

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
FORMER CLERK OF THE HOUSE
DONNALD K. ANDERSON

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a tireless public servant, whose 35 years of service to the House of Representatives have left an indelible legacy for the People's House: Former Clerk of the House Donald K. Anderson.

Donald Anderson's House career began in 1960, when he left home in Sacramento, California to spend his senior year of high school as a House Page. This transformative experience changed the course of his life, which he would dedicate to serving the House of Representatives.

As a Page assigned to a post in the Democratic Cloakroom, Anderson had a front row seat to the workings of Congress. Following a brief conversation with Clerk of the House Ralph R. Roberts while making a delivery to his office one day, Anderson decided that "being Clerk of the House has to be the best job in the world, and my fantasy as a 17-year-old high school senior was to be the Clerk of the House—little knowing that 27 years later I actually would become the Clerk of the House."

Following his time in the House Page initiative, Anderson attended Sacramento State University and George Washington University, and spent eight years proudly serving his nation in the U.S. Army Reserve. While pursuing his Bachelor's degree in political science, Anderson continued to work for the House, starting as an elevator operator in 1961. The experience he gained and relationships he cultivated led him to a position in the office of Congressman Jimmy Morrison of Louisiana, then to a position as an enrolling clerk and, in 1969, he returned to the Democratic Cloakroom as a second managerial assistant.

Anderson became an expert on procedure and scheduling, establishing a reputation as a sought-after resource for Members looking to navigate the complexities of the House Floor. In 1972, Speaker Carl Albert of Oklahoma appointed Anderson Majority Floor Manager, a position he held for 15 years. And on January 6, 1987, Anderson's lifelong dream became realized when he was sworn in as the Clerk of the House for the 100th Congress, a position he held for eight years until retiring in 1995.

In all his positions, Anderson served with integrity and dedication, taking immense pride in placing the duties of his office before partisanship or political ideology, which became a cornerstone of his tenure as Clerk. As Anderson noted, he was committed to "ensuring that my office was absolutely nonpartisan, that we treated all Members with the same courtesy, the same expediency, the same confidentiality, so that Members of the minority . . . could unburden themselves with me, even though I

was a Democrat, knowing that I would never break their confidence."

As Clerk, he was instrumental in the formation of the House Office of Employee Assistance and the Office of Fair Employment Practices, which continue to serve as vital tools for all House employees to receive the support and resources they need to effectively do their work on behalf of the American people. He also generously shared his deep knowledge of the legislative process and House protocol with new Members during Freshman orientation.

One of Clerk Anderson's most lasting impacts on the House was his commitment to modernize the House. In the era before cellphones, Clerk Anderson's campaign to introduce electronic beepers was a great success, and he constantly sought new tools to ensure Members were kept up-to-date on House proceedings. By harnessing new technologies, Anderson helped the House set the foundation for doing business in the information age and in a world increasingly reliant on technological innovation.

Clerk Anderson's love for the House and dedication to the institution stands as an enduring example for all those who will follow in his footsteps to serve the Congress and the American people.

May it be a comfort to his friends, loved ones and the entire Anderson family that so many mourn their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF LEON
FLEISHER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Congressman ADAM SCHIFF, to honor a musical virtuoso, whose nearly 80-year-long career was marked by extraordinary triumphs, profound struggles and inspiring perseverance: the incomparable Leon Fleisher.

Born in San Francisco in 1928 to Jewish immigrant parents, Leon's life embodied the American Dream. At the age of four, he began listening to his brother's piano lessons before sneaking in afterwards to play everything he had heard by ear. It soon became clear that young Leon Fleisher was a piano prodigy. At age eight, he gave his first recital. At nine, he began training with the world-famous pianist Artur Schnabel. By sixteen, Fleisher was making his debut at Carnegie Hall. At 23, Fleisher became the first American to win the Queen Elisabeth Piano Competition in Brussels and at 25, he released his first studio album.

Leon Fleisher's career was meteoric, vaulting him to the top of the classical music world and making him a sought-after soloist for some of the world's most prestigious orchestras. Music critics of the time described

Fleisher as "transcendent," and that he had "this kind of Apollonian perfection . . . When you hear something that he's playing, you think that is the way it needs to be played."

