

even helped paint the community's Unity Mural.

In addition to her support for affordable housing and tenant protections, Diana has supported measures to address climate change, and is a strong supporter of public transportation improvements and of health care services for the entire community. Her Facebook page promotes community festivals and activities like Port Fest, coastal protection, Music on the Square, gun buyback and gun lock programs, and the Diane Howard clothing sale to benefit Kainos Home and Training Center.

During the height of the COVID pandemic she supported city resources to aid families and to protect tenants from evictions. As Redwood city responded to business requests for COVID changes to ordinances, she generally supported them.

At this point, it is easy to see why Redwood City Councilwoman Diana Reddy is a sunflower amidst a field of wildflowers. Wildflowers are beautiful, but sunflowers stand out. As one surveys the field, the eye fixes on the sunflower and its message: life is bursting forth. It is beautiful. It should be lived vividly. We thank her grandchildren Lahki Reddy and Ronan Gantes for allowing Diana to serve, no doubt sometimes at the expense of family time.

As a proud advocate for working families throughout the area, and as a councilwoman, Diana Reddy stood out. Tens of thousands will never know the debt they owe her but, in a democracy, it is enough that the effort was made, that it met with a measure of success, and that the example now exists for all who follow in service to this community. Diana Reddy is leaving the official field of public policy. She will remain a sunflower as a private advocate because her remarks into a public microphone will always stand out. As in the past, so in the future, for when she concludes her remarks, thousands will utter a quiet "thank you." I would like to say thank you, dear friend, for an extraordinary contribution to humankind.

HONORING STAFF SERGEANT
KATHERINE ROSA ORELLANA
UPON RECEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2022

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Staff Sergeant Katherine Rosa Orellana of the 60th Air Mobility Wing upon receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross for her service, dedication, and sacrifice during Operation Allies Refuge. She exemplifies the best of America, and her tireless efforts guarantee the safety of all those who call America home.

Last year, the servicemembers of the 60th Air Mobility Wing met a challenge of colossal scale when they played a pivotal role in completing the drawdown of forces from Afghanistan. This command was critical in the largest noncombatant evacuation operation in known history, Operation Allies Refuge, ultimately saving over 124,000 lives. The 60th Air Mobility Wing directly supported the evacuation of

nearly 13,000 Afghans while simultaneously managing the security and operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport. I have listened to countless stories from this group of brave men and women that exemplify the character, leadership, and bravery that is cultivated at Travis Air Force Base.

Service records only scratch the surface of the courageous actions performed by the 60th Air Mobility Wing. They put their hearts and lives on the line to save so many. These valiant servicemembers like Staff Sergeant Katherine Rosa Orellana epitomize the values of courage and patriotism.

On behalf of a grateful country and all the constituents of California's Third Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Staff Sergeant Katherine Rosa Orellana of the 60th Air Mobility Wing for receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and extend my sincere gratitude for her sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great country.

HONORING DR. MARIA ORIAKHA

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2022

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a descendant of Bahamians, to recognize Dr. Maria Oriakha for her contribution to the City of Miami's designation of the Little Bahamas of Coconut Grove on July 19, 2022.

Since the 19th century, Bahamians played an integral role in the founding of the City of Miami, representing one-third of the registered signatories on the July 28, 1896, date of the city's incorporation.

Much like Miami's original Bahamian signatories, Dr. Maria Oriakha's commitment to preserving the rich Bahamian culture and history of Miami has helped to ensure the designation of the Little Bahamas of Coconut Grove.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Maria Oriakha for her contributions to the community and her role in the historic designation of the Little Bahamas of Coconut Grove.

JAMES M. INHOFE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2022

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased that we are closing out the Congress with overwhelming bipartisan support for 23 important measures to make our communities more secure and improve Department of Homeland Security operations in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2023.

I am particularly pleased that we were able to reach agreement on the Nonprofit Security Grant Program Improvement Act to expand and strengthen this vital program so that more nonprofits and houses of worship can access

security assistance at this time of heightened threats of violent extremism and terrorism. With antisemitic and other violent threats on the rise, it is clear this legislation is needed now more than ever.

I also want to thank Ranking Member JOHN KATKO, as he retires from Congress, for his contributions to the Homeland Security Committee and his critical support throughout this process for the Committee's bipartisan package found in Division G of the NDAA.

While the package reflects the contributions of so many of my colleagues, I would like to give special acknowledgment to Congresswoman VAL DEMINGS who championed the Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act. This legislation directs DHS to explore ways to provide needed bridge funding to cities to preserve homeland security capability gains accomplished through the Urban Area Security Initiative grant program when they no longer receive such funding.

With respect to cybersecurity, I am pleased that we were able to reach agreement on bipartisan provisions that originated in the Committee on Homeland Security. They include Congresswoman ELISSA SLOTKIN's legislation to reauthorize the Secret Service's National Computer Forensics Institute, Congresswoman ELAINE LURIA's bill to authorize DHS's President's Cup Cybersecurity Competition, and legislation authored by Congressman ERIC SWALWELL aimed at improving DHS's cybersecurity training to protect industrial control systems.

