

Pacific Northwest. Additionally, 63% of test sites on the west coast experienced levels of acidification known to cause commercial oyster production failures.

Our Pacific Northwest economies, our recreational and commercial fishing, and shellfish industry as well as our great northwest tourism economy—all depend on a healthy ocean. And because we are already seeing the effects of ocean acidification, we support your efforts and we support H.R. 1237, the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act.

Much of our knowledge and understanding of ocean acidification that has emerged in the last decade can be credited to the federal funding authorized by Federal Ocean Acidification Research and Monitoring (FOARAM) Act of 2009. FOARAM established the federal government's work on ocean acidification by creating the NOAA Ocean Acidification Program and an interagency working group on ocean acidification. FOARAM's authorization expired in 2012. The COAST Research Act amends FOARAM to further improve our ability to understand acidification in the open ocean as well as in the coastal zone.

We support the COAST Research Act and believe it will help our coastal communities better prepare for the effects from ocean and coastal acidification. Thank you for your leadership to strengthen the nation's focus and investment in oceans and coastal acidification.

Sincerely,

SARA LABORDE,  
*Executive Vice President, Wild Salmon Center.*

IOOS ASSOCIATION,  
*May 17, 2021.*

Hon. SUZANNE BONAMICI,  
*House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSWOMAN BONAMICI: On behalf of the Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) Association and its national network of eleven coastal observing systems, I write to support the Coastal and Ocean Acidification Stressors and Threats (COAST) Research Act.

NOAA's Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) links together Federal agencies and eleven Regional Associations (RAs) to design and to operate regional observing systems to provide timely and reliable data and information on our oceans, coasts, and Great Lakes. Coastal acidification is becoming an even more pressing concern for many of our stakeholders and users, such as shellfish growers, shellfish harvesters, fishermen, resource managers, and coastal communities.

The impacts of coastal acidification vary, and each system must be tailored to the unique situation of the region. The IOOS RAs work closely with NOAA's Ocean Acidification Program to understand the regional context, to deploy and operate sensors, support the data that can detect and monitor acidification to support and improve warnings and alerts and to provide for the sharing and integration of data.

The COAST Research Act will enhance these and other efforts to understand, monitor and manage the nation's ability to respond and adapt to ocean acidification. The Act does this by expanding the Advisory Board to include representatives of the variety of industries and stakeholder impacted by ocean acidification, expanding the strategic plan for research and monitoring, and expanding the role of the Federal agencies for addressing ocean acidification.

Sincerely,

ELLA (JOSIE) QUINTRELL,  
*Director.*

HONORING COLONEL ALBEN N. HOPKINS, JR., AIR NATIONAL GUARD

### 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 Colonel Alben N. Hopkins, Jr., Staff Judge Advocate of the Mississippi Air National Guard.

Colonel Hopkins hails from Gulfport, Mississippi where he attended St. John High School. His wife Jodie and 12-year-old son, Carter, proudly call Gulfport home.

Colonel Hopkins has served in several positions, but none more fulfilling than serving his country. His military career began in 1990 when he became a legal specialist for the Mississippi Army National Guard. Colonel Hopkins has strong family military ties including his father, retired Major General Alben Norris Hopkins, Sr.

Colonel Hopkins's extensive educational background includes a bachelor's degree in Arts and History from the University of Mississippi, where he was a member of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. He received his Juris Doctorate from the Mississippi College School of Law and a Master of Strategic Studies from the prestigious Air War College.

During his service, Colonel Hopkins was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, along with several other awards and decorations.

He is also a member of the Mississippi Bar, where he practices as a civilian lawyer with his private law firm of Hopkins, Barvie, & Hopkins, P.L.L.C. He has a general civil practice specializing in litigation.

