

of Cities' University Communities Council, the Texas Municipal League Association of Hispanic Municipal Officials, and the Heart of Texas Council of Governments Executive Committee. She has also been a member of the League of United Latin American Citizens and will continue to serve as local Council 273's Executive Director.

Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Alice Rodriguez for her many years of influential service to our Central Texas community. I wish her the best in her future endeavors.

I have requested that a United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize the community service and accomplishments of Alice Rodriguez.

As I close today, I urge all Americans to continue praying for our country, for our veterans, for our military men and women who protect us, and for our first responders who keep us safe at home.

IN RECOGNITION OF ELIZABETH
“BETSY” BARRETT

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Elizabeth “Betsy” Barrett as she is honored by the Sandy Hook Foundation for her years of service. It is my pleasure to join with the Sandy Hook Foundation in thanking Ms. Barrett for her tenure as President and her continued service on the Board of Trustees. Ms. Barrett’s exemplary leadership and contributions to the Sandy Hook Foundation and the greater Monmouth County area are truly deserving of this body’s recognition.

Throughout her many years with the Sandy Hook Foundation, Ms. Barrett has been a tireless advocate for the park and its historical and ecological importance. Under her leadership, the Sandy Hook Foundation has assisted the National Park Service in preserving valuable landmarks and highlighting the area’s recreational offerings to attract thousands of visitors to the park. At her direction, the Foundation provided resources for the renovations of the deteriorating Sandy Hook Lighthouse Keepers Quarters and Superstorm Sandy-damaged History House along Fort Hancock’s Officer’s Row. Additionally, following Superstorm Sandy’s destruction on Sandy Hook, Ms. Barrett mobilized the Foundation to assist park staff and emergency personnel as they tackled the needs associated with re-opening the park, helping navigate logistical challenges and bringing food to the site.

From her hands-on help after Superstorm Sandy to her friendly assistance to visitors needing directions, Ms. Barrett is deeply involved with the success and vitality of Sandy Hook. Her leadership and hard work have greatly benefited the park and its visitors. Her efforts as President of the Sandy Hook Foundation are valuable to our community and help ensure that this historical and natural site is available for future generations to enjoy.

Madam Speaker, once again, please join me in thanking Betsy Barrett for her years as President of the Sandy Hook Foundation and her continued support and involvement.

IN HONOR OF DORIS IRENE
PROULX

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Doris Irene Proulx, who is being honored as the Franco-American of the year by the Franco-American Centre of New Hampshire. The Franco-American Centre of New Hampshire is a non-profit working to preserve the rich heritage of French communities in New Hampshire by promoting history, culture, and education of their historic, cultural, and artistic contributions. A proud member of the Franco-American community, Doris has served our state with unbridled distinction, as a school guidance counselor, through constant community service, and active involvement in her faith community.

Doris Irene Proulx was born and raised in Manchester, growing up in a bilingual French/English household. She served the community in a professional capacity for 38 years as a guidance counselor at Manchester High School West, including 21 years as Director of Guidance. During this time, she earned the NH Excellence in Education Award for Guidance and was named Counselor of the Year.

Throughout her life, she has been a committed public servant, serving as a former president of both the Manchester Women’s Club and the Richelieu Club of Manchester. She is also a Goodwill Ambassador and is an active Member of the Franco-American Centre.

Doris continued to serve her faith community as a former president of the Missionary Rosebushes, Cardinal Lacroix Academy Advisory Board, Lady of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem, and currently serves as a section representative for the Diocese of Manchester. Additionally, she has been a lector in both English and French at St. Ann-St. Augustin and St. Anthony Churches for over 18 years.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire’s First Congressional District, I want to thank Doris for her decades of dedication to our community. I congratulate her again on this well-deserved honor, and I thank her for all that she does to make our state such a wonderful place to learn, live, and grow.

CALLING ON VIETNAM TO
RELEASE MICHAEL NGUYEN

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I want to join my colleagues, especially KATIE PORTER who has shown exceptional leadership on this important issue, in calling on Vietnam to release Michael Nguyen and allow him to return home to his family.

