

HONORING MEL HUBER

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Melvyn Jay Huber of Blacksburg, Virginia. At 92 years of age, this Marine Corps veteran is not done serving his country or looking out for others. Mel has been troubled by the divisions too often found in our country and the despair it has created for some. For them, he has a simple message: your life matters.

"Your life matters" is how he greets people. It is what he writes on the lowest left of every envelope that leaves his mailbox. He purchased 100 yard signs with this message, and since he is currently in hospice care, others have come by to pick up the signs and put them on display. Currently, the signs can be found in six counties and two independent cities of Virginia's Ninth Congressional District, which I represent, as well as three north-eastern states.

For someone in trouble, hearing from another the simple words "your life matters" can be tremendously reassuring. I commend Mel Huber, a resident of the Ninth District, for sharing his healing message.

## CELEBRATING FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH

**HON. ANDY LEVIN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. LEVIN of Michigan. Madam Speaker, this October, I am proud to celebrate Filipino American History Month, which acknowledges the vast contributions of Filipino Americans to our communities in Michigan and across the country. I am thrilled to join the residents of Macomb and Oakland Counties in highlighting the vibrancy of this community and celebrate Filipino Americans.

For generations, Filipino Americans in Michigan have influenced the culture and history of our state—engaging deeply in public institutions, our local economies and statewide cultural events. I am grateful for their emphasis on service and selfless commitment to their neighbors. Further, Filipino Americans have gifted Southeast Michigan with a rich culture and history that enhances the fabrics of our communities. I also recognize the vital contributions of the Filipino Americans in building spaces free of discrimination, prejudice and ignorance.

Additionally, I am honored to present the United States Pinoy's 4 Good Governance (USP4GG) Michigan with special recognition for their efforts throughout the state. USP4GG has been instrumental in promoting Filipino culture and tradition in Michigan, helping all of us develop a better understanding of their history.

Madam Speaker, I urge Michiganders to follow the many ways USP4GG and our other Filipino neighbors are helping us celebrate the Filipino American History Month this year.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF ARIZONA STATE REPRESENTATIVE FRANK PRATT

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. GOSAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Arizona State Representative Franklin M. Pratt. Frank represented the 8th Legislative District of Arizona well and served his community as a member of both the House and the Senate. A principled conservative who stood firmly for the values he believed in, Frank tirelessly advocated for the people of rural Arizona. He loved the state he called home and led a long and admirable life of civil service.

In addition to Frank's public service as a state legislator, he also served his community as a farmer, rancher, businessman, and was a dedicated family man. Madam Speaker, I am here to express my appreciation for the impact of Frank's service in our Arizona communities and to offer my deepest condolences to his family and beloved wife, Janice. Frank's achievements and community impact will never be forgotten by the people of Arizona.

IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 4350, THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I would like to thank Chairman SMITH, Ranking Member ROGERS, and the Members of the Committee for their leadership in crafting a Defense Authorization Bill that is in line with what Secretary Mattis said we needed in the 2018 National Defense Strategy: 3–5 percent real growth from FY22 to FY25.

This bill addresses the critical areas of emerging tech, research and development, Airpower and Sea power, shipbuilding, and Space among many others.

I would specifically like to thank the Chair and Ranking Member for the inclusion of critical innovation priorities that I requested, such as:

The designation of Entrepreneurial Innovation Projects, which will more effectively transition Small Business Innovation Research programs into the Services' budget process;

The Pilot Program to Facilitate the Agile Acquisition of Technologies for Warfighters and new line for Agile Procurement Transition Pilot programs in the amount of \$100,000,000. This authorization will be critical as we seek to compete with China by leveraging the innovative power of our private sector;

And for the much needed report on flexible funding for transitioning science and technology.

The DoD should not be doing research and development for the sake of doing research. We should always have an eye on developing cutting edge capabilities for the warfighter. For far too long the DoD has struggled to transition and scale critical innovative technologies from development projects to acquisition pro-

grams in a time period that meets the needs of the warfighter and ensures technology providers are able to survive. This report will help Congress understand why so we can develop ways to solve the problem of "the valley of death".

Let me be clear, we are in a geopolitical competition with China, and experts on both sides of the aisle agree that the current budgeting and acquisition process is not adequate to compete and win.

As the Defense bills move through Congress, I look forward to Authorizing and Appropriating the funding, capabilities, and resources that our warfighters need to fight tonight and modernize for the future.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PINE BLUFF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, ENGINEER CORY COLLINS

**HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. WESTERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Cory P. Collins, a Fire and Emergency Services Engineer at Pine Bluff Fire Station No. 6 in Pine Bluff, Arkansas. Engineer Collins passed away on August 21, 2021, after a battle with COVID-19.

Cory was a 9-year veteran of Pine Bluff Fire and Emergency Services where he served his community honorably alongside fellow emergency responders who were like brothers to him. He excelled as a firefighter and was promoted to engineer in May 2018. Engineer Collins was a "jack of all trades," and in his free time, he enjoyed working on numerous projects, spending time with his family, and escaping to the outdoors. He will be greatly missed by his family, his brothers and sisters at Pine Bluff Fire and Emergency Services, and by his community.

I take this time today to honor Engineer Collins' exceptional service to our Pine Bluff community. His steadfast approach and dedication to his neighbors during the current public health crises will be forever cherished. With a heavy heart, I thank Engineer Collins and his family for their unwavering dedication to the city of Pine Bluff and surrounding area.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022

**HON. BRADLEY SCOTT SCHNEIDER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022, including my three amendments included in this legislation.

The FY 22 NDAA authorizes critically important funding and programs for our Armed Forces who put their lives on the line to protect our nation and our people. The legislation ensures our servicemembers and their families have the resources they need and deserve to continue serving our country.

