

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF HANCOCK COUNTY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Bicentennial of Hancock County, Ohio. The perseverance of pioneers and settlers to overcome the challenges faced during the early years of the county's history has persisted throughout the past 200 years. The hard work and spirit shown by generations of county residents have made Hancock County an outstanding example of American ingenuity.

On February 12, 1820, the Ohio Legislature enacted legislation creating fourteen new counties in northwestern Ohio. One of the counties was named Hancock, honoring the American Revolutionary hero, John Hancock. Hancock County was officially established in 1820 and encompasses roughly 531 square miles. The county is an asset to the great State of Ohio through its many contributions in the fields of agriculture and manufacturing. One of Hancock County's noteworthy distinctions was having Ohio Governor Joseph Vance and songwriter Tell Taylor reside within the county.

By remembering the 200th Anniversary of Hancock County, community members and Ohio residents recognize the outstanding achievements, maintain our pioneer attitude, and strive to better our county through the principles on which it was founded. Thank you and congratulations to Hancock County on this significant milestone.

### HONORING BOB HANDY FOR HIS PUBLIC SERVICE

#### HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. CARBAJAL. Madam Speaker, today, I celebrate the service of one of my constituents and good friend, Robert "Bob" Handy, who is a staunch advocate for veterans and had a prodigious 22-year career in the U.S. Navy as a Medical Corpsman.

Bob is the founder and Chairman of Veterans United for Truth, Inc. (VUFT), a veterans' support non-profit that played a critical role in addressing the Veterans Administration's (VA) mishandling of veterans' medical services, particularly of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) cases, and restrictive policies within the VA that prevented veterans with PTSD from appealing negative findings in their cases.

Bob led VUFT as the principal plaintiff in VCS et al. v. Nicholson et al., a 2007 class action lawsuit that challenged the federal gov-

ernment's compliance with the First and Fifth Amendments to the United States Constitution, and with section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 794, as it related to veterans' PTSD cases.

While the suit was initially successful in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, after being referred there by a District Court, a subsequent revised finding by a full panel of the court rejected it. The case was supported by millions of dollars of pro bona legal support and lasted into 2009.

Bob Handy's tireless pursuit of this case in the public realm brought new attention to the serious health issue of PTSD. His work resulted in important changes to the VA's approach on this issue.

I am honored to celebrate Bob Handy's distinguished service, exemplary advocacy, leadership, and commitment on behalf of veterans.

### IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF PUTNAM COUNTY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Bicentennial of Putnam County, Ohio. The perseverance of pioneers and settlers to overcome the challenges faced during the early years of the county's history has persisted throughout the past 200 years. The hard work and spirit shown by generations of county residents have made Putnam County an outstanding example of American ingenuity.

On February 12, 1820, the Ohio Legislature enacted legislation creating fourteen new counties in northwestern Ohio. One of the counties was named Putnam, honoring the American Revolutionary hero, Israel Putnam. Putnam County was officially established in 1820, but parts of the county remained in Wood County until 1824 and in Williams County until 1834. Putnam County contains roughly 480 square miles, and it was originally set aside for Ohio's Native American people by the Treaty of Greenville. Putnam County is an asset to the great State of Ohio through its many contributions in the fields of agriculture and manufacturing.

By remembering the 200th Anniversary of Putnam County, community members and Ohio residents recognize the outstanding achievements, maintain our pioneer attitude, and strive to better our county through the principles on which it was founded. Thank you and congratulations to Putnam County on this significant milestone.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, I regret to inform you that I am unable to vote due to an unavoidable conflict. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 247.

### IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF MERCER COUNTY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Bicentennial of Mercer County, Ohio. The perseverance of pioneers and settlers to overcome the challenges faced during the early years of the county's history has persisted throughout the past 200 years. The hard work and spirit shown by generations of county residents have made Mercer County an outstanding example of American ingenuity.

On February 12, 1820, the Ohio Legislature enacted legislation creating fourteen new counties in northwestern Ohio. One of the counties was named Mercer, honoring the American Revolutionary hero, General Hugh Mercer. Mercer County was established in 1820 and it contains roughly 463 square miles, including Grand Lake St. Marys. An essential part of Mercer County's history is connected to the lake, which was dug between 1837 and 1845 to provide a water source for the Miami and Erie Canal. Grand Lake St. Marys was the largest man-made lake in the world at the time. Today, it is a major tourist destination for all to enjoy. Mercer County has also been an asset to the great State of Ohio through its many contributions in the fields of agriculture and manufacturing.

By remembering the 200th Anniversary of Mercer County, community members and Ohio residents recognize the outstanding achievements, maintain our pioneer attitude, and strive to better our county through the principles on which it was founded. Thank you and congratulations to Mercer County on this significant milestone.

### PASSAGE OF H.R. 6535, THE COVERAGE FOR URBAN INDIAN HEALTH PROVIDERS ACT

#### HON. RUBEN GALLEG0

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. GALLEG0. Madam Speaker, I am grateful for my colleagues' support of my bill,

• 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.

H.R. 6535, the Coverage for Urban Indian Health Providers Act, when it passed this House on Thursday, December 17, 2020. Enactment of H.R. 6535 will address the lack of parity under the Federal Tort Claims Act within the Indian Health Service for urban Indian health programs, and by sending this bill to the Senate, and hopefully to the President, we are making a necessary correction that will support delivery of health care to Native communities across the country.

