

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, on January 4, 2021, I missed the procedural vote Roll Call No. 5, the motion to table the motion to refer H. Res. 8, due to a Presidential Medal of Honor ceremony in the Oval Office. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 5.

CONGRATULATING GILPIN COUNTY COMMISSIONER GAIL WATSON ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, today I wish to recognize the accomplishments of an incredible public servant. Since 2012, Gail Watson has served as a County Commissioner for Gilpin County. During her time in office she has proven that hard work and determination are the cornerstones of implementing change.

As a County Commissioner, Gail has been a huge proponent of environmental protection. She has spent endless hours ensuring that Gilpin County's public lands remained free of invasive plant species and protected from development. Commissioner Watson has been a huge asset to her community and her work has positively impacted the people she has been so proud to serve.

She has shown a passion for maintaining the safety and wellbeing of her constituents. During her time as a County Commissioner, Gail prioritized access to broadband internet and phone service in Gilpin County, emphasizing that access to broadband service is a necessity in cases of emergency and for education. She also ensured that Gilpin County was well prepared for any natural disaster that might hit and focused on bolstering Gilpin's emergency preparedness.

I am grateful for Gail's dedicated service as a Gilpin County Commissioner, and I know that the impact of her work will continue to be felt for many years to come. I wish her a restful and well-deserved retirement.

HONORING FORMER PHOENIX CITY COUNCILMAN AND CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER CALVIN C. GOODE

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of a civil rights icon

and progressive giant, former Phoenix City Councilman Calvin C. Goode, who passed away on December 23, 2020 at the age of 93. Calvin spoke softly but carried with him the moral authority of having fought—and won—many civil rights battles throughout his long career.

Calvin was just 10 months old when his family moved from Oklahoma to Gila Bend, Arizona. The family relocated again to Prescott when the local school refused to enroll Calvin because of the color of his skin. He went on to attend Carver High School in Phoenix, Arizona's only high school built for Black students. After growing up attending segregated schools, Calvin devoted his life to improving education access in our community alongside his beloved late wife Georgie. He earned degrees in business and education from Phoenix College and Arizona State University, and served as an accountant for Carver and other Phoenix Union High School District schools for 30 years.

First elected in 1971, Calvin served a record 22 years on the Phoenix City Council. During his time at City Hall, Calvin continued to be guided by his deeply held belief in the equality of all people. Known as the "Conscience of the Council," his legacy of creating opportunity for all endures in Phoenix—from the early childhood education and jobs programs he championed to the anti-discrimination ordinance he helped broker. He was instrumental in pushing the City to recognize Martin Luther King Jr. Day, paving the way for the holiday to be observed statewide.

Even after his time on the Council, Calvin remained one of the most impactful leaders in the Phoenix community. He fought to protect the history of his beloved Eastlake Park neighborhood where he lived for most of his life—an area shaped by segregation and redlining that became a gathering place for civil rights leaders. In his later years, he was instrumental in turning his alma mater, the formerly segregated Carver High School, into a museum and worked to ensure the institution would survive and thrive to hold African American Arizonans' history for future generations.

He was above all a man of quiet courage and unshakeable conviction, and we are all better because of his lifetime of service. Godspeed, Calvin.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BUILD AMERICA ACT OF 2021

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Build America Act of 2021, legislation that will provide \$10 billion annually for merit-based infrastructure grants across the country. For years, House Democrats have called for a dramatic investment in infrastructure, and for years, these calls have

gone unanswered. I am hopeful that this will be the year that we finally make the investments we need. I am proud to introduce my legislation today—not for a massive, all-encompassing infrastructure package—but rather, for a commonsense expansion of successful programs based on need and merit that will ensure we put money towards the greatest infrastructure needs regardless of any additional package passed in the House.

My legislation will significantly increase the size and scope of two existing infrastructure grant programs, the Capital Investment Grant Program (CIG), also known as New Starts/Small Starts, and the BUILD Grant Program, formerly known as the Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery Grant Program, or TIGER Grants. These programs have been immensely successful in the past, assisting rural and urban communities prioritize their own needs. Each program requires matching funds from those seeking assistance, making them smart and effective avenues for leveraging federal funding to make a real impact across the country.

