EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MAKE IT IN AMERICA ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the ''Make It in America Act.'' I thank U.S. Senator DEBBIE STABENOW (D–MI) for sponsoring the companion legislation, which was passed recently by the Senate in the bipartisan ''Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act'' (H.R. 3684).

Our ''Make It in America Act'' would prevent federal agencies from utilizing unnecessary waivers to get around ''Buy American'' requirements. Longstanding Congressional direction under the Buy American Act of 1933 (Public Law 72–428) requires the federal government to give preference to domestically produced goods and services. This ensures that taxpayer dollars are spent in support of American-made products and American jobs.

Despite this law, federal agencies routinely waive ''Buy American'' requirements without cause to purchase foreign-made products even when domestically made alternatives are readily available. This must end.

The ''Make It in America Act'' would close loopholes in our nation's ''Buy American'' laws and require that any waiver of the Buy American Act be publicly posted online with detailed justifications by the respective federal agency.

Our bicameral legislation also supports President Biden's Executive Order No. 14005, by providing Congressional authorization for the new Made in America Office within the White House's Office of Management and Budget. This new office is charged with reviewing all waivers to the Buy American Act sought by federal agencies and ensuring compliance with other ''Buy American'' laws. I strongly support President Biden's executive order creating this much-needed central office dedicated to enforcing ''Buy American'' laws, and I thank him for his leadership on this critical issue.

Congress must further strengthen our nation's ''Buy American'' laws to better support American manufacturing and competitiveness. The legislation I introduce today builds upon the ''Make It In America'' agenda I have advocated for throughout my tenure in Congress and during my earlier service in State government. When the federal government spends taxpayer dollars, those dollars should be spent on goods made by American workers. It's that simple.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all Members to cosponsor my ''Make It in America Act,'' to support well-paying manufacturing jobs and help rebuild the American middle class.

HONORING MOUNTAIRE FARMS

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mountaire Farms and their enduring tradition of business excellence.

The family-owned poultry farm and processing company is the fourth largest in the nation, boasting a storied presence within North Carolina. Despite their scale, Mountaire has continued to cultivate a reputation for family values, business success, and giving back to local communities.

Aligned with a 2019 expansion in Chatham County, Mountaire features newly opened plant operations in Siler City, NC, the largest city in the county, and a portion of the 13th District that I have the pleasure of representing. The project represented a $170 million investment, generating county tax revenue and creating over 1,000 jobs.

Partnering with over 500 growers and employing over 1,500 workers in Siler City, Mountaire's economic footprint is essential to the region. Statewide, Mountaire is an economic powerhouse employing over 5,000 employees and processing over 840,000 chickens on any given day, and is a major asset to North Carolina agriculture, the state's largest industry.

While continuing to increase production capacity and growing their business, Mountaire has remained focused on what really matters: the community they set up shop in. Through initiatives like Mountaire Cares, their annual Thanksgiving for Thousands drive, scholarships, and other community service projects, they are deeply invested in improving the quality of life for Chatham County residents.

Through it all, Mountaire embodies their core commitment ''to be good stewards of all the assets God has entrusted to us.'' This includes caring for employees, neighbors, customers, and others by doing business the right way and by prioritizing people over mere profits.

Please join me in commending Mountaire Farms on a job well done.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LT. COL. MATT URBAN VFW AND AMVETS POST 7275

HON. CHRIS JACOBS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Mr. JACOBS of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Lt. Col. Matt Urban VFW and AMVETS Post 7275 on the 75th anniversary of its founding.

The VFW and AMVETS Post, located in the Town of Lancaster, NY, is named after Matt Louis Urban, one of the most decorated American soldiers from WWII and a native of Buffalo, NY. Lieutenant Colonel Urban served in the United States Army from 1941–1946 and during his time in the military, saw combat in North Africa, Sicily, France, and Belgium. After being wounded in France, Urban and his battalion carried on into Belgium where he was severely wounded by machine gun fire in Philippeville. Urban eventually made his way to Germany without the ability to speak from his previous injuries and medically retired from the Army in 1946. Returning to the United States, Lieutenant Colonel Urban settled down in Michigan, received the Medal of Honor in 1979, and passed away in 1995. Some of Urban's other honors include 2 Silver Stars, 7 Purple Hearts, the Legion of Merit, and the Croix de Guerre from France.

