

## NEW SUDAN

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 26, 2020*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, congratulations to the Prime Minister of Sudan, Abdullah Hamdok, and President of the Sovereign Council, Lt. General Abdel Fatah al-Burhan, for their invaluable efforts to transition to a "New Sudan" characterized by a civilian-led democratic state, that promotes religious freedom and the rights of women and minorities.

There are immense challenges facing Sudan including political instability, economic fragility, and food security, all exacerbated in the face of a pandemic. The American people are supportive as evidenced by H.R. 6094, The Sudan Democratic Transition, Accountability, and Financial Transparency Act of 2020; the \$356 million in financial support from USAID announced on June 25, 2020, and the 2020 bipartisan House Foreign Affairs Committee visit to Sudan.

The challenges and personal risks accepted by the Prime Minister and Sovereign Council President are recognized. The House of Representatives and the American people are committed to a prosperous and democratic Sudan.

Sudan is ably represented in Washington by Ambassador Noureldin Satti.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN R. CURTIS**

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 26, 2020*

Mr. CURTIS. Madam Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted nay on H.R. 51, the Washington, D.C. Admission Act. I missed this vote due to a scheduled surgery I needed to attend in Utah.

Our nation was founded on the belief that Americans should have equal opportunity to participate in government—and I believe that an engaged citizenry is vital to a successful nation. Because our Founders also believed that no individual state should have undue influence on the federal government, they created a location for the federal government over which Congress has ultimate authority: Washington, D.C. Statehood for D.C. would undoubtedly give the new state priority over existing states, including Utah.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 26, 2020*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on June 25, 2020 due to not being in D.C. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: "no" on rollcall No. 116; "no" on rollcall No. 117; "yes" on rollcall No. 118; and "no" on rollcall No. 119.

## HONORING THE CAREER OF ALEX DELGADO

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 26, 2020*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend, Ms. Alex Delgado, on the occasion of her retirement from television news after 22 years at Fresno County's news station KSEE24. Alex has been a staple in homes across the Central Valley and will be greatly missed.

Alex was born in Mexico City, Mexico and lived in Chicago and Texas, before relocating to the Central Valley. Her journalism career at KSEE 24 began in 1998. Alex has dedicated her career to ensuring the Central Valley's residents are informed and their stories are told. In 2004, she launched a 4 o'clock news segment, as solo anchor and continued to contribute to late-night newscasts. Three years later, Alex started the Valley's first live community lifestyle program, Central Valley Today. In 2019, Alex returned to the news desk as the anchor for KSEE24's morning program, Sunrise.

Along with her award-winning journalism career, Alex has found time to give back to her community. Alex has helped host the Central Valley Veterans Day Parade for many years and served on the local board of the American Red Cross. Her many awards include being named Business Street's Top 40 Under 40, a Top 100 Most Influential Women, and an EMMY Award for her work.

For 26 years, Alex has put her time and energy into bettering the community. She is a mother to two, cares for her family, and still has time to help those in need in the community.

Madam Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Alex Delgado on her career as an award-winning journalist. I ask that you join me in wishing Alex and her family continued success, health and happiness in this new chapter of her life.

## HONORING THE LEGACY OF SHIRLEY MCKAGUE

**HON. RUSS FULCHER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 26, 2020*

Mr. FULCHER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the honorable life and work of a beloved fellow Idaho native. A graduate of Idaho schools, a successful small business co-owner, and a leader in public service—also a long-time personal friend and legislative colleague of mine, Shirley McKague will be dearly missed. First, as a State Representative, then an Idaho State Senator, Shirley worked her way into the hearts of her colleagues in the Idaho Statehouse through her wit, charming personality, and talent. For her family, Shirley leaves behind her husband Paul of 50 years, and six children to carry on her wonderful legacy. I am honored to highlight a life of success and positive influence. As a genuine conservative, Shirley was instrumental in the Idaho State Legislature and in the public serv-

ice careers of countless fellow Idahoans who refer to her as their inspiration. In everything she did, Shirley was always more interested in the welfare of fellow Idahoans than that of her own. Shirley was a beacon in our local communities and known as someone who was thoughtful and soft-spoken, but always on target. God bless Shirley and her family. We will also miss her, and her passion for life.

