

years with the Clinton Police Department, he moved his family to South Texas and rose through the ranks. He was named deputy sheriff on June 1, 1976 and became sheriff of Willacy County on Jan. 1, 1985, a position to which he was re-elected nine consecutive times. During his tenure, he fostered a strong sense of consistency and security in the community.

Sheriff Spence received numerous awards throughout his career, including the Silver Star for Bravery and the J. Edgar Hoover Award for Distinguished Police Service. He also received an invitation from President Ronald Reagan to attend the White House Conference for a Drug-Free America to honor his work in Texas' War on Drugs. An example of Sheriff Spence's honorable actions while on duty include his successful deescalation of a union strike in 1979 when he was just a deputy officer: he heroically placed himself between two individuals and singlehandedly prevented a potentially fatal incident.

Sheriff Spence will be deeply missed by the many people in South Texas that he helped protect over the last 35 years.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Sheriff Larry Spence's years of service and dedication to the people of Willacy County, and wish him an enjoyable retirement and all the best in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING WRMJ ON RECEIVING THE 2020 SMALL MARKET STATION OF THE YEAR AWARD FROM THE ILLINOIS BROADCASTERS ASSOCIATION

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2021

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate WRMJ for receiving the 2020 Small Market Station of the Year Award from the Illinois Broadcasters Association.

The Illinois Broadcasters Association is the leading advocate for the broadcast industry in Illinois and is engaged in shaping public policy to create a positive legislative and regulatory environment for its members. Through their Silver Dome Awards, the Illinois Broadcasters Association recognized WRMJ's broadcasting excellence in TV, distinguishing WRMJ as one of the best of the small market TV stations in Illinois. This award is a well-deserved honor, and as a former journalist, I commend the hard work they do to keep the public informed.

I would also like to congratulate Jim Taylor, WRMJ's News & Sports Director, who received the Illinois Broadcasters Association's Best News Reporter and Best Sportscaster Award. His dedication and love for our community does not go unnoticed.

It is because of community leaders such as WRMJ that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate WRMJ for winning the 2020 Small Market Station of the Year Award.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA POLICE HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Police Home Rule Act, which would repeal the President's authority to federalize the local District of Columbia police department, the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD). I am very pleased that Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY, Chair of the Committee on Oversight and Reform, which has jurisdiction over this bill, is an original cosponsor. The President has no authority to federalize any other local or state police department. Under the Home Rule Act, "whenever the President . . . determines that special conditions of an emergency nature exist which require the use of the [MPD] for Federal purposes, he may direct the Mayor to provide him, and the Mayor shall provide, such services of the [MPD] as the President may deem necessary and appropriate."

Under the section of the Home Rule Act that would be repealed by this bill, the President may federalize MPD for a period of not more than 30 days, unless a resolution passed by Congress extending such federalization is enacted into law. Congress may also terminate the federalization at any time by enacting a resolution into law. This bill is necessary, even with these protections, because, under the principle of self-government, the President should not have control over the District's local police department.

While it does not appear that a President has exercised this authority over MPD, this latent power is totally unnecessary, should not exist and is an affront to MPD, which has always voluntarily assisted federal authorities. Given the events at Lafayette Square this summer, it is imperative that no President be allowed to federalize MPD. Although President Trump did not federalize MPD this summer, we understand the administration looked into the possibility. MPD's first responsibility is to protect District residents and visitors, and it must always remain under the authority of the D.C. mayor to accomplish its mission. Moreover, federalization is outdated in light of current practice. MPD regularly assists the federal government as a matter of comity and to protect the District, not as an aim of the federal government, just as I am sure other local police departments do in the region. There are approximately 30 federal police departments under the President's control in the District. In the case of a federal emergency, the President can unilaterally deploy these federal officers, as well as the D.C. National Guard, and can also request the support of MPD, as the President would do in any other jurisdiction, and as the Capitol Police did during the attack on the U.S. Capitol on January 6, 2021.

