

for the betterment of their communities. This is what makes America strong. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize these hard-working individuals.

COMMEMORATING THE
RETIREMENT OF LISA NELSON

HON. JAKE AUCHINCLOSS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Madam Speaker, it is my honor and privilege to recognize Lisa Nelson on the occasion of her retirement after 15 years of dedicated service to the Massachusetts Fourth Congressional District and innumerable years of service to the community at large.

Lisa was born and raised in Attleboro, Massachusetts. After graduating from Attleboro High School and Wheaton College, she inspired children by beginning her career as a fifth-grade teacher. After transitioning into a career of inspiring her own children at home, Lisa would eventually start her own business doing real estate appraisals.

All throughout, Lisa's commitment to the Attleboro area has never wavered. She was the first woman to be appointed as Fire Commissioner for the City of Attleboro and recently served a term on the city Board of Assessors. She sat on the Attleboro Tricentennial committee and has held multiple positions on Boards of Directors for community organizations, such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, New Hope, The Sturdy Memorial Hospital Foundation and Attleboro Enterprises—working to improve the lives of some of those most vulnerable populations. Lisa is also active not only within her own church but with the Attleboro Area Interfaith Collaborative which is a significant resource in addressing food insecurity in the area.

Lisa began her tenure with the House in 2006, serving as a District Representative for Congressman Jim McGovern when his district included the City of Attleboro. Most recently, she served as District Director for Congressman Joe Kennedy and Senior Advisor with my office.

As I am sure my predecessors will agree, in a job that can have its share of difficult decisions, choosing to work with Lisa is not one of them.

Lisa approaches constituent service with an extraordinary amount of empathy and kindness. She is a trusted mentor to those she works with and three Members of Congress came to rely on her knowledge of the district, its needs and navigating the challenges of the federal system. She is a true representative of the values of public service.

It is difficult to truly capture the impact that Lisa has made for this office, district and countless constituents and their families but suffice it to say that her contributions will be missed. Though for those of us who know Lisa, we know those contributions will never truly end.

ISABELLA CIOTTI

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Isabella Ciotti for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Isabella Ciotti is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Isabella Ciotti is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Isabella Ciotti for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING NICOLE VANNOTE

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Nicole VanNote of Randolph County, Indiana. Nicole has dedicated her service to improving her community and helping get conservative officials elected.

I want to thank Nicole for serving in the role of Randolph County Republican Vice-Chair. Nicole has helped move the conservative agenda forward, and I appreciate all the work she has done for her community and her support.

CENTERS OF MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES' RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS REGARDING CLARIFICATION ON CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. BUCSHON. Madam Speaker, I would like to include in the RECORD clarifying comments from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) in response to a question I asked during a House Energy and Commerce Committee Markup on February 12, 2021. During the Markup, I asked about the scope of the Medicaid drug rebate provisions, specifically section 3101(a)(4), in the American Rescue Plan.

CMS responded: "Regarding whether section 3101(a)(4) preserves the status quo, we do not believe this language extends rebates to drugs or biological products not currently subject to rebates under the MDRP. Meaning, it keeps the status quo."

"We agree this provision is drafted similarly to the 'fix' for MAT. Like MAT, since states would be required to cover drugs under this new COVID treatment benefit, confirming that states would still be required to cover such drugs absent any rebate agreement."

"Note that we do not believe current statute compels a manufacturer to enter into a rebate agreement. So if the intent is to compel payment of rebates for drugs covered under this new benefit, this provision would have to be drafted differently."

REMEMBERING ROBERT "BOBBY" BIANCO

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of my constituent, Robert "Bobby" Bianco—a remarkable community member and innovative grower who made history in the Coachella Valley.

Mr. Bianco arrived in our Valley in 1965. He co-owned and operated Anthony Vineyards with his brother and drove economic growth and employed thousands of Valley residents over the past 50 years.

