

very rigorous nursing program you were well prepared for the challenges ahead.

Dr. Taylor started her nursing career at Baptist Memorial Hospital (BMH) in Oxford, MS and worked at this facility for 7 years as the Charge Nurse. While working at BMH full-time, she traveled once a week to Alcorn State University (ASU) nursing campus for the next 2 years. She earned her Master of Science as a Nurse Educator graduating with highest distinction and inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau National Honor Society of Nursing. She accepted an Assistant Professor position in their Associate Degree Nursing at ASU. Dr. Taylor possessed not only a passion for learning but immensely enjoyed teaching and sharing her knowledge and clinical experience. While teaching full-time at ASU, Dr. Taylor earned her Post Master's as a Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP). This was a very difficult time in her life because her sister and best friend, Renetha, was diagnosed with a terminal cancer and lost her battle on October 6, 2002.

In January of 2004 a unique opportunity arose and Dr. Taylor was invited to join a team of dynamic African American women with a diverse background in the nursing profession to start the first Associate Degree Nursing Program at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, MS. Dr. Taylor and other faculty referred to themselves as the "Dream Team" and was determined to create one of the best nursing programs for those aspiring to become registered nurses in the state of MS. Although this dream was short-lived, her dynamic team laid the groundwork and this RN program is thriving today. Dr. Taylor has dedicated years of service into almost all areas of nursing from the hospital setting to academia to correctional setting just to name a few.

On March of 2009, Dr. Taylor accepted a position in the MS Delta at a private Cardiology practice. This in many ways for her was surreal because now she would be providing care to patients with heart disease, a disease that abruptly ended her own father's life at the age of forty-six. She was eager to accept this challenge because this would give her the opportunity to help others combat heart disease and save lives, something she was not able to do for her very own father. Dr. Taylor knew this had to be fate, a higher power orchestrating this only-for-her opportunity.

On January 2010, Dr. Taylor pursued her highest level of education in her profession. While working full-time as a Cardiology Nurse Practitioner, she began her doctoral degree at the University of Alabama Capstone College of Graduate Nursing. Her scholarly project explored the precursors of coronary heart disease among women of color in the MS Delta. She graduated with a 4.0 GPA and again inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau National Honor Society for Nursing, the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi and the Golden Key International Honor Society. Dr. Taylor earned her Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and her Hooding Ceremony was on the former President Barack Obama's birthday August 4, the year 2012.

Dr. Taylor still practices in the MS Delta specializing in heart disease and managing other chronic diseases such as hypertension, diabetes, hyperlipidemia, etc. She is an advocate for change and currently serves as the Lead Volunteer in the state of MS for the Na-

tional Patient Advocate Foundation (NPAF) out of Washington, DC. Dr. Taylor has attended the last three Patient Congress in DC to be the change agent and voice for her patients. Dr. Taylor was selected by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) and National Institute of Health (NIH) to serve as a stakeholder reviewer for new funding opportunity: Testing Multi-Level Interventions to Improve Blood Pressure Control in Minority Racial/Ethnic, Low Socioeconomic Status, and/or Rural Populations.

Dr. Taylor is an entrepreneur and recently started on own business Day by Day Health and Wellness to be the change she wishes to see in the world. Her passion for healthcare runs deep but she sees the bigger picture and that is focusing more on preventive care versus sick care. Dr. Taylor currently serves as a Community Advisory Board member for Panola County for the Risk Underlying Rural Areas Longitudinal Study (RURAL). She is an active member of the Mississippi Nurses Association. She is an active member of the distinguished ladies of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, Upsilon Iota Omega Chapter. She is also an active member of the NAACP Panola County Branch. And lastly and more importantly, she is the doting aunt to her nieces and nephews and the loving wife to her soulmate, Mr. Whittington Bufford, Jr.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Tammy Terel Taylor for her dedication to serving her community and this great state.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2020

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 28, 2020, I missed votes due to my oldest son's high school graduation.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 113; YEA on Roll Call No. 114; and NAY on Roll Call No. 115.

#### MILITARY SPOUSE CAREER EDUCATION ACT

#### HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLÁN

OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2020

Mr. SABLÁN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Military Spouse Career Education Act to help military spouses access the education they need to enter and excel in careers that require government-recognized credentials.

My bill would help military spouses achieve their career goals by covering the costs of exams awarding college credit and continuing education units needed to maintain professional licenses and certifications.

Military spouses participating in the My Career Advancement Account (MyCAA) Scholarship Program would be able to finish their degrees faster by earning credit through exams such as the College-Level Examination Program (CLEP) and DANTES Subject Standard-

ized Tests (DSST). CLEP and DSST award credit recognized by thousands of schools for a wide range of courses needed for degrees in health care, education, business, technology and other in-demand fields. Access to these alternatives to traditional classes provides spouses the ability to achieve their educational goals at their own pace while saving limited MyCAA funds for other expenses.

Maintaining licenses and certifications would also be easier for MyCAA participants and spouses moving with their service member under permanent change of station orders. The Defense Department currently covers the cost of spouses' relicensing fees when relocating with their families. States and territories that do not recognize credentials from other jurisdictions may also require additional training. The Military Spouse Career Education Act reimburses spouses for the costs of continuing education units needed to keep their credentials and continue careers in their new place of residence.

The gentleman from Indiana, Mr. BANKS, is an original cosponsor of the bill. I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation.

#### A FRESH START

#### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2020

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today, to recognize the 20th anniversary of a local small business in Lakewood, Colorado—A Fresh Start.

A Fresh Start is a prime example of the American Dream—owned and operated by Tom Bogeljic, a Bosnian refugee who came to the U.S. in 1997, and shortly after settling into the Denver suburbs, opened his own small business. A Fresh Start has grown substantially in the last 20 years, and Tom has been at the forefront of its growth.

