

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 30TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF BAKU POGROMS

**HON. TJ COX**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 21, 2020*

Mr. COX of California. Madam Speaker, this year we mark the 30th anniversary of the anti-Armenian pogroms that took place in Baku, Azerbaijan. These pogroms were a continuation of a longstanding pattern of increasingly violent attacks against Armenians. During a week-long pogrom, Armenians in Baku were killed, tortured, robbed, and tens of thousands were forced to flee their homes to escape persecution, causing families to be uprooted and torn apart.

The Azerbaijani leadership has yet to be held accountable for this violence against its Armenian civilians. Instead of condemning these atrocities of decades ago, the Aliyev government continues holding a militant policy against Armenians, especially within the region of Nagorno-Karabakh.

I call upon my colleagues to join me in condemning this atrocity, strengthening our ties to the Republic of Artsakh, and holding Azerbaijan accountable for its actions. While we mourn the lives lost in this tragedy, it is imperative that we encourage Azerbaijan to acknowledge their past and that we press forward with the bipartisan Royce-Engel peace proposals.

Madam Speaker, we must follow a principled U.S. policy—condemning violence and promoting peace—both by securing foreign aid to Nagorno-Karabakh and withholding financial and military support from Azerbaijan. I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Armenian Caucus to continue pushing policies promoting peace and human rights for Armenians and for all.

RECOGNIZING STEVE COKER

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 21, 2020*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding Mississippian, New Albany Fire Chief Steve Coker, who is retiring after an impressive career.

Steve Coker began his lifelong career in 1991 with the East Union Volunteer Fire Department in Union County, Mississippi. His excellent service earned him the title of Fire Chief of East Union, and later, he became the Union County Fire Coordinator. Steve was also selected to serve with the Mississippi Fire Chiefs Association as Northeast District Vice President.

I thank Steve for his lifelong dedication to fire safety and for making Mississippi a better place. I wish him many years of good health

and hope he enjoys his well-deserved retirement.

CHRISTINE ARBOGAST

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 21, 2020*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Christine Arbogast for receiving the 2020 Wayne N. Aspinall Water Leader of the Year award presented by the Colorado Water Congress.

This lifetime achievement award honors Coloradans who have long demonstrated courage, dedication, knowledge, and strong leadership in the development, protection, and preservation of Colorado water. As only the third woman to receive this prestigious honor, Christine exemplifies all of these qualities and is deserving of this recognition. Christine is the President of Centennial-based Kogovsek & Associates, specializing in water management, development and conservation, the use and protection of public lands, and American Indian issues. Christine has worked for decades on these issues and has made an impact on the state of Colorado. She is the current President of the National Water Resources Association and led its Federal Affairs Committee for years. Christine is also the President of the non-profit Women in Water Scholarship Fund. She previously served as a Special Projects Administrator for the Colorado Department of Agriculture.

Christine's contribution to our state is remarkable as exemplified by the Colorado Southeastern Water Conservancy District when they stated, "She was instrumental in completing the Ute Mountain Ute Indian Rights Settlement, defeating American Water Development Inc.'s attempt to appropriate Rio Grande groundwater, and creating the Great Sand Dunes National Park and Rio Grande Natural Area."

Christine's dedication to the development, protection, and preservation of Colorado water is tremendous. I extend my deepest congratulations to my friend Christine Arbogast on this honor and for her contributions to our community and the entire State of Colorado.

IOWAN OF THE WEEK—DR.  
VERGARIE SANFORD

**HON. CYNTHIA AXNE**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 21, 2020*

Mrs. AXNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Dr. Vergarie Sanford for her outstanding work and commitment as a faith leader in her community.

Dr. Sanford serves as a minister at Mount Zion Refuge Center Church in Council Bluffs.

Here, she centers her work on creating safe, supporting communities that focuses on serving God by serving others. Dr. Sanford engages young women, providing mentorship for girls between ages 12 and 18. She has also worked in local middle schools on bullying prevention programs. Her dedication to bettering her community is shown in her multiple memberships on the boards of local Council Bluffs organizations. Dr. Sanford is a true community leader and servant.

