

to working with constituents, Joe is always thinking about how to make things better and what more we can do to make it happen. He consistently goes above and beyond to serve constituents and support his fellow staff. His work as the Academy Coordinator has impacted countless young applicants as they begin their careers in service to this nation. Joe's leadership is a shining example of what other District Directors should strive to be.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask that you rise with me to recognize Joe Schumacher for his selfless dedication to Virginia's First District. Joe is a crucial member of our team, and I am forever grateful for his service to our office and to Virginia's First District.

IN HONOR OF MARK OLBERT

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2020

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding service of Mark Olbert as he departs the San Carlos City Council after nine years as a councilmember, two of them as Mayor. Mark also served 10 years on the local school board. For a man who moved to San Carlos in 1997, he's spent a remarkable 19 of those 23 years in local elected office.

Mark was raised in Dobbs Ferry, New York and obtained his bachelors in cell and molecular biology from the State University of New York at Buffalo, and his MBA from the Amos Tuck School at Dartmouth College. He went to work as a finance executive in the oil and gas industry and then transitioned to the world of biotechnology. After great success at Amgen, Mark moved to San Carlos to grab other brass rings in the world of biotechnology. Ultimately, he was able to retire early to dedicate his life to his family and to public service.

When he and his wife, Barbara McHugh, sought a Bay Area community in which to raise their family they selected San Carlos because of its high-quality schools. Both Mark and Barbara plunged into volunteering to raise money for the schools and were ultimately honored for their leadership by the San Carlos Education Foundation.

In the midst of his career, and while raising Arthur and Caroline, the couple's two children, Mark ran for the school board. He succeeded in his first effort and was reelected. During his 10 years as a trustee, he successfully advocated to reform the district's special education program and grappled with the fragile finances of the district. For decades, civic leaders had opined that, in San Carlos, school parcel taxes and bond measures would fail. As a trustee, Mark had a different opinion. He and a core group led successful efforts to pass several tax or bond measures, thereby stabilizing finances and putting the district on a path to rejuvenate its schools.

While on the school board, it was his work with the city that sparked his interest in the city council. He saw a need for more parks for a growing population, more housing, and greater transparency in local government. He ran for the city council in 2011, came in first, and was later re-elected.

Mark and most of his council colleagues tried but were ultimately unable to obtain more

land to expand city parks. He always maintained, however, that the city council had done its job by providing residents with a choice about their quality of life.

In recent years, he successfully advocated for San Carlos to become a "welcoming city" to send a message of hope as immigrants came under attack. Homeowners have a friend in Mark as the city adopted a proposal to help pay for otherwise expensive sidewalk repairs. Along with his colleagues, he regularly supported thoughtful budgeting that generated surpluses.

Housing is Mark's constant concern. He asks important questions about whether the city has zoned enough land for housing in order to avoid the displacement of vulnerable residents as commercial development accelerates. He is passionate about equal economic opportunity and the need to find affordable housing for teachers, public safety personnel, store clerks, and all others who struggle to pay high rents in San Carlos.

Mark started a blog when he joined the school board and continued as a councilmember. Recent council topics on his site, "Making Your Mark," include: "Reflections: Paranoia, Tribalism, Politics"; and, "Even in the City of Good Living, Racism is Not Patriotism!" His retirement may spare the public from another blog rumored to be in the works: "Quantum Theory and Time Travel: New Adventures in Parenting During A Pandemic." His blog's style is a blend of The New York Times Magazine, Scientific American, and Mad Magazine.

Mark Olbert is honest, thoughtful, and dogged in asking questions and getting answers. He seeks the long-term welfare of the entire community. He is brilliant and has a wonderful sense of humor. While "public servant" is a title that others may view as pedestrian, he treasures it as much as a rare gem. It has been my great honor and privilege to serve with Mark Olbert. He represents the best in public service. I will miss him on the council. Let me invoke an amended phrase from a renowned science fiction philosopher, Yoda: Mark, May the Force of Public Opinion Always Be With You.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY J. PALMER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2020

