

Prior to becoming President of the Alabama Trucking Association in 1995, Mr. Filgo served as President of the Alabama Alliance of Business and Industry where he provided political research benefitting business groups. He is also a former chairman of the Region II Trucking Association Executive Council and currently serves as its secretary.

In recognition of his tireless work on behalf of Alabama's trucking industry, as well as his leadership in the state's business community, Mr. Filgo received the Alabama Trucking Association's 2015 H. Chester Webb Award for Distinguished Services and the 2017 Jo Bonner Spirit of Leadership Award as presented by the BCA.

Mr. Filgo is known in both Alabama and Washington for his impressive ability to build coalitions to improve the business climate for all Alabamians, especially those in the trucking industry. His ability to forge relationships, coordination of staff, and leadership style have brought him immense success and significant positive impact on Alabama's trucking community. With extraordinary and sincere gratitude, I thank Mr. Filgo for his dedicated service and outstanding contributions to Alabama and the Alabama trucking community. I wish Mr. Filgo all the best as he retires from the Alabama Trucking Association, and may God bless him, his wife Jackie, his daughter Marianne, his son Jack, and his entire family in the next chapter of his life.

IN HONOR OF ROY BATES

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. BARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a special man, Roy Bates, of Winchester, Kentucky. Mr. Bates, a true patriot, passed away on July 4, 2019.

Roy Bates was quite eager to serve his country and attempted unsuccessfully to enlist in the Navy and in the Army when he was not yet of legal age. In 1950, when he was 18 years old, he enlisted in the Marine Corps and went to Parris Island for training. He was assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 7th Regiment, 1st Division. He was soon sent to Korea to join his fellow Marines.

On September 1, 1951, just 3 days before his 19th birthday, Mr. Bates was on patrol when his group was ambushed. They were taking heavy fire. Crawling on his belly trying to reach cover, he heard the dreaded click of a landmine beneath him. His left leg was blown away and his right leg sustained numerous wounds. Severely wounded, he was carried off the field by two fellow Marines. One of those who carried him off was killed in action a few days later. Many years later Mr. Bates was reunited with Royce Henry, the other Marine who saved him.

Mr. Bates spent 7 years in and out of hospitals and had 32 surgeries. He received a Purple Heart as well as numerous other medals. He married his wife Betty and they had 4 children. Mr. Bates eventually returned home to Winchester where he always cherished a deep love for his country and for the Marine Corps. He was a well respected member of his community who exemplified good character and a positive attitude all of his life.

Mr. Bates and his fellow veterans are true heroes. He willingly served to protect and defend the freedoms that we enjoy today. He faced life with an unwavering faith in God and love for this country. I am humbled to honor the life of Mr. Roy Bates before the United States Congress.

DYNAMIC ARGENTINA AND CHILE

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, this past weekend of the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Landing on the Moon, I was grateful to join with Chairman ALBIO SIREs of the Foreign Affairs Subcommittee of the Western Hemisphere to participate in a bipartisan delegation to Argentina and Chile. Additional members were TED DEUTCH, TOM GRAVES, TED YOHO, and NORMA TORRES.

The initial purpose of the CODEL was to attend the Remembrance Ceremony commemorating the 25th Anniversary of the terrorist bombing of the Argentine Israelite Mutual Association (AMIA) Jewish Community Center. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo provided a heartfelt tribute for the 85 victims viciously murdered by cowardly perpetrators traced to the terrorists of Hezbollah financed by the Iranian regime. AMIA President Ariel Eichbaum welcomed diplomats from across South America.

We also visited the memorial park at the site of the Israeli Embassy which was bombed in 1992 murdering 29 victims who were largely Argentinian citizens who were tragically simply walking in the neighborhood.

Due to the respect of Chairman SIREs, the delegation was welcomed to the office of President Mauricio Macri. It was impressive to meet with such a public servant who so clearly loves and appreciates the people he serves of Argentina.

U.S. Ambassador Eduard Prado and his wife Maria hosted our visit to the historic Ambassador's residence where we met the courageous Ambassador from Venezuela Elisa Trotta Gamus. Ambassador Gamus has been appointed by the legitimate government of Venezuela led by Interim-President Juan Guaido opposed to the dictatorship of the disgraced Nicolas Maduro who has plundered the formerly wealthy nation of Venezuela stealing from its impoverished citizens.

In Santiago, Chile, a very professional country team briefing was provided at the Embassy confirming Chile as a very dynamic democracy with extraordinary economic success as a model of free market benefits of reducing poverty. The professionalism of the military of Chile was presented as they are partnered with the Texas National Guard. Charge d'Affaires Baxter Hunt has an enthusiastic staff.

