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# COMMEMORATING THE 104TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

**HON. TJ COX**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 104th anniversary of the Armenian genocide. April 24, 1915 marked the beginning of the Ottoman Turks' systematic deportation and murder of over 1.5 million Christian Armenians, Greeks, and Assyrians, marking the first genocide of the 20th century.

To this day, however, neither the President of the United States nor Congress have recognized this tragedy as what it is: a genocide. This does not do justice to the vibrant Armenian-American community in the Central Valley—a result of survivors settling anew after being displaced. The families of the Central Valley have not forgotten the pain of their ancestors and continue to advocate for justice with passion and persistence. Today, I am proud to be their voice and have joined my colleagues in introducing a Resolution this Congress, recognizing and memorializing the Armenian Genocide.

The Armenian people are a great example of what it means to move forward while remembering who they are and where they come from. Recognizing what happened in 1915 as genocide is the first step towards reconciling with the past, something that is long overdue. We must reconsider our relationship with Turkey and entities that deny the Armenian genocide and uphold our American values by promoting justice and peace. It is our responsibility to ensure our future generations never forget this critical moment in history and that we continue pushing for its official recognition.

Madam Speaker, I call upon my colleagues to join me in condemning all crimes against humanity in the past, present, and future. We must learn from this atrocity and continue to advocate for the protection of human rights for the Armenian people, and for all.

## TRIBUTE TO I.A.T.S.E. LOCAL 728

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees Local 728 upon its 80th anniversary.

Chartered in 1939, Local 728 has served thousands of studio electrical lighting technicians in the motion picture community. Today, Local 728 provides its members with a myriad of services such as legal, medical, and financial assistance. The union also works hard to ensure its members receive the best retirement benefits and disability insurance. With a rich and long history, Local 728 has been involved in both federal and state political action

on behalf of its members, including lobbying efforts to keep jobs in California. Their advocacy for worker-centered initiatives has pushed California to be a leader in raising wages and improving education for its workers. Since its inception, Local 728 has grown to represent over 2,700 studio electrical lighting technicians and has been a shining example of what a strong labor union can achieve.

For eighty years, Local 728 has not only supported backlot technicians with assisted services but has also offered various occupational safety and job skills trainings to ensure that members are always performing the industry-best practices. These include helpful resources on Rigging for Wet Locations, LXBeams Software Training, and assistance in completing the Entertainment Technician Certification Program. Through these services, Local 728 continues to demonstrate their strong commitment to the well-being of its members. Their efforts exemplify the ever-important values of civic engagement, respect for the rights and safety of others, and to instill hard work in all members.

It is my pleasure to honor I.A.T.S.E. Local 728 for eighty years of dedication and service to the Los Angeles area's studio electrical lighting technicians. I ask all members to join me in commending their efforts.

## HONORING KEVIN BARR

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Congressman JARED HUFFMAN to recognize Kevin Barr as the recipient of the 2019 Viticulture Award of Excellence. This award recognizes grape growers who have made significant contributions to our Sonoma County wine community and Sonoma County overall.

Mr. Barr attended the University of California, Davis where he earned a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Management with a specialization in Viticulture and has since been committed to sustainability and conservation. Mr. Barr started his company, Redwood Empire Vineyard Management (REVM), in 1983, which sustainably develops farms and other properties. Mr. Barr is committed to sustainable farming and conservation. REVM was the first vineyard management company to be certified sustainable in California and has 22 clients that have been certified by the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance.

Mr. Barr has been an active and involved community member since he first moved to Sonoma County in 1979. He is a current board member and past chairman of the Sonoma County Winegrape Commission Board. His expertise played no small role in the Commission certifying 100 percent of Sonoma County's vineyards as sustainable by 2019. Mr. Barr is also the current chairman of the Santa Rosa Junior College Viticulture Advisory Board and the Sonoma County Grape Growers Foundation Board.

The 2019 Viticulture Award of Excellence is not the first time Mr. Barr has been recognized for his contributions and commitment to our community. He received the Leadership in Agriculture Award from the Santa Rosa Chamber

of Commerce in 2015, the Award of Excellence for Sustainability in Farming in 2016, and the Nick Frey Community Contribution Award in 2018. Despite his well-deserved accolades, Mr. Barr has remained humble and dedicated to sustainable farming and our community.

Madam Speaker, Kevin Barr is a generous person who works hard to keep our land beautiful for generations to come and is committed to our community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

## HONORING ISABEL WILKERSON

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, Isabel Wilkerson is one of the most important documentarians of African-American history in the United States.

Ms. Wilkerson devoted fifteen years to researching and writing *The Warmth of Other Suns*, one of the most important accounts of the Great Migration. From the 1910s to 1970s, millions of African-Americans left the segregated South in search of prosperity elsewhere. Drawing inspiration from the migration of her own parents from the rural South to Washington, D.C., Ms. Wilkerson set out to document stories from six decades of the continuous exodus of African-Americans from the South. By sharing the very important but underreported story of the six million people who were once enslaved and their descendants who fled the South for a better life, Ms. Wilkerson has helped our nation better understand the dynamics of our society.

*The Warmth of Other Suns* is only one of Ms. Wilkerson's great achievements. She has been a trailblazing author for decades. In the 1990s, she was Chicago Bureau Chief for *The New York Times*. In 1994, she became the first African-American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for journalism. Her Pulitzer-winning stories centered on the Midwestern flood of 1993 and the reality of life for a ten-year-old boy from the South Side of Chicago. Since then, she has written and taught at the highest levels in the United States.

