

who recently lost his battle with lung cancer after spending his life serving his community and his country. Dale graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Liberal Arts and Sciences before going on to graduate from the University of Maryland, Robert H. Smith School of Business with a Master's Degree in Business Administration. He also attended the United States Defense Language Institute, where he was awarded an Associate of Arts Degree in Arabic.

Dale served as a Cryptologic Arabic Linguist, Sergeant E-5 in the United States Marine Corps from 1999 to 2004. Dale not only honorably served his country in Iraq, he was at the forefront of the search for weapons of mass destruction in Operation Iraqi Freedom. For his brave service, Dale was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (with Combat "V"), the Marine Corps Good Conduct Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, the National Defense Service Medal, the Presidential Unit Citation-Navy, and the Marine Corps Rifle Badge (Sharpshooter). After his return from Iraq, Dale worked as a program manager for 6 years for Poole & Associates as well as SAIC. In 2010, Dale joined General Dynamics where he became a Senior Program Manager and ultimately rose to the level of Director.

In 2014, Dale played an important role in Range Generation Next (RGNext) (a joint venture of General Dynamics IT and Raytheon) in bidding and winning the United States Airforce's Launch and Test Range Integrated Services Contract valued at \$2 billion. The contract provided a sole prime contractor responsible for operations, organizational and depot-level maintenance as well as sustainment at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and Vandenberg Air Force Base. This was a significant and transformational contract which included the engineering support to all Space launch activities. RGNext was awarded this contract in April of 2015, and Dale was subsequently appointed as Deputy Program Manager of the contract. In this role he focused on mission and program leadership, organizational development, new business change proposals, and day to day management activities of the broad contract. Dale excelled in working with people and enjoyed the comradery of building successful teams in the workplace. His RGNext co-workers have shared with me that his constant mentorship helped them professionally and personally and they will forever be better for it.

As a non-smoker and fitness advocate with no family cancer history, it is strongly suspected by his doctors that Dale's terminal lung cancer was most likely due to his exposure to Yellow Cake Uranium and Burn Pit toxicities during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Dale's life underscores the need for the U.S. government to support veterans like him, who have been exposed to dangerous agents in the theatre of war and now face sickness or even death. We must uplift our veterans and honor their sacrifice to our country.

Dale did an outstanding job while here on earth, and he served our country fearlessly. He made a difference in his professional career, and his many co-workers have described him as incredibly personable, a great supportive leader, a wonderful person, and a dependable friend whose love for his family was

always self-evident. I believe one thing Dale had in common with my fellow East Tennesseans was his deep respect for his country that drove him to spend years in service both at home and abroad. Those who had the opportunity to interact with him have shared with me how very friendly and an openly giving person he was and will be remembered for all of eternity as. Dale will forever be cherished as a loving family man to his wife, Erin, and his sons Henry, Nathan, and George. Those who could find a way to describe him in a single short sentence would say he was and will forever always be a patriotic Marine veteran and a loving family man. All those touched by his life are better for knowing him.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 1, 2021*

Mr. KATKO. Madam Speaker, I mistakenly voted on Roll Call No. 202 on June 30, 2021 and would like to correct my vote to a NAY.

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#### HONORING REVEREND CURTIS WEST HARRIS

### HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 1, 2021*

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend Curtis West Harris, for whom a post office in my district is being named next week following enactment of H.R. 3847 last year. He was an influential and well-respected member of our community, who fought for social justice all his life.

Reverend Harris was a trailblazer. Born in Dendron, Virginia, on July 1, 1924, Reverend Harris attended Virginia Union University in Richmond and then began work at Allied Chemical in Hopewell. During his time there, Reverend Harris served as a union shop steward and worked to promote diversity by advocating for the employment of African Americans in positions beyond janitors. When met with opposition, Reverend Harris sued Allied Chemical for violating regulations prohibiting discrimination.

Ordained as a Baptist minister in 1959, Reverend Harris continued his fight for social justice. In 1960, he was sentenced to sixty days in jail for staging a sit-in at a segregated drugstore in Hopewell. Reverend Harris was arrested over a dozen times for peaceful protest and civil disobedience.

