

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. GREGORY STEUBE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mr. STEUBE. Madam Speaker, I was absent for votes due to a personal family matter out of state.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 55, and YEA on Roll Call No. 56.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF BILLIE SUE HOGGARD

HON. ERIC A. "RICK" CRAWFORD

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mr. CRAWFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of my close friend Billie Sue Hoggard, who passed away on Sunday evening. Billie Sue was a lifelong public servant, a political pioneer, and a devout follower of the Lord. She brightened every room she entered, had a wonderful sense of humor, and a truly unmistakable laugh.

Billie Sue was a nationally board-certified teacher. Generations of students in Jonesboro, across five decades and four schools, were blessed to find themselves in her classroom. She was selected for three international teaching exchanges by the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, teaching in China, Japan, and Mexico. Her passion for teaching could not be extinguished—she came out of a well-deserved retirement just a few years ago to go back to the classroom.

Billie Sue's service to her community extended to public office. She was appointed by Governor Mike Huckabee as Justice of the Peace on the Craighead County Quorum Court and as the Commissioner for the Arkansas Educational Television Network. She was later elected by the people of the county to continue her service on the Quorum Court. She was an active member of many civil service organizations, including the American Legion Auxiliary, Lion's Club, and countless education advocacy groups.

Billie Sue was a groundbreaking pioneer of conservatism in Arkansas. In the era of the "yellow dog democrat," Billie Sue was unabashedly Republican. She ran for State Representative in Northeast Arkansas as a Republican at a time in which it was unheard of to do so. While she did not win her election to state office, I believe it is safe to say that without her, Eastern Arkansas would not be the conservative bastion it is today. Under her leadership of the Craighead County Republican Party from 2010 to 2018, the county flipped all legislative seats and well over half of county wide offices. She was awarded the "Hi, I'm Frank White" Award in 2017, the highest distinction given by the Arkansas GOP.

Billie Sue was a living proof that with passion, tenacity, and a tireless work ethic, an individual can accomplish anything. She put it best when she said, "I am personally convinced that one person can be a change catalyst, a transformer in any situation, any organi-

zation. Such an individual is yeast that can leaven an entire loaf. It requires vision, initiative, patience, respect, persistence, courage, and faith to be a transforming leader."

I know today that Billie Sue Hoggard left this Earth proud of her litany of accomplishments and the positive transformations she made in Arkansas. Billie Sue is survived by her children, Tammy, Kayla, Jess, and Tim, and grandchildren Meagan, Dane, Maxwell, Emma, Bella, Kate, and Jesslyn. I ask Congress to join me in offering condolences to Billie Sue's family, and commemorating the life and achievements of an incredible leader and servant.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MR. DAVID STERN

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mrs. LOWEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life, accomplishments, and legacy of Mr. David Stern of Scarsdale, New York. Mr. Stern passed away on January 1, 2020, at the age of 77. An attorney by training, Mr. Stern served as commissioner of the National Basketball Association (NBA) from 1984 through 2014. Mr. Stern is survived by his adoring wife, Dianne, and his two sons, Andrew and Eric.

As NBA Commissioner, Mr. Stern shepherded the NBA from a middling American sports product to a global entertainment giant. During his tenure as commissioner, the NBA gained 7 new franchises, opened offices in 15 cities outside the United States, and televised games in more than 200 countries and in 50 languages.

Business accomplishments aside, David Stern's socially responsible leadership of the league was truly groundbreaking. He was deeply committed to advancing opportunities for women in the game of basketball, overseeing the creation of the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) in 1997. In speaking of his commitment to the WNBA, the league's first president, Val Ackerman, said, "Without his vision and engagement, the league wouldn't have gotten off the ground. He was the mastermind, and the WNBA was really in line with his vision about how sports and society are intertwined."

We also recognize David Stern for his support of Los Angeles Lakers forward Earvin 'Magic' Johnson in the wake of Johnson's HIV+ diagnosis in 1991. In an era of great mythmaking and stigma regarding people living with AIDS and HIV, Stern appeared publicly with Johnson at a press conference in the announcement's wake and invited Johnson to participate in that NBA season's All-Star game. The next summer, he ensured Johnson's inclusion on the 1992 Olympic 'Dream Team' that sent NBA players to compete in the Olympics for the first time in the league's history, an achievement Stern also masterminded.

