

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF BOOKER T. STEPHENS, EIGHTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT JUDGE, McDOWELL COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

HON. CAROL D. MILLER

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Mrs. MILLER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Judge Booker T. Stephens, as he retires from serving 34 years on the bench in the Eighth Judicial Circuit, McDowell County, West Virginia.

Judge Stephens was born in Bluefield, West Virginia, and raised in McDowell County, West Virginia. He graduated from Excelsior High School in War, West Virginia. In 1966, Judge Stephens obtained his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and Spanish from West Virginia State College (University). He served proudly in the U.S. Army from 1966 to 1968. Upon completion of his tour of duty in the U.S. Army, Judge Stephens obtained his law degree from Howard University's School of Law in Washington, DC. He returned back to Welch, WV to practice law from 1972 to 1984.

Booker T. Stephens has served as a Judge in the Eight Judicial Circuit of McDowell County, West Virginia, ascending to the bench in 1985. He was elected to the Eighth Judicial Circuit and re-elected in 1992, 2000, 2008, and 2016. Judge Stephens is admitted to practice before the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia and the Supreme Court of the United States of America. He serves as a member of the prestigious Supreme Court of Appeals Mass Litigation Panel and is a former member of the Executive Committee of the National Conference of State Trial Court Judges with the American Bar Association. Judge Stephens has been appointed numerous times to sit as a Justice on the Supreme Court of Appeals of West Virginia when a Justice has been recused from a case. He was a member of the Standing Committee on Minorities in the Judiciary of the American Bar Association; a member of the Supreme Court's Task Force to Study Perceived Racial Disparity in the Juvenile Justice System in West Virginia; and a former Adjunct Professor at West Virginia University's College of Law and Bluefield State College. Judge Stephens has served as an assistant prosecutor and a member of the West Virginia House of Delegates.

Judge Stephens has received many honors during his years on the bench. He was named Outstanding Judge of the Year in 1993 and 2016 by the West Virginia Trial Lawyers Association. He has been a recipient of the Governor's Living The Dream Award by the Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Holiday Commission; The Fred H. Caplan Civil Justice Award by the West Virginia Association of Justice; Sara Lee Neal Community Award of the Year for Health, Science and Technology Academy; inducted into the West Virginia All Black Schools Sports

and Academic Hall of Fame; presented the American Bar Association's Law Day Liberty Bell Award by Chief Justice Brent Benjamin; presented Judge of the Year Award by the West Virginia Association of Justice; presented the Achievement Award by the Mountain State Bar Association in 1985; a Fellow with the West Virginia Bar Foundation; honorary inductee to the West Virginia State University ROTC Hall of Fame; West Virginia Judicial Association Representative to the American Bar; selected by the Bluefield Daily Telegraph to be featured in the 2005 "Pride" Edition of Heroes and Legends; Layman of the Year recognition from the West Virginia Baptist State Layman's Auxiliary; Presidential Citation, National Association for Equal Opportunity in High Education; Diploma of Judicial Skills, American Academy of Judicial Education; Certificates of Achievement, The National Judicial College; Achievement Award, Mountain State Bar Association; Earl Warren Fellow, NAACP LDF; co-sponsored and Floor Leader of the Bill that created a West Virginia Holiday in recognition of Dr. Martin L. King's birthday. He is a member of the Board of West Virginia State University Foundation and a member of the Multi-Cultural Affairs Advisory Committee at Bluefield State College. Judge Stephens is a highly sought out speaker and lecturer. In 1996, Judge Stephens delivered a memorable and stirring commencement address during the commencement exercises of West Virginia State University.

Judge Stephens has presided over several noteworthy cases in the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals, which include H. Harvey Oakley, C.W. Ferguson, III and Elsa Louise Kingdon, as a widow and Executrix of the estate of Arthur R. Kingdon v. Glen B. Gainer, A. James Manchin, and Martha Merritt, No. 16584, May 31, 1985. Authored the Majority Opinion alone with Justice Chafin; Sam R. Harshbarger v. The Honorable Glen B. Gainer, State Auditor, November 23, 1988; TXO v. Alliance resources, 419 S.E. 2d 8870,1992 (Affirmed by the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals 5-0 and United States Supreme Court 6-3).

One of the many things Judge Stephens is proud of is the implementation of Law Day in McDowell County, an annual event that coincides with the American Bar Association's Law Day. In its 23rd year in McDowell County, Law Day provides an opportunity for students to learn how the judicial system works and stimulate an early desire to pursue a rewarding career in law. Judge Stephens often states, "I know of no greater profession than being a lawyer."