But Fleisher's true greatness became clear when, at the age of 36, he received the catastrophic diagnosis of Focal Dystonia, which lost him the use of his right hand. While he faced many years of failed treatments and depression, he never lost hope. Instead, he found strength in the healing power of music. Harnessing his extraordinary talents, he continued the work he loved, becoming a master of the left hand repertoire; passing on his knowledge and expertise to younger generations of musicians as a teacher at The Peabody Institute in Baltimore, Maryland; and forming the acclaimed Theater Chamber Players, now based at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. He also served as Artistic Director of the Tanglewood Music Center, Resident Conductor of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra and Music Director of the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra.

In 1995, more than three decades after his initial diagnosis, Fleisher found a course of treatment that allowed him to slowly regain use of his right hand that had eluded him for so long. In reflecting on his years of struggle, Fleisher noted, "There are forces out there, and if you keep yourself open to them, if you go along with them, there are wondrous surprises."

Fleisher received many awards and accolades over the years, including being named a Commander in the Order of Arts and Letters by the Minister of Culture of the French government and a 2007 Kennedy Center Honor—fitting tributes to a remarkable career.

Fleisher's musical brilliance and visionary career strengthened and enriched the artistic fabric of our nation. He leaves a profound legacy for his countless students who follow in his footsteps and for the millions of music lovers around the world who he moved, inspired and entertained.

May it be a comfort to his wife, Katherine, his children, Deborah, Leah, Richard, Paula and Julian, and the entire Fleisher family that so many mourn their loss and are praying for them at this sad time.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA SPECIAL ELEC-
TIONS HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Special Elections Home Rule Act. This bill would give the District of Columbia complete authority to set the date of special elections for local offices, as other jurisdictions already have. Our bill simply removes a Home Rule Act limitation on the District that is not only inconsistent with

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the self-government granted by the Home Rule Act, but is also counterproductive.

This bill follows legislation we got through Congress in 2012 that gave the D.C. Board of Elections ("Board") more flexibility to set the date of special elections for local offices to maximize voter participation. Although we sought complete authority for the District over the scheduling of special elections, the 2012 law, the District of Columbia Special Election Reform Act, did not include this home-rule principle. D.C. should have complete authority over a matter that is unrelated to any other congressional district and has no relevance to Congress.

The Home Rule Act originally required the Board to hold special elections on the first Tuesday 114 days from when the vacancy occurred and allowed the Board to schedule special elections on the same day as the next general election if that election occurred 60 days from when a special election would otherwise have been held. This inflexibility led to special elections being held on religious holidays and forced the District to hold a special election separate from an upcoming general election, costing the District hundreds of thousands of dollars in extra election costs. The 2012 law required the Board to hold a special election on a Tuesday occurring between 70 and 174 days after the vacancy.

Our bill is an important step to perfect home rule for the District. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE
FELICIAN SISTERS LOST TO
CORONAVIRUS

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Ms. STEVENS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to memorialize the beautiful lives of thirteen nuns taken from our community by the scourge of coronavirus between April and June of this year.

We honor the memory of Sister Mary Luiza Wawrzyniak, Sister Celine Marie Lesinski, Sister Mary Estelle Prints, Sister Thomas Marie Wadowski, Sister Mary Patricia Pyszynski, Sister Mary Clarence (Adeline) Borkoski, Sister Rose Mary Wolak, Sister Mary Janice (Margaret) Zolkowski, Sister Mary Alice Ann (Fernanda) Gradowski, Sister Victoria Marie Indyk, Sister Mary Martinez (Virginia) Rozek, Sister Mary Madeleine (Frances) Dolan, and Sister Mary Danatha (Lottie) Suchyta.

These righteous women spent their days working and living together as members of the Felician Sisters at the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary convent in Livonia, Michigan—some for more than a half century. At the time of their deaths, they ranged in age from 69 to 99, still wholly committed to serving the most vulnerable among us.

Prior to the pandemic, the sisters could be found working in our local schools, libraries, and medical facilities, providing enrichment to our students and care to our sick. Many of them pursued degrees in higher education during their lifetimes, always seeking new ways to instill a sense of peace, justice, dignity, and truth in the world around them. My heart aches for the harm done to the soul of our community.

