

REMEMBERING THE LIVES AND SACRIFICE OF SGT. STEVEN ROBIN AND OFFICER BRANDEN ESTORFFE

HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Mr. GUEST. It is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the lives of Bay St. Louis officers Steven Robin and Branden Estorffe, who lost their lives in the line of duty. Both officers served their community with distinction, bravery, and honor and gave their lives in their mission to serve and protect their community.

Sgt. Steven Robin and officer Branden Estorffe displayed incredible courage in the face of danger, and their actions are a testament to their character and the dedication of all of our officers who risk their lives to protect their communities. They will be remembered for their commitment to protecting and serving the people of Bay St. Louis, and their sacrifice will not be forgotten.

I offer my deepest condolences to the families, friends, fellow officers, and colleagues of these two courageous officers. They will be greatly missed by all who knew them, but their legacy will live on in the lives they touched and the countless lives they protected. As we honor their memory and mourn their passing, let us also remember the sacrifices of all law enforcement officers and the important work they do to keep us safe every day. May they rest in peace and may their loved ones find comfort in knowing that their heroic actions in protecting the life of a child will never be forgotten.

It is my honor to recognize Sgt. Steven Robin and officer Branden Estorffe for their heroism and dedication to the people of Mississippi, the community of Bay St. Louis, and the United States. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in remembering these brave officers.

HONORING TEXAS STATE
SENATOR EDDIE LUCIO, JR.

HON. MAYRA FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Mrs. FLORES. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to honor Texas State Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr. for his 36 years of service to the residents of South Texas, 32 of which have been spent in the Texas State Senate.

Senator Lucio was born in Brownsville, Texas, and graduated from Pan American University. His public service career began in 1971 when he was elected Cameron County Treasurer at just 24 years old. For the next 15 years, Senator Lucio served in the local county government before being elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1986 and then to the Texas State Senate in 1990.

While serving in the Texas State Senate, Senator Lucio was a champion for education, including the creation of South Texas College, the University of Texas at Brownsville, and the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley. In addition, he spearheaded efforts for the creation of the University of Texas RGV School of Medicine.

Not only did he make significant advancements in establishing these colleges, but he also improved teachers' retirement system and expanded universal breakfast and lunch plans for students.

As a devout Catholic, Senator Lucio is affiliated with organizations like the Knights of Columbus and Catholic Legislators Network and has been unapologetic about his convictions. Throughout his time in the Texas State Senate, Senator Lucio remained steadfast to his values, even when this meant not being popular within his own party.

Senator Lucio has been married to his wife, Minnie Lucio, for 54 years and is the father of 2 children, Lynda Lucio-Cisneros, a school counselor, and Eddie Lucio IV, a member of the Texas House of Representatives.

For this, and for his great mentorship, I am truly grateful for Senator Lucio's service and know that the RGV region and the State of Texas, are forever better because of his dedication and service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM KINZINGER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Mr. KINZINGER. Madam Speaker, I was unable to be present to cast votes on December 8. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 513, and YEA on Roll Call No. 516.

HONORING REPRESENTATIVE
STEVE CHABOT

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of our colleague and dear friend, STEVE CHABOT, who has served in Congress as an honorable, respected, and principled public servant for 26 years.

Congressman STEVE CHABOT has demonstrated a remarkable talent for working with Members from both parties on a variety of issues, which has made him an especially effective legislator. Of his many lasting legacies, Congressman CHABOT spent years working to strengthen the Democratic Republic of China (Taiwan) by encouraging arms sales for Taiwan's defense, striving to encourage greater diplomacy between Taiwan and the United States, and strengthening trade. His Taiwan Travel Act, which became law in 2018, encourages official diplomacy between Taiwan and U.S. officials despite Executive Branch reticence under the One China Policy. He worked tirelessly to preserve a secure, free, and prosperous Taiwan.

Congressman CHABOT understands the threat that Communist China poses to Taiwan and the rest of the free world, and was tenacious in working to diminish that threat on behalf of the United States and our allies. While the United States continues to address a growing threat from Communist China which pirates intellectual property from American businesses, threatens its neighbors in the Pa-

cific, and oppresses the Chinese people, this noble body benefits from Members like Congressman CHABOT who harbor an unwavering commitment to freedom, democracy, and America's national security.

