

the need for diversity and inclusion as well. We must recognize the importance of having individuals with various backgrounds at the table, creating innovative solutions to address new transportation needs that truly help all communities. Programs such as the U.S. Department of Transportation's Women & Girls in Transportation Initiative (WITI) or the Small Business Administration's 8(a) Business Development Program are great opportunities to foster an inclusive environment that encourages, supports, and celebrates our similarities and differences.

Above all, Infrastructure Week highlights the apparent need for investment. Our nation's infrastructure is crumbling, and we can't wait another day to act. At this critical juncture, it is imperative that Congress moves with expediency in addressing these pressing issues, as it is essential to the quality of life of our citizens and the vitality of our economy.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. AL LAWSON, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 10, 2019

The House in the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2157) making supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2019, and for other purposes.

Mr. LAWSON of Florida. Madam Chair, I rise to express my support for H.R. 2157, the Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2019. This \$17.2 billion package is essential to providing critical relief to communities that were hit by natural disasters in 2018 and 2019, including my Congressional District, Florida's Fifth.

More than seven months has passed since Hurricane Michael made landfall in Florida and citizens are still reeling from the historic Category 5 storm. Our community has a long way to go on the road to recovery, including our timber industry and forests.

My support for this disaster supplemental package comes in part because of an understanding that the language within Title I of this bill grants the Secretary of Agriculture the discretion to provide assistance to producers who suffered timber loss due to Hurricanes Michael and Florence.

In the 11 counties in Florida hit by Hurricane Michael, more than 16,000 forest land owners reported damage to their timber. The storm destroyed more than 72 million tons of timber, totaling over \$1.3 billion in economic loss.

Forest lands are essential to North Florida's economy and ecology, and we must do everything to ensure we get it back on track. I look forward to working with my colleagues in both Chambers of Congress, as well as with the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, to ensure that North Florida's forestlands are supported as we recover from Hurricane Michael.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL OF THE TRUXTUN COMMUNITY IN PORTSMOUTH, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a historic neighborhood in the Hampton Roads region of Virginia. The Historic Truxton Community in Portsmouth, Virginia will celebrate its centennial on May 18, 2019. To mark the occasion, I would like to take a moment to highlight the history of this neighborhood and recognize its contributions to our community.

The community of Truxton was named after Thomas Truxton, a Revolutionary War sailor who was known for successfully capturing British ships during the Revolutionary War. He went on to captain the USS *Constellation* and the USS *President*. There have been six United States Navy ships named in his honor.

The Truxton community sits on 43 acres of land within walking distance of the Norfolk Naval Shipyard in Portsmouth, Virginia. It was constructed in 1918 as a project of the U.S. Housing Corporation to address the housing shortage for shipbuilders employed at the Norfolk Naval Shipyard. At the time, the United States had just entered World War I and the newly developed Naval Operating Base was gearing up to assist with the war effort.

Truxton stands out in United States history as the first government housing project developed for African-Americans. The neighborhood had 250 lots consisting of duplexes and five-bedroom single family homes. The homes in Truxton had a distinguished style—exposed rafter ends, jerkinhead roofs, and central chimneys. Truxton homes also offered indoor plumbing and electricity at a time where many people, especially African Americans, did not have access to such amenities. Despite the modern architecture and amenities in Truxton, it was still a segregated community. Because of the Supreme Court's 1896 decision in *Plessy v. Ferguson*, Jim Crow segregation laws forced blacks to reside in Truxton while whites lived in their own nearby government housing project called Cradock.

Those who relocated to Truxton considered the community tightknit and vibrant. Rents were affordable and started at \$17.50 per month. Southern black workers were happy to abandon their agricultural lives and start fresh with higher wages and improved working conditions. Truxton helped transformed the Hampton Roads region and the region benefitted economically, socially and culturally.

The Truxton community was developed with a "new urbanism" style and had everything a town needed to thrive. From its own convenience store, school and church to civic leagues and sporting events, this town provided residents a place to live, play and shop within an easy commute to the shipyard. The neighborhood had four policemen, a town manager and even a townhouse to do official work. Since Truxton was formed as an independent township within what was then Norfolk county, its locally elected town manager could levy taxes and provide public services. That is, until Portsmouth acquired the community in 1923.

