

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, this week we commemorate “National Police Week” and recognize the men and women who serve and protect in the law enforcement community. A Joint Resolution of Congress established National Police Week in 1962. That resolution authorized President John F. Kennedy to proclaim May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day and the calendar week in which May 15 falls, as National Police Week.

In that resolution nearly sixty years ago, Congress noted that “the police officers of America have worked devotedly and selflessly in behalf of the people of this Nation, regardless of the peril or hazard to themselves; and . . . have safeguarded the lives and property of their fellow Americans.” Those words are as true today as they were in 1962.

Over the past year, our law enforcement officers have endured verbal and physical abuse, sometimes from their political leaders. Some made the ultimate sacrifice while working to keep their communities safe. They did this while some politicians were calling for their departments to be defunded, disbanded, or dismantled. They did this while working on the front lines during a global pandemic.

We should not just stand with the Police this week, but every week. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the law enforcement officers in their communities and thank them for keeping us all safe.

HONORING AYDNN AUGUSTINE KING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aydnn Augustine King. Aydnn is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 74G, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Aydnn has been very active with her troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Aydnn has been involved with scouting, she has not only earned 37 merit badges, but also the respect of her family, peers, and community. Aydnn has also contributed to her community through her Eagle Scout project. Aydnn cleaned out the Maryville Middle School Band Storage Room and installed two floor ceiling shelving units.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Aydnn Augustine King for

her accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF ALCORN STATE UNIVERSITY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of Alcorn State University.

Alcorn University, now referred to as Alcorn State University, was founded on May 13, 1871, in Lorman, Mississippi, resulting from Mississippi’s efforts to educate the descendants of formerly enslaved individuals. The university is named after James L. Alcorn, who was the governor of Mississippi at the time of its founding.

Alcorn is celebrating its 150th year as our nation’s first Historically Black Land Grant University and the second-oldest state-supported institution of higher learning in Mississippi. Alcorn continues to provide a valuable education in agriculture, arts, sciences, business, education, and offers the only nursing program available at a Historically Black College and University (HBCU) in the state of Mississippi. Not to mention, the institution consistently ranks among the top 25 HBCUs in the United States by *U.S. News & World Report*.

During Reconstruction, Hiram Revels served as the first president of Alcorn. He resigned his seat as our nation’s first African American United States Senator to lead the university. One of the residential options on campus, the Medgar Wiley Evers Heritage Village, is dedicated to Evers who was a prominent civil rights activist and 1952 alumnus of the university.

In addition to notable alumni, Steve McNair, led a decorated career in the National Football League and was drafted third overall during the 1995 National Football League draft. This is the highest draft selection for an offensive player, from an HBCU, in National Football League history.

The successes of Alcorn State University are tied to the dedicated leadership and faculty who have devoted their careers to preparing future generations for excellence in academics as well as athletics.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 150th anniversary of Alcorn State University and the invaluable contributions of our country’s first Historically Black Land Grant University in higher learning.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MARIJUANA IN FEDERALLY ASSISTED HOUSING PARITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Marijuana in Federally Assisted Housing Parity Act. My bill would permit the use of marijuana in federally assisted housing, including public housing and Section 8 housing, in compliance with the marijuana laws of the state where the property is located.

Individuals living in federally assisted housing should not be denied admission, or fear eviction, for using a legal product. Adult use and/or medical marijuana is currently legal in 36 states and the District of Columbia, and over 90 percent of Americans support legalized medical marijuana. Under current federal law, users of drugs that are illegal under federal law, including marijuana, are prohibited from being admitted into federally assisted housing. Moreover, federal law allows landlords to evict residents of federally assisted housing for using illegal drugs.

The federal government has begun to change its approach to marijuana. In 2018, the Food and Drug Administration approved Epidiolex, which is derived from marijuana. Epidiolex is used to treat children who suffer from seizures. Notably, the medicine does not contain tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the psychoactive component in marijuana. For the last several years, Congress has prohibited the Department of Justice (DOJ) from using federal funds to prevent jurisdictions from implementing their medical marijuana laws. This bill would similarly allow individuals to use marijuana in federally assisted housing in compliance with a state’s marijuana laws. HUD, like DOJ, should not be allowed to enforce federal marijuana laws where states have taken action to legalize marijuana.

Under my bill, the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) must also develop regulations that restrict smoking marijuana in federally assisted housing in the same manner and to the same locations as the Secretary restricts smoking tobacco in federally assisted housing.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MASTER SERGEANT LORETTA ANN EMMANUEL

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Mr. PERRY. Madam Speaker, I’m honored to recognize Master Sergeant (MSG) Loretta Ann Emmanuel on the occasion of her retirement from the Pennsylvania National Guard after an auspicious 41-year career.

• 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.

MSG Emmanuel's uniformed service culminated on 30 June 2020. She served as a personnel specialist, and excelled as a financial analyst. She was the subject matter expert relied upon to prioritize and coordinate funding Service Member equipment and travel. Her work assisting units and personnel mobilizing for numerous deployments for the Pennsylvania National Guard was instrumental. With her assistance, units were able to obtain funding for critical shortages required for various missions that supported national disasters, Presidential inaugurations, and the Global War on Terrorism.

With great honor and thanks, I'm humbled to acknowledge the long and distinguished career of Master Sergeant Loretta Ann Emmanuel in the Pennsylvania National Guard. Her commitment, tireless efforts, and faithful service to our great Commonwealth and Country for over four decades demonstrates her selflessness and character. On behalf of the Citizens of the 10th Congressional District, I wish her Godspeed in her future adventures.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
JAMES DONAHUE

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of an esteemed leader in Contra Costa County, James Donahue, and congratulate him on his retirement.

