

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION,
Washington, DC, July 17, 2019.
Hon. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS,
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Reform,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CUMMINGS: I am writing to you regarding H.R. 736, the “Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act.” This measure, introduced on January 23, 2019, was referred to your committee as well as the Committee on House Administration.

The Committee on House Administration recognizes the importance of H.R. 736 and the need to move this bill expeditiously. Therefore, while we have valid jurisdictional claims to this bill, the Committee on House Administration will waive further consideration of H.R. 736. The Committee does so with the understanding that by waiving further consideration of this bill it does not waive any future jurisdictional claims over similar measures.

I would appreciate the inclusion of this letter and a copy of your response in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 736 on the House floor.

Sincerely,

ZOE LOFGREN,
Chairperson.

FLORIDA INVENTORS HALL OF FAME 2019 INDUCTEES

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the eight inventors who have been recognized as the 2019 Inductees of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame. To be named as an Inductee, these inventors were nominated by their peers nationwide and have undergone the scrutiny of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame Selection Committee. As a result, their innovations have been identified as significantly impacting the quality of life, economic development, and welfare of their communities, the residents of Florida, and the United States.

The Florida Inventors Hall of Fame was founded in 2013 by Paul R. Sanberg, Senior Vice President for Research, Innovation and Knowledge Enterprise, and Judy Genshaft, President, at the University of South Florida. It was recognized by the Florida Senate with Senate Resolution 1756, adopted on April 30, 2014. Its mission is to encourage individuals of all backgrounds to strive toward the betterment of Florida and society through continuous, groundbreaking innovation by celebrating the incredible scientific work that has been or is being accomplished in Florida and by its citizens.

Nomination to the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame is open to all Florida inventors (living or dead) who are or have been residents of Florida. The nominee must be a named inventor on a patent issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The impact of the inventor and his or her invention should be significant to society, and the invention should have been commercialized, utilized, or led to important innovations.

The 2019 Inductees of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame are:

Michael Bass: Professor Emeritus at the University of Central Florida selected for his

significant inventions in optics and spectroscopy that have optimized the use of lasers and optical systems, aiding in the treatment of major diseases and improving the design of the world’s fiber optic communication system.

Joanna S. Fowler: Native Floridian, University of South Florida alumni, and 2008 National Medal of Science recipient selected for her transformative research that enabled the use of molecular imaging to more accurately identify and treat illnesses ranging from drug addiction to cancer.

Hedy Lamarr (1914–2000): Former Florida resident for nearly two decades, Oscar-nominated actress, and 2014 National Inventors Hall of Fame inductee selected for her groundbreaking invention of the Secret Communication System, which led to the creation of various technologies used today to support Wi-Fi, GPS, and Bluetooth.

Thomas A. Lipo: Research Professor at the Florida State University Center for Advanced Power Systems selected for his pioneering innovations in the field of electrical machinery and power electronics that improved the technology that runs subway cars as well as paved the way for hybrid and electric vehicles.

Alan F. List: CEO and president of Moffitt Cancer Center selected for his dedication to understanding cancer biology and developing novel therapeutic strategies for treating hematologic malignancies such as myelodysplastic syndrome (MDS) and acute myelocytic leukemia (AML).

Chris A. Malachowsky: University of Florida alum selected for inventing the Graphics Processing Unit (GPU) that transformed the visual computing industry, revolutionized high performance computing, and opened the door to modern artificial intelligence.

Luther George Simjian (1905–1997): prolific inventor and founder of Tampa based Reflectone, Inc, who developed the Optical Range Estimation Trainer used during WWII, which became the standard for simulation defense training, and for his many other inventions including his ATM concept that revolutionized the banking system.

Richard A. Yost: University of Florida professor of chemistry selected for his invention of the triple quadrupole mass spectrometer, a groundbreaking analytical instrument that is used daily in drug development, disease testing, food safety, and environmental studies.