Judge Stephens along with his wife, Attorney Gloria Stephens believe in giving back to their community and have established an endowment scholarship fund at West Virginia State University. In recognition of this endowment, West Virginia State University's bookstore was named the Judge Booker T. and Attorney Gloria Stephens bookstore.

Outside of his legal work, Judge Stephens is a Life Member of the NAACP; a member of

the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; Delta Theta Phi Legal Fraternity and Sigma Pi Phi Fraternity. He is a 32nd Degree Mason and affiliated with the MWPHGL Jurisdiction of WV, Inc. F & A M; PM Excelsior Lodge No. 22; PM Kimball Lodge No. 13; and PG Trustee. Judge Stephens has taught bible study at Mt. Chapel Baptist Church, Golden Harvest Nursing Home, and Elkhorn Towers. He serves faithfully at his church, Heart of God Ministries, in Beckley, West Virginia.

Judge Stephens is married to Attorney Gloria M. Davis Stephens. They have two children, Attorney Ciara M. Stephens, of Los Angeles, California and Booker T. Stephens, II of Welch, West Virginia and a new grandson, Sebastian.

Over the course of Judge Stephens' successful law career, he has lived and practiced by the scripture in Luke 12:48 of the Bible, "From everyone to whom much is given, from him much will be required . . ." Judge Booker T. Stephens has given much to his state and community in West Virginia.

As Congresswoman for the Third Congressional District of the State of West Virginia, it is my distinct honor to rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions, distinguished career in law and community service of Judge Booker T. Stephens in the State of West Virginia, as he retires on May 31, 2019, from serving 34 years on the bench.

HONORING PAT MCCORMICK

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Mr. PANETTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Pat McCormick for 46 years of exemplary service to our community on the central coast of California. First serving as a Planning Technician for Santa Cruz County and later as a Planning Director for the City of Capitola, Mr. McCormick's prolific career of public service is ending with his retirement from the position of Executive Officer for the Santa Cruz County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), a position Mr. McCormick has held with distinction for over 39 years.

Mr. McCormick has worked passionately to encourage orderly growth of urban development and ensure that it did not interfere with agricultural lands on the Central Coast. Over the years, he has made significant contributions to the development of Santa Cruz County by proposing over 1,200 boundary changes and LAFCO actions. Working closely with City Council Members, County Supervisors, and local stakeholders, Mr. McCormick has helped the Central Coast responsibly grow into the incredible community it is today.

Throughout his career, Mr. Pat McCormick has been recognized on numerous occasions by the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions. In 2009, he was honored with the Outstanding LAFCO Professional Award and was recognized in 2018 with

● 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.

the Lifetime Achievement Award. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the dedication and incredible service of Mr. Pat McCormick. I ask my distinguished colleagues to join in me in thanking him for all that he has done for our community on the Central Coast and congratulating him on a well-earned retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF ST. JOSEPH
MERCY LIVINGSTON HOSPITAL'S
90TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISSA SLOTKIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Ms. SLOTKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a hospital that embodies the spirit, standard, and strength of the community it has now served for 90 years. As St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital celebrates its 90th anniversary in the community, I would like to offer my congratulations and appreciation to the hospital's leaders, caregivers, and volunteers on this most extraordinary accomplishment.

In its 90 years, St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital has grown its healing mission from humble roots in a 3-story home to a state-of-the-art, modern hospital with two campuses in Livingston County. With a staff that today includes more than 500 physicians, St. Joseph Mercy Livingston is the county's only full-service hospital, and includes state-of-the-art robotic surgical services, a cancer center, 3-D breast imaging, a sleep disorders facility, and Michigan's very first short-stay center, which provides overnight care for patients not requiring hospital admission.

St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital has received numerous accolades for its dedication to patient safety, quality of care, and excellence. But the organization stands out not just for its commitment to the health of its patients, but for its devotion to the health of the entire region. Before a single patient enters the hospital, St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital is reaching out to. As one of the county's main employers, the organization generously donates time, talent, and treasure to countless community events, school groups, and nonprofits each and every year. The residents of Livingston County are so fortunate to have at their disposal this level of quality care and community support so close to home. I am honored to represent the fine men and women who work hard every day to make St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital a source of pride.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor St. Joseph Mercy Livingston Hospital for 90 years of service, and to the promise of many more years of healing to come.

CONDOLENCES IN MEMORY OF DR.
IFTIKHAR AHMAD

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, in March 2019, the Black Hills Veterans community lost one of South Dakota's

best. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad was kidnapped and murdered when he returned to his native country, Pakistan, on a personal trip. Dr. Ahmad provided compassionate care to Veterans for over three years throughout the VA Black Hills Health Care System working in Sturgis, Hot Springs and Rapid City, South Dakota.

