

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### EXTENDING WIFIA LOAN TERMS

#### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 2021*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, recently I introduced a necessary amendment to the Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act of 2014 (WIFIA). This provision was included in my "WIFIA Improvement Act of 2020" (H.R. 8217) from last Congress. I thank my colleague Congressman NEWHOUSE (R-WA) for his support as the original cosponsor this year.

Our bipartisan bill would allow local communities seeking to build water infrastructure projects to secure federally guaranteed financing under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's WIFIA loan program with a 55-year repayment schedule rather than the current 35-year loan term. This change would unlock low-interest WIFIA financing for projects with longer lifecycles like the off-stream Sites Reservoir Project in my Congressional district and similar water storage projects.

For fiscal year 2021, Congress made more than \$11.5 billion in federal WIFIA loans available. By making WIFIA loan terms more workable for projects with longer lifecycles, at no risk to the taxpayer, this bill will allow California and other western states to modernize water infrastructure and better meet future water supply needs.

Madam Speaker, I urge all members to cosponsor this bipartisan bill to unlock the federal financing necessary to construct the water infrastructure of the future. I plan to make this bipartisan bill a major priority in my work as a member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, including in any WIFIA reauthorization. The current Congressional authorization for the WIFIA program expires at the end of fiscal year 2021.

### HONORING MR. ROBERT KANE

#### HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 2021*

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding work of Mr. Robert Kane.

Robert was born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and currently resides in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi. He is the proud father to two sons, John Regan and Sanders Burke. Along with his two daughters in law, he has been blessed with four beautiful grandchildren Anne Pierson, Waring, Kate, and Grace.

Robert graduated from Louisiana State University in 1969 with a bachelor's degree in Political Science. Following his graduation in 1974, he obtained his real estate license in the State of Mississippi. Robert began his career in real estate in the hopes that, one day,

he could open his own real estate business. As the owner of the Robert Kane Management Company and part-owner of Greater Gulfport Properties, Incorporated, I believe he has succeeded.

Not only is Robert an astute business owner, he is also known for his tireless public service. In fact, in 2017, the Hancock County Port and Harbor Commission found it only fitting to dedicate their new 8,000 square foot administrative building in honor of his 23 years of leadership as President of the Commission.

For decades, Robert has volunteered with multiple civic, business, and social organizations. He is a lifelong member of the Hancock County Republican Executive Committee and for the past twenty years, produced one of the best barbeque fundraisers in Hancock County.

Today, we recognize Mr. Robert Kane for his outstanding service to the Republican Party, the State of Mississippi, and to Hancock County.

### RECOGNIZING THE VA NORTHERN INDIANA WOMEN'S VETERAN HEALTH CLINIC

#### HON. JIM BANKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 2021*

Mr. BANKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the VA Northern Indiana Women's Veteran Health Clinic for their service to women veterans in our community.

The VA Northern Indiana Health Care System is committed to providing high-quality services in a sensitive and safe environment. In the clinic, each woman veteran is assigned a Women's Health Primary Care Provider; each provider is trained to deliver comprehensive primary care in any number of programs.

With 3,383 women veterans currently enrolled in the VA Northern Indiana Health Care System, the clinic provides maternity care programs, general health and wellness programs, baby shower preparation, sexual trauma services and more.

As a veteran myself and member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee in Congress, I am honored to have served in uniform and to serve the people of northeast Indiana in Congress. One of my top priorities has been, and always will be, ensuring those who served the United States receive the honor, opportunity and care they deserve.

This is a testament to the honor and sacrifice of those heroes who have served our country, and to those who serve them.

### IN RECOGNITION OF THE 6TH UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL ROAD SAFETY WEEK

#### HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 2021*

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today as co-chair of the Global Road Safety Caucus to mark the 6th United Nations Global Road Safety Week, which begins today.

In September 2020, the United Nations passed a resolution declaring the years 2021 through 2030 a new Decade of Action for Road Safety. Additionally, the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 3.6 includes a call to address the personal, medical, and financial burdens associated with road traffic deaths and injuries.