In 2013, James was appointed as the 29th president of Saint Mary's College of California in Moraga with more than 20 years of experience in higher education executive leadership. He and I both graduated from the College of the Holy Cross. From there, James obtained a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and then earned his Ph.D. in Religious Social Ethics from the Graduate Theological Union. James has held numerous lecturing, professorial, and administrative positions at institutions such as Santa Clara University, Boston College, and Georgetown University where he was also the Dean of Students and Vice President for Student Affairs.

From 2000 to 2013, James served as president of the Graduate Theological Union, a consortium of nine theological schools and affiliate centers in Berkeley. During this time, James strengthened the schools' interreligious and academic programs. He also oversaw campaigns that increased financial support for students and established the Center for Islamic Studies. James also worked with Saint Mary's College administrators and was an advisory board member of the Center for Engaged Religious Pluralism. In addition to his work in higher education, James has also served as an ethics consultant for the Levi Strauss Corporation, the Department of Defense, and the Catholic Health Association.

As President of Saint Mary's College, James has led with a commitment to the highest quality education in conjunction with a focus on diversity, inclusion, and religious development. He is the first layperson to serve as president in the university's 150-year history and has successfully carried on the legacy of the Lasallian core principles.

I wish James well in his retirement and thank him for his enduring commitment to the education of our students. Please join me in honoring James Donahue for his many contributions to our community.

MAKING UNIVERSAL HEALTH
CARE FOR ALL AMERICANS A
REALITY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, since its creation in 1965, Medicare has provided health insurance and access to quality health care for hundreds of millions of Americans over the age of 65. Since then Congress has worked to ensure that Medicare is adapting to meet the needs of the American people. In 1972, Medicare benefits were extended to people under 65 years with long-term disabilities. Hospice care was added in 1982. And, a prescription drug benefit was added in 2003. In 2010, the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which I strongly supported, strengthened Medicare coverage for preventive care and reduced patient liability for prescription drug costs.

Currently, 44 million Americans—15 percent of the U.S. population—are enrolled in Medicare. While not perfect, Medicare is without a doubt one of the most successful, lifesaving, and life improving programs ever established by the federal government. Throughout my career in Congress I have fought to protect Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security because these safety net programs provide essential health and economic support that is often the difference between a person living in poverty or living a quality life with dignity.

After enduring the COVID-19 pandemic for the past 14 months, there can be no doubt that health care for the American people must be considered a right, not a privilege. Access to quality, affordable health care is essential to our individual well-being, our families, our community, and our economy. Because universal access to quality health care must be considered a right, last month I introduced H. J. Res. 44—an amendment to the U.S. Constitution guaranteeing health care for all Americans. Until it is enshrined in the Constitution, I believe we will continue to have a health care system of winners and losers which will cause physical and economic hardship for millions of Americans. If the COVID-19 pandemic has taught us anything, it must be that policymakers need to take action to ensure no one is left behind, that health disparities are reduced, and that a preventable or treatable condition should never result in disability, death, or economic ruin.

My commitment is to work to expand health care access, improve the quality of care, and to ensure that all Americans who need health care coverage can have it. I will fight to strengthen Medicare and Medicaid. I will work to expand the ACA and strengthen its provisions such as protecting those with preexisting conditions. And, where I have direct responsibility as a member of the Appropriations Committee, I will work to strengthen TRICARE for the roughly 9.6 million enlisted men, women, and their families defending our freedom worldwide; strengthen the Indian Health Serv-

ice (IHS) which serves roughly 2.56 million Native Americans and Alaska Natives with unique, specialized health services; and, strengthen the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) for the millions of men and women who have served our nation and deserve the quality care they've been promised.

There is so much work to be done. Still, too many Americans are being left behind. Too many people will not have access to quality, affordable health care. So, I have come to the realization that it is once again time to expand access within Medicare.

I believe that now is the time to start the arduous legislative process of working to provide universal coverage to all Americans and the best policy option to achieve this goal on the table today is the Medicare for All Act (H.R. 1976). This legislation will provide every American with health coverage, while also eliminating out-of-pocket costs for patients and cutting the cost of prescription drugs. Additionally, H.R. 1976 would include vision, dental, hearing, mental health, and substance abuse treatment to ensure comprehensive physical and mental health services for all Americans.

After many discussions over the past few years, I want to extend my appreciation to the bill's authors for working with me to address the major concerns that I had with previous versions of this legislation. In particular, previous bills would have forced the VHA, TRICARE, and IHS to be disbanded and folded into the same patient population as all other Americans. This was unacceptable to me based upon long standing commitments and obligations that our federal government has made to these patient populations.

With those concerns removed, I am proud to co-sponsor H.R. 1976. The goal is now clear, let's work to ensure that every American can access guaranteed health care as a right, not a privilege. It is my belief that the Medicare for All Act is the legislative vehicle that can best serve the needs and desires of the American people for affordable, quality, and universal health care.

HONORING JOSLIN EVA MARIE
UNGLES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 13, 2021

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joslin Eva Marie Ungles. Joslin is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 74G, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joslin has been very active with her troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joslin has been involved with scouting, she has not only earned 40 merit badges, but also the respect of her family, peers, and community. Joslin has also contributed to her community through her Eagle Scout project. Joslin cleaned up Groves Cemetery by clearing brush piles and dead trees and installed new three rail composite fencing on the grounds of the cemetery.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joslin Eva Marie Ungles