

Madam Speaker, this issue is also of personal importance because when I was a member of the New York State Assembly, I had envisioned a statewide office to assist new immigrants with overcoming these challenges. Now, I am expanding that vision to a national office and seeking to fix the systemic challenges immigrants and refugees must face.

Immigrants make indelible contributions to our nation, and it is long past time that we create an entity in the Executive Office of the President that ensures our country is welcoming and helpful toward those who come to our shores. While we aspire to be a beacon of hope and opportunity, we must match word with deed.

Madam Speaker, we cannot allow immigrants to be treated as an afterthought; we must ensure their path to becoming “New Americans” is clear and well resourced. After the atrocious last four years of an administration that demonized, criminalized, and dehumanized immigrants and refugees at every turn, my bill would ensure a welcoming and inclusive system for all new Americans. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation as we look to building a more prosperous country that recognizes the humanity and dignity of all immigrants and refugees.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL RECORD

HON. DWIGHT EVANS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. EVANS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the legendary Philadelphia International Record (PIR). One of music's most historic record labels.

Visionary song-writing producers Kenneth Gamble and Leon Huff co-founded PIR in 1971. Together they engineered one of the most significant chapters in music history. The groundbreaking label gave birth to the sophisticated Philly Soul sound also known as “The Sound of Philadelphia.” Patti LaBelle, Teddy Pendergrass, The O’Jays, Harold Melvin & the Blue Notes, Billy Paul, Lou Rawls and McFadden & Whitehead are just some of the stars who took the duo’s distinguishing sound to the top of the charts.

The Gamble and Huff partnership began in 1963, when the two hardworking musicians from West Philly and Camden met in the elevator of the Shubert Building, which now houses the Merriam Theater. They were both toiling as writers for separate music production firms. They joined forces and became a potent songwriting/production team. The “Philly Soul” sound featured a mix of doo-wop, gospel, R&B, and sound known for its orchestral sounds.

Philadelphia Soul music is known for its incorporation of lush string arrangements along with penetrating brass, and often conveys very personal and emotional stories. The world-renowned Philadelphia Orchestra’s string section was often employed to play on many of Philadelphia International Record’s tracks. Philly Soul is widely considered a producer’s genre. Everyone from the Jacksons to B.B King to David Bowie came to Philadelphia seeking

Philly soul magic. Philadelphia was a center for pop music.

50 years since its inception, Philadelphia and the world are poised to celebrate the golden anniversary of the label. The anniversary will highlight the extraordinary musical output of the storied label and spotlight milestone musical moments, artists and songs from the remarkable Philadelphia International Records family that have defined the landmark label and its incredible impact over the past 50 years.

In 2014, Sony Music Entertainment announced their historic deal with Philadelphia International Records, securing global ownership of all recordings made for PIR. The landmark deal added all post-1975 PIR recordings to the PIR titles already owned by Sony Music Entertainment, reuniting the entirety of the Philadelphia International Recordings catalog under a single global licensing and reissue entity.

For nearly 30 years, Warner Chappell Music has had the privilege of representing Gamble and Huff and their legendary music catalog, which includes nearly 3000 songs. Their impact on the music industry is immeasurable.

To celebrate this milestone a flurry of projects will showcase the Philadelphia International brand and accord Gamble and Huff along with key collaborators like their “Mighty Three” partner Thom Bell—increased appreciation and respect as 20th century Black music pioneers on a par with giants like Motown’s Berry Gordy. According to Kenny Gamble co-founder of Philadelphia International Records “It’s a blessing to celebrate all the writers, musicians, engineers, disc jockey, and all the people that were on our team. When I listen to this music now. I can close my eyes and the music brings us all back together again. Hearing this music reminds me of all the hard work and dedication our team went through to make such a long-lasting catalog, that has been embraced by the world and I’m thankful.”

I am honored to extend my sincere congratulations to such an outstanding duo and celebrate the legacy that is Philadelphia International Records and The Sound of Philadelphia.

HARRY T. LEWIS, JR.

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Harry T. Lewis, Jr., a long-time Denver business and civic leader, who passed away on November 11, 2020.

Harry was born in Cincinnati, Ohio to Margretta (Borrmann) and Harry T. Lewis. The family moved to Denver when Harry was two years old. Harry attended East High School and earned his A.B. in Art History from Dartmouth College and his M.B.A from the Amos Tuck School of Business in 1956. He was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Navy and spent most of his service stationed in Honolulu, HI.

