

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MANUFACTURING.GOV ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Manufacturing.gov Act, H.R. 6290, a bill that would refine the Manufacturing.gov website to serve as the main source for key information regarding federal manufacturing programs.

Manufacturing.gov brings together industry, academia and federal partners within a network of advanced manufacturing institutes to increase U.S. manufacturing competitiveness and promote a robust and sustainable national manufacturing R&D infrastructure.

This legislation would specify improvements to the website to make it even more useful and valuable by requiring the inclusion of relevant contact information, opportunities for public input, and webpages focusing on topics related to the website.

Small and medium sized manufacturers are an essential part of the U.S. economy.

In Texas, they make up approximately 13 percent of output and employ just above 7 percent state's workforce.

Manufacturing companies need easy access to critical information within their industrial field to optimize their efficiency and ability to compete. To promote domestic production and provide job opportunities to hard-working Americans, these companies need real-time data on sourcing, markets, supply chains, and fulfillment.

As the U.S. elevates domestic manufacturing to a top economic priority, we must improve and update our systems to better equip these companies, and the public, with the resources they need to succeed.

This bill would establish a new section of the Manufacturing.gov website titled "Manufacturing.gov hub" to include federal manufacturing program information.

To ensure that the Manufacturing.gov hub serves the needs of the people, it is important that the public has the ability to suggest input and feedback.

Allowing the public to give feedback on the website's functionality, as well as its content, allows the site to better serve the needs of U.S. manufacturing while providing a safe, constructive environment to present concerns and solutions.

In order to support the interests of the free market, it is imperative that we make transparent the types of technologies and research that are being developed.

Texas is home to companies that manufacture a wide range of advanced and essential goods, including railcars and railways, clean energy equipment, and everyday household items such as backpacks, blankets, and towels.

Providing these companies with easily accessible sites that are dedicated to their res-

spective industries provides them with the necessary information they need to improve their production.

This bill would provide industrial sectors with accurate, up-to-date information webpages within each hub.

Finally, the Manufacturing.gov Act will utilize machine learning to highlight frequently asked questions and provide corresponding answers for such questions.

By introducing machine learning into the hub, we can refine the website to fit the needs of U.S. manufacturers.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill dedicated to bolstering the U.S. manufacturing and production industry by establishing a hub that supplies U.S. small and medium manufacturing companies with recent technological and research developments.

HONORING ANDREW "ANDY"
CHESLEY FOR HIS DEDICATED
PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. McNERNEY. Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the public service and achievements of Andrew "Andy" Chesley, who recently retired from his position as Executive Director of the San Joaquin Council of Governments, or "SJCOG," after forty one years of service.

Andy graduated from Miami University of Ohio with a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science and geography, after which he earned a master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Iowa.

During his fifteen years as Executive Director of the SJCOG, Andy oversaw its rise to prominence among California's metropolitan planning agencies, standing alongside the Bay Area's Metropolitan Transportation Commission, the Southern California Association of Governments, the San Diego Association of Governments, and the Sacramento Area Council of Governments. Andy was responsible for the management of the SJCOG's transportation planning and other regional planning activities, including implementation of the San Joaquin County Multi-Species Habitat Conservation and Open Space Plan. He also authored and implemented San Joaquin County's "self-help" sales tax for transportation, which was passed by the county's voters, allowing vital improvements to the region's highway and passenger rail transportation system, thereby making this economically challenged region more attractive to future residents and employers.

In addition to his role at the SJCOG, Andy has been chair of the Regional Transportation Planning Agencies of California, is an officer of California's Self-Help Counties Coalition, and is a member of the Institute for Transportation Engineers, the American Planning Asso-

ciation, and the American Public Works Association. He has also been a speaker at state and national conferences of the American Planning Association, the American Society for Public Administrators, the National Association of Regional Councils, and the National Transportation Research Board.

Through changing and challenging times, Andy has provided constant and steady leadership and wise counsel to elected officials charged with managing San Joaquin County's growth and has been a leader among his planning agency peers. He has contributed his knowledge and experience to the California's Central Valley and beyond, and he has made a positive impact on our great state.

