

CBC SUPPORTS INVESTING IN  
INFRASTRUCTURE

SPEECH OF

**HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 28, 2021*

Mr. PAYNE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the importance of infrastructure to my district and the Nation. Right now, we are discussing two monumental transportation and infrastructure improvement proposals: the American Jobs Plan and the INVEST in America Act. Both proposals would repair and replace airports, bridges, buses, seaports, and thousands of miles of American highways.

These proposals would provide direct benefits to my constituents in New Jersey's 10th District. The greatest benefit would be the construction of the \$13.4 billion Gateway Program. The program consists of two projects: a new Portal North Bridge and a new Hudson River Tunnel to go with repairs to the current tunnel. The existing bridge and tunnels are more than 110 years old. They have been here longer than the Empire State Building and they are an accident waiting to happen. Each facility carries 200,000 passengers in 450 trains every day to destinations in New Jersey, New York and across the country. A shut down of either facility would cost \$100 million in lost economic output every day. Thankfully, officials will begin construction on the new Portal North Bridge this year. But we need funding for the Hudson River Tunnel project immediately.

The Gateway Program is not the only infrastructure project that would receive aid from these bills. A strong investment in our nation's infrastructure will help the City of East Orange improve their transit network and revitalize their downtown area. It will provide more advanced vehicle and pedestrian crossing signals to increase the speed and safety of traffic in Newark. It will replace sidewalks and streetscapes in South Orange. In addition, it will give the residents of Bloomfield a modern train station.

These projects are all critical to the economic health and prosperity of my residents. I know each Member of Congress has a similar list of projects that will bring similar benefits to their constituents. We cannot wait any longer. The longer we wait, the farther behind our national transportation system falls in relation to countries in Europe and Asia. We need to support these bills, repair our bridges, repave our roads, and make life better for all Americans. It is the job we were elected to do. Now, it is time to do it.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JOHN  
DAVID WARD**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the life of the late John David Ward, of Vernon, Connecticut, who passed away surrounded by family on March 17, 2021, at the age of 59. As someone who has shared a hometown with

John, practiced law in the same courts, and witnessed his public service firsthand, I can attest to his intelligence, compassion and integrity in all his endeavors.

Born to William and Mary Durkin Ward in Holyoke, Massachusetts, John was raised and educated in East Longmeadow, Massachusetts where he graduated high school in 1980. As one who always placed value on education—John went on to earn a bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst before obtaining his J.D. in 1991 from Western New England University's Law School. Equipped with a law degree, John quickly transitioned his Massachusetts-based education to start his career as an assistant clerk at the Rockville Superior Court. After some experience in the courthouse and brief stints with several law firms, John ultimately found a place at Liberty Mutual, where his specialties included labor relations and worker's compensation law. Having gained his full footing in a career that enabled his specialties to excel, John settled here in Vernon and we became neighbors. As I mentioned earlier, I handled cases in the same courts as John, and he was a talented, highly ethical professional who treated clients, fellow lawyers and court officials as consummate gentleman and advocate.

As a resident of Vernon, John developed the roots for his greatest passion: community service. This was exemplified early on when he was first elected to the Board of Education and then to Vernon's Town Council. In 2008, John even decided to leave the insurance business to pursue this passion of community service by working in local government as the Town Administrator for Vernon, serving in this role over the course of three mayoral administrations. During his tenure as Town Administrator, John directed renovations of the old mills and secured a new senior center for our neighboring residents. In 2011, John placed himself on the front lines of emergency service in Vernon when Connecticut was hit with the "Snowtober" nor'easter. Outside working for the town in a more official capacity, he often volunteered as a "pit parent" for the high school marching band. In fact, he coached and help raised Vernon's youngest generation through numerous youth sports including basketball, soccer and football.

It is worth noting that John's love for public service stayed with him into his latest years. In 2017, John made the switch to serve as the Town Manager in Granby, Connecticut where he brought the force of his passion for community service. John also went on to fuse together his enthusiasm for learning and public service, earning a master's degree in Public Administration from the University of Connecticut in 2019.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to represent constituents as honorable and impactful as John. John's commitment to our town became a part of his life blood, causing him to touch the hearts of many in our community. While we all mourn the early loss of John, we can at least find solace that his story and memory live on in others, including his wife of more than 25 years, Wendy, and children James, Joe, Elizabeth and David. I find it fitting that we, the People's House, honor John's name and character. I ask that the entire House join me in recognizing the life of John David Ward, never forgetting the importance of serving the community.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, on roll call vote 186, I was not present because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "Yes" on the motion to suspend the rules and pass H.R. 2225.

