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.

He never missed a moment in the lives of his children and never missed a moment to celebrate his wife. He was brilliant, honest, and kind. He told his family he loved them every day, and it was the last thing he told them before he passed.

Lee is survived by his wife, Cynthia, his children, Justin (Jennifer Sisk), Alyssa, Mia, and his grandson Charles Julian Kutner. He is also survived by his sister, Roslyn Zigmond, and many sisters and brothers-in-law and nieces and nephews. I appreciate his lifetime service to our community.

RECOGNITION OF THE PENNSYLVANIA NATIONAL GUARD

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Pennsylvania National Guard for their tremendous work in Operation Protect D.C.

Following the horrifying events at the Capitol on January 6, 2021, I am thankful for the Pennsylvania National Guard activating to Washington, D.C. quickly to ensure the presidential inauguration and transfer of power could be carried out peacefully.

Leaving their families and careers in Pennsylvania, these men and women stood in the cold and rain and slept on floors to selflessly protect their fellow Americans. During this challenging time, it is inspiring to witness so many National Guard Service men and women choose to help their fellow Americans.

Governor Tom Wolf activated an extraordinary 2,400 Soldiers and Airmen in support of the District of Columbia's preparation for the 59th Presidential Inauguration. Pennsylvania has the third largest National Guard in the country with approximately 19,000 members located in more than 80 armories and readiness centers statewide. We cannot thank them enough for their service.

God Bless our Troops.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ANTHONY GALLOPO

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of one of the finest North Jersey residents I have come to know. Anthony Gallopo was a dear friend, a leader and a role model in Sussex County, and a tireless fighter for his brothers and sisters in arms—his fellow veterans.

As we mourn Tony's loss, our hearts go out to his wife, Betsy, and his daughters, Sarah, Alexandra, and Ashley Gallopo. He always spoke to me about them, how much he loved them, and how proud he was of their accomplishments. We are all thinking of them as we extend our deepest condolences for their terrible loss. At this time, we are also praying for the recovery of Tony's beloved wife, Betsy, who remains in the hospital.

Madam Speaker, getting to know Tony was one of the great joys and true honors of my career in Congress. I remember when we first met, when I visited Sussex County Community College for a roundtable with local student veterans. There was no one who knew more about what veterans in Sussex and Warren needed, or who cared more about how they were going to get the attention and care and services that they deserved.

For more than five years, Tony and I worked shoulder-to-shoulder to deliver on that promise. Tony was instrumental in securing the long-awaited goal of the first VA community outpatient clinic to serve veterans in Sussex and Warren Counties, so that those who fought for our country could access care close to home. I was so proud to stand with him and others who helped make it happen on the day the clinic finally opened in 2017. Tony continued the fight for lifesaving in-person psychiatric care for veterans at the clinic in Newton, hosted roundtables for better jobs and opportunities for students and returning veterans, and was always there to commemorate and remember the sacrifice of generations of his fellow servicemembers throughout the Fifth District.

As a leader on our District's Service Academy Nomination Selection Committee, he helped evaluate young student applicants so that I could nominate the very best of the next generation to represent North Jersey at our nation's great Service Academies.

Tony served as a Seaman in the United States Navy, and as a former New Jersey Department of the American Legion Vice Commander, member of the Legion's Department Executive Committee, and as Commander of Post 86 in Newton. He was also a retired senior officer with the New Jersey Department of Corrections.

Madam Speaker, we owe our nation's veterans a deep debt of gratitude; they do not owe us anything. And yet, every day, I am inspired by veterans like Tony, who always wanted to help more people, to give back to his community, and to look after other veterans young and old who could use a hand. And in doing so, he provided a profound example of how to lead a life of service.

Like so many in North Jersey, I was crushed when I heard that tragic news that Tony was in the hospital. In New Jersey, we have lost so many friends, neighbors, parents, and grandparents during the coronavirus pandemic. But it is difficult to capture just how painful the tragic news of Tony's passing was for all who knew him, but especially for his fellow Legionnaires and veterans.

While Tony is sadly no longer with us, he lived a lifetime of service that will never be forgotten. North Jersey is deeply indebted to this selfless patriot who touched so many lives, and a true hometown hero who walked among us.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering my friend, Tony Gallopo.

IN SUPPORT OF THE GABRIELLA MILLER KIDS FIRST RESEARCH ACT 2.0

HON. JENNIFER WEXTON

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 28, 2021

Ms. WEXTON. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0, which I introduced today. If enacted, this bipartisan bill would make great strides to fund the fight against childhood cancer, birth defects, and other rare childhood diseases.

Cancer is the number one cause of disease-related death in children age 14 and younger. This year alone, it's estimated that more than 10,000 children in the U.S. under the age of 15 will be diagnosed with cancer. In addition, one in 33 babies born in the U.S. are affected by a birth defect and birth defects are the leading cause of death among infants. Unfortunately, these childhood diseases are still poorly understood, and additional funding is greatly needed to augment existing research to promote new discoveries for children affected by them.

Congress passed the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act in 2014 to uncover new insights into the biology of childhood disease. The law established a Ten-Year Pediatric Research Initiative Fund within the National Institutes of Health's (NIH) Common Fund and authorized $12.6 million in funds annually for pediatric disease research through the Gabriella Miller Kids First Pediatric Research Program, commonly known as Kids First. Since the original law was enacted, Kids First has made progress towards understanding childhood cancer and disease. It has initiated the Gabriella Miller Kids First Data Resource Center—a comprehensive data resource for research and patient communities meant to advance discoveries.

The Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0 builds off the important progress made by the 2014 Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act by providing a new source of funding for the Kids First Research Fund. Specifically, the bill would redirect civil monetary sanctions levied against pharmaceutical, medical device, supplement and cosmetic manufacturers by the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission for violation of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act. By diverting penalties going into the General Treasury from these companies that break the law, the bill would sustain Kids First's critical childhood disease research for generations to come.

The Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0 is named to honor 10–year-old Gabriella Miller who passed away from an inoperable brain tumor. She was a fierce advocate for childhood cancer research and her efforts to boost awareness of childhood cancer helped raise funds for children's cancer charities. January 13, 2021 would've been Gabriella's eighteenth birthday. I can't think of a better way to celebrate her birthday than introducing this bill to honor her memory. I would like to thank Gabriella's mother and my constituent, Ellyn Miller, for her tireless advocacy on behalf of children with cancer through Smashing Walnuts. I am honored to have worked closely with Ellyn on the Gabriella Miller Kids First Research Act 2.0.