

and enforcing rules, guidance, and federal laws which require equal employment and labor opportunities in federal contracting such as Executive Order 11246 (Equal Employment Opportunity). That E.O. requires agencies to include certain nondiscrimination and equal employment opportunity provisions in federal contracts, including federally assisted construction contracts. Unfortunately, we are concerned that this Administration's weak record and blatant attempts to roll back important protections enshrined in federal contracting law and regulations will have a disparate impact on minority communities and contractors.

There is no reason why any package to invest in our infrastructure in order to foster a safe and modern transportation system should not also help small businesses like yours. These are not conflicting goals; it actually makes good and sound economic and transportation policy.

As Members of Congress who care deeply about ending unequal access to federal contracts and addressing our nation's glaring infrastructure needs, we hope you understand the need to make sure both goals are met in any infrastructure package and will work with us to achieve them.

Sincerely,

GWEN MOORE, Member of Congress; HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Member of Congress; GREGORY MEEKS, Member of Congress; AL LAWSON, JR., Member of Congress; JAN SCHKOWSKY, Member of Congress; ALCEE HASTINGS, Member of Congress; MARC VEASEY, Member of Congress; SHEILA JACKSON LEE, Member of Congress; BOBBY L. RUSH, Member of Congress; JAOQUIN CASTRO, Member of Congress.

KAREN BASS, Member of Congress; ADAM SMITH, Member of Congress; SUZANNE BONAMICI, Member of Congress; MARCIA L. FUDGE, Member of Congress; AYANNA PRESSLEY, Member of Congress; TERRI A. SEWELL, Member of Congress; BRENDA L. LAWRENCE, Member of Congress; REP. TONY CÁRDENAS, Member of Congress; DONALD PAYNE JR., Member of Congress; BETTY MCCOLLUM, Member of Congress.

YVETTE D. CLARKE, Member of Congress; COLLIN PETERSON, Member of Congress; EARL BLUMENAUER, Member of Congress; ILHAN OMAR, Member of Congress; NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ, Member of Congress; DEBBIE DINGELL, Member of Congress; RASHIDA TLAIB, Member of Congress; BENNIE THOMPSON, Member of Congress; ANDRÉ CARSON, Member of Congress; JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA, Member of Congress.

SANFORD D. BISHOP, Member of Congress; DAVID SCOTT, Member of Congress; BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN, Member of Congress; ADRIANO ESPAILLAT, Member of Congress; JOYCE BEATTY, Member of Congress; WILLIAM LACY CLAY, Member of Congress; MARK POCAN, Member of Congress; ANGIE CRAIG, Member of Congress; LAUREEN UNDERWOOD, Member of Congress; RUBEN GALLEGU, Member of Congress.

CEDRIC L. RICHMOND, Member of Congress; GRACE MENG, Member of Congress; JOHN LEWIS, Member of Congress; EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, Member of Congress; ANTHONY BROWN, Member of Congress; ROBIN L. KELLY, Member of Congress.

## RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF SHERRY ABELOVE ON THE OCCA- SION OF HER RETIREMENT

### HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 1, 2020*

Mr. RASKIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my constituent Sherry Ablove, who is retiring this week after 31 years of dedicated public service. Sherry is a licensed social worker, who has devoted her career to serving the people of Maryland and Montgomery County.

After receiving her master's degree in social work from Washington University in St. Louis, Sherry went on to receive her certification as a Licensed Certified Social Worker—Clinical in the state of Maryland. In 1989, Sherry began work for the Developmental Disabilities Administration within Maryland's Department of Health. For 17 years, she served Maryland's developmentally disabled residents and their families.

In 2006, Sherry went to work for Aging and Disability within Montgomery County's Department of Health of Human Services, where she worked within Adult Protective Services to reduce the risk to senior citizens and those with disabilities. Sherry continued to dedicate her skills and experience to most vulnerable members of the community and state.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the extraordinary career of Sherry Ablove and hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating Sherry on a dedicated lifetime of service.

## CHANGE OF COMMAND AT NSWCRANE

### HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 1, 2020*

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Change of Command at Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division.

On July 1, 2020, Captain Mark H. Oesterreich will move on from NSWCRane after three years of faithful service, and Captain Duncan McKay assume command.