Harry began his career in Denver in 1959 as a C.P.A and spent the bulk of his career as an Investment Banker in Denver with Boettcher & Co. and Dain Bosworth. In 1990,

he established his own firm, Lewis Investments. Throughout his life and career, he held strong beliefs in the importance of giving back to the city and state he loved. He invested substantial time and expertise to multiple non-profit and civic organizations, guided by his viewpoint we should all strive to improve our quality of life and better the City of Denver. Harry served on numerous community boards including the Boettcher Foundation, Colorado Outward Bound School, C.S.U. Research Foundation, Colorado Forum, Dartmouth Association of the Great Divide, Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Denver, Inc. and The Stapleton Foundation. In his personal life, he was an avid skier and fly fisherman, loved fine art, good wine and opera, and was a passionate gardener.

Harry Lewis was predeceased by his beloved wife, Tanya (deLuise) Lewis (2001) and a son, Colin M. Lewis (2016), and is survived by his son, Kevin H. Lewis, his daughter Valerie Lewis Savoie, and grandchildren Derek and Connor Lewis, Isabelle and Duncan Lewis and Julia and Cael McCarthy. I appreciate his lifetime service to our community.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF LEE WILSON

HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, Lee Roy Wilson, 90, a longtime resident of Rule, TX, passed away Sunday, January 3, 2021. A funeral service was held at 2:00 PM, Wednesday, January 6, 2021 at the First Baptist Church, Rule with Rev. Scott Hensley officiating.

Lee Roy Wilson was born October 5, 1930 in Rule, TX to Okla (Nabors) and Roy Wilson; he was the last surviving child of 10. He married Frances (Wade) Wilson on November 14, 1953 in Pinkerton, TX and they enjoyed 56 years of marriage. Lee Roy served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. After his discharge he worked in the oil field for 34 year as a production supervisor for Sojourner. He also farmed and worked as a hunting guide for many years. He loved hunting, gardening, and sharing his vegetables he raised with his friends and family. Lee Roy’s greatest loves were God, his family, and the many friends he had. He loved being able to attend annual Wilson and Wade reunions so he could spend precious time with his family.

He is survived by his children, Melinda Casey, Roy Wilson (Becky), Fran McCown (Jerry); grandchildren, Sandy Anderson (Jody), Blayne Casey, Jeff Casey, Stefanie Bonds (Kelly), Lesli McCarroll (Ryan), Lee Taylor Wilson, Zach Tinnin (Sarah), Joey Wilson (Dusty), Cole McCown; great grandchildren, Callie Ervin (Matt), Tanner Anderson, Will Anderson, Addison Bonds, Kadynce Bonds, Knoxlee Bonds, Braxton Wharry, Jaxon Wharry, Stephen McCarroll, Brendan Tinnin, Connor Tinnin, Gavin Tinnin, Shelby Wilson, Riley Wilson, Quaid Wilson; great-great grandchildren, Ace, Wade, and June Ervin; brothers-in-law, Don Wade (Sue), Sonny Wade; numerous nieces, nephews and their families.

He is preceded in death by his wife, Frances; son, Johnny; granddaughter, Chelsea Tinnin; 2 brothers; and 7 sisters.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF BOOTSIE NEAL

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of Bootsie Neal, a remarkable woman and public servant from my hometown of Dayton, Ohio, who passed away on January 24, 2021.

Bootsie Neal was one of my dearest friends for over 25 years. Bootsie was born on September 9, 1952 in Newbern, Alabama and grew up in Buffalo, New York. She earned her bachelor's degree from Howard University in Washington, D.C. She moved to Dayton in 1974, where she spent the rest of her life, and earned a master's degree in postgraduate education at the University of Dayton.

In 1991, Bootsie became the first African American woman to be elected to the Dayton City Commission, on which she served until 2004. Later in life, she inspired and became a role model for other women committed to public service and looking to run for office.

I had the privilege of working with Bootsie while I was Mayor of Dayton. Together, we worked to turn the city around. We shared a mutual interest in urban revitalization and redevelopment. We implemented a comprehensive strategic plan that laid the foundation for the economic revival of the urban core of our region. Our focus was rebuilding the business district with jobs, housing, and amenities, and restoring and revitalizing our neighborhoods.

Without Bootsie's leadership and partnership, we would not have balanced the city's budget for eight consecutive years, built the Dayton Dragons baseball stadium, the Schuster Center, and RiverScape MetroPark. All of these projects helped contribute to the revitalization and improvement of our city. Today, there are more people living, working, and enjoying downtown Dayton than there were twenty years ago.

Bootsie will be deeply missed by all of us who knew and loved her. I valued her wisdom and treasured her friendship. Bootsie's legacy of service through her sorority Delta Sigma Theta, as well as to the entire Dayton community, will forever be cherished. On behalf of all those whose lives were touched by Bootsie's friendship and community service, I offer her family and friends my heartfelt condolences.