The U.S. Chile Interparliamentary Friendship Group of the Chamber of Deputies led by Chamber President Ivan Flores Garcia hosted a meeting with Chilean parliamentarians of different parties who all were clear in their appreciation and respect for America.

U.S. educated, Fulbright Scholar, President Sebastian Pinera welcomed the delegation to the Presidential Palace. More traveled than the delegation, he has visited all 50 U.S.

states. In his current term and his prior service as President, it is clear his free market success has built a modern, vibrant partner of the United States inspiring democracy in all of South America.

The talented citizens of Argentina and Chile can be proud of their achievements with Argentina having a land mass equal to the U.S., east of Mississippi River and narrow Chile at 8,000 miles—three time the length of California.

IN MEMORY OF DR. EDITH IRBY JONES

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the distinguished life and legacy of Dr. Edith Irby Jones, who passed away on July 15, 2019.

Dr. Jones was the epitome of a trailblazer. In 1948, she became the first African American student admitted to the University of Arkansas Medical School—six years before the Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education* decision. In 1959, Dr. Jones again made history as the first African American woman resident at Baylor College of Medicine. Twenty-six years later, Dr. Jones became the first female president of the National Medical Association, an organization that has represented black physicians since 1895.

For half a century, Dr. Jones committed herself to serving marginalized communities in Houston's Greater Third Ward area. She often went beyond the typical duties of a physician by making house calls and picking up patients in her van in order to expand services to the underserved in the community. Along with her work in Houston, Dr. Jones treated patients, trained physicians, and founded a clinic in Haiti. Service and dedication for the less fortunate were integral components of Dr. Jones's remarkable career, and we are truly grateful for the impact she has had on generations of aspiring African American medical professionals.

Outside of her medical practice, Dr. Jones notably worked alongside Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., as part of the "Freedom Four," a group that traveled throughout the segregated South to encourage people to join the civil rights movement.

Dr. Jones is survived by her daughter, Myra; sons, Gary and Keith; and many wonderful grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Dr. Jones and her extraordinary contributions to medicine, social justice, and the Greater Houston community. We thank her and will miss her dearly.

HONORING CHP OFFICER WALTER FRAGO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and sacrifice of California Highway Patrol Officer Walter Carroll Frago. On

April 5, 1970, Officer Frago was one of four CHP officers tragically gunned down in a police shooting near Interstate 5. In remembrance of his sacrifice, a section of State Highway 99 in Merced is being dedicated to him and his colleague, Officer Roger Gore.

Born on December 22, 1946 to Augustine L. Frago and Rose M. Piovano, Officer Frago was the third of seven children in the family. He graduated from Our Lady of Mercy High School and later Merced College. In 1965, he married Nicola B. Dunaway, together they had two daughters Amorette and Gabriell. In 1968, he began his career as a CHP officer.

On April 5, 1970, Officers Frago and Gore were the first to respond to a suspect who had been reported brandishing a weapon. Upon pulling over a vehicle with two men, a gun fight ensued leaving Officers Frago and Gore, as well as Officers George Aleyn and James Pence dead. This tragedy is one still remembered by the law enforcement community and Merced County residents as Officers Frago and Gore were both born and raised in Merced.

In honor of Officer Frago's commitment to duty and sacrifice, the section of Highway 99 between Mission Avenue and Campus Parkway is being dedicated as the CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway. This location is fitting, as Campus Parkway will eventually connect Highway 99 to the University of California, Merced campus. This section of highway being dedicated will continue to ensure our local community and future generations remember and honor the sacrifice of these two young officers, each of whom lost their lives at 23-years-old on that tragic day.

The CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway symbolizes the sacrifice these two gentlemen gave for all citizens to help continue building a better future for our community and country. Furthermore, it will help bridge Merced County's past to its present and remind community members of the dedication to duty exhibited by these two fine officers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the duty and sacrifice of CHP Officer Walter Frago. It is both fitting and appropriate that we honor him as the CHP Officers Walter Frago and Roger Gore Memorial Freeway is dedicated. I wish his family, the California Highway Patrol, and the Merced law enforcement community the best as this section of Highway 99 is dedicated in his honor.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BIKESHARE TRANSIT ACT OF 2019

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, America is in the middle of a micromobility revolution, with bikeshare and scooters changing the way that people get around. First introduced in the United States in 2010, more than 100 communities now have bikeshare systems, supporting a network of more than 100,000 bikes. Since bikeshare's launch in the United States, riders have taken more than 100 million trips, with the number of trips and systems increasing each year.