My bill takes these programs out of the annual appropriations process. Instead, it establishes them as mandatory programs with permanent and expanded funding streams totaling more than \$10 billion annually.

This expansion will be welcome news to the thousands of communities like those I represent. Consider this, since 2009, Congress has dedicated more than \$8 billion for multiple rounds of TIGER/BUILD funding. In FY2020 alone, the program received over \$9 billion in applications. That is more than the total amount of funding over a 10-year period in just a single fiscal year. The process is competitive, and it allows the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) to reward applicants that exceed eligibility criteria and demonstrate commitments to their projects.

By increasing these funding levels and removing the programs from the annual appropriations process, we will take the guesswork and uncertainty out of the programs. This in turn will allow communities around the country to submit funding requests for projects of national, regional, or metropolitan-area significance, including the construction and repair of roads, bridges, and tunnels, the installation of high-speed internet, revitalization of drinking water infrastructure, and the construction and expansion of fixed-guideway public transportation systems, including subways, light rail, commuter rail, and bus rapid transit (BRT).

Madam Speaker, we have talked about prioritizing a large-scale infrastructure package for years. Last Congress, the House passed H.R. 2, the Moving Forward Act, a \$1.5 trillion plan to rebuild American infrastructure. However, like so many other bills passed during the 116th Congress, it was ignored by the Republican controlled Senate. We need to get serious.

Every four years, the American Society of Civil Engineers issues a "Report Card" for America's Infrastructure. The report depicts the condition and performance of American infrastructure, assigning letter grades based on

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

the physical condition and needed investments for improvement across 16 major infrastructure categories. The most recent report card was issued in 2017. Among the national rankings, transit systems were rated a D— and roads were rated a D.

Dams: D.
Drinking water: D.
Inland waterways: D.
Levees: D.

We need to move this process forward. I urge my colleagues to support this critically important bill, so that our country can begin making the investments it desperately needs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Madam Speaker, I was absent on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 due to illness. I would have voted aye on H.R. 22—Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act of 2021, which was considered on the House floor that day.

JEFF DORSCHNER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jeff Dorschner of the U.S. Attorney's Office, District of Colorado, for his more than 20 years of service to the state and people of Colorado.

Throughout Jeff's time with the U.S. Attorney General's office, he has had many different responsibilities and roles—from Spokesman and Public Affairs Specialist to a Member of the Executive Management Team. He is best known and will be remembered for his hard work and dedication to the office and the people it serves.

During his tenure, Jeff handled media relations for the office on issues large or small, and no matter what time or day of the week. This required Jeff to know about all office activities, stay up to date with major investigations and law enforcement events, and be well versed in all offices policies and programs. He served as a spokesperson on many diverse subjects, ranging from criminal law to civil law and financial litigation, and served as a credible voice on behalf of the U.S. Attorney and Assistant U.S. Attorneys. He developed long-standing, close relationships with members of the news media, referred to by many reporters upon his retirement as one of the state's "top-tier" Public Information Officers (PIO), always helpful, trustworthy and responsive.

In his role in public affairs and as part of the Executive Management team, Jeff provided sound advice and counsel to the U.S. Attorney as well as responded to citizen inquiries. On occasion, Jeff would also handle inquiries from Members of Congress or state or local elected officials. Jeff was on duty on 9/11/2001 and was subsequently assigned as the Chief Information Officer for the U.S. Attorney's Anti-Terrorism Advisory Committee (ATAC).

During his tenure with the U.S. Attorney's Office, Jeff coordinated more than ten different visits by other U.S. Attorneys General as well as visits by the Deputy Attorneys General of the United States. He served four Presidents (Clinton, Bush, Obama and Trump) along with many presidential appointed and acting U.S. Attorneys (Tom Strickland, Richard "Dick" Spriggs, John Suthers, William "Bill" Leone, Troy Eid, David Gaouette, John Walsh, Bob Troyer and Jason Dunn).