REMEMBERING SPECIALIST  
JAMESON LINDSKOG**HON. ERIC SWALWELL**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of United States Army Specialist Jameson Lindskog on the occasion of the dedication of a new Army Reserve training facility in my district, to his life and heroism.

Jameson was born on May 25, 1987 in San Mateo, California to parents Donna and Curtis. He graduated from the Orion Academy in 2006 and the National Holistic Institute before enlisting in the United States Army and became a Certified Emergency Medical Technician for the 2nd Battalion, 327th Infantry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division in Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

While serving as a Platoon Medic on 29 March 2011, the lead section of his convoy was ambushed from multiple directions and pinned down. Specialist Lindskog was in the trail element and immediately acted to treat multiple casualties. The Army describes Specialist Lindskog's actions in those moments as follows: "Specialist Lindskog at great personal risk to his life showed no hesitation and bounded to the wounded Soldiers through withering enemy fire while brush, trees, and debris were destroyed around him. Once the reinforcements reached the ambushed men, Specialist Lindskog immediately assessed the situation, evaluated casualties, and issued priorities for first aid."

In the moments that Specialist Lindskog was providing life-saving care to his comrades, he himself was shot in the chest. Even while mortally wounded himself, for thirty minutes Specialist Lindskog gave instructions to those around him about how to provide emergency care for the wounded soldiers around him and himself. His heroism in the throes of personal sacrifice saved the lives of two people that day.

Specialist Lindskog was posthumously awarded a Silver Star for his conduct, and in its description the Army states: "His courage, bravery and leadership in combat set the example for all to follow. Specialist Lindskog's distinctive accomplishments are in keeping with the finest traditions of military service and reflect great credit upon himself, the 327th Infantry Regiment, the 1st Brigade Combat Team, the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) and the United States Army."

Today we memorialize Specialist Lindskog's service by naming a new facility at Parks Reserve Forces Training Area in his honor. This new facility will house six simulation training rooms containing hospital beds, simulated patients, and a host of bio-medical equipment.

The Lindskog Reserve Facility will help prepare the next generation of our heroes to serve and save lives in the future. It is a fitting tribute to Specialist Lindskog, his parents Donna and Matthew Walker and Curtis and Jo Lindskog, his siblings Ken and Candace, and all those who loved him and hold tight to his memory.

PASSING OF JUSTIN WALLACE

**HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Justin Wallace, of Rockaway, New York, who was tragically taken from us on June 5th. Justin was a blessing to all who knew him. An adventurous and loving spirit, he brought tremendous joy and laughter into the lives of everyone around him. To his family, Justin was a "miracle baby," his very existence a gift that defied the odds. A curious explorer with a bright mind, he was always fiddling with new gadgets and technology, learning about cars, enjoying mathematics, and playing video games. To our community, he was a beacon of hope—a gentle giant with a big heart, raised by his loving family to have integrity, respect, and to treat others with compassion and dignity.

Justin was taken from us much too soon. His family and friends have confronted unimaginable grief at the loss of such an innocent and beautiful life. His bright and determined spirit will be dearly missed. Their hardship reflects what a gift he was to his family and friends who had the privilege of loving him. As Justin's brother so eloquently put it: "Ten years old was short, but it was a blessing and it was beautiful."

I pray that God will give strength to the Wallace family as they bear this great personal loss. As Scripture tells us in Mathew 11:28–30, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

May God bless his soul.

CELEBRATING 90 YEARS OF  
ELLIOTT'S BAKERY

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Elliott's Bakery located in Trenton, Michigan, on the occasion of their 90th anniversary. Their decades spent as a mainstay of the Trenton community is worthy of commendation.

Established in 1931 by Mr. Waldo Elliott, Elliott's Bakery has been a Trenton staple for nine decades. Mr. Elliott, a Northville, Michigan native, spent 12 years in the bakery business before deciding to expand. After considering six locations, he found Trenton to be the perfect home for the new Elliott's Bakery. At the time of its founding, Trenton was a thriving residential community in need of a bakery for

its residents. Elliott's was exactly what the neighborhood needed. The bakery was later owned by the Bill and Violetta Vidojevski family, who added their own special recipes to the menu.