Post 7275 adopted Lt. Col. Matt Urban's name in 2011 and today, it looks to keep its namesake's legacy of selfless service alive through community involvement and outreach. Chicken and steak dinners, classic car shows, and holiday parties all populate the Post's calendar and fundraise for various causes and services. Additionally, the Post organizes several veteran-related services and memorials for its members. During the Thanksgiving holiday, a food drive is put on by and for veterans. For Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day, the Post organizes ceremonies to remember the fallen and honor its members' sacrifices. Flag Day is especially significant for both the VFW and AMVETS as flags are placed at the graves of veterans and those killed in action at local cemeteries. The Post has also remained very active during the COVID–19 pandemic, helping members stay in contact with the local VA hospital for medical services and keeping veterans informed about vaccination information.

I thank the Lt. Col. Matt Urban VFW and AMVETS Post 7275 for its tireless commitments to serving our local veterans and greater community, and I again congratulate the Post on its 75th anniversary.

HONORING KATHLEEN ANN MCCARTY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Kathleen Ann McCarty for her exceptional career dedicated to humanitarian service.

Kathleen was born in Calexico, California, but soon after relocated with her family to Santa Rosa, where she attended Santa Rosa Junior College. Her service began when she took a year off from school to volunteer at the Chidamoyo Christian Hospital in Zimbabwe. Though never part of her original career path, her experiences inspired her to pursue a career in nursing. In 1977, she graduated from the University of California, San Francisco and

● 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.

went on to take a position as head nurse in a high-risk obstetrics unit in Sacramento while simultaneously obtaining her master's degree in nursing in 1981. She returned to Zimbabwe after graduation where she lived for nearly 40 years except for a few years in the nineties, when she returned to the U.S. to undergo cancer treatment. Following her recovery, she worked as a nurse at the Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital for one year before returning to Zimbabwe.

Under her leadership as the Clinical Officer at Chidamoyo Hospital, Kathleen was able to restart childhood immunization programs and initiated a program for routine antenatal tetanus immunization, which has nearly eliminated newborn tetanus in Zimbabwe. In 2000, Kathleen began a program for antiviral treatment for pregnant mothers in labor, which helped drop AIDS transmission in Zimbabwe to under 10 percent. Kathleen's contributions have helped create 16 child vaccine clinics, seven HIV clinics, and have expanded the capacity of the hospital to 100 beds. Additionally, she created a scholarship program which supports the education of 250 young girls.

Kathleen was undeterred by health complications or by unpredictable events such as a fire that destroyed much of the hospital, a devastating outbreak of cholera, and even a break-in by local thieves demanding money. In September of 2020, Kathleen was diagnosed with a terminal malignancy and returned to the U.S. for treatment. She fought her illness with grace and never lost her sense of humor. Sadly, after 40 years of service, Kathleen passed away on May 26, 2021.

Madam Speaker, there is no doubt that Kathleen Ann McCarty's achievements will leave a tremendous impact for generations to come. It is fitting and proper that we honor her here today.

HONORING JOHNNIE KERSHAW

HON. DAN BISHOP

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Mr. BISHOP of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor Johnnie Kershaw, a retired volunteer firefighter and native of Hoke County, North Carolina. The second oldest of nine children, Johnnie was born July 29, 1936, and moved to Brooklyn, New York, as a young man. There, he enrolled at Brooklyn Automotive School, where he learned transmission and auto body repair. In 1966, he returned to Hoke County and opened Kershaw's Body Shop, making him the first African-American man in the county to own his own paint and body shop.

Throughout his 30 years of service as a volunteer firefighter, Johnnie received several awards, including the Outstanding Leadership Award, the Outstanding Fire Chief Award, and the Outstanding Safety Award. Now, at 85 years old, Johnnie continues to serve as a model leader for the Hoke County community. I am proud to recognize his achievements today and to call him a constituent.

THE PASSING OF SERGEI KOVALEV

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today as the Co-Chairman of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (the Helsinki Commission) to remember the great Russian human rights activist Sergei Kovalev and to include in the RECORD an opinion column by Vladimir Kara-Murza from Wednesday's Washington Post.

MOSCOW—''Our opposition was not political; it was moral incompatibility with the regime,'' Sergei Kovalev, a leading figure in the Soviet dissident movement, explained in an interview for a documentary I made in the early 2000s. ''At some point you realize that it is shameful to remain silent.''

Last week, Kovalev died in his sleep at the age of 91. His funeral on Friday was attended by thousands of Muscovites who filed past his casket at the Sakharov Center, an institution named for his friend and mentor, Andrei Sakharov, and designated by Vladimir Putin's government as a ''foreign agent.'' Several Western countries sent their diplomats to pay respects. No Russian government official attended.