Born and raised in Council Bluffs, Dr. Sanford is dedicated to continued learning that allows her to better serve her fellow Iowans. She graduated from Abraham Lincoln High School and attended Iowa Western; most recently, she received her Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from Oral Roberts University, and I know her community is deeply proud of this accomplishment. She said she is inspired by Matthew 9:37 which reads "the harvest is plentiful but the laborers are few" which speaks to her heart and desire to serve her community.

Dr. Sanford is on the Board of Directors of Children's Square U.S.A., which provides behavioral health, educational services, child welfare, and emergency services to families. She is also the Vice Chair on the Board of Directors of Centro Latino. This organization created a social services office in Council Bluffs to help the growing Latino community navigate through different resources including pantry services, housing assistance, applications to Medicaid, SNAP, and unemployment. Through her work, Iowans are getting access to services they need to support their families.

It is an honor to commemorate the outstanding achievement of Dr. Sanford and celebrate the hard work that she has put in to give back to her community. I have great respect and admiration for activists like Dr. Sanford who continue to build up others and help them fulfill their needs.

HONORING THE HONORABLE  
SYLVIA GALE

**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 21, 2020*

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Sylvia Gale for all she does to make the Nashua region such an incredibly special place to live.

Whether it has been her important contributions to the Division for Children, Youth and Families as a former New Hampshire state employee, her leadership on the New Hampshire House Judiciary Committee, or her activism as the Vice Chair and Secretary of Nashua's Cultural Connections Committee, her contributions to our state have been lasting and meaningful.

On behalf of my constituents across New Hampshire's Second Congressional District, I

• 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.

thank Sylvia for her many years of service and for being a part of what makes the Granite State so special.

CONGRATULATING MYST ON  
THEIR GRAND OPENING

**HON. DANIEL MEUSER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 21, 2020*

Mr. MEUSER. Madam Speaker, it is with great joy that I rise today to congratulate MYST Hibachi/Sushi/Gastropub in Jim Thorpe on their recent grand opening.

Small business owners and entrepreneurs, like Mike Heiser and Josh Crownover, co-owners of MYST, are the lifeblood of our communities. From its pleasant restaurants to charming stores, Jim Thorpe thrives on the innovative small businesses and those who support them. I am confident that MYST will be a fantastic addition to Carbon County's flourishing small business community.

Jim Thorpe is a true gem in Pennsylvania's Ninth District. This quaint town welcomes thousands of visitors each year who come to enjoy its beauty, explore its unique shops and restaurants and appreciate the pristine nature that surrounds it. MYST will continue to build on the distinctive experiences Jim Thorpe offers to residents and tourists alike.

On behalf of the U.S. House of Representatives and the citizens of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating MYST on their grand opening. We wish them the best of luck and success on their new business endeavor.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 1494—HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (HBCUs) HOMELAND SECURITY PARTNERSHIPS ACT

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 21, 2020*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, as a member of the bipartisan Congressional HBCU Caucus and an original co-sponsor, I rise in support of H.R. 1494, the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Homeland Security Partnerships Act, which strengthens partnerships between historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions, and the Department of Homeland Security.

As a strong proponent of the preservation of our nation's HBCU's and MSI's, I support this bill because our students deserve to receive an outstanding education and have access to equal resources, regardless of the institution they choose to attend.

H.R. 1494 would improve the quality of HBCU's and minority serving institutions by allowing the Department of Homeland Security to promote recruitment, hiring, research and acquisition opportunities.

H.R. 1494 also requires the Department of Homeland Security to send each HBCU and minority-serving institution a comprehensive list of internship, fellowship, scholarship and

recruitment opportunities within the Department for students and graduates of such institutions.

In addition to the implementation of strategies to improve governmental relations with these colleges, universities and institutions, the DHS will submit reports detailing financial awards, descriptions of how the partnerships are enforced, and summaries of outreach efforts to HBCU's and minority-serving institutions.

Madam Speaker, I am proud that one of the greatest HBCUs in the country, Texas Southern University, is located in my congressional district.

Texas Southern University has a rich history with nine academic units, 1,000 dedicated staff members, and over 9,200 esteemed students.