For years, Dr. Ahmad served our community and our Veterans and specialized in care for hospitalized patients at Fort Meade Medical Center. His courteous and friendly demeanor only amplified his dedication to helping his patients. We are grateful for his service.

On behalf of the constituents of South Dakota, I extend sincere condolences to his family. He is sorely missed.

RECOGNIZING BRUCE GLASSCOCK

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Bruce Glasscock for his twenty-nine years of dedicated service to the City of Plano and our north Texas community.

As a veteran of the United States Air Force, Bruce Glasscock earned his bachelor's degree in criminal justice management from Metropolitan State College in Denver, Colorado, and later received a master's degree in public administration from the University of Colorado at Denver.

Bruce began his career with the City of Plano in 1990 when he was selected as the Police Chief of the Plano Police Department. During this time, Mr. Glasscock was elected to the Board of Officers of the International Association of Chiefs of Police and would later be inaugurated as the President of the organization.

In 1998, the City of Plano provided Bruce with additional responsibilities as the Deputy City Manager. He would hold these dual roles until assuming the full-time position of Deputy City Manager in 2001. In 2011, he would once again be promoted to his current role as City Manager. As an executive level leader, Mr. Glasscock has been responsible for overseeing a city with \$2.5 billion in assets, and over 2,300 municipal employees.

Under Bruce's steadfast leadership, Plano has earned numerous accolades as one of the best cities in which to live and raise a family. Due to his keen foresight, he has also been instrumental in the city's economic development and unprecedented growth.

Bruce has held numerous civic positions including playing a pivotal role in the founding of the Collin County Children's Advocacy Center. As a recognized servant leader, he was chosen by his peers as President in the Plano Rotary Club and received recognition from the Plano Independent School District Council of Parent Teacher Associations (PTA). Additionally, as a longtime and active member of the nationally recognized Plano Chamber of Commerce, he was awarded the coveted Business Executive of the Year.

On a personal level, Bruce and his wife, Memrie, are the proud parents of two sons, and three grandchildren with whom he looks forward to enjoying his retirement with.

It has been an honor to know and work with Bruce Glasscock. As Bruce begins this next

season of his life, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing him for his combined forty-nine year career in municipal government, and to wish him well in all his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH
ANNIVERSARY OF SAFE STREETS

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 30, 2019

Mr. KILMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 30th anniversary of Safe Streets. Since its founding in 1989, Safe Streets has made a lasting and transformative impact across the many diverse neighborhoods and communities throughout Tacoma and Pierce County.

Operating as a community-led grassroots effort, Safe Streets has thrived through a dedication to building a broad coalition of friends and neighbors that seek to create vibrant and flourishing neighborhoods across Pierce County. They are made up of interfaith leaders, business owners, school teachers, law enforcement, and devoted volunteers from the community.

Safe Streets has organized and trained a network of 125 Neighborhood Groups in neighborhoods, involving over 13,500 community leaders and 190,000 residents who work daily to ensure that their neighborhoods and schools are safe. Safe Streets' Community Mobilizers help these Neighborhood Groups define and address their own needs by utilizing organized block watches, youth leadership teams, graffiti removal teams, safe routes to school, and widespread substance abuse and violence prevention education initiatives.

Safe Streets is doing significant work in adapting and evolving as an organization to meet the ever-changing needs and demands of its communities. Through the development of their Non-English Speaking (NES) program, Safe Streets now provides services to residents who have limited or no English-speaking experience. As a result, Safe Streets has been able to regularly connect and meet with community members from the Japanese, Korean, Samoan, Chinese, Philippine, and Cambodian communities, among others, of Pierce County.

Safe Streets is also revered for their work in engaging, mobilizing, and mentoring young people across Pierce County. Many high schools in our communities have established Youth Leading Change (YLC) clubs that are made up of core students, guided by a teacher and coach, and supported by Safe Streets staff. Participants in YLC learn leadership skills and present on prevention issues to their fellow students throughout the year. Alumni of this program have won numerous awards on the state and local level, including a trip to Washington, DC in 2014 and multiple City of Destiny Awards for Youth Leadership in the City of Tacoma.

Madam Speaker, I can say with certainty that our neighborhoods and communities across Tacoma and Pierce County are safer because of the work of Safe Streets. It speaks to their tenacity that even after 30 amazing years, the many volunteers and staff that make up this organization are committed to