While I am enormously proud of the bipartisan homeland security provisions that were included, I would be remiss if I did not acknowledge my disappointment that we were not able to reach agreement with the Senate on amending the law to treat TSA's workforce like most other Federal employees or authorize the vital work of DHS's Office of Civil Rights and Civil Liberties. We will continue to seek an agreement on these critical measures.

Lastly, I am particularly proud that the NDAA honors my late friend, Congressman A. Donald McEachin, by including his bill, the DHS Mentor-Protégé Program Act, to help small businesses better compete for DHS contracts. It is a fitting tribute to my friend that we came together to pass a bill to open doors of opportunity to small businesses—something that he was passionate about doing.

Mr. Speaker, the full list of Homeland Security Committee measures that will be enacted by this year's NOAA is as follows:

H.R. 6825, the Nonprofit Security Grant Program Improvement Act of 2022, sponsored by Rep. BENNIE G. THOMPSON (D-MS).

H.R. 5615, the Homeland Security Capabilities Preservation Act, sponsored by Rep. VAL BUTLER DEMINGS (D-FL).

H.R. 6387, the School and Daycare Protection Act, sponsored by Rep. DONALD M. PAYNE JR. (D-NJ).

H.R. 8801, the DHS Joint Task Force Reauthorization Act of 2022, sponsored by Rep. J. LUIS CORREA (D-CA) and S. 4656, the DHS Joint Task Forces Reauthorization Act of 2022, sponsored by Sen. GARY C. PETERS (D-MI).

H.R. 2915, the Homeland Procurement Reform Act, sponsored by Rep. J. LUIS CORREA (D-CA) and S. 1009, the Homeland Procurement Reform Act, sponsored by Sen. JEANNE SHAHEEN (D-NH).

H.R. 6824, the President's Cup Cybersecurity Competition Act, sponsored by Rep. ELAINE G. LURIA (D-VA).

H.R. 7777, the Industrial Control Systems Cybersecurity Training Act, sponsored by Rep. ERIC SWALWELL (D-CA).

H.R. 7174, the National Computer Forensics Institute Reauthorization Act of 2022, sponsored by Rep. ELISSA SLOTKIN (D-MI) and S. 4673, the National Computer Forensics Institute Reauthorization Act of 2022, sponsored by Sen. CHUCK GRASSLEY (R-IA).

H.R. 5574, the TSA Reaching Across Nationalities, Societies, and Languages to Advance Traveler Education Act ("TRANSLATE Act"), sponsored by Rep. DINA TITUS (D-NV) and S. 3296, the TSA Reaching Across Nationalities, Societies, and Languages to Advance Traveler Education Act ("TRANSLATE Act"), sponsored by Sen. JACKY ROSEN (D-NY).

H.R. 4089, the Darren Drake Act, sponsored by Rep. JOSH GOTTHEIMER (D-NJ).

H.R. 370, the Quadrennial Homeland Security Review Technical Corrections Act of 2021, sponsored by Rep. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN (D-NJ).

H.R. 408, the Department of Homeland Security Mentor-Protégé Program Act of 2021, sponsored by Rep. A. Donald McEachin (D-VA).

Section 7106, to authorize DHS's Chemical Security Analysis Center, sponsored by Rep. ANTHONY G. BROWN (D-MD).

H.R. 8316, the Securing America's Borders Against Fentanyl Act, sponsored by Rep. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER (D-VA) and S. 5052, the Securing America's Borders Against Fentanyl Act sponsored by Sen. MARK KELLY (D-AZ).

H.R. 4094, the One-Stop Pilot Program Act of 2021, sponsored by Homeland Security Committee Ranking Member JOHN KATKO (R-NY).

H.R. 6868, the Cybersecurity Grants for Schools Act of 2022, sponsored by Rep. ANDREW R. GARBARINO (R-NY).

H.R. 4363, the DHS Contract Reporting Act of 2021, sponsored by Rep. DIANA HARSHBARGER (R-TN).

H.R. 5658, the DHS Roles and Responsibilities in Cyber Space Act, sponsored by Rep. DON BACON (R-NE).

H.R. 5274, the Prevent Exposure to Narcotics and Toxics (PREVENT) Act, sponsored by Rep. DAVID P. JOYCE (R-OH).

H.R. 4476, the DHS Trade and Economic Security Council Act of 2021, sponsored by Rep. PETER MEIJER (R-MI) and S. 4243, the DHS Trade and Economic Security Council Act of 2022, sponsored by Sen. ROB PORTMAN (R-OH).