Like most of my HBCU Caucus colleagues, I have worked closely with my local HBCU to provide funding and resources needed to enable them to fulfill their mission of educating the next generation of social engineers and conducting research programs addressing issues of major concern to the African American community.

As Chairwoman of the Homeland Security Subcommittee on Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection in the 111th Congress, I authored the legislation to establish a Transportation Security Center of Excellence at TSU and worked to help TSU secure \$1.2 million in funding over four years from the Department of Homeland Security for this Center of Excellence.

One of my proudest accomplishments as a member of Congress is my success in working with federal officials in the Clinton Administration to settle the lawsuit against TSU that had been pending for more than 23 years.

I was proud to spearhead the initiative that brought more than \$13 million in financial aid relief for the students and campus of Texas Southern University.

I also worked with TSU administrators to initiate digital archive projects to preserve the records of two of its most distinguished alumni, the legendary Barbara Jordan and Mickey Leland, both of whom preceded me as the Member of Congress for the Eighteenth Congressional District of Texas.

I was pleased to facilitate a partnership between Comcast and TSU's School of Communication to provide scholarships and internships to TSU students and in-kind marketing services to the university.

I helped secure funding needed to establish the Center for Transportation, Training and Research in the TSU College of Science, Engineering, and Technology.

HBCU's have played a critical role in American history.

As the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. stated:

"The function of education is to teach one to think intensively and to think critically. Intelligence plus character—that is the goal of true education."

HBCUs do not just educate—HBCUs have and will continue to fill an important role in education opportunity and engagement for millions of young people from diverse backgrounds.

Funds provided by the Science and Technology Directorate grants and cooperative agreements will provide enhancements in areas relating to homeland security such as

cybersecurity, emergency management and counterterrorism.

As leaders of this country, the success and expansion of HBCUs and minority-serving institutions falls on our shoulders and we must act swiftly to ensure that these institutions are protected.

In an effort to maintain the legacy and educational quality of our historically Black colleges and universities and minority-serving institutions, we must act urgently to ensure the proper relationships are established between all of these institutions and the Department of Homeland Security.

I ask all members to join me in voting for H.R. 1494, the Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) Homeland Security Partnerships Act.

HONORING A.E. HOTCHNER

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 21, 2020*

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in admiration of the life of A.E. Hotchner, the novelist, bon vivant, friend-of-the-famous and philanthropist who died last Saturday at the age of 102. Mr. Hotchner led a charmed life filled with movie stars, musicians, and literary lions. He was known as a loyal friend and companion, particularly to the likes of Ernest Hemingway and his Connecticut neighbor Paul Newman. With Mr. Newman, he founded Newman's Own, a non-profit brand of salad dressings and sauces created to underwrite charitable causes that has, since 1982, delivered hundreds of millions of dollars to good causes. He and Mr. Newman also founded the Hole in the Wall Gang in 1988 for children with life-threatening illnesses, underwritten in part by a 1991 Lincoln Center benefit gala starring Julia Roberts, Meryl Streep, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Matt Damon, Joanne Woodward and her husband, Mr. Newman. It was Mr. Hotchner's adaptation of one of Hemingway's short stories, "The Boxer," that introduced him to a young Paul Newman, who played the part of the boxer originally intended for James Dean after Dean was killed in a car crash in 1955. A St. Louis native and a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis and its law school, Mr. Hotchner met Hemingway in 1948 as a literary agent for *Cosmopolitan* magazine, where his job was to persuade famous people to write for the publication. He found Hemingway in Cuba, beginning a friendship of travel and drinking that included Spanish bullfights and hunting in Idaho and only ended with Hemingway's suicide in 1961. The best known of his many works about celebrities was *Papa Hemingway: A Personal Memoir* (1966). He also published a book of their correspondence, *Dear Papa, Dear Hotch* (2005) and two plays about the Nobel Prize winning novelist. Mr. Hotchner also wrote about film stars Clark Gable, Marlene Dietrich, Doris Day, and Sophia Loren; about the heiress Barbara Hutton and the French fashion designer Coco Chanel; and the illustrated history *Everyone Comes to Elaine's*, about the Manhattan nightclub famous for its prominent clientele. Mr. Hotchner was famous in his own right for a series of memoirs, historical novels and plays. His play