Born in Vietnam, Michael left the country in 1975 and is a U.S. citizen who lives in my home state of California. Michael has lived in

the United States for decades and has no criminal record. In fact, he has been an exemplary citizen. Besides being a business owner and committed family man, Michael is active in his church and his community.

In July 2018, Michael traveled to Vietnam to visit elderly family members. He had regularly gone on trips to Vietnam. This time, however, Michael was detained and imprisoned by the Vietnamese police. It was over a week before Vietnam even acknowledged Michael had been detained. Then, for nearly a year, his family, the American consulate, and concerned members of Congress were given no information about his alleged wrongdoings. Instead, despite repeated inquiries into the nature of his alleged crimes, the Vietnamese authorities kept stating that he was under investigation. It is a red flag that Michael was imprisoned for months and months without being formally charged with a crime. Making matters worse, he was not allowed to speak or see his family members, nor was he given access to an attorney.

Only recently was Michael officially indicted on the vague charge of carrying out activities against the Vietnamese government. Although Michael’s trial is expected to begin later this month, his alleged transgressions are apparently still a state secret in Vietnam.

As Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Asia, I hope to strengthen the U.S.-Vietnamese relationship. Our two countries have many common interests. Despite the scars of history, we have a burgeoning friendship. Many U.S. companies have large operations in Vietnam—including Nike, Adidas, Under Armour, Levi’s, and Converse—helping to propel Vietnam’s extraordinary economic growth.

Michael’s unjust imprisonment jeopardizes this progress. To avoid that outcome, the Vietnamese government should immediately release Michael and allow him to return home to his family in California. That would be a win-win outcome for the United States and Vietnam. Most importantly, it would bring an end to the unimaginable tragedy Michael’s loving wife and children have had to endure over the last year.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast my vote on June 18, 2019 for Roll Call Vote 323, Roll Call Vote 324, Roll Call Vote 325, Roll Call 326, Roll Call 327, Roll Call 328, Roll Call 329, Roll Call 330, Roll Call 331, and Roll Call 332. Had I been present, my vote would have been the following: Aye on Roll Call Vote 323, No on Roll Call Vote 324, Aye on Roll Call Vote 325, Aye on Roll Call Vote 326, No on Roll Call Vote 327, Aye on Roll Call Vote 328, No on Roll Call Vote 329, Aye on Roll Call Vote 330, Aye on Roll Call Vote 331, and Aye on Roll Call 332.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF MANISTEE

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the city of Manistee upon the occasion of its 150th Anniversary. Through one and a half centuries of community investment and growth, Manistee has become an indispensable part of Northern Michigan.

The first Europeans to settle in what was eventually called Manistee were Jesuit missionaries in the 18th century. By the mid-1800s, the settlement had grown into a successful hub for the fur and lumber trades in the region. While the town was nearly destroyed by the Great Michigan Fire in 1871, the city of Manistee would recover and evolve over the following century and a half into the jewel of Northern Michigan that it is today.

In honor of Manistee's sesquicentennial, the Manistee County Historical Museum is hosting a variety of events and celebrations throughout the year. The festivities kicked off in February with the "Fun with the Founding Fathers" event, where visitors learned about the incorporation of the city of Manistee, the first city council, and the people that made Manistee what it is today. The closing ceremonies for the year-long festivities will be in December, with the "Wintertime in the City" exhibit of photographs showing the winter season in Manistee over the last 150 years.

Madam Speaker, day after day, the city of Manistee continues to set a positive example of what can be achieved when the people of a community work together for the common good. It's my honor to congratulate them for their 150 years of success and community growth. On behalf of my constituents, I wish Manistee all the best as it ventures into the future.

CONGRATULATING THE PROSPER HIGH SCHOOL MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

HON. VAN TAYLOR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to congratulate the Prosper High School Men's Lacrosse team on bringing home their first state championship title by defeating the Smithson Valley Rangers 11 to 5.

This team proved their ability to stay composed while overcoming obstacles under pressure. Winning is not just about talent, skill, or the type of cleats you wear; winning is about character on and off the field alongside hard work and commitment to one's team.