However, while I am proud of the passage of this measure, we must not forget that the same lack of parity under FTCA continues to persist for the Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems funded through the Native Hawaiian Health Care Improvement Act. I am therefore committed to standing with Native Hawaiians and their representatives in Congress, including Congressman CASE and Senator SCHATZ, to ensure that Native Hawaiian Health Care Systems are not left behind, and will work with them, the House Energy and Commerce Committee, the House Natural Resources Committee, and the Senate Committee for Indian Affairs to address the inequitable access to Federal Torts Claims Act coverage among Native health systems in the next Congress. Together, we will continue to fight for the trust and treaty rights and access to benefits for all of our country's Native peoples.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF HARDIN COUNTY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Bicentennial of Hardin County, Ohio. The perseverance of pioneers and settlers to overcome the challenges faced during the early years of the county's history has persisted throughout the past 200 years. The hard work and spirit shown by generations of county residents have made Hardin County an outstanding example of American ingenuity.

On February 12, 1820, the Ohio Legislature enacted legislation creating fourteen new counties in northwestern Ohio. One of the counties was named Hardin, honoring the American Revolutionary hero, John Hardin. Hardin County was officially established in 1820 and encompasses roughly 470 square miles. The county is home to Ohio Northern University, which was established in 1871. Hardin County is an asset to the great State of Ohio through its many contributions in the fields of agriculture and manufacturing.

By remembering the 200th Anniversary of Hardin County, community members and Ohio residents recognize the outstanding achievements, maintain our pioneer attitude, and strive to better our county through the principles on which it was founded. Thank you and congratulations to Hardin County on this significant milestone.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on December 17, 2020 and December 18, 2020 due to not being in DC. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: YES on Roll Call No. 245; YES on Roll Call No. 246; and NO on Roll Call No. 247.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF HENRY COUNTY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Bicentennial of Henry County, Ohio. The perseverance of pioneers and settlers to overcome the challenges faced during the early years of the county's history has persisted throughout the past 200 years. The hard work and spirit shown by generations of county residents have made Henry County an outstanding example of American ingenuity.

On February 12, 1820, the Ohio Legislature enacted legislation creating fourteen new counties in northwestern Ohio. One of the counties was named Henry, honoring the American Revolutionary hero, Patrick Henry. Henry County was officially established in 1820, but parts of the county remained in Wood County until 1824 and in Williams County until 1834. The county contains roughly 417 square miles and was once part of the Great Black Swamp. The unique nature of the former swampland provided rich soil which allowed the agricultural community to prosper.

By remembering the 200th Anniversary of Henry County, community members and Ohio residents recognize the outstanding achievements, maintain a pioneer attitude, and strive to better our county on the principles on which our county was founded. Thank you and congratulations to Henry County on this significant milestone.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF VAN WERT COUNTY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Bicentennial of Van Wert County, Ohio. The perseverance of pioneers and settlers to overcome the challenges faced during the early years of the county's history has persisted throughout the past 200 years. The hard work and spirit shown by generations of county residents have made Van Wert County an outstanding example of American ingenuity.

On February 12, 1820, the Ohio Legislature enacted legislation creating fourteen new counties in northwestern Ohio. One of the

counties was named Van Wert, honoring the American Revolutionary hero, Isaac Van Wart. Van Wert aided in the 1780 capture of British Major John Andre, who was convicted and executed for spying with Benedict Arnold. Van Wert County contains roughly 410 square miles, and it was officially established in 1820. A noteworthy part of Van Wert County's history is the establishment of the Brumback Library. The library was founded in 1890 as the first countywide public library to exist in the United States, and it continues to serve over 29,000 residents. Van Wert County is an asset to the great State of Ohio through its many contributions in the fields of agriculture and manufacturing.

By remembering the 200th Anniversary of Van Wert County, community members and Ohio residents recognize the outstanding achievements, maintain our pioneer attitude, and strive to better our county through the principles on which it was founded. Thank you and congratulations to Van Wert County on this significant milestone.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF WILLIAMS COUNTY'S 200TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Sunday, December 20, 2020*

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the Bicentennial of Williams County, Ohio. The perseverance of pioneers and settlers to overcome the challenges faced during the early years of the county's history has persisted throughout the past 200 years. The hard work and spirit shown by generations of county residents have made Williams County an outstanding example of American ingenuity.

On February 12, 1820, the Ohio Legislature enacted legislation creating fourteen new counties in northwestern Ohio. The fourteenth new county came to be known as Williams County, honoring the Revolutionary War hero David Williams. Williams aided in the 1780 capture of British Major John Andre, who was convicted and executed for spying with Benedict Arnold. When Williams County was officially established in 1820 it originally contained roughly 720 square miles, but it currently encompasses 420 square miles. A pivotal point in Williams County's history was the twenty-year dispute over the northern part of Williams County which contributed to the Ohio and Michigan war. Eventually, the territory lines between the Indiana line and Lake Erie were settled, giving Williams County its first beginnings as a county in the great state of Ohio.

By remembering the 200th Anniversary of Williams County, community members and Ohio residents recognize the outstanding achievements, maintain our pioneer attitude, and strive to better our county on the principles on which it was founded. Thank you and congratulations to Williams County on this significant milestone.