This is an important step to increase home rule for the District, and I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD TYLER HOOK

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, South Carolina has lost a Favorite Son with the tragic death of Richard Tyler Hook, age 25. His obituary clearly explains his extraordinary accomplishments and his beloved appreciation by all who knew him. The Wilson Family will always treasure his loyalty and devotion.

RICHARD TYLER HOOK

[Jan. 20, 2021]

LEXINGTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.—Richard Tyler Hook, the son of Richard and Kristin (Wingard) Hook, passed away on January 20, 2021. Tyler was born and raised in Lexington, South Carolina and leaves a far-flung community of family and friends who will remember his rare talent to be both the "life of the party" as well as one of the most thoughtful and considerate people you could find.

Upon graduating from Lexington High School, Tyler attended Newberry College, where he was a two-term President of his fraternity, Kappa Alpha Order. A well-loved figure on the campus, Tyler was also voted Kappa Delta sorority's "Beau," and he fondly recalled his years at Newberry College as some of the best years in his life. He graduated from Newberry College in 2017 with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration and Digital Marketing.

After graduation, Tyler served as a staffer for various campaigns, including campaign staffer for the Republican Party of Virginia, the campaign to re-elect S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson, and the campaign manager of the Christian Stegmaier S.C. Senate campaign. Tyler then served former Virginia House Delegate Ben Cline's successful congressional bid for the 6th Congressional District of Virginia, where he was instrumental in leading the campaign to a first term congressional victory. He went on to work on the staff of U.S. Representative Ben Cline of Virginia in Washington D.C. A budding politico, Tyler graduated from The George Washington University in 2020 with a Master of Arts in Media and Strategic Communication.

When he was not out on the campaign trail or roaming the halls of the Capitol, one could find Tyler on the golf course, or with his family at Williams-Brice Stadium cheering on the Gamecocks. From a young age, Tyler's family encouraged his natural curiosity through travel. Tyler's family trips took him all over the country and to many sites, including many museums up and down the east coast and Europe. He had a love of music. When he was six-years old, he experienced his first concert with his parents attending a Madonna concert in Boston. After his high-school graduation, Tyler traveled throughout Europe with his aunt Gwyn Wingard, where he saw the Rolling Stones in concert and fell in love with Scotland and all things Scottish. His Aunt Gwyn has fond memories of Tyler charming the ladies on his tour across Great Britain.

However far his travels and work took him, Tyler remained incredibly close to his family, from whom he learned how to make sweet tea and pork chops the "right way" like a true Southerner.

Tyler's family and friends recall an uncommonly generous and kind young man whose gift of wit charmed all who knew him. He is survived by his parents, Richard and Kristin

Hook; grandmother, Margie Hook; aunt, Gwyn Wingard; aunt, Myra (Karl) Kinard; uncle, Norman (Virginia) Hook; cousins, Ashley Chandler and Tradd Hook.

He was preceded in death by grandparents, Phillip Kirton Wingard, Sr., Nancy Carroll Fox, Bethea Hook; uncle, Phillip "Kirt" Kirton Wingard, Jr.; great-grandmothers, Gladys Kirton Wingard, Lillie Virginia Fox, and grandfather, Sam Fox.

A service in celebration of Tyler's life will be held Saturday, January 30, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church followed by interment in the church cemetery. Social distancing protocols will be observed and masks are required at both the service and graveside. The service and interment may be viewed via livestreaming on Caughman-Harman Funeral Home, Lexington Chapel's Facebook page. Memorials may be made to St. Stephen's Church and Newberry College.

The family wishes to thank all those who have offered their expressions of love, condolences, and prayers at www.caughmanlexington.com.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF BLAKE HURST

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2021

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my dear friend, Blake Hurst, on his recent retirement as president of the Missouri Farm Bureau. Blake was first elected as the 14th president of Missouri Farm Bureau on December 7, 2010. His prior service with the organization included being a district board member on the Missouri state board for eight years and serving seven years as Missouri Farm Bureau vice president. Blake, and his wife Julie, raise corn and soybeans in Northwest Missouri and they also operate a wholesale greenhouse business. They are blessed with 3 children and 6 grandchildren.