As a parent to two adult sons, nothing is more important to me than my children being

safe and healthy. I had the pleasure of watching them grow up and become the men they are today.

I think we can all agree that a parent's worst nightmare is losing a child. Any parent that has to bury to their child deserves the time and dignity to cope with that grief—a hole in the heart that doesn't heal, but around which one must build anew and move forward however possible.

I hope that someday time to fully mourn a child is available for everyone in America, but at least my amendment to the FY 22 NDAA would guarantee paid bereavement leave for federal employees. This is an important step forward and I hope that we can show even more compassion in the future.

My second amendment would codify the Boots to Business program into law.

Boots to Business is an established, successful training program that has helped servicemembers transitioning into civilian life to start their own businesses. It has already trained more than 100,000 servicemembers on the essential skills of entrepreneurship and this amendment would ensure that many more can benefit from it.

My final amendment would have the Department of Defense create a U.S.-Israel Operations-Technology Working Group. This working group will enable further sharing of information vital to combating current and future threats and enhance our mutual security and the security of the Middle East as a whole.

I appreciate the inclusion of my three amendments in the FY 22 NDAA and support its passage.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, during Roll Call Vote Number 293 on H.R. 4350, the National Defense Authorization Act of 2022, I mistakenly recorded my vote as YEA when I should have voted NAY.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unexpectedly withheld. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 273, NAY on Roll Call No. 282, and NAY on Roll Call No. 287.

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HONORING ANTHONY J. WONG

**HON. DWIGHT EVANS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. EVANS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an influential and dedicated gentleman

from Philadelphia, Anthony J. Wong, a devoted public servant, and former Philadelphia Police Chief Inspector who died on September 8, 2021 at the age of 93.

Anthony J. Wong was born in Philadelphia on April 17, 1928 and was the only child of Chinese immigrants who owned a restaurant in Chinatown. After high school, he joined the Army and served in the World War II Occupation Forces in Europe. He also served in the Korean War. In the Army, he served in counterintelligence, as interrogator, a translator, and in the military police.

Inspector Wong dedicated his life and career to this country and to the city of Philadelphia. He joined the Philadelphia Police Department in 1953 after serving in the U.S. Army. At that time, he was the sole Chinese American officer on the force. He retired from the police force in 2003 as the highest-ranking officer of Asian American descent.

While in the Philadelphia Police Department, Mr. Wong served in several units, including in narcotics, vice enforcement, and patrol. He twice led the Training Bureau and commanded the Community Relations Division and the Patrol Bureau, which encompassed emergency planning. His last assignment was as Commanding Officer of the Police Training Bureau at the Police Academy.

Mr. Wong was well rounded and highly respected by many. A man with many talents, he spoke multiple languages. He attended the University of Vienna in Austria, the Fels Institute of Local and State Government at the University of Pennsylvania, and the Universal School of Languages and Translation Bureau.

Additionally, Mr. Wong was a college adjunct professor. He taught criminal justice, criminal investigation, and laws and procedures at the Community College of Philadelphia. He was fluent in German and used his skills to help Jewish concentration camp survivors who relocated to Philadelphia.

Furthermore, he was very active in his community. He was a founding member of the Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corp. (PCDC), which was founded in 1969 after the Chinatown community in Philadelphia began fighting plans to demolish Holy Redeemer Catholic Church and School to build the Vine Street Expressway. Although he was a police captain and could not partake in the street protests, he attended meetings and offered his expertise. He was also on the board of the On Lok House, an apartment building for low-income senior citizens. According to Cecilia Moy Yep, the PCDC founder, Mr. Wong was "very faithful to Chinatown. He was active in the meetings, particularly on the On Lok House. That was his baby."

As evidenced by his historic career Anthony J. Wong, dedicated his life to advocating and improving the lives of others. He was a model public servant. The 3rd Congressional District of Pennsylvania extends gratitude to Mr. Wong for his dedicated support and service to the Chinatown community and the city of Philadelphia. And offer sincere condolences to his family and friends on his passing.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GOOD HART GENERAL STORE

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the Good Hart General Store of Emmet County, Michigan. Through its five decades of service and steadfast devotion to its community, the General Store has become a local landmark and an indispensable part of Michigan's First District.

The General Store was first constructed in 1934 by local resident, Cliff Powers. Along with serving as a local Postmaster, Mr. Powers used his store as a grocer and gas station to bring needed supplies to his community. He would continue to operate his local business for almost 40 years until selling it to Carolyn Sutherland in 1971. She has successfully preserved the history and significance of the General Store ever since. While also managing the store, Ms. Sutherland leads Graham Real Estate in Good Hart where she has continuously worked to better the lives of her community and the State of Michigan.

Madam Speaker, it's my honor to recognize the Good Hart General Store for fifty years of success and service to Northern Michigan. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such dedicated citizens that help preserve our most treasured businesses and landmarks. On behalf of my constituents, I wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

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TADD OVERSTREET AND STYLUS AND CRATE

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 27, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tadd Overstreet and Stylus & Crate of Wheat Ridge, Colorado for receiving the 2021 Wheat Ridge Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award.

The Wheat Ridge Chamber of Commerce Business of the Year Award is meant to recognize a Wheat Ridge Business for their outstanding performance in business during the past year. Stylus & Crate, a coffee shop in the heart of Wheat Ridge, greets visitors with fantastic art and music to match. With plenty of vinyl records to choose from, the local coffee shop always provides an uplifting and fun experience for its patrons. Additionally, Stylus & Crate prides itself on responsibly sourcing all of its coffee.

Congratulations to the Stylus & Crate team for their contributions to our community, particularly during a challenging year. I wish them all the best in the future.