Please join me in recognizing Andrew "Andy" Chesley for his distinguished service and in wishing him well on his much-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
FRANK ONGARO

HON. PETE STAUBER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. STAUBER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Frank Ongaro's successful career of advocating for and protecting Minnesota mining, and to celebrate his well-deserved retirement after serving as the Mining Minnesota executive director for 15 years.

Frank is a born and raised Iron Ranger from Hibbing who has spent a majority of his career working in or around mining.

Starting with his grandparents, who immigrated to the United States and worked in mines, Frank and his family truly have embodied what the legacy of Iron Range mining means.

In northern Minnesota, mining is our past, present, and future, and Frank worked tirelessly every day to protect what so many of us hold near and dear to our hearts. Mining isn't just a career; it is a community that he continuously uplifted. That is why when I think of American exceptionalism, I think of Frank Ongaro.

Frank has been a champion for promoting and protecting the Iron Range every day of his career. I thank Frank for his decades of service to our communities and wish him nothing but happiness as he begins this new phase of life.

HONORING SENATOR PATRICIA
TORRES RAY

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished 16-year career of Minnesota Senator Patricia Torres Ray.

• 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.

Throughout her five terms of dedicated service to our community, Senator Torres Ray has always served her constituents with the kindness, compassion, and representation they deserve. Beyond her exceptional constituent service, she has had a transformative impact on the Minnesota legislature and the lives of Minnesotans alike. She came to the Senate in with keen values-driven policymaking experience that she has utilized to raise up the voices of those who are too often unheard. A shining example of this is her hard-fought victory to enshrine the Minnesota Homeowner's Bill of Rights, which she authored, into Minnesota law in 2013.

Patricia has been—and always will be—a trailblazer. In 2006, she became the first Latina ever elected to the Minnesota Senate. Never shying away from leadership positions, she has been Chair of the Senate Education Committee, Parks and Trails Legacy Committee, New Immigration Policy Commission, People of Color and Indigenous Caucus, and was Majority Whip in her first term. Ever since she pushed through the door of the Minnesota legislature, she has been steadfast in her efforts to keep it open for future generations of leaders—especially other women of color who have been historically excluded from the representational opportunities afforded to others. I am one of those leaders.

Her legacy is a testament to what is possible when someone like Patricia's diverse, bold leadership shatters glass ceilings. During her tenure, has encouraged countless women of color to embrace their power, their stories, and their voices to influence the political process as both advocates and as elected representatives. Her passion for increasing diverse representation has been continually recognized throughout her career; just last month she was a recipient of the CLUES 2022 Latino Trailblazer Leadership Award for her years of outstanding leadership, and her advocacy for access and opportunities for the Latino community. This recognition extends far beyond Minnesota, including as Chair of the Latinas Lead Initiative of the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators.

I have been honored to call Senator Torres Ray an inspiration, colleague, and friend. I wish her the very best for her retirement and look forward to seeing her impact unfold for generations to come. The Minnesota legislature is a better place because of her efforts and I know her fellow colleagues will cherish their memories of serving with her, as do I.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and thanking Senator Patricia Torres Ray for her hard work as a Senator, and to wish her well for her well-deserved retirement.

**ENSURING PHONE AND INTERNET
ACCESS THROUGH LIFELINE AND
AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY
PROGRAM ACT OF 2022**

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 14, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 4275, the "Ensuring Phone and Internet Access Through Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Program Act of 2022."

This bill would increase internet and communications access for low-income consumers by promoting enrollment in the Lifeline Program and Affordable Connectivity Program.

In today's technological age, internet and phone communications have become integral to the ever-growing United States economy and to society overall. Having access to the internet is crucial for all Americans, whether that be for educational purposes, business usage, or contacting friends and family.

Given the rapid development in the technological sector, one might be inclined to believe that high-speed internet access has become even more widespread and easily available to all Americans. However, despite critical developments in high-speed data, the U.S. Census Bureau has indicated that 2.8 million households and 7 million individuals in Texas lack broadband access.