Mr. PALMER. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House and missed votes on 12/20 through 12/4/20 while recovering from COVID-19. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 228; NAY on Roll Call No. 230; NAY on Roll Call No. 231; NAY on Roll Call No. 232; NAY on Roll Call No. 233; YEA on Roll Call No. 234; and NAY on Roll Call No. 235.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PITTMAN-ROBERTSON WILDLIFE RESTORATION ACT AND DINGELL-JOHNSON SPORT FISH RESTORATION ACT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2020

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act District of Columbia Equality Act, which would amend the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act and the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act to make the District of Columbia eligible for the same federal funding as states under these Acts. The District is treated as a state under federal programs, with a few exceptions, most of them simply oversights or failures to update post-home rule.

The Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act provides funding, derived from excise taxes on sporting equipment, for five distinct purposes: program administration, wildlife restoration, basic hunter education and safety, enhanced hunter education and safety grants and multistate conservation grants. The District does not receive any funding under this Act. The Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act provides funding for sport fish restoration, aquatic education, wetlands restoration and boat-related activities. Under this Act, states receive a minimum of one percent of the total amount apportioned, while the District is capped at one-third of one percent.

This omission and lack of parity under these Acts have serious consequences for the District. The District has roughly 7,800 acres of parkland covering nearly a quarter of the city, which means it has more parkland per capita than any other city in the United States. This bill would define "State" in these Acts to include the District, providing the District with equitable access to valuable financial resources for wildlife conservation in our nation's capital.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

ARIZONA VOICE FOR CRIME
VICTIMS (AVCV)

HON. DEBBIE LESKO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 14, 2020

Mrs. LESKO. Madam Speaker, Arizona, a national leader in crime victims' rights, reached a milestone on November 26, 2020—30 years since the enactment of the Victims' Bill of Rights (VBR), as art. II §2.1, of the state constitution. The passage of the VBR was an immense achievement in the face of strong opposition. The movement was led by numerous crime victims, grassroots organizations, and prosecutors throughout the state. Prior to this achievement, there had been two unsuccessful attempts to get a victims' rights amendment referred by the Arizona Legislature. Strong opposition came from defense attorneys and, astonishingly, judicial officers.

After two attempts to get on the ballot through legislative action, in 1990, the people of Arizona rallied to support a ballot initiative drafted by Steve Twist, then the Chief Assistant Attorney General for Arizona. Petitions were circulated and signed by thousands of Arizonans who saw and disapproved of the grave injustices in how victims were treated during the criminal justice process. The effort was truly grassroots. Led by the Victims Bill of Rights Task Force, victim advocates reached out across Arizona. On November 6, 1990, Arizonans voted overwhelmingly to add the new VBR to our constitution. In the year following, implementing statutes were drafted and passed in order to further define, preserve, and protect the constitutional victims' rights amendment.

Beyond providing constitutional rights to victims on paper, Steve Twist and U.S. Senator Jon Kyl had a vision for providing victims a way to enforce their constitutional rights and assure that their voices would be heard during the criminal justice process. In 1996, the future of non-profit victim services was shaped when they founded Arizona Voice for Crime Victims (AVCV), the very first clinic of its kind to provide both legal and social services to crime victims at no cost. The first free legal and social services clinic started in 2001, in partnership with the Arizona State University (ASU) College of Law.

Since its beginnings, with one lawyer and one social worker, AVCV has grown to be one of the most successful victims' rights advocacy organizations in the country and serves as a model for similar programs around the country. AVCV's attorneys, led by Chief Counsel Colleen Clase, represent victims of crime, without limitation on the type of crime, throughout Arizona's state superior courts, in city courts, justice courts, the federal district court, appellate courts up to the Supreme Court of the United States, and in front of Arizona's Board of Executive Clemency. AVCV's social services staff provide victims the emotional support needed to get through the criminal justice process. For nearly 25 years, AVCV has contributed significantly to advancing the enforcement of victim's rights by seeking appellate remedies. AVCV has litigated victims' rights issues of first impression that have resulted in published opinions that define, implement, preserve and protect victim's constitutional and statutory rights.