Colonel Hopkins retired this month with over three decades of dedication to the state of Mississippi and our great nation. I thank Colonel Hopkins, and his family, for their service and sacrifice and on behalf of the 4th Congressional District, we wish him the best.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE AND EXEMPLARY SERVICE OF PASTOR E. BAXTER MORRIS

### HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 17, 2021*

Ms. SEWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and exemplary service of Pastor Edgar Baxter Morris, the beloved senior pastor of the historic First Baptist Church on North Ripley Street in Montgomery, Alabama who passed away on Sunday, May 2, 2021 surrounded by family. Pastor E. Baxter Morris was a devoted community leader and former Montgomery Police Department chaplain. He served for 50 years as the pastor of the iconic First Baptist Church, which was once pastored by Rev. Ralph Abernathy, a key strategist and architect of the Civil Rights Movement and Montgomery Bus Boycott.

Pastor Morris was born the second of two children to Mr. and Mrs. Willie and Ella Bea-

trice Morris in Anniston, Alabama. He studied at Jacksonville State University, Selma University, and Alabama State University. He continued his education at the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education and Samford University Extension Division. Later, Pastor Morris returned to the National Baptist Congress of Christian Education and the State Congress to serve as both an instructor and lecturer.

Pastor Morris was called to ministry on August 20, 1972. As a faithful public servant to his community, Pastor Morris served as Chaplain for Montgomery Police Department for over 20 years and as a mentor for Montgomery police officers and their families. As the senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Montgomery, Alabama for almost 50 years, Pastor Morris worked tirelessly to uphold the legacy of this historic church by promoting social justice and equity. Pastor Morris held numerous leadership positions within religious and community organizations. He is the past moderator of the Montgomery-Antioch of Christian Education, lecturer of the State Congress of Christian Education, missionary for the Alabama Baptist Southeast District State Convention, and lecturer of the Alabama Southeast District State Convention Women's Department.

Known as an active community leader, Pastor Morris dedicated his life to the police officers of Montgomery and to their families. He offered mentorship and support to police officers and emergency first-responders throughout his career. He served on various boards in Montgomery and the surrounding community including the Montgomery Area Mental Health Authority. Pastor Morris was also a member of the Fraternal Order and Masonic, Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., and the Inspector General 33° United Supreme Council A.A.S.R. of Freemasonry, S.J., Inc. Prince Hall.

Pastor Morris is survived by his loving and faithful wife, Rebie Morris, four children, twelve grandchildren, one great-grandniece, three nephews, one godson, and a host of other relatives and friends including his First Baptist Church Family, Ministerial Circle, Sigma Brothers, Zeta Sisters, and Masonic Family.

On a personal note, I am eternally grateful for the tremendous community contributions made by Pastor Morris and the dedicated congregation of First Baptist Church. Under the leadership of Pastor Morris, First Baptist Church opens its doors to thousands of travelers from across the world who want to learn more about the role this church played during the Civil Rights Movement. Pastor Morris remained committed to preserving and furthering the legacy of activism at First Baptist Church fostered by his predecessor Rev. Ralph Abernathy. I am especially appreciative of the warm and generous hospitality shown by Pastor Morris and the entire congregation of the First Baptist Church. They have served as the hosts for Members of Congress during the annual Faith and Politics Civil Rights Pilgrimage since 1998. Year after year, the highlight of the pilgrimage for many of my colleagues was the "five-star" Saturday Brunch hosted by Pastor Morris and his congregation. We will surely miss his warm smile, congenial personality, infinite wisdom, compassionate heart, and generous spirit. May we be comforted in knowing that the legacy of service and unwavering faith of Pastor Morris will live on in the hearts and actions of those he impacted.

On behalf of Alabama's 7th Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and legacy of Pastor Edgar Baxter Morris and his contributions to the Montgomery community.

HONORING RUSSELL EUGENE  
Gwaltney

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 17, 2021

Mr. GRIFFITH. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Russell Eugene Gwaltney, who died on March 12, 2021 at the age of 81. Russ was a local legend in his youth who later served his hometown as a career law enforcement officer who honorably fulfilled his professional duties.

Russ was born in Roanoke, Virginia on August 21, 1939, to Charles Wesley Gwaltney and Florence Gay Gwaltney Boggess. His father passed away before he was born, and his mother, a cashier, raised him in Salem.