Reverend Harris joined the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's (SCLC) national board and would eventually become the leader of the SCLC's Virginia Chapter for over thirty years. During his time with the SCLC, Reverend Harris became one of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s top lieutenants, marching with Dr. King from Selma to Montgomery in 1965. In 1966, Reverend Harris organized a march to fight plans for a landfill in a predominantly Black neighborhood in Hopewell, ultimately coming face to face with the Ku Klux Klan at the steps of the Hopewell City Hall.

In addition to his service with the SCLC, he served in leadership roles for the Hopewell

Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or NAACP, at the Virginia Council on Human Relations, and with numerous organizations.

Reverend Harris was highly respected within his community. He was active in local politics, serving as an elected member of the Hopewell City Council for over 25 years, and eventually as Hopewell's first Black mayor.

Throughout his time in public service, Reverend Harris fought tirelessly for civil rights and educational and environmental justice.

On December 10, 2017, Reverend Curtis Harris died at the age of 93. He was buried in Appomattox Cemetery, which he fought to integrate in 1960.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and accomplishments of Reverend Curtis West Harris and in celebrating the renaming of the post office in Hopewell in his honor.

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#### IN RECOGNITION OF MR JOE GROCHMAL

### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 1, 2021*

Mr. NEAL. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Joe Grochmal on entering his 68th year as a golf instructor in western Massachusetts. This milestone achievement deserves the highest praise for Joe's hard work and steadfast love for the game, something he has instilled in the hearts of thousands of students.

Sometimes referred to as the "Godfather of Western Massachusetts Golf," Joe began working as a golf instructor in 1953. Although he frequently changed his teaching philosophy, exploring new techniques to bring the most out of every golfer, Joe consistently shared with his students a genuine appreciation for the game of golf. During a career that spanned nearly seven decades, Joe dedicated countless hours to sharing his knowledge and expertise, meeting golfers young and old at local driving ranges after putting in a full day's work. Joe truly represents the best of Massachusetts' First District, and that is why I am proud to join with his family, friends, and the entire western Massachusetts golf community in recognizing this milestone achievement.

Madam Speaker, I would like to once again acknowledge Joe Grochmal. I am proud of his accomplishments and I wish him many more years of health and happiness, along with many more fairways and greens.

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#### INVESTING IN A NEW VISION FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND SURFACE TRANSPORTATION IN AMERICA ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 30, 2021*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the INVEST in America Act.

I want to thank Chairman DEFAZIO for bringing this bill to the floor. I represent the 3rd

congressional district of Virginia where the Chesapeake Bay meets the James, Nansemond, and Elizabeth Rivers. This location presents both challenges and opportunities. My district is home to the Port of Virginia, one of the largest and busiest ports on the eastern seaboard. With 95 percent of our nation's trade moving by water, it is essential that the port is able to maintain operations.

Unfortunately, due to sea level rise, both attributable to climate change as well as historic subsidence, these same waterways also pose a serious risk. State and local elected officials in Virginia already appreciate the significant threat sea level rise poses to Hampton Roads. Unfortunately, the cost to proactively and aggressively address this problem head-on is far too great for any city to bear by itself. While Hampton Roads has already spent considerable sums of money to address the rising water and implement resilient infrastructure where feasible, the scope of the entire project to actually address the problem is expected to total in the billions of dollars.

Hampton Roads is also home to significant traffic backups throughout the region, especially at waterway crossings. The widening of the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel is primarily being financed with local and state revenue from sales and gasoline taxes in the Hampton Roads Transportation Fund but it requires federal support. There are limits to how these major transportation projects can move forward without federal assistance. For example, the Downtown and Midtown Tunnels, connecting the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth, were in such a state of disrepair and need of expansion that the Commonwealth had few options other than to enter into a lopsided private-public partnership leading to egregious tolls for decades to come. The Hampton Roads region is also in vital need of public transit investments. Our airports, roads, and bridges are in need of repair and I would urge the committee to commit crucial federal support for infrastructure in every state.

This infrastructure bill includes much needed investments in a cleaner and greener infrastructure. This bill targets investments that will improve energy efficiency and resilience and grow local economies without passing the burden onto local communities.

I am pleased that this bill will also directly impact my district by dedicating nearly \$24 million in critically needed infrastructure funds, so that we can invest in the future of our communities. With these funds the Birthplace of America Trail can expand in Newport News; the City of Chesapeake can begin a pilot program for electric emergency response vehicles; Hampton Roads Transit can move forward with the Bus Rapid Transit project making traveling around Hampton Roads without a car easier; Tidewater Drive, a major arterial road connecting to Naval Station Norfolk, can be repaired; and work on the Craney Island Access Road, which will help keep up with the increased import/export demands at the Port of Virginia, can advance.