This distinguished group has been responsible for the founding of multiple schools and care centers in Michigan's 11th District, including Madonna University, which has become one of the nation's largest Franciscan universities with a student body of approximately 3,000 students. We, in Michigan's 11th District, are forever indebted to them for their mission and impact. We grieve for the virtuous lives lost, and we hold their extended community in our prayers.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in reflecting on the indelible mark left by these sisters on our community. May the grieving find comfort in the extraordinary legacies of faith and service they leave.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF JAMES
CHARLES EVERS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of James Charles Evers, who passed away on Wednesday, July 22, in Brandon, Mississippi, at age 97.

Charles Evers was born in Decatur, Mississippi, on September 11, 1922. He served in the Army in World War II and later Korea, however, his biggest fight was the fight against racism. Following in his brother's footsteps, civil rights activist Medgar Evers, Charles was a leader in the civil rights movement. His early exposure to racial violence fueled his passion for driving out racism in a Jim Crow Mississippi. He wrote an autobiography, ran a hotel, restaurant, cab stand, and funeral parlor, and would also become one of the first black radio disc jockeys of the state.

In the 1960s, Charles became the mayor of a mixed-raced town for 16 years, and he played a crucial role in black voter registration in Mississippi as well as the desegregation of a hospital.

His accomplishments and dedication to the black community would make Charles an inspiration to other aspiring black political leaders. When Charles decided to run for mayor in Fayette, more than 175 black men ran for office across the state. Charles's determination and refusal to quit would not go unnoticed, as he continued to fight for positions in higher offices and continued to inspire everyone he encountered.

Charles' legacy was and always will be an inspiration to all of us. He was the epitome of a leader, and his impact on the civil rights movement made history. His life demonstrated one of service, grace, and love for his family and community.

Left to cherish his memory are his ten children, three sisters, two brothers, as well as many other friends and extended family members.

IN MEMORY OF CURTIS JACOBSON

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the late Curtis Jacobson,

a long-time resident of Detroit and Michigan's 13th Congressional District.

I first got to know Mr. Jacobson when I served as a legislator in Michigan's State House of Representatives. He was engaged and well-informed on a number of topics, ranging from current events to public policy to everyday issues facing residents of Michigan. Mr. Jacobson never shied away from sharing his opinion. My staff and I always appreciated a call from Mr. Jacobson. It was a delight to hear from him shortly after beginning my first term as U.S. Representative for Michigan's 13th District, and to continue to keep in touch with him.

Throughout his life, Mr. Jacobson had a passionate interest in politics. He sought out knowledge and thought critically about issues. He took pride in his military service, having risen in the ranks to serve as Captain in the U.S. Army. In addition, Mr. Jacobson worked as a substitute teacher before settling into a career as an accountant with the City of Detroit. He retired at the age of eighty. In addition to his work, Mr. Jacobson enjoyed playing bridge and spending time with his family. He is survived by his four children, Mary, Charles, Russel, and Marjorie; his eight grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

It was an honor to know Curtis Jacobson. Please join me in his recognition.

CONGRATULATING BOULDER CITY
MANAGER JANE BRAUTIGAM ON
HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 11, 2020

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, today I wish to recognize and honor the work of an unsung hero. While elected officials across the country receive praise and notoriety for their position, it is often those behind the scenes that truly toil to execute the work needed to keep our great country going. This has never been truer than in the City of Boulder, in Colorado's Second Congressional District, which I have the honor to represent. Nowhere has a City Manager made more of an impact on her community than Jane Brautigam made on hers—on mine. This month, Jane announced her retirement, an announcement that cannot go unrecognized.

Jane was the first female City Manager and the longest serving City Manager in Boulder's history, a testament to her talent, fortitude, and commitment to public service. Among her many accomplishments, Jane guided Boulder through the 2013 floods, the most devastating rain and flood event in modern Colorado history. Earlier this year, Jane was honored by the Colorado City and County Manager's Association as City Manager of the Year. Today, Jane remains pivotal in the necessary response to the urgent crisis of COVID-19 and its unprecedented impacts on our community.

Prior to serving in Boulder, Jane worked as the City Attorney, then as the City Manager, of Loveland, CO, also in my district. In her many leadership roles, Jane strove to empower her staff and to lead by example. Above all, Jane was committed to social, economic, and racial justice.

I am grateful that Jane plans to continue supporting the development of strong city