Despite the changes in ownership, the recipes and quality of their baked goods have maintained their excellence. The current owners, Bradley and Kristine Davidson, have been committed to keeping the bakery's traditional recipes alive. Originally, the bakery provided a variety of breads and later became well-known for their desserts. The bakery's most popular items today include their Long John donuts and the raspberry-currant and butter bud cookies. Throughout their nine decades in the Trenton community, Elliott's Bakery has maintained their reputation for serving up delicious, high-quality donuts, cookies, pies, and other treats.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 90th anniversary of Elliott's Bakery in Trenton, Michigan. Please join me in congratulating Elliott's Bakery on nine fantastic decades of business and in wishing them the best of luck in the years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF HELEN ANDERSON TOLAND

**HON. STEVEN HORSFORD**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Mr. HORSFORD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Helen Anderson Toland. Ms. Toland has been a Las Vegas resident since 1964 and served as the Clark County School District's first African American female school principal at the former Kit Carson Elementary School, now renamed Helen Anderson Toland Elementary School in her honor.

Originally from Marceline, Missouri, Ms. Toland attended University of Illinois and worked as the first black speech correctionist in Louisville, Kentucky before receiving a master's degree in speech therapy from University of Southern California (USC). While in Los Angeles in the early 1960s, she became active in the NAACP, through which she met Jim Anderson, whom she married in 1964.

When Ms. Toland arrived in Las Vegas, she was initially hired as a speech therapist by the Clark County School District, before becoming principal of Kit Carson in 1965, a position she held for seven years, after which she became principal at Robert E. Lake Elementary School. While principal, Ms. Toland took great pride in providing for her students, including by organizing field trips to Disneyland and Mt. Charleston. Following the passing of Mr. Anderson, she married Elton Toland and moved to Los Angeles in 1972 before moving back to Las Vegas in 1980.

Throughout her lifetime, Ms. Toland has been very active in community work in Las Vegas, as well as in Africa. In addition to her work with the NAACP and the civil rights movement, Ms. Toland was also a board member of an environmental group called Foresta, and was involved with the National Association of College Women and Les Femmes Douze. Ms. Toland is also a member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and was

one of the founders of the local chapter. Ms. Toland also has held community yard sales to raise funds for the schooling of young people in Las Vegas and Africa, contributed to the first preschool speech therapy program in Kubwa-Abuja, Nigeria, and shares artwork and artifacts from her travels to Africa with members of the local community, including university and school children.

Earlier this month, the Historic Preservation Commission, joined by Councilman Cedric Crear, preserved Ms. Toland's Westside home as part of the City of Las Vegas Historic Property Register, and she will be included among the icons to be enshrined at Historic Westside Legacy Park later this year, in honor of her years of accomplishments and dedication to the Las Vegas community. We love and appreciate everything Ms. Toland has done for the Southern Nevada community, and want to take this opportunity to say thank you.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BOB GOOD**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Mr. GOOD of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on June 29, 2021 due to travel arrangements. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: NO on Roll Call No. 189; NO on Roll Call No. 190; NO on Roll Call No. 191; NO on Roll Call No. 193; YES on Roll Call No. 194; NO on Roll Call No. 195; and NO on Roll Call No. 196.

I oppose passage of H.R. 3005 because I believe in preserving America's rich history and I support each state's right to choose which two statues they want representing them in the U.S. Capitol Building. The Left has devoted too much energy to tearing down statues and monuments, including those of the Founders. We should learn from our history, not desecrate it.

I oppose passage of H.R. 2662 because it would dangerously expand subpoena power so that it could be weaponized against prior administration officials, rather than focusing investigative authority on the current government.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LOUIE GOHMERT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 29, 2021*

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on June 29, 2021 due to an invitation from the Governor of Texas to travel to the border to observe the ongoing crisis that is happening there. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: YES on Roll Call No. 196.

I am exceedingly concerned with the Speaker's determination to pass H.R. 3005. To direct the Joint Committee on the Library to replace the bust of Roger Brooke Taney in the Old Supreme Court Chamber of the United States Capitol with a bust of Thurgood Marshall to be obtained by the Joint Committee on the Library and to remove certain statues from areas of the United States Capitol which are