

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING JUDGE CHUNG K. PAK

HON. DAVID J. TRONE

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mr. TRONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge Chung K. Pak, who was recently appointed Chief Administrative Law Judge of the Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings.

On June 10, 2020, Judge Pak made Maryland State history by becoming the third Chief Administrative Law Judge of the Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings, and the first ever minority Chief Administrative Law Judge. As Chief Administrative Law Judge, he leads the Maryland Office of Administrative Hearings (OAH) and its Administrative Law judges, who are responsible for conducting fair and impartial hearings to resolve a variety of disputes stemming from actions of Maryland's many executive agencies.

Prior to this appointment, Judge Pak served as an Administrative Patent Judge at the United States Patent Trial and Appeal Board for over 23 years, where he adjudicated over 6,000 patent cases involving emerging technologies and complex legal issues and wrote over 2000 opinions eligible for appeal to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit. Judge Pak also served as a corporate intellectual property counsel at Union Carbide Corporation and Praxair, Inc. While there, he provided legal advice and counsel on a wide range of intellectual property issues, including domestic and foreign patent procurement, litigation, trade secrets, antitrust, licensing, and technology transfer issues.

Although Judge Pak is a proud and longtime Marylander, he grew up in Alabama after he and his family immigrated to the United States from South Korea over 49 years ago. Like many immigrants, Judge Pak and his family faced difficulties due to limited economic resources and language and cultural barriers. However, due to their resolve, hard work, faith, and neighbors' help and friendship, Judge Pak and his family were able to overcome these obstacles. In the years that followed, Judge Pak worked his way through school and graduated from Auburn University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering. He later graduated from the Columbus School of Law at The Catholic University of America with a Juris Doctor degree while working as a U.S. Patent Examiner at the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office. Judge Pak then was admitted to the U.S. Supreme Court, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, Maryland Bar, Virginia Bar, D.C. Bar and Patent Bar.

Judge Pak's dedication to public service and making a difference in our country and community is also evident in his activism. Justice Pak is a highly venerated civic activist and leader in Montgomery County and Maryland.

Over the years, he has served on the boards of and in leadership positions on a number of nonprofit community organizations. In particular, he has served as Commissioner of Maryland Higher Education Commission, the Maryland Governor's Commission on Asian Pacific American Affairs, and Montgomery County License Commission; Co-Chairman of the Montgomery County NAACP Multicultural Partnership; Board Member of Progressive Maryland, Montgomery County Branch NAACP, Committee for Montgomery, Maryland Attorney General's Advisory Council, Montgomery County Executive's Asian American Advisory Board, Montgomery County State's Attorney's Asian American Advisory Board, and Montgomery Upcounty Citizens Advisory Board; Chairman and President of League of Korean Americans of Maryland; Montgomery County Asian American Police Advisory Committee, Taskforce to reduce racial tension in John F. Kennedy High School, Comptroller Peter Franchot's Transition Team, and County Executive Ike Leggett's Transition Team.

Known as a consensus and bridge builder, Judge Pak has worked closely with Latino, African American, Asian Pacific American, labor, women, religious, and civil rights groups on issues of common concern. His extraordinary life story and significant contributions to the community have been featured in the Gazette's "One of Forty Who Cared," and in other newspaper articles. For his outstanding service and contributions, he was inducted into Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame. He also received International Leadership Award; The President's Volunteer Service Award; Maryland Governor's Volunteer Service Award; Progressive Maryland's Progressive Leader Award; Montgomery County Executive's Office of Community Partnership's Trailblazer Award, MCDCC's Kelsey Cook Volunteer of Year Award; Census Department's Census Outstanding Volunteer Service Award; Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Community Leader Award, Federal Asian Pacific American Council Outstanding Leader Award, Maryland Coalition of 100 Organizations for Recognition of Asian Lunar New Year's STAR of Maryland Asian Pacific American Community Award; League of Korean Americans of Maryland Outstanding Service and Presidential Awards; Korean American Senior Citizens' Advocate Award; Montgomery County Branch NAACP Certificate of Appreciation; USPTO Asian Pacific American Network Leadership Award; and many other awards. As Senator Barbara Mikulski once said, "Judge Pak has spent a lifetime fighting injustice and inequality. His story is truly an embodiment of the American dream and an example of leadership with compassion and commitment to public service."