H.R. 4209, the DHS Illicit Cross-Border Tunnel Defense Act, sponsored by Rep. AUGUST PFLUGER (R-TX) and S. 4339, the DHS Illicit Cross-Border Tunnel Defense Act, sponsored by Sen. JOHN CORNYN (R-TX).

S. 4902, the Invent Here, Make Here for Homeland Security Act, sponsored by Sen. ROB PORTMAN (R-OH).

S. 2540, the CISA Technical Corrections and Improvements Act of 2021, sponsored by Sen. ROB PORTMAN (R-OH).

RECOGNIZING THE DEPARTURE OF MAYOR RICHA AWASTHI FROM THE CITY COUNCIL OF FOSTER CITY

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2022

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Richa Awasthi as she leaves public service after four years serving the people of Foster City. In November 2018, Richa Awasthi was elected to the City Council. She ran on a platform of supporting public safety, preserving Foster City's high quality of life, and dealing with traffic and transportation issues.

Foster City is a lagoon-laced community of almost 33,000 resting aside San Francisco Bay. Its residents enjoy a remarkably active life in its fine parks, sports fields, on the bay and lagoon, and throughout the year at various community events. Its schools are superb. During summer evenings in Foster City, the whole family can enjoy a walk along the levee and enjoy sweeping views of San Francisco Bay.

Earlier that year, voters had approved Measure P, a \$90 million bond measure to rebuild the levee to meet FEMA accreditation standards. Richa was a staunch supporter of this project. After joining the council, she was dogged in her insistence that the project remain on budget and that the city be transparent about the project. She and her colleagues grew concerned as estimates of project costs rose through the end of 2019 and early 2020, only to shrink substantially once the bids were opened in the early months of the pandemic. As the project got underway, she insisted that communication with the public be improved.

Shortly after she was sworn in, the council agenda contained an item approving the purchase of 22 units of affordable housing in a new development. The price was \$7 million. Richa voted to approve the purchase and therefore secured these units for working families. She has always been a strong supporter of affordable housing. For example, during her time in office, Richa supported a council action offering relocation assistance to 74 low-income households, many of them elderly, at Foster's Landing.

In 2021, Richa and one other councilmember supported raising the minimum wage in Foster City to \$15.50 per hour and then, beginning in 2022, to \$16 per hour with an annual escalator based upon the regional consumer price index. The measure failed passage at the 2021 council meeting, but a revised measure was passed in 2022. In supporting these proposals, Richa indicated that the council needed to consider all community stakeholders including workers, employees, consumers and staff. She noted that, in her view, the city had the power to protect the most vulnerable.

In her initial comments as Mayor, Richa noted the decline in the city's retail and restaurant businesses. She and her colleagues committed themselves to encouraging economic development and to strengthening ties with large businesses in the city.

As COVID and other demands took their toll on city staff, Richa supported securing the services of the current city manager. Mayor

Awasthi stated, "Experience is one of the most important things for us. Having that experience, not just in theory, but actually demonstrating it as a manager . . . that was the number one thing." The current city manager has worked hard to recruit needed employees to the city and to keep major public works projects, such as the levee and rebuilding of the recreation center, on target.

Foster City was developed in the 1970's and it owns quite a lot of infrastructure, including numerous bridges, a large lagoon system, pumps, and numerous parks that require a lot of maintenance. The recreation center was built in 1974 and is near the end of its useful life. Earlier this year, Mayor Awasthi was appointed by her colleagues to a three-person task force to select a construction firm for final approval by the council. Their recommendation, from amongst seven applicants, will set in motion the eventual construction of a new \$55 million facility, dreamed about since 2016.

Madam Speaker, as Richa Awasthi leaves public service, she has many things of which she may be proud. The city is thriving, and its finances are generally on a sound footing. Its parks remain outstanding, and the city sustained momentum on its levee project. Public services survived the pandemic, and the city made accommodations to its practices to support businesses. Responsible growth and provision for multiple income levels through the creation of affordable housing are widely held community values, and ones that Richa upheld during her council service.

I hope that Richa will remain engaged in her community. We are all strengthened when the voice of experience is lent to resolving public issues. Whether from the dais or the audience, Richa will have that experience and the ability to influence Foster City's future for the better. I wish her all the best in the years ahead.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN KEVIN BRADY OF TEXAS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2022

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Congressman KEVIN BRADY upon his retirement after 13 terms in the House of Representatives.

There are two kinds of people in Congress: workhorses and show ponies. Anyone who has spent time with Congressman BRADY knows that he is a member of the former group. We may be members of different parties, but I always knew that Congressman BRADY did what he thought was best for the working families and seniors of the Lone Star State.

This was true when we served together in the Texas House of Representatives, and it was true during our time in Congress.

Congressman BRADY is just the third Texan to ever chair the House Ways and Means Committee. Among his many accomplishments, he was instrumental in passing the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement and restoring the federal sales tax deduction. He helped secure emergency federal relief for Texas communities struck by natural disasters, and he is a staunch advocate of rare disease research.