NSWCRane is the world's third largest naval base and is home to a variety of research and testing projects that are critical to our national security ranging from hypersonics to Electronic Warfare is not only a key site for the Navy but also an important economic resource for the Indiana and the Eighth District. NSWCRane is the third largest employer in Southwest Indiana, and the Center provides nearly \$2 million to Indiana's economy each day. Excellent leadership at NSWCRane is thus vital for both the Navy and the State of Indiana.

During his time at the helm of NSWCRane, Captain Oesterreich oversaw important progress made in all three of its focus areas—electronic warfare, expeditionary warfare, and strategic missions. More importantly, Captain "O" successfully instilled trust and confidence in the sailors under his command. I am grateful for his leadership during the past three years, and I wish him fair winds and following seas as he moves on from this command.

Captain McKay comes to Southwest Indiana with tremendous experience that will make him an asset to NSWCRane. After initial deployments to the North Atlantic, Mediterranean, and Persian Gulf, he served as the Battlegroup Operations Officer for Commander Submarine Squadron Eleven (CSS-11) in San Diego. He then completed graduate studies at the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology and served in important logistical and maintenance roles. In his most recent tour, Captain McKay served as the Operations Officer at Portsmouth Naval Shipyard. I look forward to working with Captain McKay as NSWCRane begins a new chapter under his leadership.

On behalf of all Eighth District Hoosiers, it is my pleasure to congratulate Captain Oesterreich and welcome Captain McKay to NSWCRane.

## LAREDO INTERNATIONAL RAIL BRIDGE

### HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 1, 2020*

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to highlight an issue on our southern border, at the Laredo International Rail Bridge, linking the United States to Mexico. This particular bridge is owned by the Kansas City Southern railroad. They are a crucial fixture of the greater Kansas City area economy, employing more than 7,000 people and operating thousands of miles of rail network between the United States and Mexico.

Trains that cross the Laredo International Rail Bridge in either direction are required to stop in the middle of the bridge and switch out the crews and perform various inspections before continuing. This often exacerbates the congestion at the busiest rail crossing on the southern border and leaves the sometimes miles-long trains blocking streets and highways on both sides of the border. Moreover, it limits the number of trains that can make this crossing daily. Many of those trains are carrying agricultural goods, some being shipped from Kansas.

I understand the difficult situation at this border and the importance of finding a solution. The current status of operations at the Laredo International Rail Bridge is inefficient, time-consuming, and a safety hazard. I am also concerned about alternate solutions that do not take our rail workers' labor rights into account. I am committed to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to find a solution that will protect workers' rights and maintain safety, while also maximizing time and space so that our railroads can continue to be successful. Safety and efficiency are the watchwords in solving this problem and we need a reasonable and equitable solution.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 1, 2020*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote in person due to a family commitment.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 123; NAY on Roll Call No. 124; YEA on Roll Call No. 125; NAY on Roll Call No. 126; YEA on Roll Call No. 127; NAY on Roll Call No. 128; and NAY on Roll Call No. 129.

HONORING PLEASANT GREEN  
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 1, 2020*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Pleasant Green Missionary Baptist Church (PGBC), located at 505 East College Street, shepherded by Reverend Darrel McQuirter, as they celebrate 150 years of religious service in the Clinton, MS community.

On June 28, 1852, the First Baptist Church of Clinton was incorporated, ending that first year with fifty-six members, twenty-eight Whites and twenty-eight Blacks. For the first eight years, the congregation worshipped together on the Mississippi College campus in Clinton, MS. After the campus chapel was built in 1860, Blacks were allowed to worship independently in the chapel basement. Led by Mississippi College Professor Reverend T.A. Parrish and college president Walter Hillman, in 1867 a Sunday School was formed for the Black congregants. Pleasant Green Missionary Baptist Church was established in 1870 under the leadership of Reverend Dunbar, who was associated with Mississippi College. The college allowed Pleasant Green Missionary Baptist Church (PGBC) to meet on the Robinson's Athletic Field until property was purchased and a wood frame structure was built, incorporating stained glass windows at what is now 505 East College Street. As time progressed, a brick building with modern amenities was erected.

Currently, Pleasant Green Missionary Baptist Church (PGBC), acknowledges the struggles and accomplishments of the spirit-filled and faithful people and events of the past that have made a bright future for the current members. Now, the church's legacy continues, ever growing and building, while striving to keep all plans within God's will and reaching out to all people.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Pleasant Green Missionary Baptist Church (PGBC), as they celebrate 150 years of service.

