

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING DR. KARENINA  
RELUCIO

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Karenina Relucio as she retires from her position as public health officer and deputy director at the Napa County Health and Human Services Agency.

Dr. Relucio completed her medical training at Rush Medical College in 1995, residency training in Internal Medicine at Tufts—New England Medical Center in 1998 and Infectious Diseases fellowship training at Stanford in 2003. She is board certified in both Internal Medicine and Infectious Diseases. Before coming to Napa County, she was a medical director of public health clinics, assistant health officer and chief of infectious diseases for the San Mateo County Health System from 2006 to 2015 and a clinical instructor at Stanford University Medical Center from 2003 to 2006.

In 2015, Dr. Relucio joined the Napa County Health and Human Services Agency. She runs a division spanning communicable disease control and prevention, chronic disease prevention, emergency preparedness and programs to serve families and children. Dr. Relucio is president of the Health Officers Association of California, past president of California Conference of Local Health Officers, and is on the Board of Directors for the Napa/Solano County Medical Society. Dr. Relucio served as co-chair of the Napa Opioid Safety Coalition and currently participates in multiple local and state collaborations to improve health. She served as a public health leader when she led the COVID-19 pandemic response in Napa County.

Dr. Relucio's exceptional career has earned her awards and commendations such as the Napa Solano Medical Society Physician of the Year in February 2020, the California Legislative Women's Caucus Woman of the Year in March 2021 and Napa Chamber of Commerce Citizen of the Year in March 2022.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Dr. Karenina Relucio has served our state through her exceptional career in public health. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her today.

**RICHLAND READINESS CENTER**

**HON. DAN NEWHOUSE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the grand opening of the Washington National Guard's Richland Readiness Center, the first National Guard facility in Benton County since 1947.

This new, state-of-the-art facility will give our citizen-soldiers a new place to serve and stay during their training by providing ample training, storage, classroom, common areas, and office space for a company of soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment. The grounds also include classrooms and conference rooms available to the public and will serve WSU Tri-Cities, CBC, HAMMER, Hanford Patrol, local law enforcement groups, and dozens of other community organizations. This will also become the first Washington National Guard facility that is on track to meet a LEED Gold rating for environmental considerations and green cost saving measures.

It is an honor for our district to be home to the men and women who serve our country, and I extend my congratulations to the Washington National Guard for its leadership and many years of service to our Central Washington communities.

**MAYOR STEVE AUSTIN**

**HON. JAMES COMER**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. COMER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Mayor Steve Austin of Henderson, Kentucky, who is retiring at the end of the year after serving three terms.

Mayor Austin is a lifelong resident of Henderson. He is a graduate of Holy Name High School and Henderson Community College before he continued his education at Evansville College and at Harvard School of Business regional campus sessions.

Before being elected Mayor, he worked at Henderson's local newspaper, "The Gleaner," for more than four decades, covering a wide range of topics before serving as publisher for 22 years.

I have had the privilege of getting to know Mayor Austin well over the years. While his time as Mayor may be coming to an end, I am confident his dedication and service to Henderson will continue for many years to come.

**RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
PATRICK ONEAL HARDY**

**HON. BRIAN BABIN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Patrick "Hawk" Hardy and express my sincere gratitude for his service to our Nation.

Although he is now a resident of Kountze, Texas, Patrick was born in Port Arthur, Texas, on June 14, 1949. Patrick, known by many as "Hawk," and I first met when we were children. In our youth, we made wonderful memories playing football together.

After graduating from French High School, in Beaumont, Texas, in 1968, Hawk enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. He bravely served from 1968 to 1970, earning the rank of sergeant. Former Secretary of the Navy, William K. Jones, stated the following citation while awarding Hawk with the Navy Commendation Medal:

For meritorious service, while serving with the Second Battalion, First Marines, First Marine Division in connection with the combat operations against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam from 20 September 1969 to 11 September 1970. Throughout this period, Sergeant Hardy performed his duties in an exemplary and highly professional manner. Following initial assignment to Company H, he was reassigned as Team Leader of the Marine Liaison Team with the Fifth Battalion, Republic of Korea Marine Corps. Participating in several major combat operations, he repeatedly distinguished himself by his courage and composure under fire. Particularly noteworthy were Sergeant Hardy's achievements on 21 July 1970 as he skillfully coordinated the maneuver of United States Marines and Korean Marines, thereby enabling them to close on an enemy force attempting to cross the Vinh Dien River and kill ten enemy soldiers. Displaying exceptional initiative and resourcefulness, he organized and supervised a training program for personnel in his section, which increased their individual proficiency and enhanced the combat effectiveness of his unit. As a result of his diligent and resourceful efforts throughout his tour in the Republic of Vietnam, the operational effectiveness of his unit was greatly enhanced. By his initiative, superb professionalism, and loyal devotion to duty, Sergeant Hardy earned the respect of all who served with him and upheld the finest traditions of the Marine Corps and of the United States Naval Service.

Hawk attended Lamar University in Beaumont, graduating with an associate degree in law enforcement and a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He worked as a deputy sheriff in Harris County from 1971 to 1981. In May of 1981, he earned his Doctor of Jurisprudence. Hawk served as a criminal investigator and First Assistant Prosecutor in Hardin, Jasper, and Tyler counties. He was a county attorney for Tyler County in 1984 and later served as the Tyler County District Attorney from 1985 to 1990. Hawk also served as a criminal investigator in Kauffman County and was appointed as the Assistant Prosecutor.

Hawk has been a student of taekwondo since the age of 16. However, in the 1970s, he also made a name for himself on the karate circuit, winning numerous titles and awards. He reached professional status after claiming the 1975 U.S. Karate Championship title. From 2000 to 2008, he competed extensively in Brazilian jiu-jitsu tournaments worldwide, winning 21 gold medals, four silver medals, and seven bronze medals. In 2004, he was the legendary Royce Gracie's first Black Belt, which Hawk stated was his proudest moment in martial arts. Hawk still holds a Black Belt in taekwondo, tang soo do, and Gracie jiu-jitsu, as well as a 5th degree in Shotokan.

Madam Speaker, it is a great pleasure to honor my friend Patrick "Hawk" Hardy. His

• 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.

love for our country is evident in his patriotic service and diligence in protecting and defending it. He is one-of-a-kind.

SUPPORTING H.R. 8025, TO DESIGNATE THE FACILITY OF THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 100 SOUTH 1ST STREET IN MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA, AS THE MARTIN OLAV SABO POST OFFICE

### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8025, which designates the United States Postal Service facility located at 100 South Street in Minneapolis, Minnesota as the "Martin Olav Sabo Post Office."

Congressman Martin Sabo's public life began 45 years ago when he was elected to the Minnesota State House of Representatives at the young age of 22. He went on to serve with distinction as both House Speaker and minority leader until his election to Congress in 1978. Congressman Sabo served the people of Minnesota for 28 years in the house, retiring in 2006. His Chairmanship of the House Budget Committee in the 1990s set the country on a course that resulted in a federal budget surplus. While serving on the esteemed House Appropriations Committee, Congressman Sabo's astute ability to direct federal funds to key infrastructure projects, like light rail transit, transformed Minneapolis, positioning the Twin Cities for the 21st Century.

It was my profound honor to serve with Martin Sabo as a colleague in the U.S. House. Congressman Sabo was liberal, smart, and his values reflected the very best of Minnesota's traditions and heritage. Congressman Sabo was reserved and quiet Norwegian, but when he spoke the room went silent because everyone knew something worth hearing was about to be said. This made him a giant as a legislator and public servant in both the Minnesota Legislature and Congress. I will always remember Martin as the kindest of souls and one of the most effective and wise public servants I've ever known.

I want to thank Rep. ILHAN OMAR for sponsoring this piece of legislation that pays tribute to a dedicated public servant, wonderful human being, and dear friend and mentor.

### CONGRATULATING GARY BIRSCHBACH

### HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend Gary Birschbach. Gary will be recognized as the Distinguished Citizen of the Year by the Greater St. Louis Area Council Boy Scouts of America. This yearly award honors a person who represents the spirit and the values of Scouting throughout the community.

Gary has been involved with Scouting for over 50 years. All 4 of his sons are Eagle

Scouts, with Kevin currently serving as a Cub Scout Leader, and Andy having served as a Girl Scout Troop Leader for 8 years. As someone that truly embodies the cornerstones of the Scout's Oath and Law, Gary is a community leader that Decatur is so fortunate to call its own.