## CELEBRATING MOSS BROTHERS TIRES

**HON. DAN BISHOP**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 26, 2020*

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate Moss Brothers Tires, a fourth-generation tire business in West Rockingham, North Carolina that has been in operation for more than 100 years.

Moss Brothers was founded as general store by G.W. Moss in 1917. Through skillful management, G.W. Moss helped the business survive the Great Depression and even loaned money to members of the West Rockingham community who were in need.

Moss Brothers was converted to a tire store over 30 years ago and now serves an estimated 50–75 customers each day, including from neighboring counties and into South Carolina. Moss Brothers is currently owned by Will Moss, G.W.'s great-grandson, who continues the family tradition of hard work, dedication and commitment to community.

I salute Moss Brothers for their longstanding service to Richmond County. Here's to another 100 years.

## JUDGING FBI CONDUCT

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 26, 2020*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, with the newest revelations in the current situation regarding General Michael Flynn, Americans need to be alerted by the following revised article from yesterday's Wall Street Journal:

## JUDGING FBI CONDUCT

(By Kimberley A. Strassel)

House Judiciary Committee Democrats were back at their "politicized Justice Department" theme this week, calling a disgruntled former lieutenant of special counsel Robert Mueller to accuse the department of giving special treatment to President Trump's allies. Too bad the testimony came on the very day a federal court confirmed that Mr. Mueller's team and the Federal Bureau of Investigation engaged in misconduct.

A three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit did so via an order requiring Judge Emmet Sullivan to dismiss charges against former national security adviser Mike Flynn. Most of the focus has been on the legal merits of the ruling. Judge Neomi Rao's compelling opinion rebuked Judge Sullivan for ignoring the department's call to drop the case and instead setting himself up as both prosecutor and jury. This was a win for the separation of powers, even as it was a step toward justice for Mr. Flynn.

Largely overlooked was the decision's rebuke of the FBI and the Mueller team. The D.C. Circuit became the first federal court to acknowledge the misconduct that Attorney General William Barr is trying to bring to light. Most of the courts that oversaw Mr. Mueller's prosecutions were asked to do no more than rubber-stamp a plea deal or sign off on a jury verdict. But Mr. Flynn, backed by tenacious lawyer Sidney Powell, fought the charges—forcing the Justice Department to review its actions, acknowledge its bad acts, and move to dismiss its case. Democrats and the press cast this outcome as evidence of Mr. Barr's "politicization." The circuit court begs to differ.

The Justice Department's credibility was at stake here. Judge Sullivan bought into the same Democratic conspiracy theories, which is why he refused Justice's motion to dismiss and appointed retired judge John Gleeson to act as shadow prosecutor. He argued the Justice Department wasn't entitled to the usual "presumption of regularity." And if the circuit judges thought there was anything to claims that Mr. Barr was playing political favorites, it could have allowed the process to continue.

Instead they bluntly noted that there was no "legitimate basis" to question the department's behavior. They even slapped Mr. Gleeson for relying on "news stories, tweets and other facts outside the record." By contrast, Judge Rao's opinion notes: "The government's motion includes an extensive discussion of newly discovered evidence casting Flynn's guilt into doubt." It points out that this includes "evidence of misconduct by the Federal Bureau of Investigation." It finishes by noting that each government branch must be encouraged to "self correct when it errs."

The court's conclusion is obvious. All it had to do was look at the voluminous evidence the Justice Department supplied. Its briefs proved the FBI had improperly pursued Mr. Flynn, keeping open an investigation that produced no evidence, ginning up a "violation" of the seldom-enforced Logan Act, sandbagging Mr. Flynn with an interview that had no "legitimate investigative basis." It even provided new FBI notes this week suggesting that then-President Obama and Vice President Joe Biden were improperly engaged in the investigation. The department's filings showed that the Mueller team had consistently denied defense attorneys exculpatory information. And it explained the straightforward process by which it had reached its decision to withdraw: Mr. Barr in February appointed veteran U.S. Attorney Jeff Jensen to review the case, and in May Mr. Jensen concluded dismissal was "the proper and just course."