CELEBRATING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY  
OF PROFESSOR JEROME A. COHEN

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 1, 2020*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Professor Jerome Alan Cohen, the Founder and Faculty Director Emeritus of the U.S.-Asia Law Institute of the New York University School of Law. Professor Jerry Cohen is a true champion of human rights and the rule of law in China and today

he is celebrating his 90th birthday with his family and friends.

Professor Cohen is one of the foremost experts in Chinese law and government and he also serves as a Senior Fellow for Asia Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. He has provided sage advice and wise counsel to international leaders, U.S. government officials, and Members of Congress throughout his illustrious career including in testimony to the Congressional-Executive Commission on China.

Professor Cohen's extraordinary career on China began in the 1950s when he traveled to Hong Kong to interview with refugees and publish a book on Chinese criminal procedure. In the 1960s he created the East Asia Legal Studies Association at Harvard School of Law and was influential in securing the release of John T. Downey, a former classmate who had been held in a Chinese prison. In the following years he met with Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai and accompanied Senator Ted Kennedy to Beijing to meet with Deng Xiaoping.

Throughout the 1990s, Professor Cohen lived and worked in mainland China. After the Tiananmen Square protests, he established the U.S.-Asia Law Institute at New York University School of Law, dedicated to facilitating the development of the rule of law throughout Asia. As a strong advocate for human rights, Professor Cohen led the way supporting political prisoners in China and helped secure the release of Song Yongyi and Chen Guangcheng. His former students include Taiwanese president, Ma Ying-jeou, and Annette Lu, former Taiwanese vice president under Chen Shui-bian.

Professor Jerry Cohen has not only participated in the history of U.S.-China relations, he has shaped it. All those to advocate for human rights and the rule of law in China owe him a great debt of gratitude. Thank you, Professor Cohen for your exemplary service for humanity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROSS SPANO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 1, 2020*

Mr. SPANO. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 122; YEA on Roll Call No. 121; and NAY on Roll Call No. 120.

IN MEMORY OF ANN VARNUM

**HON. MARTHA ROBY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 1, 2020*

Mrs. ROBY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the honorable life and work of a beloved Alabamian, Mrs. Ann Varnum. Mrs. Varnum passed away on Wednesday, June 10, 2020, after a full life of 80 years. A Dothan native, local media personality, and friend to many, Mrs. Varnum will be dearly missed.

Ann Varnum was born in Dothan on January 15, 1940, to the late Elizabeth and J.P. Jones. Mrs. Varnum attended and graduated from Huntington College and Auburn Univer-

sity with a degree in English. Following graduation, she began a career in teaching before getting her big break at Dothan's WTVY television station.

Mrs. Varnum devoted nearly 50 years to WTVY, working her way into the hearts of Alabamians through her dedication to the community, charming personality, and devotion to God. She is best remembered for hosting the station's morning show, beginning in 1974 until the late 1990s.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Ann Varnum. Her life was one of service, grace, and love for her family and community. She will be greatly missed by all whom she encountered, and her remarkable legacy will be remembered for years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE GRAND  
OPENING OF ALDERWISH CPA,  
PLLC

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 1, 2020*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the grand opening of the new Alderwish CPA, PLLC office in Dearborn, Michigan.

Alderwish CPA, PLLC was formed by Ngeeb Alderwish, CPA in September 2008. In the years since, the company has been dedicated to providing a variety of quality tax and accounting services to people across Michigan. With a strong focus on community, Alderwish CPA strives to cultivate attentive and meaningful relationships with all clients to develop solutions that fit their unique personal and professional needs. Alderwish CPA is committed to the philosophy of building relationships one client at a time, and their promise of excellence is backed by years of experience in the financial sector.

Throughout the community, Alderwish CPA is recognized as an exemplary institution. Under the leadership of Ngeeb Alderwish, the team of Alderwish CPA is composed of diligent, transparent, and honest tax professionals who are consistently commended for their knowledge and great expertise. The team goes above and beyond expectations and tirelessly works to support clients in all capacities. Without a doubt, Alderwish CPA has dedicated themselves to uplifting families and businesses throughout Dearborn and Detroit. Their services have assisted countless institutions across the community navigate complex tax and financial matters and have helped clients move forward with financial clarity and reassurance. Their continued work makes a difference.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the grand opening of Alderwish CPA, PLLC in its new Dearborn office. Alderwish CPA has become an invaluable resource for businesses and families across Dearborn and Detroit, and I am grateful for their work in supporting our local businesses. We wish them the best of luck in their new office location and continued success in the years ahead.