School in Lubbock, Texas.

Following his success in flight school, First Lieutenant McGee received his wings on January 14, 1943 and subsequently moved to California to join the 450th AAF Base Unit Squadron-A at Hammer Field. As a C-47 pilot, Lieutenant McGee operated in the Pacific Theater, including the Western Pacific, Southern Philippines, New Guinea, and the Bismarck Archipelago. By the remarkable young age of 20, Lieutenant McGee had participated in 50 flight missions where hostile contact was not only probable, but expected.

In recognition of his service and dedication, Lieutenant McGee was awarded the prestigious Distinguished Flying Cross to commend his efforts in safely transporting troops and supplies through adverse weather, low altitudes, and dangerous mountain terrain. Upon receiving this award, he became the youngest member of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society. Lieutenant McGee was also awarded the Air Medal, with three Oak Leaf Clusters, as well as the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal, with four bronze service stars, and the American Defense Service Medal. His many awards and recognitions serve as important reminders of the dedicated years he served our nation.

Lieutenant McGee then went on to begin his professional career as a pilot for Pioneer Airlines, which later became Continental Airlines. After many years of service to both our country and the aviation community, Lieutenant McGee began his well-deserved retirement on his 60th birthday in 1983. Lieutenant McGee passed away on April 8, 2019, surrounded by his friends and family, beloved by all who knew him. He is preceded in death by his parents, Carl and Florence McGee, and his son, Patrick McGee. He is survived by his wife, Cinda McGee; and his wonderful children, Dennis McGee, Andrew McGee, and Michelle Ciancio.

Today, it is my honor to celebrate the long life of a decorated veteran, devoted father, and extraordinary Texan. He is a member of the Greatest Generation, and I know I speak for the entire Eighth District of Texas when I say: Thank you for all you have done for our Country, you will be deeply missed.

HONORING COHUTTA, GEORGIA

HON. TOM GRAVES

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Mr. GRAVES of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the town of Cohutta, Georgia and commemorate the 50th anniversary of its incorporation.

Though incorporated relatively recently, Cohutta has a history that stretches back to when Northwest Georgia was first settled.

Its name, Cohutta, comes from the Cherokee word for foggy weather, and it served as the capital of the Cherokee nation from 1832 to 1838.

Boasting Red Clay State Historic Park, Cohutta has truly embraced the rich history of the Cherokee nation that first settled there, allowing visitors to appreciate 630 acres of natural beauty and historical significance.

Like many towns in Georgia, Cohutta came to be through the growth of the railroad, and Norfolk Southern continues to link it with the rest of the state.

Today, it boasts a population of over 600, and the University of Georgia's Cohutta Fisheries Center continues to provide research and education opportunities for folks from across Georgia and our nation.

As all of Georgia celebrates with Cohutta this Saturday for a day of parades, BBQ, and family fun, I offer the students of Cohutta Elementary a hearty 'Go Dogs' and congratulate the town on the 50th anniversary of its incorporation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ENSURING
SUCCESSFUL REENTRY ACT OF
2019

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 2019

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, in recognition of April as Second Chance Month, I introduce the Ensuring Successful Reentry Act of 2019, a bill to eliminate so-called "subsistence fees." Federal law currently requires the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to impose a subsistence fee on the income of offenders living in residential reentry centers (RRCs), supposedly to promote financial responsibility by requiring RRC residents to pay a portion of their housing costs. The fee is currently 25 percent. However, many offenders living in RRCs often work minimum wage jobs, so the loss of 25 percent of their paychecks is a significant hurdle to successful reentry, and it makes it extremely difficult for them to save money for rent, pay child support, or fines and fees associated with their conviction (such as restitution). Recently, BOP eliminated the subsistence fee for offenders on home confinement, who cost BOP almost nothing for maintenance. Far from promoting financial responsibility, subsistence fees actually prevent returning citizens from meeting their financial obligations.

The Department of Justice (DOJ) has already recognized how "counterproductive" subsistence fees are, both for offenders and BOP. In a November 2016 memo, then-Deputy Attorney General Sally Q. Yates noted that