100 years after its founding, Truxton is experiencing a revival that places it as one of

Portsmouth's most prized cultural centers. In 1982, Truxton was listed on the National Register of Historic Places. It was one of the first out of about 100 federally financed housing projects during World War I, and it remains a national model for communities that are looking to plan and build inclusive, pedestrian-friendly neighborhoods.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate the residents of Truxton on their centennial celebration and for helping to make Portsmouth a great place to live and raise a family.

CELEBRATING WORLD DOG DAY 2019

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to rise today to recognize and celebrate World Dog Day 2019, which will take place on Saturday, May 18th in West Hollywood, CA. Created by my good friend, Lisa Vanderpump and the Vanderpump Dog Foundation in 2016, World Dog Day is a day focusing on the celebration of our furriest family members by recognizing the impact that dogs bring to our everyday lives. This celebration draws attention to the amazing, empathetic creatures that dogs are, while also raising awareness about global dog abuse that sadly still exists today. Our love for these animals, without the necessary activism, can't protect themselves from abuse or neglect. This event is so critically important in taking a stand against the abuse of animals and being united in the love that we hold so dear for our beloved dogs.

Sadly, dogs and other animals across our nation and around the world suffer abuse from animal fighting, to torture, inhumane research testing, and abuse in puppy mills. We must advocate for all animals who cannot defend themselves and ensure their overall well-being and safety.

In the 115th Congress, I was proud to work with Lisa, Dr. John Sessa, and the Vanderpump Dog Foundation on passing H. Res. 401, a resolution urging all nations to outlaw the dog and cat meat trade and to enforce existing laws against such trade. Their steadfast leadership and unwavering commitment to the welfare of animals is truly inspiring. Passage of H. Res. 401 was a culmination of years of hard work and dedication. From the bottom of my heart, I cannot thank them enough, along with the thousands of activists around the country and across the globe for all of their efforts. Lisa, John, and the Vanderpump Dog Foundation have never wavered in their commitment in the fight against the global dog meat trade. I am honored to stand shoulder-to-shoulder with them to champion this effort, sending a strong signal to the world that the welfare of animals must be taken seriously.

As we celebrate World Dog Day 2019, we must come together to raise awareness about global dog abuse and work to end this horrific and barbaric practice once and for all.

Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Lisa Vanderpump, Dr. John Sessa, and the Vanderpump Dog Foundation on what I am certain will be another successful World Dog Day. I look forward to our continued work on animal welfare issues for years to come.

HONORING DR. STUART DORSEY

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Stuart Dorsey, an educator, an innovator, and a leader.

Dr. Dorsey currently serves as the President of Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, Texas. He began his tenure in the summer of 2011 and will conclude his work at TLU on June 30, 2019.

Dr. Dorsey's story is one that exhibits commitment and dedication at every turn. Dr. Dorsey earned his bachelor's degree in economics from the University of South Dakota. From there, he earned both his Master and doctor of philosophy in economics from Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. He then served the public in the U.S. Department of Labor before joining the U.S. Senate Committee on Finance where he was the Committee's Chief Economist from 1982 to 1984.

Dr. Dorsey then began his career in academia as an associate professor of economics at West Virginia University. He went on to serve as Dean of the Faculty at Baker University in Kansas and then as Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Evansville in Indiana. Afterward, he served as the President of the University of Redlands in California until he became the President of Texas Lutheran University.

Over the past eight years, Dr. Dorsey oversaw tremendous change to the university's campus and culture. Under his leadership, the university completed a freshmen residence hall, a studio theatre, and a School of Music building. Dr. Dorsey also oversaw the completion of Bulldog Stadium, which has allowed the university to host football games and track and field events on campus for the first time in its history. Through these accomplishments, Dr. Dorsey has laid a strong foundation for the university to continue its success.

Furthermore, Dr. Dorsey expanded the university's academic influence by leading the creation of several new programs of study, including a popular undergraduate program in nursing and graduate programs in accounting, data analytics, and athletic training.

Dr. Dorsey has worked tirelessly to expand opportunities for the students and community of TLU. His unwavering devotion to his students' success is evident and furthered by his wife Michelle's equally impressive dedication to service. Through their combined efforts, the university was named a Great College to Work for seven years in a row.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Dorsey has worked endlessly to make a difference in the lives of Central Texans. His efforts have made him a pillar of the community and an example to us all. It is an honor to represent selfless, committed individuals like him. I wish him and his wife Michelle nothing but the best as they begin retirement in California.

