

He later moved to Marianna in the 1950s with his beloved wife Orianna and three children.

During his 42 years working for the state, Pete paved most of the roads across north Florida and maintained a small farm to provide for his family.

From shucking oysters to delivering the "Pensacola News Journal" on Sundays, Mr. Bowen made sure there was enough money to see his children succeed.

In his community, Pete is known for his generosity and unwavering faith.

He has been a pillar among both the New Hope Baptist and Trinity Baptist and has selflessly helped with repairs and upkeep at both churches.

Mr. Bowen is also known for sharing his crops with neighbors and lending a helping hand to any fellow farmer who needs one.

Today, Pete Bowen has eight grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Throughout his lifetime, Mr. Bowen has turned his two acres into thirty and has built a long-lasting legacy.

Stories like his are what truly makes Florida's Second District so great.

Please join me in wishing Mr. Bowen a happy 100th birthday.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FLOOD PREVENTION ACT OF 2021**

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the District of Columbia Flood Prevention Act of 2021. The bill would amend the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (CZMA) to include the nation's capital in the definition of "coastal state." Senator TOM CARPER, the Chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, has introduced the companion bill in the Senate. Our bill would correct an apparent oversight in the omission of the District of Columbia from the CZMA by making the District eligible to receive federal funding and oversight for federally issued permits, facilities and actions that affect our coastal waters. The District urgently needs the protection of the CZMA because of serious flood risks that currently affect federal assets, residents and businesses, including the National Mall and the cluster of downtown federal agencies.

Congress has authorized a number of programs to help states and territories respond to floods and mitigate risk through resiliency projects. An effort to reduce coastal flood risk, the CZMA provides planning and technical services to assist states in protecting, restoring and developing coastal communities and resources. Once the federal government approves a state's coastal management plan, the state becomes eligible for grants. Federal actions must be consistent with the state plans and vice versa.

Even though the District, including the federal complex, is located on two rivers, and has suffered substantial coastal floods in the past, it was omitted from the list of eligible states and territories in the CZMA. It is notable that

under Section 304 of the CZMA, "coastal state[s]" include the states and U.S. territories (Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands and American Samoa). Because territories are included in the definition of "coastal states" while D.C. is absent, it appears that D.C.'s omission is a mistake, which only Congress can correct. This oversight likely occurred because the CZMA was passed in 1972, which was before the District achieved home rule.

Scientists have predicted that the tides on the Atlantic Coast could rise two to four feet by the year 2100, causing property worth as much as \$7 billion in the District to be routinely under threat by floodwaters. This damage includes private homes and businesses and the National Mall, federal buildings and three military bases located in the District. The Anacostia and Potomac Rivers, which surround the District, are tidally influenced, part of an "intertidal zone" between high and low maritime tides. In addition, the Maryland and Virginia coastal zones each include the tidal Potomac River, with Maryland's zone ending at the District line.

I initially offered the D.C. Flood Prevention Act in a previous Congress. The bill passed the House as part of the Coastal and Great Lakes Communities Enhancement Act. And again, last month, the House Committee on Natural Resources passed this bill as part of the Ocean-Based Climate Solutions Act of 2021, Chairman RAUL M. GRIJALVA's effort to modernize federal ocean management policy to account for climate change.

The District should be eligible under the CZMA just like the states and territories already listed in the CZMA. I urge support for this bill.

**RECOGNIZING CAPTAIN MICHAEL CARATHERS, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION**

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Captain Michael Carathers of Lucas, Texas.

Originally from Amarillo, Texas, Captain Michael Carathers enlisted in the U.S. Naval Reserves in 1967, after which time he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from Texas Tech University. Along the

way he would serve as a division petty officer at NAVCOMSTA Lululei Hawaii providing communications from the U.S. mainland to Vietnam and recovery communications for the Apollo program for NASA. Following a direct commission as an Engineering Duty Officer, he would perform a variety of duties on the USS *Bataan* and USS *Blue Ridge*. Captain Carathers would go on to command two reserve units and serve as the Executive Officer for two additional units.

Due to his dedicated service, Captain Carathers earned the Navy and Marine Corps Medal, Navy Reserve Meritorious Medal, National Defense Services Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and Global War on Terrorism Medal, as well as various unit awards.

Following his military career, Mike was employed as a Principal Systems Engineer on military programs for Raytheon from which he retired in 2011. Captain Carathers would go on to serve on the Reserve Officers Association Board of Directors for the local chapter and was selected as Texas Department President and Vice President. His commitment to our military and veterans is strongly evidenced by his role as Committee Chairman for the North Texas Military Foundation Ball where his advocacy efforts have generated tremendous support for our active duty, reserve, and retired military members and veterans.

Captain Carathers and his wife, Cheryl, have three children and six grandchildren with whom they have instilled a sense of service before self. His deep passion for serving our military community with a patriotic and unwavering heart is to be commended as he continues to display servant leadership.

Today a grateful Nation thanks Captain Carathers for his exceptional service and congratulates him on this recognition. May his steadfast example of leadership inspire others to live a life of service to a cause greater than themselves. It is my extreme honor to award him the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation for the Third District of Texas.

**RECOGNIZING OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

**HON. ED CASE**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. CASE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month and to share our collective recommitment to end domestic violence.

Each October, we remember all those lost to and scarred by domestic violence, a tragic continuing scourge that cuts across all boundaries. Long after we have said goodbyes, long after physical wounds have healed, the psychological and social consequences continue and magnify. Domestic violence truly touches each and all of us.

Tragically, COVID-19 has magnified this challenge. In my home state of Hawaii, the Domestic Violence Action Center saw hotline calls increase by 188 percent from February 2020 to 2021. Survivors are further cut off from activities that allow them to escape an abusive environment, such as work or school, and domestic violence organizations face challenges in reaching survivors or providing services.