What matters, however, is that the public gets the truth from credible sources. It's been coming, from congressional inquiries, from the nonpartisan Justice Department inspector general, from internal Justice and FBI reviews. And now from a court.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 26, 2020*

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, due to travel requirements, I was not present to vote during the first vote series on June 25, 2020.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 116 and NAY on Roll Call No. 117.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF RUFUS HERNANDEZ, JR.

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 26, 2020*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Mr. Rufus Hernandez, Jr., who passed away on April 19, 2020. Rufus was a longtime Fresno community leader and veteran of the Merchant Marines and Air Force, who dedicated his life to helping others.

Rufus was born on February 12, 1927 in Roseville, California. At the age of 17, he enlisted in the Merchant Marines and served as a mariner seaman on the *William N. Byers* Liberty Ship in 1945 and the *SS Monroe* Victory Ship from 1945 to 1946 during World War II. His duties included lookout, cargo transfer, and deckhand. Rufus volunteered to navigate the ship through a foreign port and channels when there was no pilot available to navigate. After his time in the Merchant Marines, Rufus joined the Air Force in 1948 until his service ended in 1952. He served in the 7th Air Division and volunteered for photography training which took him to Denver, South Dakota, and England. He earned the rank of staff sergeant and ran the photography department along with training new recruits.

After his military career, Rufus became a restaurateur and a bank executive. He most enjoyed being a father to his six children and later, a grandfather and great grandfather. He enjoyed spending his time with his fellow veteran friends and was involved in the American Legion. He was honored as Grand Marshall in 2014 Central Valley Veterans Day Parade, representing the Merchant Marines. For many years, Rufus participated in the Central Valley Veterans Day Parade and enjoyed being around veterans who loved their country just as much as he did.

Rufus is preceded in death by his father, Rufus Hernandez, Sr., mother, Sarah Hernandez (Morales), and his two brothers, Robert and Michael Hernandez.

He is survived by his children, daughter Catherine Hernandez, daughter Cheryl Walter and son-in-law Marty Walter, daughter Teresa Smith and son-in-law Doug Smith, daughter Sandra Bettencourt and son-in-law Jeff Bettencourt, son Richard Hernandez and

daughter-in-law Sol Fernandez, daughter Elizabeth (Lizzie) Ahrens; and his many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Rufus Hernandez, Jr. His commitment to his country and dedication to the Central Valley has left an impact. I join his family and friends in honoring his great life.

### CALLING FOR A PEACEFUL RESOLUTION TO GERD PROJECT NEGOTIATION

#### HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 26, 2020*

Mr. CROW. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of continued cooperation and peaceful negotiations between Ethiopia, Egypt, and Sudan regarding the construction and operation of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD). Furthermore, I urge the Trump Administration to respect our nation's role as an impartial observer to these discussions going forward.

As you know, the GERD project broke ground in 2011. Next month, construction will be complete. When fully filled and operational, the dam will generate approximately 6,000 megawatts of electricity—making it the largest hydropower project in Africa. It will directly impact the flow of water, increase the supply of energy, and help ensure food security in Ethiopia, Egypt, and Sudan. In Ethiopia, it will help alleviate drought conditions that have impacted nearly one fifth of its population and inflicted untold damage on crops across the country. In Egypt, it will help improve water supply for the rapidly growing population. In Sudan, it will help reduce sediment and control flooding.

For the past four years, negotiations have followed the 2015 Declaration of Principles, agreed upon by the three countries involved in the negotiations. These principles outlined a commitment to peaceful resolution to conflicts as they arise; mutual trust and respect; information sharing; security; respect for one another's sovereignty; and stewardship of the River Nile.

In recent months, tensions have escalated between Ethiopia and Egypt, putting the project in jeopardy. We must honor our nation's role as an observer of these negotiations and avoid taking on an additional role as a facilitator or mediator. Moreover, we must not play favorites or take any other action that may risk damaging the integrity of this process or put a peaceful, mutually beneficial agreement out of reach.

As negotiations continue, I urge the United States Government and all other international parties to respect the 2015 Declaration of Principles, engage only with African Union diplomats, and support a peaceful resolution for all countries involved and for the region at large.