Innovation and invention are the building blocks of our nation. I applaud these highly accomplished individuals and the organizations that support them in their quest to change the world in ways that truly benefit humanity. It is because of the perseverance of these inventors that future generations are encouraged to reach beyond their limits and push the boundaries of innovation.

COMBATING SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN SCIENCE ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 36, the “Combating Sexual Harassment in Science Act of 2019.”

This bill addresses sexual harassment in the science, technology, engineering, and math-

matics (STEM) fields by supporting sexual harassment research and efforts to prevent and respond to sexual harassment.

This bill also directs the National Science Foundation (NSF) to award grants to institutions of higher education or nonprofit organizations.

Such grants to institutions of higher education will be used to expand research into sexual harassment in the STEM workforce, including students and trainees; and to examine interventions for reducing the incidence and negative consequences of such harassment.

According to a report issued by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in 2018 entitled “Sexual Harassment of Women: Climate, Culture, and Consequences in Academic Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine,” sexual harassment is pervasive in institutions of higher education.

The most common type of sexual harassment is gender harassment, which includes verbal and nonverbal behaviors that convey insulting, hostile, and degrading attitudes about members of one gender.

Fifty-eight percent of individuals in the academic workplace experience sexual harassment, which is the second highest rate when compared to the military, the private sector, and Federal, State, and local government.

Women who are members of racial or ethnic minority groups are more likely to experience sexual harassment and to feel unsafe at work than White women, White men, or men who are members of such groups.

The training for each individual who has a doctor of philosophy in the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields is estimated to cost approximately \$500,000.

Attrition of an individual so trained results in a loss of talent and money.

Sexual harassment undermines the career advancement for women.

Many women are reported to leave employment at institutions of higher education due to sexual harassment.

Research shows the majority of individuals do not formally report experiences of sexual harassment due to a justified fear of retaliation or other negative professional or personal consequences.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 36 to research and better understand the causes and consequences of sexual harassment affecting individuals in science.

HONORING HARRY BEAL,
AMERICA’S FIRST NAVY SEAL

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Greenville Township, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, native Harry Beal, who was the first U.S. Navy SEAL.

Mr. Beal enlisted in the Navy in 1948 when he was just 17 years old. The Korean War began shortly after Beal joined the Navy, however, he never saw Korea. In the early 1960s, Beal was sent to Naval Amphibious Base Little Creek to learn underwater demolition. There is where he signed up for the Navy SEALs in 1962.

President John F. Kennedy was looking for a group of men that could go anywhere in the world at a moment's notice. Beal was a member of SEAL Team Two, which was based out of Little Creek. His service was exemplary.

Harry Beal served in the Navy for 20 years. His service took him to South America, Southeast Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean Sea. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Harry Beal for his lifetime of service to our nation.

OPPOSING GLOBAL BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT, AND SANCTIONS MOVEMENT TARGETING ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

Ms. FRANKEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 246, a bipartisan resolution that opposes the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement aimed against Israel, strongly supports a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, and affirms the Constitutional right of American citizens to free speech.

Let's be clear about what BDS is and is not—BDS is not a social justice movement. It ignores Palestinian terrorist attacks targeting Israeli civilians, including more than 18,000 rockets and 105 suicide bombings, as well as human rights abuses perpetrated by Palestinian leaders against their own people.

BDS is an international effort to economically, politically and culturally isolate our close ally Israel. It undermines prospects for a two-state solution by punishing Israel with economic harm in order to force concessions by Israel alone and encouraging the Palestinians to reject negotiations in favor of international pressure.

BDS does not recognize the right of the Jewish people to national self-determination, a right proclaimed by the United Nations. Some of its supporters even advocate for Israel's complete destruction. Omar Barghouti, a co-founder of the movement, has said, "Most definitely, we oppose a Jewish state in any part of Palestine."

I am pleased that members of Congress, on both sides of the aisle, understand that a secure Israel is important for our country as well as our allies. I am proud to be a co-sponsor of this resolution which puts Congress on the record opposing the discriminatory BDS campaign against Israel and supporting a negotiated solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict resulting in two states.

