

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am not recorded on the following votes because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: on Roll Call No. 228 on passage of H.R. 7995, I would have voted YEA; on Roll Call No. 229 on motion to adjourn, I would have voted YEA; on Roll Call No. 230 on ordering the previous question for H. Res. 1244, I would have voted NAY; on Roll Call No. 231 on agreeing to the resolution for H. Res. 1244, I would have voted NAY; on Roll Call No. 232 on passage of H.R. 1380, I would have voted NAY; on Roll Call No. 233 on passage of S. 2981, I would have voted NAY; on Roll Call No. 234 on motion to recommit with instructions for H.R. 3884, I would have voted YEA; and on Roll Call No. 235 on passage of H.R. 3884, I would have voted NAY.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL GIFT SHOP TAX ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the Federal Gift Shop Tax Act, which would allow state and local governments to impose a sales tax on purchases at gift shops on federal property. These governments would be able to generate millions of dollars in new revenue at a time when they are struggling to meet their budgets because of the economic crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic.

When the federal government engages in activity that is not inherently governmental, such as operating a gift shop, there is no reason to exempt customer purchases from a sales tax. The items sold at federal gift shops, such as jewelry, apparel, accessories, games, books and decor, would be subject to sales tax if sold on private property. Customers are often unaware of this sales tax exemption when shopping at gift shops on federal property, so the introduction of a sales tax is unlikely to have a significant impact on gift shop sales. It would, however, create a valuable revenue stream for struggling governments. In addition, state and local governments often provide uncompensated services to federal property, such as fire service, and allowing them to impose a sales tax on gift shops would allow them to recoup some of those costs. This bill is of particular importance to the District of Columbia, as it is home to a number of gift shops on federal property, such as at the Smithsonian Institution, the National Gallery of Art and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

State and local governments have taken the lead in combating the pandemic, meeting the moment with expanded services and support even as they lose significant revenue. This bill would give these governments an opportunity to make up a portion of their budget shortfalls by creating this new revenue stream.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING SOUTH TEXAS COLLEGE PRESIDENT DR. SHIRLEY A. REED

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor South Texas College Founding President Dr. Shirley Reed. Dr. Reed has retired after more than 26 years serving as the founding President of South Texas College.

I first met Dr. Shirley Reed in the middle of a dusty field in Rio Grande City for the groundbreaking of South Texas College's Stan County campus. Even though the wind was raising the dust and getting into our eyes, both of us were excited about the opportunities this new campus would bring for students and our community. Dr. Reed invited me to speak at this groundbreaking ceremony because as Chairman of the Education Subcommittee on Appropriations in the Texas State Legislature, I secured funding for fast-growing colleges throughout Texas, including South Texas College. Since then, we have been working together to fund projects that advance access to quality education for the people of South Texas.

South Texas College was founded back in 1993 and Dr. Reed was selected as its founding President. At that time, it was known as South Texas Community College and had about 1,000 students enrolled. However, through her steady leadership it grew into a multi-campus college with an enrollment of just under 30,000 students. It is also recognized as the only community college in the State of Texas to offer 5 baccalaureate degrees. This was all accomplished despite the considerable doubt and obstacles that she faced when she was working towards her vision for the school. Now, she is a source of inspiration and a reminder of what can be accomplished through hard work and dedication.

I want to congratulate Dr. Reed on her tenure at South Texas College. Her passion, hard work, and leadership has created a revered education institution, driving regional and economic prosperity in the region. As we move forward, let us take the time to appreciate President Reed and all the educators who dedicate their lives to preparing the next generation for their futures. However, in the words of President John F. Kennedy, "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them."

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the career and service of Dr. Reed.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on December 7th and 8th due to not being in D.C. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: YES on Roll Call No. 236; YES on Roll Call No. 237; NO on Roll Call No. 238, and YES on Roll Call No. 239.

TRIBUTE TO DR. VICTOR A. TRIANFO

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. JORDAN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to commend to the House the service of Victor A. Trianfo, Jr., D.O. Dr. Trianfo is retiring as Chief Medical Officer of Memorial Health in Marysville, Ohio, after more than two decades with that organization.

Dr. Trianfo's time at Memorial Health began in 1999. For the last ten years, he has served in various administrative roles there, including as Vice President of Medical Affairs and Quality. He took on CMO responsibilities in 2013, helping to oversee the medical staff, guide case management and home health, and lead important philanthropy programs that have allowed the system to grow with the needs of the area.

Dr. Trianfo is widely praised as Memorial Health's biggest advocate, spearheading a partnership with The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center to improve the delivery of cardiac care to Union County residents. His work to coordinate coronavirus response efforts with the Union County Health Department is a model to health care leaders everywhere.

Dr. Trianfo earned his medical degree at Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine, having previously earned a nursing degree and working as a travel nurse, a flight and trauma nurse, and a prison nurse. He was chief resident of family medicine at The Ohio State University, where he also served as Assistant Professor of Family Medicine and Residency Director. He and his wife, Susan, are the parents of three adult children.

On behalf of the people of Ohio's Fourth Congressional District, I am proud to join in the accolades to Dr. Trianfo for his 43 years of fine service to the medical profession. We wish him and his family every success as they move to a new chapter in their lives.

• 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.

IN HONOR OF ROD HSIAO

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rod Hsiao as he leaves the San Mateo County Board of Education after 14 years of service to the public. Rod is an outstanding public servant and he will be missed by those who follow his work on the board.