HONORING RALPH ELLIOT BOWEN, THE LAST SURVIVING WORLD WAR II VETERAN FROM THE SENECA NATION'S ALLEGANY TERRITORY, FOR BEING INDUCTED INTO THE NEW YORK STATE SENATE'S VETERANS' HALL OF FAME

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Sergeant Ralph Elliot Bowen, the last surviving World War II veteran from the Seneca Nation's Allegany Territory, for being inducted into the New York State Senate Veterans' Hall of Fame. Ralph, who recently turned ninety-eight years old in August, should be celebrated and honored for his bravery and sacrifice.

Ralph fought in the European Campaign as a B-24 Liberator heavy bomber aerial gunner from 1941 to 1945. He helped in the efforts to liberate France and Europe during that time. He was also a member of the 15th Air Force's 450th Bombardment Group, in the 723rd Bombardment Squadron. The unit was involved in missions over France, Austria, Germany, the Balkans and Greece.

Ralph is currently the oldest living member of the Seneca Nation. He is a member of the Snipe Clan, and served five terms as Tribal Councilor, as well as tenures as Peacemaker and Seneca Nation Surrogate Judge. He also served as Seneca Nation Marshal and pastor for the Red House Baptist Church.

In 2019, Ralph was presented with the French Legion of Honor for his military service during World War II. He is the first Seneca and second Native American to receive the appointment of Knight in the Order of the Legion of Honor.

Ralph's service to our nation during a time of great need is something that should be revered and remembered. We cannot forget the great personal risk and dedication he showed during his service. Today, we stand and honor his service and sacrifice. Today, we recognize Ralph, for his courage, resolve and bravery—and I thank him for all that he has done.

Given the above, I ask that this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations and join me to honor Sergeant Ralph Elliot Bowen, the last surviving World War II veteran from the Seneca Nation's Allegany Territory.

RECOGNIZING BEVERLY MYERS FOR DECADES OF SERVICE TO FAIRFAX CITY AND THE NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Beverly Myers and to congratulate

• 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.

her on her retirement following decades of service to Fairfax City and our Northern Virginia community.

As Chairman of the Fairfax City Independence Day Celebration Committee, Beverly has donated her time, skills, and talent with faithful displays of leadership and commitment. Fairfax City's Independence Day Celebration continues to be one of the biggest and best celebrations of our nation's birthday in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Its signature event, the Independence Day Parade, attracts participants and spectators from throughout the region and is an event that I have had the privilege of participating in for years. Every year the parade has continued to grow and flourish, and due to Beverly's efforts, all who attend are guaranteed to have a wonderful time.

Beverly has also dedicated her time serving as Chairman of the Chocolate Lovers Festival Committee. Her leaderships with this festival, another event that I have enjoyed attending over the years, has helped increase the festival's popularity and attendance. Because of Beverly's tireless work behind these events, the City of Fairfax benefited tremendously in reputation, city visits, and economic gain.

Through Beverly's work, she has brought together the community and enhanced volunteerism. Because of her selfless dedication, she has received several community honors and awards recognizing her efforts. These honors include the PRAB Exemplary Service Award (2020), Volunteer of the Year Award (2017), Mayor's Award for Outstanding Community Service and Dedication to Volunteerism (2012) and VFW Post No. 8469 Americanism Award Citation (2010) to name a few of her accolades.

I often say that the health and happiness of a community can be measured in part by the spirit of community and volunteerism that exists. Beverly embodies this spirit of service and we have all benefited from her service.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Beverly Myers and in thanking her for her years of selfless service to our community. As Beverly retires and returns home to Missouri, we wish her continued health, happiness, and success.

NORTH AMERICAN WETLANDS CONSERVATION EXTENSION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 1, 2020

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, over four months ago, the House passed the Heroes Act to support our nation's heroes and everyday Americans to meet the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, the Senate has refused to take up this vital legislation, and many senators seem to believe that Congress has already done enough. The truth is that the needs of our country have only increased. Today 13.6 million Americans are unemployed and 200,000 Americans have died from COVID-19, with cases rising again around the country.