CONGRATULATING THE TUMON BAY YOUTH ORCHESTRA

HON. MICHAEL F.Q. SAN NICOLAS

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. SAN NICOLAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Tumon Bay Youth Orchestra for taking home a Gold Award in

the 2019 Australian International Music Festival held in Sydney, Australia.

The Tumon Bay Youth Orchestra was organized in September 2018, launching Guam's newest community youth orchestra. The Orchestra seeks to provide a platform for youth musicians from various schools to build camaraderie through music. The repertoire for the ensemble includes the grand masterworks of centuries past to the latest movie or video game soundtracks, to the delight of audiences of all ages. The Orchestra is led by Artistic Director Maximo Ronquillo, Jr.

The Tumon Bay Youth Orchestra received a Gold Award for its debut performance for the 2019 Australian International Music Festival at the Sydney Opera House. The Australian International Music Festival is among the largest music festivals in the southern hemisphere, receiving participation from 62 ensembles and over 1,300 participants in 2019.

On behalf of the people of Guam, I want to congratulate the Tumon Bay Youth Orchestra for their success in the 2019 Australian International Music Festival.

IN RECOGNITION OF
INTERNATIONAL SELF-CARE DAY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, July 24th is recognized as "International Self-Care Day" to bring attention to the importance of advancing public health through effective and safe self-care. Over-the-counter (OTC) products from cold medicines to cures for headaches, play a key role in consumer self-care which is evident by widespread use in nearly every household across the country. We must do all we can to support self-care and to advance lower-cost, safe and effective options for American consumers.

When health care innovation is blocked by government regulations, it's patients who lose. Our current process for approving over-the-counter products is unnecessarily inefficient, leading to higher prices and fewer choices for consumers. A problem like this rightfully deserves bipartisan solutions, and that's what we have in the Over-the-Counter Monograph Safety, Innovation, and Reform Act. I thank my friend from Colorado, Ms. DEGETTE for working with me for several years on H.R. 3443 to reform a broken system and bring new cost-effective OTC products to market faster. It's time for the over-the-counter approval process to be as modern as the innovations being presented to the FDA.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the value and importance of OTC medicines to promote and achieve self-care for families across our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. GONZALEZ of Texas. Madam Speaker, extenuating circumstances regrettably pre-

vented me from voting YEA on H. Res. 246, Opposing efforts to delegitimize the State of Israel and the Global Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions Movement targeting Israel, of which I am a co-sponsor. I strongly support this resolution and our ally, the Jewish, democratic state of Israel. I am a proponent of a negotiated two-state solution for the Israelis and the Palestinians and will continue to condemn efforts that stand in the way of the path to peace.

SMALL BUSINESS
REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 3311, "The Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019."

H.R. 3311, the "Small Business Reorganization Act of 2019," would streamline the bankruptcy process by which small business debtors reorganize and rehabilitate their financial affairs.

I support this legislation because it addresses the special problems presented by small business cases by instituting a variety of time frames and enforcement mechanisms designed to weed out small business debtors who are not likely to reorganize.

It also requires these cases to be more actively monitored by United States trustees and the bankruptcy courts.

According to the Small Business Administration (SBA) Office of Advocacy, approximately 20 percent of small businesses survive the first year, but by the five-year mark only 50 percent are still in business and by the ten-year mark only one-third survive.

Under the protection of chapter 11, a debtor is given a "financial breathing spell" from most creditor collection efforts.

This protection allows the chapter 11 debtor to continue its business operations while formulating a plan of reorganization to repay its creditors.

Not surprisingly, while most chapter 11 business cases are filed by small business debtors, they are often "the least likely to reorganize successfully."

I know first hand that Hurricane Harvey hurt many small businesses and though we worked to help them recover, bankruptcy was the only option for some of them.

While the Bankruptcy Code envisions that creditors will play a major role in monitoring these cases, this often does not occur, chiefly because creditors in these smaller cases do not have claims large enough to warrant the time and money to participate actively in these cases.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3311 to help our small businesses have a chance at success during difficult times.