The number of deaths on the world's roads remains unacceptably high, with an estimated 1.35 million people dying each year. But this is not just an issue in other countries. The National Safety Council (NSC) says deaths from motor vehicles rose 8 percent last year in the United States, with as many as 42,060 Americans dying in vehicle crashes. Also according to the State Department, road crash deaths are the single greatest cause of death for Americans traveling abroad.

As the Congress and the Biden administration consider investing in infrastructure, we must ensure these investments promote safety practices through a safe-systems approach and improve our roads and other infrastructure in ways that protect people and families. And as Americans begin traveling domestically and internationally again as we emerge from the Covid-19 pandemic, we should be cognizant of the many risk factors, including increased speed, that significantly increase the probability of death or injury.

By recognizing Global Road Safety Week and the 2nd Decade of Action for Road Safety, together we can make a difference in stemming the tide of the road crash epidemic in the United States and around the world. Ultimately, we should do everything in our power to protect the lives of all road users, and I hope to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to do that.

### HONORING BRENT STARK

#### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 2021*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Brent Stark. Brent is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Brent has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the

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many years Brent has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned 29 merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Brent has shown his leadership skills by maintaining the role of Patrol Leader, Den Chief and Troop Guide. Brent also holds the rank of Tom Tom Beater in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say and is an Ordeal member of the Order of the Arrow. Brent has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project where he and his fellow Scouts and Scouters poured a concrete sidewalk to extend it to provide wheelchair access to the play area, firepit and picnic table.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Brent Stark for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MICHAEL CARPENTER  
FOR THE DISTINGUISHED RECOGNITION AS CLINTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE'S FIRST EDUCATION CHAMPION

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 2021*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Michael Carpenter, named as the inaugural Education Champion by Clinton Community College.

Michael has been the president and CEO of The Northeast Group since 2008. Throughout his time with the company, his leadership and foresight have expanded The Northeast Group from a small print shop to four regional facilities providing an array of printing, publishing, and logistics services. However, Michael's influence and impact extends far beyond his business prowess. While Michael has had great success in the business world, he has also been an extremely impactful community leader. He currently serves on the Substance Abuse Prevention and Recovery of Clinton County Steering Committee, the Plattsburgh Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and the Clinton County Community Service Board. He has also previously served on the Workforce Investment Board, Strand Center for the Arts Board, the Literacy Volunteers, and Vision2Action Task Force as Chairman.

For more than 30 years, Michael has relentlessly dedicated himself to helping individuals recover from addiction, ensuring they have sound and necessary support systems in place. In conjunction with Clinton Community College, Michael launched the MHAB Life Skills Campus, a revolutionary program to offer transitional housing and a community space for those in recovery. In an effort supported by local nonprofit agencies, this program converted vacant dormitories into a campus where individuals can live, complete job training, literacy, and budgeting classes, and receive counseling services and drug treatment. Michael's work on this program has had an immeasurably positive impact on his community. He was also integral in bringing Club 12 to Plattsburgh, offering a welcoming space to host and encourage those working towards recovery through a 12-step program.

Michael has been an incredible advocate for the recovery community in the North Country.

He has shared his personal testimony of overcoming addiction and constantly works to support others in that same journey. On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank Michael for his contributions to the Plattsburgh community and congratulate him on his innovative solution turning the unused dormitories into a thriving community gathering space.

HONORING MRS. NELL FRISBIE

**HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 2021*

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding work and dedication of Mrs. Nell Frisbie.

Mrs. Janet Gynell ("Nell") Frisbie was born and raised in Meridian, Mississippi. She graduated from Meridian High School and attended the University of Southern Mississippi where she was a member of the Kappa Delta sorority and a Varsity cheerleader.