SPECIAL DISTRICTS PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I reintroduce the "Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act," at the request of the California Special Districts Association and the 237 special districts within California's third Congressional district. I want to thank my original cosponsors for their support of this much-needed legislation. I also want to thank U.S. Senator KYRSTEN SINEMA (D-AZ) for sponsoring the companion legislation.

Special districts are independent units of local government that provide public services

cities and counties do not provide for residents. Those services include first responders, policing, firefighting, public health, and more, making special districts critical to the communities they serve.

To date, Congress has inadvertently excluded special districts from the direct federal financial assistance provided to state, county, and municipal governments during this pandemic for essential services. For example, special districts are currently ineligible for direct federal financial assistance under the "Coronavirus Relief Fund" established by the CARES Act (Public Law 116-136).

Our bicameral legislation would ensure that the 2,700 special districts in California and 30,000 special districts nationwide are eligible for any additional assistance provided by Congress to state, county, and local governments to aid in the fight against COVID-19.

The "Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act" would also allow special districts access to the Federal Reserve's Municipal Liquidity Facility, which provides states, counties, and municipalities federally guaranteed bridge financing to offset unexpected short-term revenue shortfalls. Like states, counties, and cities, many special districts serve large populations and have the legal authority to issue short-term tax and revenue anticipation notes. However, special districts are not currently guaranteed access to the Municipal Liquidity Facility, even to offset revenue shortfalls caused by this ongoing pandemic.

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to join us in cosponsoring the "Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act." Congress must ensure that all local governments have the federal support needed to deliver crucial quality-of-life services for our communities during this global pandemic, including special districts nationwide.

HONORING LYLE L. GREEN ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM GPO

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Ms. LOFGREN. Madam Speaker, over the last few months, we have all come to appreciate the quiet competence of our dedicated public servants, without whom none of our democratic institutions would work. One such public servant, Lyle Green, will be retiring at the end of January from his position as the managing director of the Official Journals of Government (OJG) at the Government Publishing Office (GPO). In that role, Lyle has been responsible for publication of the Federal Register, along with every publication from Congress, including the Congressional Record, the House and Senate calendars, bills, hearings, reports, and even the phone directory.

Lyle began his career at GPO in 1991 as a proofreader, where his colleagues soon recognized his talent and work ethic. Throughout his career, he was at the center of GPO's transition from a print-centric institution to one that leads on the digitization of public information, a transformation that has dramatically expanded the accessibility of key public documents to the American people. When GPO talks about its mission of "Keeping America

Informed," they are talking about many of the products produced by Lyle's team.

Lyle has served as Managing Director since January of 2012 and prior to that he headed OJG's Congressional Publishing Services for five years. In those capacities, he spearheaded the production of the official materials for presidential inaugurations in 2009, 2013, and 2017, and led GPO's team through several blizzards, an earthquake, a pandemic, and now, regrettably, an attack by insurrectionists. Throughout it all, Lyle and his team got it done. Ensuring the timely production of the Federal Register and the Congressional Record is like having to produce two big-city newspapers every day. In addition, Lyle led his team through the production of thousand-page bills for immediate floor consideration, or the production of last-minute credentials for important, historic public events. In each case, Congress got what it needed—on time and accurate.

There are generations of staff who always knew that if they ran into a problem, they could call Lyle at the Congressional Desk at GPO and he'd get it straightened out. And he always did it with grace and humility. As Lyle wraps up work on his fourth presidential inauguration, he deserves to be proud of his 30 years of service to GPO, Congress, and American democracy. As chairperson of GPO's oversight committee, the Joint Committee on Printing, I want to express Congress' gratitude for Lyle's tireless work on behalf of our constituents, most of whom will never know Lyle's continuing contributions.

I wish Lyle lots of time with his family and his beloved Washington Nationals secure in the knowledge that he made a great and lasting contribution to his country. With his retirement at the end of this month, he will leave the agency he loves stronger than when he found it.

LEE KUTNER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lee Moss Kutner who passed away surrounded by family on December 18, 2020.

Lee was born in Niagara Falls, New York in 1955. When he was nine, his family moved to Oak Park, Michigan. When in college, Lee's parents later moved to Denver, Colorado. Lee graduated from the University of Michigan in 1976 and then went on to graduate from the National Law Center of George Washington University in Washington, D.C. in 1980.

Following his graduation, Lee moved to Denver and began as an associate in a law practice in 1981, in short time becoming a partner. He later became the primary shareholder in Kutner Brinen, PC where he enjoyed 37 years practicing corporate reorganization and bankruptcy law with his partner and friend, Jeff Brinen. Lee pushed the practice of bankruptcy law forward, setting precedent, speaking at conferences, and publishing chapters in respected legal texts.

Lee was a beloved and devoted husband of 38 years and was a loving, father, and grandfather.