HONORING OHIO'S LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EFFORTS TO KEEP THEM SAFE

HON. DAVID P. JOYCE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. JOYCE of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the brave men and women of Ohio's law enforcement. As a former prosecutor, I know all too well the danger our heroes in blue face every day to protect us and our families, and I applaud the efforts made to ensure their safety.

Just the other night, in observance of National Police Week, I was proud to vote to reauthorize the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program, which provides critical resources to state, local and tribal jurisdictions to purchase bulletproof body armor for law enforcement officers.

For 30 years, bullet-resistant body armor has protected law enforcement officers. According to the Bureau of Justice Assistance, in 2012 alone, protective vests were directly attributable to saving the lives of at least 33 law enforcement and corrections officers in 20 different states.

However, much of the body armor used today slows down and fatigues our officers due to overbearing weight and discomfort levels. As arms and ammunitions continue to become more powerful, we must do the necessary research to develop next generation body armor that addresses these challenges.

I am proud to say that we have organizations in Ohio, like ShotStop, that are doing just that. Due to their light weight and dynamic material, ShotStop's bullet-resistant products create a safer environment for the brave men and women in blue who put their lives on the line every day to protect our communities.

Madam Speaker, please join me in applauding ShotStop and all other organizations that are working to ensure our officers are better equipped to return home safely to their loved ones at the end of each shift. I am proud to support Ohio's law enforcement officers, not just during National Police Week, but each and every day, and commend those who are doing all they can to protect them.

INTRODUCTION OF THE AFGHAN ALLIES PROTECTION ACT OF 2019

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Afghan Allies Protection Act of 2019. This bipartisan legislation would authorize 4,000 Afghan Special Immigrant Visas and require the State Department to report to Congress on the obstacles to protecting Iraqi and Afghan allies as well as suggestions for improving the program.

Since 2002, the United States Government has employed thousands of Afghan and Iraqi allies to serve alongside U.S. troops, diplomats, and other government employees. As a result of their service, these allies and their families have become the targets of anti-American persecution and violence. As U.S.

Government agencies and personnel continue to rely on local partners to ensure critical mission capabilities, Afghan and Iraqi partners continue to be threatened, abducted, or assassinated for their willingness to assist the United States.

With broad bipartisan support, Congress created two Special Immigrant Visa (SIV) programs to provide pathways to safety for Iraqis and Afghans whose work with and allegiance to the U.S. Government has exposed them to direct threats, jeopardizing their safety and that of their loved ones. Although the Iraqi SIV program stopped accepting new applications in 2014, the Afghan SIV program continues protecting Afghan allies to this day.

In recent years, the SIV applicant backlog has continued to grow while Congress has struggled to allot enough visas to bring our allies to safety in the United States. While the recent Fiscal Year 2019 omnibus spending bill authorized 3,500 SIVs, the backlog remains at nearly 20,000 Afghans. Worse, the processing times for existing applications has slowed dramatically, forcing many to wait for years while living in fear of being targeted. Due to these issues and others facing the program, SIV arrivals have fallen by more than half over the last fiscal year.

This legislation makes more visas available for the thousands of applicants in the pipeline and starts the process of improving the program so our allies can be brought to safety faster. The safety of these brave men and women, security of our troops, and our international standing depend on the United States be true to our word. We can't leave anyone behind.

RECOGNIZING HOWARD BRODSKY

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 16, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Howard Brodsky, who is receiving the Global Leadership Award from the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire on May 19, 2019. A Manchester native and a pioneer of the cooperative business model, Mr. Brodsky has dedicated his life to helping entrepreneurs and small business compete in the global marketplace.

As the Chairman, Co-founder, and Co-Chief Executive Officer of CCA Global Partners, Mr. Brodsky created the second largest private company in the state of New Hampshire, comprised of 13 affiliated companies with total sales of over \$10 billion. Mr. Brodsky has dedicated his career to building a model for small businesses to succeed in an unpredictable international economy. With a commitment to global cooperation and a focus on giving small businesses the tools and connections needed to compete at scale, Mr. Brodsky and his colleagues at CCA are helping foster a more equal society and economy.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to congratulate Howard Brodsky on this well-deserved award. I also thank the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire for continuing to recognize Granite Staters in their work to connect the world to New Hampshire and New Hampshire to the world. I thank Mr. Brodsky