After attending Southern Miss, Nell moved to New Orleans where she was employed as a secretary for Continental Casualty Company. There she met and married the late William ("Bill") Frisbie, an attorney, on June 10, 1961. In October 1962, Nell and Bill were blessed with a daughter, Joellyn.

Nell is a longtime Republican activist at the local, state, and national levels. She has recruited and campaigned for hundreds of Republican candidates at all levels of government, including supporting her husband, Bill, in his candidacy for City Council and Justice Court Judge.

Nell's passion for good government started at a young age. As a preschooler, she attended political rallies with her father. By the time she was a teenager, Nell was actively involved in local campaigns.

Nell has gone on to serve the Republican Party in almost too many ways to name. She was Chairman of the Hancock County Executive Committee for two terms and served two terms as President of the Hancock County Republican Women's Club. She has attended seven Republican National Conventions as a delegate and was on the Rules Committee at the 2016 Convention.

Nell was appointed to the Mississippi Republican Party Executive Committee and served as State President and 4th District Director for the Mississippi Federation of Republican Women. She has been invited to speak at Republican Women events in many states ranging from Georgia to California. Nell has had the honor of meeting former Presidents: Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, George W. Bush, and former Vice President Mike Pence. She has worked to elect four Mississippi governors as well as many U.S. Senators and Congressmen and several state and local officials.

She has a gift for grassroots activism and organization, using her network and leadership skills to organize campaign headquarters and orchestrate volunteer activities. If you want to hear a funny story, ask Nell about "delivering a message to Congress". Today we recognize Mrs. Nell Frisbie for her outstanding service to the Republican Party, the State of Mississippi and Hancock County.

IN HONOR OF THE 67TH ANNIVERSARY OF BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION

**HON. TERRI A. SEWELL**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 2021*

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, on the 67th anniversary of the Supreme Court's Brown v. Board of Education ruling, I rise to pay tribute to the three living students who desegregated universities within Alabama's 7th Congressional District, as well as Attorney Fred Gray who assisted and led the litigation for each of these students.

Over 60 years ago today, the United States Supreme Court declared that the doctrine established by Plessy v. Ferguson of "separate but equal" no longer reflected this country's moral and legal principles. Officially declaring racial segregation in schools as unconstitutional, this case established and upheld the American principles of racial equality and justice for all. While Brown v. Board of Education was a landmark decision towards a more just and equal America, Dr. King said, "the arc of the moral universe is long." While this case blazed trails for the progression of our society, the legacy of Jim Crow has deep roots, making it our responsibility to continue to fight against injustice.

This year, as we honor the living, breathing legacy of the Brown decision, it is critically important that we pay tribute to the sacrifices made by the three living students who took on the charge of desegregating institutions of higher education in Alabama: Atherine Lucy (age 91), Wendell Gunn (age 79), and Harold Franklin (age 88).

On September 4, 1952, Atherine Lucy submitted her application to the then segregated University of Alabama. Despite being accepted to the university, once the administration realized that Atherine was African American, her acceptance was withdrawn. Atherine was allowed to attend the university after receiving support from the community, two civil rights attorneys, and the Brown decision. As the first institution of higher education to be tested by the Brown decision, many believed that Atherine's sacrifices set the precedent for integrating institutions of higher education, yet many minority students after her continued to fight against institutionalized segregation.

In July 1963, 7 years after Atherine was admitted to the University of Alabama, Wendell Gunn attempted to enroll in Florence College, now known as the University of North Alabama. After being sent to the university president's office, Wendell was told that he could not be admitted without a federal court order. Once again, attorney Fred Gray took on the case upholding his simple declaration to "destroy everything segregated."

In January of the following year, Harold Franklin walked onto the campus of Auburn University as the school's first African American student. Similarly, Harold's enrollment to the university was met with strong opposition from those dedicated to preserving segregation within public schools despite the Brown decision. As a result, after "completing" every requirement to obtain his master's degree, he was not able to defend his master's thesis and graduate until February of 2020.

As a proud product of Selma High School and its first Black valedictorian, I stand on the