The Prosper Eagles showed their dedication to these values from the very beginning.

I know I speak on behalf of our entire community when I say, the city of Prosper is beaming with pride.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Prosper High School Men's Lacrosse team on their successful season.

2019 PROSPER MEN'S LACROSSE TEAM

Parker Haven
Mikey Nader
Jack Delano
Zane Williams
Luke Teigen
Garrett Elliott
Lee Rowden
Sam Osborne
Tucker Faircloth
Nolan DaRosa
Cabe Parham
Christian Acosta
Connor Hill
Cole Garvin
Broc Tullis
Carson Fearin
Zach Eckstein
Brandon Pierce
Cole Schmitt
Landon Silerio
Bryce Murrin
Tyler Trampas
Michael Vandershuit
Justin Endicott
Aeden Fenley
Ryan Myers
Hunter Sheffield
Peyton Marshall
Hayden Stout
Will Honeycutt
Nathan Typrin
Cole Spurr
Coach Corey Caputo

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2020

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 19, 2019

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3055) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2020, and for other purposes:

Mr. TAKANO. Madam Chair, I rise in support of En Bloc Amendment No. 2, which includes my language that makes clear the intent of Congress to maintain federal protections under the Civil Rights Act.

Since 1964, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act has prohibited discrimination on the basis of race, color, and national origin in all federally funded programs and activities. It is the law of the land. Unfortunately, there have been widespread efforts by this Administration to roll back protections under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act. Rollback of any parts of the Civil Rights Act, including Title VI, would have a devastating impact on countless people.

It is the intent of Congress to instruct that all federal agencies vigorously enforce and implement the civil rights protections guaranteed under Title VI and Congress will be opposed to any and all efforts to undermine these protections whether intentional or not.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY MCNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. MCNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I erroneously voted "no" on Amendment 24 offered

by Representatives Amash and Lofgren to H.R. 2740. I would like to correct my vote to a "yes" on this amendment.

RECOGNIZING INTERFAITH TAMPA BAY ON THEIR FIFTH ANNUAL INTERFAITH PRIDE WORSHIP SERVICE

HON. CHARLIE CRIST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 20, 2019

Mr. CRIST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Interfaith Tampa Bay on their fifth annual Interfaith Pride Worship Service in St. Petersburg, Florida. I am honored to represent such an inclusive and diverse district. This worship service demonstrates that an attitude of not just tolerance, but acceptance, is shared by our faith leaders of all beliefs and backgrounds.

Interfaith Tampa Bay is an organization uniting faith leaders and believers of different religious backgrounds, coming together in prayer, service, and mutual support. The Pride Worship Service, taking place within the city-wide celebration of St. Pete Pride, gives LGBTQ members of the faith community an opportunity to worship and celebrate God's love surrounded by those who accept and support them. The Pride Worship Service invites all in attendance to worship at the altar of compassion, kindness, and understanding.

Hosted by King of Peace Metropolitan Community Church in St. Petersburg, Florida, the Pride Worship Service features leaders of the Christian, Jewish, Muslim, and Buddhist faiths. This service is preceded by a Pride March through the streets of the city to the steps of the church, demonstrating the interconnectivity between faith, pride, and self-love. It is a message to all that one need not choose between their faith and their identity, and that it is only when we are able to truly love ourselves that we are able to love God.

Through the Pride Worship Service and other community gatherings, Interfaith Tampa Bay is fostering a sense of community between the faith communities in our region, and reestablishing the church, mosque, synagogue, and other houses of worship as places of love and enlightenment for all. Recently, the organization hosted the Tampa Bay Iftar Dinner to celebrate the Muslim observance of Ramadan and recognize the achievements of Tampa Bay's Muslim community. In light of recent incidences of violence within these sacred spaces, the role of Interfaith Tampa Bay and similar institutions is incredibly important in the fight against intolerance and hate.

On behalf of my Tampa Bay neighbors, I want to recognize Interfaith Tampa Bay, King of Peace MCC, Allendale UMC, Congregation B'Nai Israel, and all participating faith organizations for their support of the LGBTQ community.