Today, at Rutgers University in Newark, Ms. Wilkerson is delivering the prestigious Tanner Lecture on Human Values. Her work has enhanced our nation's understanding of human rights and human values. I proudly honor Ms. Wilkerson for her achievements and continued success.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIRNESS IN FEDERAL BUREAU OF PRISONS MEDICAL CARE 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 being Second Chance Month, I introduce the Fairness in Federal Bureau of Prisons Medical Care Act of 2019. This bill would remove the current copay Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) inmates are required to pay to visit a BOP-provided doctor.

Under current BOP rules, inmates are required to "pay a fee for health services of \$2.00 per health care visit." While \$2.00 may seem insignificant, when inmates earn only twelve to forty cents per hour on their work assignments, \$2.00 is substantial. That money could better be used to pay for the cost of necessities. Moreover, while copays can discourage unnecessary appointments, we should be encouraging inmates to seek medical care before conditions become worse and more expensive for taxpayers. Preventative care is much less expensive for the federal government than costly treatment that could have been avoided by a simple doctor's visit earlier in the process. That is what medical science advises for Americans as a health practice.

Under current BOP rules, if an inmate is found responsible through the Disciplinary Hearing Process of having caused another inmate's injury that required a medical visit, the offending inmate is required to pay the \$2.00 copay for the injured inmate's visit. That rule would not change under my bill.

Removing this unnecessary copay would allow inmates to see a doctor and receive the medical treatment they need, and would likely save the federal government money in the long run.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

#### CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KOREAN SCHOOL OF SOUTHERN NEW JERSEY

#### HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. KIM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Korean School of Southern New Jersey.

Since its founding in 1979, the Korean School of Southern New Jersey (KSSNJ) has been central to developing and strengthening ties in the Korean American community in New Jersey. The school focuses on teaching Korean cultural heritage and sharing it with the local community.

KSSNJ provides various performing arts and culture classes, organizes community events, facilitates student competitions and offers exciting summer camp programs for their students. Over the years, the school has received numerous accolades for their outstanding work supporting Korean American youth, cultural heritage and classroom achievement.

I am honored to be the first Asian American Member of Congress to serve the state of New Jersey, and the only Korean American to be currently serving in Congress. I am proud of the work that KSSNJ has done to bring the Korean American community together in Southern New Jersey, and to help develop the next generation of Korean American leaders. I wish them continued success in the many years to come.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Monday, April 8, and Tuesday, April 9. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call Vote Number 157 (Passage of H. Con. Res. 19): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 158 (Passage of H.R. 1331, the Local Water Protection Act): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 159 (Approval of the Journal): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 160 (Ordering the Previous Question): YES; Roll Call Vote Number 161 (Passage of H. Res. 294): YES; and Roll Call Vote Number 162 (Passage of H.R. 1759, the Building on Reemployment Improvements to Deliver Good Employment for Workers Act or BRIDGE for Workers Act): YES.

#### HONORING THE SCIENCE ACADEMY OF SOUTH TEXAS

#### HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Miles Cua, Satya Holla, Mohammad Khalil, Kunaal Jha, Chris Conway, and Coach Scott Wiley from the Science Academy of South Texas. These fine young men and women are competing in the 2019 National Science Bowl Finals in Washington, D.C. Sunday, April 28, 2019.

Created by the Department of Energy's Office of Science in 1991, the National Science Bowl is one of the largest and most prestigious academic competitions in the United States. Over the course of the National Science Bowl's history, more than 290,000 students have participated. Each year, this competition encourages thousands of students to expand their understanding of mathematics and science and pursue careers in such fields.

Our Science Academy of South Texas team have put in the grit, sweat equity, and hard work to get here, and I wish them all the best as they face some of the best high school teams in the nation. I am confident that they will continue on to pursue even greater feats and that this competition will teach them a great deal about themselves and their abilities to persevere regardless of the obstacles ahead.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to represent these students and their families in the United States Congress, and I know all my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating the Science Academy of South Texas on competing in this year's National Science Bowl Finals.

#### REINTRODUCTION OF 21ST CENTURY CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS ACT OF 2019

#### HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, in honor of the recent celebration of Arbor Day, I rise to reintroduce my bill, the 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps Act of 2019.

In drafting this bill, I was inspired by the original Civilian Conservation Corps, first established by President Franklin Roosevelt in 1933 as part of his New Deal. This effort put 3 million young people between the ages of 18 to 28 to work. They planted 3.5 billion trees, established more than 800 new parks, improved or constructed over 90,000 acres of campgrounds; blazed hiking trails, assembled bridges, built rustic cabins and hiking shelters, and mitigated the devastating impact of the Dust Bowl across the Great Plains.

America is facing significant environmental crisis from deforestation, soil, air, and water pollution, loss of biodiversity, waste disposal, climate change, and a depleted ozone. Luckily, Americans are once again connecting the dots between clean water, clean land, clean air, and thriving regional ecosystems and economies.

With recent attacks on programs that help our environment, we must remember we don't have to choose between protecting our environment and natural treasures and creating jobs. We can do both at the same time.

Just Ohio and Michigan, alone, need 20 million new trees planted to make up for the devastation that the emerald ash borer and Asian longhorned beetle have done to our forest populations.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and its goal of putting Americans to work across our country. Its efforts will once again revive America's natural landscape and enrich the lives of millions of enrollees in the stewardship of our natural resources forward.

#### TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF BOB SCHRODER

#### HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 25, 2019*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Bob Schroder, a longtime resident and public servant in Walnut Creek, California for over 30 years.

Bob began his career in local politics in 1960, when he was elected to the Walnut Creek City Council. He served on the Council for 16 years, including three stints as mayor. Throughout his tenure on the City Council, Walnut Creek went through a transformation, including increased development in the area.

Following his time on the Council, Bob was elected to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors, where he continued his legacy of facilitating and shaping development. He also served as a member of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and was the founding chairperson of the Central Contra