Mr. Speaker, this bill makes necessary investments that will create good-paying jobs and resilient infrastructure as we face the rising seas and changing climate.

INVESTING IN A NEW VISION FOR  
THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUR-  
FACE TRANSPORTATION IN  
AMERICA ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 30, 2021*

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the following individual staff of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure for all their hard work on this important piece of legislation. I'd also like to thank the team at the Office of Legislative Counsel for their assistance in drafting the legislation and the many amendments offered during our Committee Markup and on the House Floor.

HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT

Helena Zyblikewycz  
Jackie Schmitz  
Garret Gee  
Brittany Lundberg  
Chris Bell  
Zan Guendert

RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND HAZARDOUS  
MATERIALS

Auke Mahar-Piersma  
Andrea Wohleber  
Frances Bourne  
Katherine Ambrose

WATER RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENT

Ryan Seiger  
Navis Bermudez  
Alexa Williams  
Michael Bauman

FULL COMMITTEE

Kathy Dedrick  
Jill Harrelson  
Alice Koethe  
Jamie Harrell  
Madeleine Pike  
Matt Leasure  
Michael Hudspith

INTERNS

Bethany Abbate  
Mateo Alliende  
Henry Lininger

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

Karen Anderson  
Robert Casturo  
Jordyn Coad  
Kakuti Lin

RECOGNIZING COLONEL WILLIAM  
C. BENTLEY III

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 1, 2021*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize those men and women who have served this great Nation with honor—men such as Colonel William C. Bentley III, United States Marine Corps.

Colonel Bentley's long and distinguished career began after graduating from The Citadel and commissioning through the Platoon Leaders Class. From there, a fruitful career as a USMC Helicopter Pilot blossomed. During this career, Colonel Bentley was stationed and deployed across the globe—from Djibouti to Iraq to Europe, Colonel Bentley has seen it all.

In his final command, Colonel Bentley led Marine Corps Installations National Capital

Region-Marine Corps Base Quantico. In this role, I've had the pleasure of witnessing firsthand his passion for the USMC mission. He has assisted me, my staff, and the citizens of Virginia in navigating complex issues with an attention to detail that every public servant should work to emulate.

Colonel Bentley's work ethic, duty to mission, and commitment to servant leadership are without equal. I believe that his personal drive to achieve excellence in his work has and will set a very high standard for his peers. I would also like to thank Colonel Bentley for the service and sacrifice he has made, both for our Nation and our Marine Corps. His impeccable integrity, boundless work ethic, and loyal devotion to duty earned him the respect and admiration of myself, my staff, and the First District of Virginia. In retirement, I have no doubt that Colonel Bentley will continue to serve the Nation honorably and with distinction in whatever path he chooses to pursue.

I wish William and his family the best of luck as they continue their journey together. It was an honor and a pleasure having William serve at Marine Corps Base Quantico. We all can sleep soundly at night knowing that members of our all-volunteer force like William stand ready to defend our country and take the fight to our enemies, far away from their families and the comforts of the United States of America.

I thank Colonel William C. Bentley III, as he has done a fantastic job. Best of luck to him and may God bless him and his family as he moves into this next chapter.

HONORING JAMIE MATHIAS

**HON. TOM McCLINTOCK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 1, 2021*

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passing of one of our great local educators, Jamie Mathias, a Social Sciences teacher within Del Oro High School for 22 years. Jamie's singular goal for students was to encourage each one to better themselves; be that in the classroom or through athletics. Jamie always pushed students to reach their next level and become the person he knew they could be.

Jamie was a father figure, a coach, and a mentor to many students during his time as an educator. His academic impact on our community will be felt for a very long time. The young minds he molded and inspired that are now spread across our county are the living legacy of what a great teacher will leave behind.

Most importantly, Jamie was a family man, devoted to his family and raising his children to be exceptional members of our community. They carry with them the many life lessons that Jamie imparted over the years. My deepest condolences and prayers go out to the Mathias family, especially to his wife and children. I thank Jamie, for his extraordinary impact in our schools, and the countless students he encouraged.