Stern's public support for Magic Johnson, coupled with his efforts to educate both the league and the public about the reality of the disease, was more than just a nice gesture from employer to employee. It was a bold, public demonstration of compassion that

changed minds and undoubtedly helped save lives. For this, we honor the character and strength of David Stern.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members of Congress to join me in recognizing David Stern's exceptional accomplishments and in sending our sincerest condolences to his family, friends and colleagues.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I regretfully missed votes on Monday, February 10, 2020. I had intended to vote "yes" on roll call vote 55, and "yes" on vote 56.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HARLEY ROUDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mr. ROUDA. Madam Speaker, I missed votes on Monday, February 10, 2020 to attend a memorial service in my district. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call Vote No. 55 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 2932, as Amended): YEA; and Roll Call Vote No. 56 (On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 3413, as Amended): YEA.

PROTECTING CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE AGAINST DRONES AND EMERGING THREATS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 10, 2020

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 4432, the "Protecting Critical Infrastructure Against Drones and Emerging Threats Act."

As Chairman of the Cybersecurity, Infrastructure Protection, and Innovation Subcommittee, I have made it a priority to understand the security challenges facing our critical infrastructure and to figure out solutions.

My district in Louisiana has one of the nation's highest concentrations of critical infrastructure—including pipelines, refineries, ports, and stadiums.

I have talked with owners and operators of critical infrastructure in my district and across the nation about the security issues they're facing, and there is always one common theme: Drones.

Drones are hardly a new technology, but they do present policymakers at every level of government with serious challenges.

It's a challenging issue because drone technology is an important tool in infrastructure security, providing situational awareness over critical infrastructure.

At the same time, we know bad actors can use drones to move explosives, conduct surveillance and mapping activities, and carry out cyber attacks.

The weaponization of drones is not just a potential concern—we have seen it happen.

Late last summer, drones were used to strike oil installations in Saudi Arabia, halting half of the country's oil production. And, in late 2018, reports of drone activity near the runway at Gatwick Airport outside London grounded hundreds of flights.

The Federal government is aware of the security threats posed by drones, but we don't have a full picture of where and how often unauthorized drone activity is happening near our critical infrastructure.

Owners and operators of chemical facilities regulated under the Chemical Facilities Antiterrorism Standards program have complained that no one in the Federal government collects information about unauthorized drone activity over their facilities.

Our operators want to share important threat information that can inform our antiterrorism efforts but there's no one to collect it.

We must do better.

H.R. 4432 would require DHS to establish a way for owners and operators to voluntarily report information about unauthorized drone activity over their facilities. DHS would then use that information to develop a threat assessment on unmanned aerial systems and other emerging threats.

H.R. 4432 marks an important step forward for DHS in its partnership with the private sector and in gaining full situational awareness about the threats posed by drones in the U.S.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I want to note my concerns with the President's FY 2021 budget request for the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

Despite bipartisan agreement that CISA needs more resources to deal with more frequent and sophisticated cyber attacks, the budget slashes DHS' cybersecurity arm by \$250 million. Inexplicably, it calls for a \$10 million cut for cybersecurity support for State and local governments, at a time when they are increasingly targeted by foreign adversaries and criminal hackers.

Worse still, it would eliminate funding for DHS' chemical antiterrorism security program that was established under the leadership of former Secretary Chertoff in response to intelligence suggesting chemical facilities would be a ripe target for terrorists.

Chemical facilities remain a target for terrorists, and I am disturbed by the Administration's poor judgment related to this important antiterrorism program.

With that, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 4432.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KATHLEEN M. RICE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Miss RICE of New York. Madam Speaker, I was necessarily absent from votes on Monday, February 10, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 55, and YEA on Roll Call No. 56.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, due to flight schedules, I was unable to be in D.C. for votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 55, and YEA on Roll Call No. 56.