I am incredibly grateful for the service of the domestic violence organizations in my Hawaii, such as the Hawaii State Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the some twenty other domestic violence organizations that provide services to survivors and their families, along with each and all of their dedicated workers and volunteers. I am also grateful for our local first responders and law enforcement, who have taken actions to better equip themselves to recognize and respond to domestic violence.

There is so much work to be done still in raising awareness and educating our communities about domestic violence. But for now, for anyone experiencing, witnessing or suspecting domestic violence, please call or text a local or national helpline. They are not alone.

Mahala and aloha.

DR. JOSEPH RAMOS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Joseph Ramos for earning the City of Northglenn's Investment Award.

The Investment Award is given to a business that has made significant investments in the past year. Dr. Ramos, a local personal injury lawyer and emergency room doctor, is this year's recipient for his work to take care of his local community during the COVID-19 pandemic. During his medical career, he found that he could care for people to a greater extent by also becoming a lawyer. His expertise in both legal and medical sciences, Dr. Ramos has become one of the most effective personal injury attorneys in our community, helping people receive the best possible medical care possible while ensuring insurance companies pay fairly.

Dr. Ramos's devotion to our community is commendable. Congratulations to Dr. Joseph Ramos on this achievement and I thank him for his contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING J.D. GROM'S SERVICE TO THE NEW DEMOCRAT COALITION

**HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of J.D. Grom, the longest-serving Executive Director of the New Democrat Coalition.

J.D. departs Capitol Hill this month to continue his federal service as an appointee in the Biden Administration, but he leaves behind a legacy of sound management and strong leadership that will serve the Coalition for years to come.

NewDems occupy an important place within the Democratic Caucus. We are the center of gravity for the House Democrats and an incubator for some of the best, most forward-leaning policy-making on Capitol Hill.

None of that happened by accident. J.D. led the NewDems with a steady hand and a strategic vision that positioned the Members of this Coalition to make real, substantive, and lasting imprints on the legislative output in the House of Representatives.

Under J.D.'s leadership, NewDems were firmly at the center of the work to shape this 21st century economy. Whether speaking out on trade or the ever-evolving future of work in America, NewDems delivered meaningful policy prescriptions and helped put kitchen-table issues front and center for this institution.

NewDems are known for working across ideologies and party lines to deliver results. But more than that, we've also become a home for thoughtful, measured leaders who have had enough of the shouting and division that too often defines our politics.

J.D. embodied that NewDem spirit as a selfless leader and mentor throughout his career. That includes his work on behalf of his hometown Representative, Melissa Bean of Illinois, his work at the Department of the Treasury, and service on behalf of four separate Chairs of the New Democrat Coalition, including me, Rep. RON KIND, Rep. JIM HIMES, and Rep. DEREK KILMER.

On behalf of our entire 95-Member Coalition, I thank J.D. for his service, both past and future, and wish him all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. SOTO. Madam Speaker, I would have voted YEA for Roll Call number 338, S. 1511—Protecting America's First Responders Act of 2021, had I been present.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE YEMENI AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Yemeni American Chamber of Commerce (YACC) for their work on behalf of the Yemeni American small business community in southeastern Michigan.

Over thirty thousand Yemeni Americans live in Michigan, with a significant number residing in Wayne County. Many Yemeni immigrants were drawn to the area by work in automotive factories and have established their roots here. Immigration to Michigan is still occurring, with some studies indicating that Yemenis comprise nine percent of the area's Arab population and that Yemeni community have some of the largest families. However, the Yemeni community has some of the lowest rate of business ownership, only three percent compared to twenty percent for other Arab groups.

This is why YACC is critical to our community. YACC has established a strong network for the small business community. They encourage growth through education and train-

ing, as well as collaboration among its member businesses. Beyond that, YACC works to create business owners who are also community leaders. They encourage their members to become actively engaged community partners who are truly the backbone of the local economy.

Please join me in recognizing the many outstanding contributions of the Yemeni American Chamber of Commerce on behalf of the communities of Wayne County and southeastern Michigan.

M2 (M-SQUARED) CONFECTIONS

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize M2 (m-squared) Confections of Northglenn, Colorado for earning the City of Northglenn's Home-Based Business of the Year Award.

This award recognizes a home-based business that has positively contributed to the community in a meaningful way. As a producer of fine chocolates and candies headed by Kendall and Jonathan Matthews, the business is dedicated to producing high-quality desserts with ingredients sourced according to ethical and sustainable standards. The owners offer world-class expertise, with many years of experience between them. Their dedication and commitment to their craft is reflected by the high caliber of their confections and the impact of their business can be felt throughout the City of Northglenn.

Congratulations again to M2 Confections for this accomplishment and I wish them all the best in the future. I thank them for their contribution to our community.

RECOGNIZING CHIEF PETTY OFFICER RICHARD LERMA, RECIPIENT OF TEXAS' THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 2021 CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

**HON. VAN TAYLOR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 28, 2021*

Mr. TAYLOR. Madam Speaker, today, it is my privilege to honor fifteen distinguished military veterans from Texas' Third Congressional District who answered the call to serve their Nation honorably, both in uniform and following their return to civilian life. The recipients of the 2021 Congressional Veteran Commendation exemplify the time-honored qualities of patriotism, service before self, and bold leadership. Following their time in service, their efforts in our community have earned these fine individuals recognition as the recipients of this prestigious commendation. Their stories of sacrifice will encourage future generations to pursue a life dedicated to the very values we cherish as Americans: faith, freedom, and democracy. One such hero is Chief Petty Officer Richard Lerma of Plano, Texas.

In 1964, upon entering the U.S. Navy and completing basic training, Richard Lerma was