As an owner of several McDonald's restaurants, Gary has had outstanding success in the restaurant business. His work at McDonald's first began 53 years ago when he joined as a crew member until eventually working his way up to becoming the owner of his first location.

Gary has also gone far beyond that success through his generous work of helping others in the community. Gary serves on several boards, sponsors many community events, and has awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in tuition assistance through the McDonald's Archways program. This year, Gary and his team celebrated hitting the \$500,000 milestone in awards to their employees. Gary's contribution to the program has helped over 250 current and former employees attend college, earn a trade, or high school diploma.

I am thankful to have Gary in the community and know central Illinois is a better place because of him. I commend Gary on this prestigious award and know he will continue doing such needed and very appreciated work for the community. Congratulations, Gary.

### HONORING SUPERVISOR BRAD WAGENKNECHT

### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Napa County Supervisor Brad Wagenknecht in honor of his service to our community upon his retirement.

Mr. Wagenknecht grew up in the Browns Valley area of Napa and graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and Elementary Education in 1977. After college, Mr. Wagenknecht began his career as a school teacher with the Napa Unified School District where he has often been instrumental in supporting children with emotional challenges.

In 1984, Mr. Wagenknecht was elected to the Napa City Council and despite the many responsibilities of a life in public office, including a term as Mayor, he has continued to teach to this day. Mr. Wagenknecht was elected to represent the First District on the Napa County Board of Supervisors in 1998.

For more than two decades on the Board of Supervisors, Mr. Wagenknecht has made immeasurable contributions to environmental preservation. He helped gain support from Napa County to join Marin Clean Energy, instituted urban growth boundaries that limit the city's carbon footprint and increased funding for the Napa Open Space District. Mr. Wagenknecht has supported numerous local organizations including the Bay Area Air Quality Management District, the Bay Conservation and Development Commission, the Napa County Children and Families Commission, the California State Association of Counties

and the Area Agency on Aging. In the face of unprecedented challenges such as the 2015 Napa Earthquake, 2017 Northern California wildfires, 2020 LNU Lightning Complex fires and the COVID-19 Pandemic, Mr. Wagenknecht remained resolute in his commitment to help Napa County rebuild and recover.

Mr. Wagenknecht has brought about significant policies to support the arts, libraries, education, youth opportunities, social justice and mental health. He has been dedicated to working with his community and hearing their concerns, holding frequent office hours whenever and wherever he could. As a lifelong athlete who runs 300 days a year, Mr. Wagenknecht has encouraged local sporting events and organizes the annual Napa County basketball game. He is a proud husband to his wife Kathy, father of five and grandfather of one.

Madam Speaker, we thank Supervisor Wagenknecht for his decades of selfless service and commitment to the people of Napa County. His efforts have made our county a more welcoming, green and enjoyable place to live. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today.

### TRIBUTE TO RUDOLPH CORDERO AND WAYNE A. GUTHER

### HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 6, 2022*

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in proud recognition of Rudolph Cordero and Wayne A. Guthrie, graduates of Operation Recognition Class of 2022. Operation Recognition is a program organized by the Riverside County Office of Education, with assistance from the Riverside County Department of Veterans' Services, that presents diplomas to residents of Riverside County who were unable to complete high school due to military service in World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, or due to internment in World War II Japanese-American relocation camps. Operation Recognition provides a way to express our appreciation and gratitude for the significant contributions and sacrifices made by our veterans.

Born on November 26, 1947, Rudolph Cordero attended Garfield High School in Los Angeles for three years. Answering the call to serve his country, Rudolph enlisted in the United States Marine Corps, where he served in the Vietnam War from 1965 to 1968 a Hawk System mechanical repairman. He earned a National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, and Vietnam Campaign Medal. Rudolph was honorably discharged in 1968 and began his career as a butcher.

Wayne Guthrie was born on September 1, 1953. He attended Cleveland Heights High School in Ohio from 1968 through 1972, prior to enlisting in the United States Navy. Wayne served in the Vietnam War from 1974 to 1975 as an aviation machinist and a Training Air and Administration of the Reserves. He earned two Navy Achievement Medals, four Good Conduct Medals, a National Defense Ribbon, and a Sea Service Deployment Ribbon. Wayne was honorably discharged in 1994 after 20 years of service and began his career as a computer technician.