My community recently celebrated the third anniversary of its BIKETOWN bikeshare

launch. Since then, Portlanders and visitors have taken nearly 900,000 trips, covering more than one million miles and removing untold numbers of automobiles from city streets. The system's success has already led to its expansion, giving more communities access to efficient, carbon-free transportation.

The increased commercial investment around bikeshare stations and networks is driving economic development across the country. Systems are opening in communities of all sizes from Los Angeles and Cleveland to Topeka and Birmingham. While some existing bikeshare programs received federal dollars to develop their systems, the lack of an established funding source has proved an impediment to many other projects. Since the term "bikeshare" is not defined in U.S. code or described by law as a form of transit, existing bikeshare systems and departments of transportation are forced to operate in a gray area, creating challenges for funding, maintaining, and administering these programs.

Today, I am reintroducing the Bikeshare Transit Act of 2019, legislation that will eliminate this gray area by defining bikeshare in statute and making bikeshare systems eligible to receive funding to enhance related public transportation service or transit facilities. The bill allows federal funding to be used for acquiring or replacing bikeshare-related equipment and constructing bikeshare facilities. Bikeshare systems will also be listed as eligible projects under the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Improvement Program.

The Bikeshare Transit Act will remove significant barriers facing new and existing bikeshare projects applying for federal funding while underscoring that bikeshare programs drive economic development and add value to America's transportation system.

IN RECOGNITION OF BRAVO COMPANY, NEW BATTALION'S SERVICE IN BROWN COUNTY, WISCONSIN

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work, dedication, and outstanding service of Bravo Company, NEW Battalion in helping veterans in Brown County, Wisconsin.

In 2017, the citizens of Brown County were asked to create a new program to help veterans in Northeast Wisconsin transition from active duty to civilian life. As a result, a group of hardworking veterans and citizens formed Bravo Company, NEW Battalion, a non-profit veteran-to-veteran sponsorship organization. The veteran sponsorship program increases veterans' awareness of the educational, state, and federal benefits, as well as community resources that are available to them upon returning home from active duty.

Earlier this year, the first set of veteran-to-veteran sponsors completed training, receiving education on the many veteran service organizations and resources available to veterans and their families in Northeast Wisconsin. After training, each sponsor is partnered with a recently discharged veteran to support the

veteran through the transition phase and connect him or her to support services in the area, like the County Veteran Service Office.

Since its creation, Bravo Company, NEW Battalion has already helped veterans in Northeast Wisconsin navigate and return to civilian life. I am confident the organization will continue to help many more returning veterans as its ranks grow.

The commitment to excellence, dedication and service that Elaina Koltz, Scott Katzka, Ken Corry, Dick Marbes, and Patrick Fauldes have shown is integral to the success of veterans transitioning to civilian life in Brown County. These founding board members of Bravo Company, NEW Battalion insure that veterans receive a warm welcome from active duty or deployment back home to Brown County. They truly demonstrate selfless service and are an asset to this community.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members of this body to join me in applauding Bravo Company, NEW Battalion, its board, and its veteran volunteer sponsors for their service to discharged veterans in Northeast Wisconsin. I am proud to have such an organization in my district, one which consists of many veterans whose service continues even after they remove their uniform.

COAST GUARD AUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2019

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 24, 2019

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I thank you as well as Chairman MALONEY, Ranking Member GRAVES, and Ranking Member GIBBS, for your leadership.

I rise in support of H.R. 3409, and applaud the inclusion of Title VIII, the Coast Guard Academy Improvement Act.

I have been honored to work closely with Chairman DEFazio and Chairman BENNIE THOMPSON, the Chairman of the Homeland Security Committee, as well as with Congressman JOE COURTNEY, to address the troubling issues that have arisen at the Coast Guard Academy.

As Chairman of the Coast Guard Subcommittee from 2007 through 2010, I convened a series of hearings to push the Academy to ensure that its cadet corps reflects the diversity of the nation it is being prepared to serve. And progress has been made.

However, the recent Equity Scorecard evaluation has found profoundly troubling trends at the Academy.

Specifically, the review found that, "Black/African-American cadets have been consistently less likely to graduate than the all-cadet average" and, "Of particular urgency is Black/African-American cadets' disproportionately high share of disciplinary sanctions."

Then, in December 2018, the Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security issued a report finding that a Lieutenant Commander on the faculty of the Academy, "was retaliated against on the basis of her complaints, in violation of the Military Whistleblower Protection Act."

Chairman THOMPSON, Congressman COURTNEY, and I are continuing to conduct oversight