I want to extend my deepest appreciation for Jeff's long career in public service and countless contributions to our community. I wish him the best in retirement and future endeavors.

REMEMBERING CHRISTINE TERLESKY

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in memory of Christine Terlesky, a beloved mother, wife, teacher, coach, daughter, sister and friend who passed away after a long battle with ALS.

While Christine played many roles, I first came to know her as an advocate. Soon after being diagnosed, she came to Capitol Hill as a passionate voice for families living with ALS to champion additional funding, research, and legislation that would benefit those afflicted with this debilitating disease.

That's just who Christine was; a person who immediately was spurred into action on behalf of others despite being confronted with a disease that impacted all aspects of her and her family's lives.

Forever the teacher, she continued to tell her story to teach others about the realities of ALS. Forever the Coach, she used that platform to fight for ALS funding and affordable, universal healthcare for all.

I saw firsthand how Christine passionately gave her time and energy—even as it was in increasingly limited supply—to what she believed in. And for Christine, that meant community. It meant family. It meant Youngstown. We had that in common.

I have fond memories of a dinner we had in D.C. with her sisters, swapping stories of our days as Youngstown State University athletes, our big Italian families, our love of sports, and her 19 years teaching history and government and coaching at Boardman High School. The evening went on for hours.

That dinner was also when I learned of Christine's deep admiration for Hillary Clinton. In 2016, during one of Secretary Clinton's campaign stops in Youngstown, I was able to connect Christine to Secretary Clinton. I will never forget the joy in Christine's face when she first met the Secretary. And in that moment, Christine did what she always did, put others first. She used her short time with the Secretary to advocate for those suffering with ALS.

In her final months, Christine continued to use her online presence to educate and advocate. She never lost her faith in government, advocacy, and enacting policies to improve the lives of Americans.

Christine Terlesky is survived by her parents, Ronald and Judy Moschella of

Boardman; her husband, Brian Terlesky; their three children, Brian (21), Tyler (16) and Emma (12); two younger sisters, Nadine (Nick) Colla and Jolene (Donald) Ross; her in-laws, Mary Lou and Ted Terlesky and nieces and nephews, Jenna and Jimmy Vivo, Lia and Nicholas Colla and Tessa, Gianna and Lena Ross.

Christine was one of the most caring, brave, and passionate people I have ever met. She gave her life to helping others and never backed down from a fight. I'm honored to have known her.

She will be sorely missed, but her community—our community—will continue to work together to carry out her mission. My prayers are with her family.

CONGRATULATING SUMMIT COUNTY COMMISSIONER THOMAS DAVIDSON ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JOE NEGUSE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Mr. NEGUSE. Madam Speaker, today I seek to highlight the career of an exemplary public servant from Colorado's Second Congressional District. For fourteen years, Summit County Commissioner Thomas Davidson tirelessly devoted himself to the betterment of his community.

Thomas has never strayed during his public service from his commitment to health, safety, and equity. As the Chairman of the Combined Housing Authority, he advocated for affordable housing for all. He spent 13 years on the board of Early Childhood Options which started the County's Head Start program—providing critical resources to low-income families in this mountain county. In 2013, he was appointed by the Governor of Colorado to the State's Early Childhood Leadership Commission, and in 2015, was called on by the Governor once more to serve on the State Board of Human Services—a testament to his leadership and tenacity.

As Summit County's first openly gay County Commissioner and a vocal advocate for LGBTQ rights, Commissioner Davidson has broken barriers for the next generations and set an excellent example for his community. I am so proud to represent such a dedicated public servant and member of his community.

I am grateful for all the work Commissioner Davidson has done as a Summit County Commissioner and am glad that he will continue his involvement in his community even after his time as a County Commissioner is over. I wish him a restful and well-deserved retirement from public service.

CONGRATULATING J. GARY MUDD, VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS AT THE AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND, ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2021

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate J. Gary Mudd, Vice