A Fresh Start opened its doors in Lakewood, Colorado on December 1, 1999 and has provided commercial and residential cleaning to places across the 7th Congressional District and Denver Metro area. It has survived quite a few challenges over the last 20 years, surviving the Great Recession as well as being designated an essential service during the current COVID-19 public health crisis.

During Small Business Month, I want to recognize Tom and his business as examples of a true entrepreneurial spirit and his contribution to our community by using eco-friendly materials and putting his employees first.

I extend my congratulations to Tom and A Fresh Start on its achievement of 20 successful years in our community. Keep up the good work.

#### HONORING THE CAREER OF ARMOND "SKIP" SCIPIONE

#### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2020

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Mr. Armond "Skip"

Scipione in recognition of his retirement from the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of New York after more than 40 years in public service, as the USAO NDNY Law Enforcement Coordination Manager. Mr. Scipione has demonstrated a profound commitment to his community and country during his long career in law enforcement and service in the U.S. Air Force and New York Air National Guard.

A graduate of East Syracuse-Minoa High School and Onondaga Community College, Mr. Scipione began his career in law enforcement in 1980 as a police officer for the Town of DeWitt Police Department. He subsequently went on to serve as an Investigator for the Onondaga County District Attorney's Office, where he prepared cases for over 100 homicide trials. In 2004, he was hired by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of New York as the Law Enforcement Coordination Manager. Mr. Scipione served in this role for 16 years, working to facilitate and support law enforcement efforts to increase safety and enhance the quality of life for our community.

In addition to his service in law enforcement, Mr. Scipione served his country in the U.S. Air Force and in the New York Air National Guard. During this time, he was deployed overseas on several occasions, and notably, supported efforts in Kuwait during Operation Desert Shield.

Outside of public service, Mr. Scipione is a devoted husband to his wife, Cindy, and a dedicated father to their three children. He is a proud grandfather to four grandchildren and dog owner to his German Shepherd, Amish.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in recognizing Mr. Armond "Skip" Scipione. As a dedicated public servant, I wish Mr. Scipione the best in his retirement.

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OPPOSING THE GROW ACT'S  
INCLUSION IN THE HEROES ACT

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2020*

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I am very pleased the House took important action to support the pensions of millions of Americans in the HEROES Act. Action to secure the retirement benefits of workers and retirees in

troubled multiemployer plans and the long-term solvency of the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) remains a top priority of mine. Despite this positive effort, I am troubled by inclusion of provisions that impact healthy multiemployer pension plans. The inclusion of the GROW Act, which possesses significant conflicting support and opposition on important, must pass legislation is deeply troubling. The GROW Act will hurt workers, retirees, employers and the PBGC, and should not become law.

Composite plan legislation would create two plans—an existing plan and a new "composite" plan—out of a single, finite pool of assets. This places added burden on the ability to fund each adequately, increasing the odds of failure. Existing plans could refinance their obligations over 25 years—more than 10 years longer than current law allows. This reduces available funds for benefits under existing plans, making them vulnerable to funding shortfalls—and thus at risk for draconian benefit cuts in times of market volatility. For example, if Congress had already passed the GROW Act and it was law during the market volatility COVID inflicted on the stock market, the benefits composite plan participants expected to earn would be cut 70 percent, and the vested benefits they already earned would be cut 25 percent. At the same time, the vested benefits of participants in the existing plan would be cut 21 percent.

In addition to using accounting gimmicks to weaken existing multiemployer pension plans and place Americans' retirement security at risk, composite plans would also make it easier for employers to withdraw from existing multiemployer pension plans altogether, without paying their fair share of obligations to participants. Under current law, employers withdrawing from a pension plan must pay a "withdrawal liability" based on their contribution to the plan. Provisions of the GROW act would eliminate withdrawal liability for composite plans, and it would dramatically reduce the cost of withdrawing from an existing plan.

Moreover, composite plans would not be insured by the PBGC and would be exempt from paying PBGC premiums. This erodes the PBGC premium base significantly. When combined with plan failures that composite plans would accelerate, the PBGC will face new liabilities that will drive it to a new solvency crisis. Because of the grievous harm the GROW Act imposes on workers, retirees, the PBGC, and the entire multiemployer plan system, I

strongly oppose its inclusion in the HEROES Act.

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JONES ACT 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2020*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, tomorrow June 5 marks the 100th anniversary of the Jones Act, our nation's federal law guaranteeing a fleet of US-built, flagged, crewed, and owned vessels ready to serve the American people.

The current coronavirus global pandemic has reminded us all the critical importance of this foundational federal law and having a vibrant US-flagged maritime industry. The global maritime trade ground to a halt due to quarantine, and countries like China ordered their government-sponsored enterprises to stop all exports of critical medicine and medical supplies, including personal protective equipment for healthcare workers and first responders.

The Jones Act ensures that our nation can remain self-reliant during peace time and times of conflict. In California alone, the US-flagged maritime industry supports more than \$12.2 billion annually in economic impact related to the American domestic shipping industry and over 51,000 good-paying jobs. Nationally, the domestic maritime industry supports 648,220 American jobs with approximately 40,000 vessels in the American domestic fleet.

Madam Speaker, most major developed countries including the European Union have cabotage laws like the Jones Act. Congress must continue to support our nation's maritime workforce by upholding the Jones Act and opposing deeply misguided efforts to undermine it. As a member of both the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and the Committee on Armed Services, I plan to continue to do just that.

I hope all members of Congress will join me in that important work. In closing, I wish to mark this important milestone for the Jones Act by thanking the thousands of Americans working in our nation's maritime industry. I thank them for their invaluable work, day in, day out.