Lack of access to broadband internet has impeded not only Texans, but also Americans nationwide from attending classes, filling job forms, and seeing healthcare providers. For low-income families, lack of internet and communication access acts as an economic barrier, impeding opportunities, furthering the socioeconomic gap, and elevating the risk of eventual poverty.

The Ensuring Phone and Internet Access Through Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Program Act intends to promote access to broadband internet and phone connectivity by proactively providing low-income Americans the information they need to enroll into either of the two programs.

The Lifeline program helps bring phone service to low-income consumers at a heavily discounted price, allowing them to connect with family, job opportunities, and emergency services. This bill aims to increase enrollment of millions of eligible Americans who suffer from financial barriers.

The Affordable Connective program, like the Lifeline program, helps bring fast, reliable internet access to low-income consumers at discounted prices. After the COVID-19 pandemic, it is obvious how essential online communication has become for modern society to function. Providing access to internet allows for low-income individuals the freedom to explore more opportunities to develop their lives via online education and jobs.

Furthermore, this bill also plans to provide oversight of the enrollment numbers by requiring the Commission to submit annual reports to Congress with enrollment statistics for both programs.

Finally, the Ensuring Phone and Internet Access Through Lifeline and Affordable Connectivity Program Act of 2022 requires that the Comptroller General submit annual reports identifying outreach initiatives that aim to increase awareness of both programs so that potential beneficiaries will take advantage of them.

With this data, Congress can look to refine and expand both programs, creating innovative ways to circumvent lack of internet and phone access.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my fellow Members of Congress to support this bill that is dedicated to the principles of equity and opportunity for all Americans.

Since internet access and phone connectivity are crucial for success and advancement in today's society, we must ensure that everyone is aware of resources that pro-

vide these services at subsidized prices, so that, ultimately, internet and phone access are available to everyone.

RECOGNIZING DR. PRESTON KING

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2022

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a social science educator, prolific writer, political philosopher, and African American Civil Rights Activist, Dr. Preston King.

Dr. King was born in Albany, Georgia on March 3, 1936, to the union of Clennon Washington King, Sr., and Margaret Slater King.

Dr. King obtained his bachelor's degree from Fisk University in 1956. He went on to obtain his Master of Science in 1958 from the London School of Economics and his PhD in 1966. Dr. King was subjected to the draft board process and after the board refused to address him as Mr. King, he refused to respond. He was charged with draft evasion and went into exile in the United Kingdom because of the unjust charges that were levied against him.

His exile began his storied career in Academia as he has served at many institutions of higher learning in England and Africa to include Keele University, The University of Ghana, The University of Sheffield, the University of East Africa and as department Chair at the University of Nairobi.

Dr. King moved to Australia in 1976 where he served as Chair of the School of Economics until 1986, when he returned to the United Kingdom and Lancaster University, resuming his position as Chair.

During his extraordinary career, Dr. King has published many books. His first book was published in 1967, *Fear of Power*. Other dynamic publications included *Politics and Experience*, as well as multiple editions of *The Ideology of Order* in 1974 and 1999 and *Tolerance* in 1978 and 1998. Other books include *An African Winter*, *Socialism and the Common Good: New Fabian Essays and Friendship and Politics*. Additionally, Dr. King has authored, narrated, and edited the *Critical Review International Social and Political Philosophy*.

Despite his numerous commitments in academia, Dr. King has found time to share his talents as a visiting professor at multiple institutions of higher learning to include McGill University in Canada, Auckland University in New Zealand, Australian National University in Australia, Macquarie University in Australia and Birkbeck College, a part of the University of London System.

Dr. King's philosophy in academia and activism has always been centered around social issues, especially as they relate to scientific matters. He has extensively studied the structure of societies and how they function and evolve, and he has played an integral role in tying questions of history and the philosophy of history to questions of tolerance and the ways societies may or may not be managed.

Dr. King was pardoned by President Bill Clinton in 2000. He has been active as a scholar-in residence at the leadership center of Morehouse College in Atlanta since 2006.