The House is serious about providing relief to Americans and reaching a compromise with the Senate and the White House which is why

today's Heroes Act is \$1.2 trillion less than the original bill we passed in March. Although smaller, today's bill still meets the needs of the American people by putting money in their pockets to strengthen our economy and providing the resources we need to crush the virus. Specifically, the updated Heroes Act includes the following:

An additional \$600 per week in Unemployment Insurance through January 2021;

A second round of \$1,200 checks to most taxpayers and \$500 for their dependents;

\$75 billion for testing, tracing, and treatment to get COVID-19 under control;

\$436 billion to state and local governments who employ heroes like first responders and health care workers who are at risk of losing their jobs;

\$225 billion for K to 12 school, colleges, and universities to address the challenges of distance learning in the new school year;

\$71 billion for renters and homeowners to ensure they don't lose their housing during the pandemic;

Over \$15 billion for connectivity, including \$12 billion to close the homework gap, \$3 billion to keep low-income Americans connected, and \$200 million for telehealth.

The new Heroes Act is proof that the House is willing to compromise in order to deliver desperately needed relief to the American people. It's time for the Senate and the White House to meet us halfway so we can protect American lives and livelihoods.

DR. JAMES "JIM" WALTER
BARTLING

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of a true health care hero, Dr. James "Jim" Walter Bartling, who passed away on September 24 at the age of 70.

Jim dedicated his life to being an amazing son, brother, husband, father, teacher, counselor, pharmacist, and friend.

His life was marked by his contributions to the practice of pharmacy as soon as he graduated from Mercer University Southern School of Pharmacy with a Bachelor of Science degree in Pharmacy, as well as a Doctorate in Pharmacy degree.

Jim practiced at Doctors Memorial Hospital in Atlanta before being named Director of Admissions, Job Placement, and Continuing Education at Mercer University, and eventually became the Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions and served in that role for 38 years until he retired in 2016.

He was also committed to counseling and supporting pharmacists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians with substance abuse disorders.

As a pharmacist myself, I am immensely grateful for the work he did to leave a lasting impact on the pharmacy profession and the countless lives he touched.

His legacy will surely continue for many years to come.

CONGRATULATING MELANIE
KENNEDY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Melanie Kennedy on her recent election to the Board of Directors of the National Association of Federally-Insured Credit Unions (NAFCU).

Ms. Kennedy is the President and CEO of Southwest Financial Federal Credit Union in Dallas, Texas, where she has served for nearly 14 years. Known for her collaboration and networking skills, she has the unique ability to help others achieve greatness.

Ms. Kennedy recognizes the role credit unions play in a functioning economy and is thoroughly dedicated to the success of the industry. Her wealth of financial services knowledge opened up leadership opportunities, including her most recent position as the Treasurer and Executive Committee member of the Cornerstone Resources Board of Directors.

Ms. Kennedy attended the University of Texas at Arlington and is also an active member of her community—volunteering at the Promise House, an organization helping homeless youth in Dallas.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of Texas's 30th Congressional District, I'd like to wish Ms. Kennedy the best of luck in her new role on the NAFCU Board of Directors. I am confident that her skill set will complement the board and its associated credit unions for years to come, and I look forward to working with her.

IN HONOR OF THE MEMORY OF
THE LATE HAJJ MOHAMAD
MEHANNA (ABU IMAD)

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 2, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the esteemed life of the late Hajj Mohamad Kamal Mehanna (Abu Imad). He will forever be remembered for his tremendous service to our community, and he will be deeply missed.

Hajj Abu Imad was a true embodiment of the American dream. In 1988, he immigrated to the United States from Lebanon and quickly dedicated himself to supporting his local community in the Metro Detroit region. He was a founder and board member of the Islamic Institute of Knowledge, an organization that strives to support the spiritual, informational, educational, and social needs of Michigan's Islamic community. Hajj Abu Imad committed himself to furthering the vision and mission of the Islamic Institute of Knowledge, and he served as the Chairman for the Public Relations Committee for many years. Even after immigrating to the United States, Hajj Abu Imad remained faithful to honoring his heritage and supporting Lebanon. He made several trips to Lebanon to meet with the President and Prime Minister to discuss ways to promote progress and meet the evolving needs of the Lebanese community.

Throughout Michigan, Hajj Abu Imad was recognized as a humble, kind, and dapper