Mr. Bianco was a leader in the grape industry and was nationally known and recognized for his innovation. In fact, he was the first in the nation to commercially grow the red flame seedless grape in 1975, which rapidly grew to become one of the most popular table grapes produced in the world. This historic achievement drew people from near and far to visit our Valley and learn from his techniques.

Mr. Bianco's impact on the community extended beyond his ingenuity in the field. Along with his beloved wife, Harlene, he was involved in local organizations such as the Boys and Girls Club, Big Brother Little Sisters of the Desert, and Desert Arc. Mr. Bianco also was involved in the formation of the Palm Valley School and the expansion of churches in our Valley, such as Our Lady of Perpetual Help, St. Francis Parish, Our Lady of Solidad, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and Sacred Heart.

A friend and colleague of my father's, I knew Mr. Bianco to be a kind and hardworking man who strived to instill positive change in our communities. He was a local leader, nationally renowned grape grower, philanthropist, and lover of golf whose impact on our community will be felt for years to come.

Mr. Bianco is survived by his son, Anthony Bianco, and daughter, Francesca Gist, and his six grandchildren.

Today, we celebrate his life and record his story in our nation's history.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 26TH AMENDMENT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, March 23, 2021 marked the 50th anniversary of Congressional passage of the 26th Amendment to the Constitution, which extended the right to vote

to 18–20-year-olds. This bipartisan amendment was the culmination of young activists of all political parties and backgrounds coming together to fight for their democratic right.

It was reported that some in Washington called the effort a “children’s crusade.” But those naysayers quickly learned one of Washington’s most important lessons: never doubt America’s youth.

With the proud support of California’s former Members of Congress Don Edwards, Jerry Waldie, Pete McCloskey, Ab Mikva and others, the Amendment passed the House 401–19, after Senate approval by a 94–0 vote, and gave more than 10 million 18-to-20-year-olds the right to vote.

Since then, youth activism has remained a driving force to address our nation’s biggest issues. The global climate crisis, gun violence and police brutality have sparked worldwide movements for change led by young organizers.

Half a century after Congress passed the 26th Amendment, young voters face many roadblocks to registering to vote and actually being able to cast their ballots. Many young Americans aren’t educated on how to vote or register to vote, face challenges to voting absentee while studying away from home, and face the burden of having to go to class or work on Election Day.

For young people of color, the challenges are even greater, as the overcriminalization of youth leads to adult felony convictions that bar them from voting in many states, fees that must be paid before voting, and arrests for low-level offenses that deter potential voters from showing up to the voting booth.

H.R. 1, the For The People Act, which the House passed this month, would strengthen the 26th Amendment by requiring online voter registration, making absentee ballots more accessible, sending federal funds for colleges and universities to appoint a “campus vote coordinator” to educate students on how they can vote and improve voter participation on campus, and ensure formerly incarcerated individuals have their right to vote restored when they reenter society. The bill also allows 16- and 17-year-olds to preregister to vote, engaging future voters at a young age to encourage higher participation in the future.

America’s youth are ambassadors to our future. March 23rd is an anniversary to celebrate extraordinary progress made by visionaries whose shoulders we stand on today.

ERICKA CARIAS VALENZUELA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ericka Carias Valenzuela for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Ericka Carias Valenzuela is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ericka Carias Valenzuela is exemplary of the type of

achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ericka Carias Valenzuela for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING BARBARA HACKMAN

HON. GREG PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 26, 2021

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Barbara Hackman of my hometown of Columbus, Indiana. Barb served as the Republican County Chairwoman of Bartholomew County for eight years. She committed her time, talents and energy to the Sixth Congressional District and the rest of the Hoosier state. I am grateful for her service.

Barb is always willing to lend a helping hand to her community, but her priority is her family—her husband of 45 years, their daughters, and six beautiful grandchildren.

Finally, Barb is a dear friend to the Pence family. We are all grateful for her friendship throughout the years.