Just this year, AVCV secured an opinion from the Arizona Supreme Court that required the court to overrule their own precedent, three cases predating Arizona's VBR, and to consider another issue of first impression in order to honor and uphold the constitutional rights of crime victims. In this case, AVCV represents a child-victim who is the older sibling of a 6-year-old murder victim and a witness to the severe child abuse and neglect that led to his murder. Three of the four family members charged in connection with the murder entered into guilty pleas, negotiated by the prosecutors and criminal defendants, containing a cap on the restitution that may be ordered to the child-victim. On behalf of the child-victim, AVCV objected to the restitution cap.

On review, the Arizona Supreme Court agreed with AVCV and overruled three pre-VBR cases that required restitution caps in plea agreements, holding that restitution cannot be capped over the objection of the victim. Additionally, as a matter of first impression here in Arizona and across the country, the Arizona Supreme Court also held that counsel

for a crime victim should be before the bar during proceedings in which victims' rights are at issue.

AVCV continues to work toward changing the culture of the criminal justice system to be more inclusive for victims, both in Arizona and on the national level, through the filing of amicus briefs and through its work to modernize Arizona's court rules by fully integrating victims' rights into Arizona's Rules of Criminal Procedure—another task which has faced great opposition from the defense bar and certain judicial officers. AVCV's staff regularly provides training on victims' rights topics at national conferences including the National Crime Victim Law Conference, the annual National Organization for Victim Assistance Conference, and the annual Parents of Murdered Children National Conference.

One of AVCV's most important partnerships has been with ASU's College of Law. This partnership is one that is essential to training future lawyers by giving law students an opportunity to work alongside AVCV's attorneys and social workers to assist and support crime victims as they navigate the criminal process.

The work AVCV has done over the last 25 years has changed the lives of many crime victims who, without the free legal representation and social services they received, would have been left to navigate an arduous justice system on their own and without recourse when their constitutional rights were violated. AVCV has been able to provide thousands of victims with a sense of hope through understanding and asserting their constitutional rights for meaningful participation in our criminal justice system. AVCV has truly established the standard of "Justice for All—Even the Victim."

HONORING SUPERVISOR SHIRLEE ZANE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, December 14, 2020

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Rep. JARED HUFFMAN, to honor Supervisor Shirlee Zane in celebration of her 12 years of service on the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors.

After graduating from Chico State University, Shirlee Zane earned Master's degrees in Theology from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School and in Family Counseling from Sonoma State University. She served as a minister, social worker, and special education professional before being elected to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors in 2008.

Supervisor Zane has drawn upon over 30 years of experience in human services to advocate for increased mental health services in the County of Sonoma. She worked tirelessly to pass Measure O in Sonoma County, which boosts spending on mental health and homelessness services, and expands the behavioral health mobile support team to assist law enforcement on mental health and substance abuse calls. Supervisor Zane is also an avid supporter of strong environmental policies, having served as a director of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District and played an important role in establishing Sonoma Clean Power.

Perhaps the best testament to Shirlee Zane's dedication to her community is her ex-

emplary work to assist people experiencing homelessness by providing them with a place to live. She was instrumental in creating Santa Rosa's Veterans Village, which houses fourteen formerly homeless veterans, and securing funding for The Palms Inn, which provides permanent supportive housing for 130 formerly homeless residents.

Supervisor Zane's leadership has not gone unnoticed, having earned the National Alliance on Mental Illness's California Recovery Practitioner Award, the National Union of Healthcare Workers Patient Recovery Award, the Reverend Coffee Human Rights Award and the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Community Service Award.

Madam Speaker, Supervisor Shirlee Zane is the kind of citizen we should all strive to be. Sonoma County is certainly better as a result of her dedicated service. It is therefore fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, December 15, 2020 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED DECEMBER 16

- 9:30 a.m.
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Subcommittee on Economic Policy
To hold hearings to examine the United States and China, focusing on winning the economic competition. WEBEX
- 10 a.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine irregularities in the 2020 election. SD-342/WEBEX
- Committee on the Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine pending nominations. SH-216
- 2 p.m.
Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Border Security and Immigration
To hold hearings to examine Hong Kong's pro-democracy movement through United States refugee policy. SD-G50