His first calling in life was as a marbles champion. The game was popular in his neighborhood, and his older brother Charlie taught him to play at the age of four or five. He grew in skill, amassing a collection of marbles he won from other players. Russ lost to Charlie in the semifinals of a 1948 tournament sponsored by the Salem Recreation Department. As he recalled to the Roanoke Times in 1993, "When he beat me, he made me want to get better." Russ did, winning the town championship in 1949 and then the 1952 National Championship held in Asbury Park, New Jersey. Salem showered its national marbles champion with laurels upon his return. Although interest in marbles declined, he stayed involved in the game as an adult and helped with the national tournament.

In the following years, Russ graduated from Andrew Lewis High School and served in the United States Navy. After starting his policing career in Newport News, he moved back to Salem and began his 34 years with the Salem Police Department, which he served as a uniformed officer, detective, and member of the SWAT Team, rising to the rank of captain. He concluded his career as chief of police in Dublin, Virginia.

Russ is survived by his wife, Rita Woodyard Gwaltney; son and daughter-in-law, Rusty and Katy Gwaltney; daughter and grandson, Renee' Moore and Phoenix Moore; and brothers Charles Thomas Gwaltney and Douglas MacArthur Hawkins. I offer them my condolences on the loss of this good man, who earned a unique fame in Salem as a boy and then returned it with a career of faithful service in law enforcement.

#### SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Com-

mittee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 18, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 19

9:45 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Bonnie D. Jenkins, of New York, to be Under Secretary of State for Arms Control and International Security, Jose W. Fernandez, of New York, to be an Under Secretary of State (Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment), to be United States Alternate Governor of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, to be United States Alternate Governor of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and to be United States Alternate Governor of the Inter-American Development Bank, routine lists in the Foreign Service, and other pending nominations; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of Brian A. Nichols, of Rhode Island, to be an Assistant Secretary (Western Hemisphere Affairs), and Michele Jeanne Sison, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary (International Organization Affairs), both of the Department of State, and other pending nominations.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2022 for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

SD-138

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine rethinking disaster recovery and resiliency, focusing on protecting communities and accelerating assistance.

SD-192

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine biodiversity loss, focusing on drivers, impacts, and potential solutions.

SD-G50

Committee on Finance

To hold hearings to examine COVID-19 health care flexibilities, focusing on perspectives, experiences, and lessons learned.

WEBEX

2 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

To hold hearings to examine the Internal Revenue Service, focusing on nar-

rowing the tax gap and improving taxpayer services.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Adrienne Todman, of the Virgin Islands, to be Deputy Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, and Nuria I. Fernandez, of California, to be Federal Transit Administrator, Department of Transportation.

SD-106

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine COVID-19, focusing on evaluating the medical supply chain and pandemic response gaps.

SD-342/VTC

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Competition Policy, Antitrust, and Consumer Rights

To hold hearings to examine antitrust applied, focusing on hospital consolidation concerns and solutions.

SD-226

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine realizing the vision of Parren Mitchell, focusing on untapping the potential of minority and women contracting.

SR-301

3 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine military infrastructure and climate resilience.

SD-192

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Donald Michael Remy, of Louisiana, to be Deputy Secretary, Matthew T. Quinn, of Montana, to be Under Secretary for Memorial Affairs, Maryanne T. Donaghy, of Pennsylvania, to be an Assistant Secretary (Office of Accountability and Whistleblower Protection), and Patricia L. Ross, of Ohio, to be an Assistant Secretary (Congressional and Legislative Affairs), all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SD-G50

4:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy's atomic defense activities and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2022 and future years defense program.

SR-232A

MAY 20

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine Federal, state, and private forestlands, focusing on opportunities for addressing climate change.

SR-301

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine taking aim at Alzheimer's, focusing on frontline perspectives and caregiver challenges.

VTC

10 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the transition of all United States and Coalition