AMID BOOMING ECONOMY URGING TRUMP ADMINISTRATION TO RELEASE SUPPLEMENTAL H-2B VISAS

HON. ANDY HARRIS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mr. HARRIS. Madam Speaker, thanks to the Trump Administration, the American economy is booming. Job growth surged by 225,000 positions in January, and the unemployment rate remains near the 50 year low. These are just the latest indicators of a resurgent American economy under President Trump. With Mr. Trump in office, the U.S. economy has added more than 100,000 new jobs for 34 of the 38 months and the unemployment rate has been at or below 4 percent for 23 consecutive months—nearly two years. Americans of all backgrounds have benefited from this economic boom with the unemployment rates for African Americans, Hispanic Americans, and Asian Americans all hitting record lows in 2019. The labor force participation rate is at 63.4 percent, the highest level since 2013 and nearly three quarters of new positions are being filled by individuals previously outside the labor force. Wage growth is holding at or above 3 percent for the 18th consecutive month and, under President Trump, workers' wages are rising faster than managers' wages.

With all of this success, it is easy to forget that this booming economy has also brought labor shortages throughout the economy, particularly for seasonal businesses. Right now, there are simply more seasonal jobs open than there are Americans willing, able and qualified to fill them. On behalf of seasonal businesses from industries such as seafood processing, tourism and hospitality, landscaping, fairs and carnivals, golf courses, reforestation, contractors and horse racing, who continue to struggle with seasonal labor shortages, I rise to urge the administration to release adequate supplemental H-2B visas, as authorized by the Further Consolidated Appropriations Act 2020, to meet these seasonal businesses' temporary seasonal labor needs.

As a member of the Committee on Appropriations, I coauthored the amendment in the FY 2020 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations bill that authorizes the administration to release additional H-2B visas. In January, I sent a letter with 188 of my colleagues, both Democrat and Republican, from both the House and Senate, urging the Administration to exercise that authority and release additional H-2B visas. The bipartisan support for this program demonstrates the significant economic impact these workers have across our country.

The temporary guest workers provided by the H-2B program are vital to the American economy and the economy of Maryland's First District, particularly on the Eastern Shore, and support tens of thousands of down-stream American jobs. While it is ultimately the responsibility of Congress to provide a long term solution to the chronic shortage of H-2B visas, I strongly urge the administration to use the authority granted to them to continue to support these seasonal businesses and release an adequate number of additional H-2B visas to meet the labor demands of seasonal employers nationwide.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, on Monday, February 10, 2020, I was unable to attend roll call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted AYE on Roll Call vote 55 (H.R. 2932), and AYE on Roll Call vote 56 (H.R. 3413).

IN MEMORY OF MIDSHIPMAN DUKE ANTHONY CARRILLO

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2020

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Midshipman Duke Anthony Carrillo of Flower Mound, Texas. On February 8, 2020, Duke passed away after collapsing during his semi-annual physical readiness test. He was a dynamic, patriotic young man intent on serving his country as a military officer.

He was the son of Gerald and Jennifer Carrillo, and brother of fellow midshipman, his twin Dylan, and younger brother Jake.

He was a 2016 graduate of Flower Mound High School. An all-star athlete, Duke was a three-year varsity letterman in football and wrestling. He was an Eagle Scout, member of the Flower Mound High School Student Council, and an active church and community volunteer. In everything that he did, Duke strived for greatness.

Led by his strong desire to serve his country, Duke received nominations to attend the United States Naval Academy and United States Merchant Marine Academy. He also received a letter of assurance from the United States Coast Guard Academy. On June 28, 2018, Duke was inducted in the Naval Academy's Class of 2022, with his twin brother Dylan.

Duke believed that service to country is one of the greatest achievements a man can have, and that he was called to take a stand to serve and protect our nation.

He aspired to be a naval aviator, was a member of the Naval Academy's Flight Training Squadron and was selected to serve as a Naval Academy Summer Seminar squad leader. Duke majored in quantitative economics, was an active member of the 24th Company and an intramural athlete.