Rod Hsiao strongly supports inclusivity. While working in Washington, D.C., he co-founded CAPAL, a 31-year-old nonprofit for students interested in public policy. He is the founder of nonprofit InPlay which combats the loss of educational progress that occurs amongst children during the summer break. InPlay provides a single point where parents can go to sign up children for free or low-cost summer education and recreational activities. He worked with the U.S. Small Business Administration's Council on Underserved Communities and has served on the boards of various nonprofits. He was the co-founder of a local group encouraging Asian and Pacific Islanders to participate in elective office.

The county board of education hears appeals from parents denied inter-district transfers by their district of residence. These are emotional moments when parents are hoping to have their children attend a different school. Rod asks probing questions to determine if there is any legal rationale for the transfer to be granted. He looks to the best interests of students and works hard to balance the interests of the home district with the student's needs.

Granting a charter to a proposed charter school is one of the more fraught activities of the county board of education. The issue only arises when the district in which the school is proposed to be established has denied the application. Again, Rod seeks to improve public education through many avenues, including charter schools. These choices sometimes generate friction with one or more vocal groups, but he tries to ensure that the underserved communities of San Mateo County have access to the best possible education.

One example of ensuring access to high quality education is the countywide program known as The Big Lift. It is an initiative that grew out of a group in which Rod participated. The goal is to ensure that San Mateo County students are proficient in reading by the third grade. Rod served on the Peninsula Partnership Leadership Council and worked with its successor agency as part of a team to design and launch The Big Lift. Although the pandemic has created obstacles, the program remains strong.

Jones Gulch is the beloved outdoor education program offered by the San Mateo County Office of Education, operating for generations. It's been said that, in some instances, students arrive with their grandmothers who once went to Jones Gulch back when the grandmother was a middle school student. The camp is owned by the YMCA and operated in cooperation with the County Office of Education. In recent years, Rod is credited with maintaining the relationship and with strengthening the program by finding ways to do camp upgrades after decades of use. He has pushed hard to build housing at the site so that staff can fulfill their duties with-

out having to sometimes sleep on the floor of the camp office.

Rod is a graduate of Oberlin College with a BA in Economics, and holds a Masters in Public Policy from Harvard. Aside from his achievements in education, he has also consulted to global companies and founded or worked for nonprofits that promote entrepreneurship and inclusivity.

After nearly a decade and a half in a position of educational leadership, Rod will now be able to spend more time with his wife, Linda, and sons Anthony and Timothy. He has burned the midnight oil on many occasions, and they will likely welcome him home on a more regular schedule. However, I know that Rod Hsiao will also remain active in public affairs in San Mateo County. An advocate is relentless by nature whether or not in elective office. I expect that Rod will remain engaged in creating educational opportunity and in encouraging participation by all segments of San Mateo County. We thank him for years of effort dedicated to building an America of which we may all be proud.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF MATTHEW J. BUNKER

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. STEIL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life and service of Matthew J. Bunker. Matthew grew up in Delavan, Wisconsin and attended Delavan Christian School and Faith Christian School before receiving an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point.

From an early age, Matthew knew that he wanted to serve America by joining the military. Matthew's dedication and talents were recognized when my predecessor, Congressman Paul Ryan, awarded Matthew an appointment to attend the United States Military Academy. After graduating from West Point, Matthew served with the Army's 1st Cavalry as a Recon Scout at Joint Base Lewis-McChord in Tacoma, Washington.

After his honorable service in the Army, Matthew pursued his lifelong dream of becoming an explorer. Matthew loved the outdoors and adventure. He scaled mountains in the Pacific Northwest, hiked, mountain biked, and photographed those moments along the way.

In addition to being an avid outdoorsman, Matthew was a man of strong faith and moral conviction. Wherever his adventures took him, he kept his family and God in mind. His father said that Matthew only loved two things above the outdoors: his family and God.

Matthew Bunker passed away Friday, June 26, 2020 while descending Mount Rainier on a backcountry hike and ski descent. He was 28 years old. He was known for being smart, caring, having a great sense of humor, and for being a talented photographer, painter, and writer.

My prayers are with his family, especially his mother Carolyn and his father Joe, who is a member of the First Congressional District's Service Academy Nomination Board. May we remember Matthew and his service to our country and to others. May his adventurous spirit, strong faith, and moral conviction be an inspiration to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I was unfortunately prevented from traveling and unable to make votes on December 8, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of the Conference Report to Accompany H.R. 6395 and H.R. 8354.

RECOGNIZING WARREN G.
GRAMMER OF POMONA, ILLINOIS

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Warren G. Grammer of Pomona, Illinois, in celebration of his upcoming 100th birthday. A World War II veteran and longtime public servant, Warren is a true American patriot and a role model to many Illinoisans.

Warren was born on December 22, 1920. In 1943, Warren was drafted into the U.S. Army and served in the 45th Infantry as a rifle combat infantryman and later as a military policeman. During his service, he took part in eight different battles and was awarded the Silver Battle Star and the Bronze Battle Star. His proudest accomplishment, however, was participating in his division's liberation of the concentration camp in Dachau, Germany. When he was honorably discharged in September 1945, Warren returned home to work for the Illinois State Police as a trooper before working as an officer in a juvenile detention center. Retiring as a Jackson County deputy, Warren left a legacy of public service and public safety.

With a dedication to community and country, Warren is a truly part of America's Greatest Generation. His longevity is worthy of recognition, but the work he accomplished in those years is even more important.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Warren Grammer for his incredible milestone. On behalf of Southern Illinois, happy birthday.

RECOGNIZING UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT ROBERTO J. SANTOS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2020

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and service of United Independent School District Superintendent Roberto J. Santos. Mr. Santos will retire after more than 38 years serving the United Independent School District.

Mr. Santos is an individual who committed his life and career to the betterment of his community. Throughout his career in the field of education, he showed a steadfast dedication to every student he served. He also showed strong leadership in how he managed