Perhaps it was better this way. I doubt Kovalev would have appreciated hypocritical gestures of condolence from a regime led by a KGB officer who has brought back many of the authoritarian practices Kovalev spent his life fighting.

Like many in the Soviet dissident movement, Kovalev joined the human rights struggle from the academic world. A successful biophysicist and head of a laboratory section at Moscow State University, he had a PhD and more than 60 research papers to his name. But he could not remain silent in the face of a resurgent totalitarianism of the Brezhnev era that saw both domestic repression and aggressive posturing abroad. For Kovalev, the defining moments were the show trial of writers Andrei Sinyavsky and Yuli Daniel and the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia, both in the second half of the 1960s.

His activism brought his scientific career to an end, of course. From then on, Kovalev dedicated his life to documenting, publicizing and confronting abuses committed by his government against his fellow citizens. A founding member of the Initiative Group for the Defense of Human Rights in the USSR—the first human rights group in the country—and the Moscow chapter of Amnesty International, Kovalev served as the editor of the Chronicle of Current Events, the samizdat news bulletin that reported on human rights violations throughout the Soviet Union. During Kovalev's subsequent trial on charges of ''anti-Soviet agitation,'' the KGB tried to prove the slanderous nature of the Chronicle's reporting—but ended up confirming its accuracy. Not that it changed the outcome: Kovalev was sentenced to seven years of imprisonment followed by three years in internal exile. His trial was held behind closed doors with a preselected ''audience.'' Sakharov tried, unsuccessfully, to enter the courtroom and ended up standing outside the door throughout the trial. At the very same time, in Oslo, Sakharov's wife, Elena Bonner, was accepting his Nobel Peace Prize, which he dedicated to ''all prisoners of conscience in the Soviet Union and in other Eastern European countries''—including Kovalev, whom he mentioned by name.

The collapse of communist regimes in Eastern Europe saw many former dissidents go into politics to help steer their countries toward democracy. Poland's Lech Walesa and Czechoslovakia's Vaclav Havel were only the best-known examples. In Russia, to its chagrin, this was more the exception than the norm—but Sergei Kovalev was among those exceptions. Four times he was elected to the Russian parliament. He was also Russia's first human rights ombudsman, co-wrote the human rights clauses in the constitution and served as Russia's representative on the U.N. Human Rights Commission and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Throughout it all, he stayed true to the principles that had defined his dissident period. He sought to make politics moral and never compromised his conscience. With the start of Russia's military campaign in Chechnya, he tried to use his position to prevent bloodshed—including by personally leading negotiations that saved the lives of more than 1,500 hostages during a terrorist siege in the summer of 1995. But while President Boris Yeltsin had genuine respect for Kovalev, he chose advice from elsewhere. When it became clear that the war would not stop, Kovalev resigned his official positions and sent Yeltsin a sharply worded open letter. The president responded personally, thanking Kovalev for his service and expressing sympathy for his motivation. This was a different Russia.

Kovalev spent the last part of his life as he did the first: in opposition to a regime increasingly intolerant of domestic dissent and increasingly aggressive toward others. While Russia still had a real parliament, Kovalev remained a member—voting against Putin's confirmation as prime minister in 1999 and warning of a coming ''authoritarian police state led by . . . the well-preserved Soviet security services'' in early 2000. That was a time when many in Russia and in the West were still harboring illusions about Putin. When legal opposition politics became all but impossible, Kovalev returned to being what he knew best, a dissident. His last public appearance, earlier this year, was at a virtual event commemorating Sakharov's centennial.

Kovalev described himself as an idealist—an indispensable quality in a seemingly hopeless struggle against a ruthless authoritarian system. The main lesson from Kovalev and his fellow dissidents was that one can choose not to remain silent even in the most difficult circumstances. And that, in the end, the struggle might not be as hopeless as it seems.''

HONORING UNITED STATES NAVY SEAMAN 1ST CLASS LYAL J. SAVAGE FOR HIS BRAVE SACRIFICE AT PEARL HARBOR DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 20, 2021

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of United States Navy Seaman 1st Class Lyal J. Savage. At the age of 19, Seaman 1st Class Savage gave his life in service to this nation during the attack on Pearl Harbor. His remains were accounted for on July 29th, 2019, after being declared dead while missing in action for nearly 80 years.

Seaman 1st Class Savage was born in 1922 to Roswell "Ross" Savage and Elizabeth Savage. During World War II he joined the United States Navy and was assigned to the