Looking back on Blake's years of service, what particularly stands out is his resolve in leading the entire Missouri Farm Bureau organization in responding to and working through claims from the catastrophic tornado that struck Joplin, Missouri, on the evening of Sunday, May 22, 2011. Blake and the whole Missouri Farm Bureau organization showed great courage during that difficult time.

Founded in 1915, Missouri was the first state Farm Bureau in America, and during Blake's tenure Missouri Farm Bureau celebrated 100 years as an organization. Other accomplishments that Blake can be proud of include helping with the passage of Missouri's Freedom to Farm, the final rule defining Waters of the United States, and the passage of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement. Blake even showcased his skilled dancing maneuvers in a video supporting the USMCA.

Blake is well-respected by rural communities and agricultural leaders in the state of Missouri. Blake is also a freelance writer. His work has appeared in the Wall Street Journal, The American, Weekly Standard, Wilson's Quarterly, Reader's Digest, Today's Farmer and the Show Me magazine of Missouri Farm Bureau. Mr. Hurst has excelled at telling the story of agriculture in America, and he has ex-

celled in fighting to conserve the rural way of life. I am proud to call Blake my friend and I think it's safe to say his time at Missouri Farm Bureau will serve as a legacy for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING BOB WATSON ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF HIM AC- QUIRING THE CARROLL COUNTY MIRROR-DEMOCRAT

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2021

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the acquiring of the Carroll County Mirror-Democrat by Bob Watson on November 19, 1980. Bob's lifelong goal was to acquire and operate the Carroll County Mirror-Democrat because his father, Thomas A. Watson, and his mother, Grace, purchased the Mirror-Democrat in 1950 and ran it until 1962. The Watson family has been personally connected to the Carroll County Mirror-Democrat for 70 years.

Bob was raised in Mount Carroll, Illinois, and graduated from Mount Carroll High School in 1968. After earning a bachelor's degree in Journalism from Northern Illinois University in 1972, he spent eight years working for weekly and daily newspapers in Northwestern Illinois. Thomas Sr. and Grace Watson ran the Mirror-Democrat from 1950 until Thomas Sr. passed away in 1962. The newspaper was sold in 1963, and did not become available for purchase again until autumn of 1980, when Bob was able to acquire it. On April 1, 1990, he also purchased the Savanna Times-Journal. His wife, Paula, who is a retired grade-school teacher, and Bob are the co-publishers of the Mirror-Democrat. They are very proud of their son, Thomas R., who is a graduate of the College of Business at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana and is employed by a large marketing and advertising company in Chicago. They maintain offices in downtown Mount Carroll and Savanna, publishing both weekly newspapers with a talented, veteran staff of four employees. As a former journalist, I admire their dedication to journalism and the determination they demonstrate across generations.

It is because of leaders such as Bob Watson that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Bob Watson for 40 years of owning the Mirror-Democrat.

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 Committee—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, February 2, 2021 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 3

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Gina Marie Raimondo, of Rhode Island, to be Secretary of Commerce.

SR-325

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider the nomination of Jennifer Mulhern Granholm, of Michigan, to be Secretary of Energy; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine data and analysis by the United States' and world's leading authorities on global climate trends from energy related sectors, focusing on where and how progress has been made in addressing climate change.

SD-G50

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SD-106

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Miguel A. Cardona, of Connecticut, to be Secretary of Education.

SD-430

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Isabella Casillas Guzman, of California, to be Administrator of the Small Business Administration.

SR-301

2 p.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Michael Stanley Regan, of North Carolina, to be Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

SD-106

FEBRUARY 4

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing on the Army response to the findings and recommendations of the Fort Hood Independent Review Committee's assessment of the Fort Hood command climate and culture.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.

SR-325

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Martin Joseph Walsh, of Massachusetts, to be Secretary of Labor.

SD-430