On the home front he has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of his constituents including passing and overseeing the Paycheck Protection Program as Ranking Member of the Small Business Committee and securing millions of dollars in funding for projects around Cincinnati and Warren County, Ohio, over the years.

I greatly admire Congressman CHABOT for his leadership and dedication to quintessential American principles and priorities. I value our years together co-chairing the Congressional Taiwan Caucus. His efforts have made a lasting mark on this body, and with the colleagues that had the honor of serving beside him. As one of many grateful for his decades of service to the American people, and to the country whose values he so ably and passionately advanced, I thank Congressman CHABOT for selflessly striving to expand freedom, democracy, and respect for human rights.

HONORING COMMISSIONER DENISE
LANDMAN

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, from the 24th District of the great State of Florida, I rise today to honor Denise Landman for her stellar service and contributions as Commissioner of the City of Aventura.

Someone once said this about local government, "when you are in local government, you are on the ground, and you are looking into the eyes and hearts of the people you are there to serve. It teaches you to listen; it teaches you to be expansive in the people with whom you talk to; and that engagement gives you political judgment."

It is this same standard of leadership and approach that has distinguished her success at the City of Aventura. With input given from passionate public servants like Commissioner Landman, Aventura is certain to have a bright future guided by a grounded approach to local governance, cooperation, and investment in the well-being of this community achieved during her tenure in office as a Commissioner.

Madam Speaker please join me in honoring Commissioner Denise Landman for the completion of her term in office, her time, her commitment, and outstanding contribution representing the residents of the City Aventura.

HONORING MAJOR KATIE LUNNING

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Ms. OMAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Major Katie Lunning of the 133d Airlift Wing upon receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross medal for her extraordinary service as a flight nurse during Operation Allies Refuge. For her exceptional service and achievements, Major Lunning joins a

small list of women in the U.S. Service, and only the second flight nurse to receive this award.

Her courageous efforts, among many others last year, resulted in hundreds of lives being saved. Major Lunning embodies the courage and dedication we all want as a servicemember for our country. Her tireless efforts and commitment to providing safety to critically injured and ill patients in times of need is a testament to how dedicated Major Lunning is to be serving her country. She deserves the utmost admiration and recognition for her continuous efforts in having provided high quality service by monitoring, stabilizing, and treating patients in transit.

It is with great pleasure and honor I recognize Major Lunning for her outstanding efforts in saving and evacuating civilians and military members from Afghanistan. Her service to this country shows the courage, bravery, and sacrifice it takes to enter the unknown with great risk to her own life to save civilians and military members in dangerous environments. I express my deepest sense of gratitude for her valiant service to our Nation and those worldwide.

HONORING WILLIAM “JOE JOE”
DICKSON

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Ms. SPANBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize William “Joe Joe” Dickson for the building security service he has provided to Virginia’s Seventh Congressional District Office over the past 8 years.

Since 2014, Mr. Dickson has ensured the safety and security for 3 Members of Congress, including myself, and my predecessors Representative Eric Cantor and Representative Dave Brat. In his role, he has kept a watchful eye on our offices and our staff, allowing us to safely focus on serving the constituents of the Seventh Congressional District.

Mr. Dickson consistently and selflessly goes above and beyond his job description to ensure that my district staff and constituents are safe and feel welcome when entering our office building. He has become a friend to us all, greeting my staff each morning with a smile. His jovial nature and compassion for my team is evidence that he has genuine care for the well-being of those around him.

His dedicated protection and service to the office of the Seventh Congressional District is well deserving of commendation and celebration. Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking William “Joe Joe” Dickson on his 8 years of service to the Seventh Congressional District.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND
DEDICATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL
STAFF OF THE SELECT
COMMITTEE ON THE CLIMATE
CRISIS

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize the service and dedication of the majority professional staff of the Select Committee of the Climate Crisis. As any Member of Congress knows, the unsung heroes are those working behind the scenes. With little fanfare and recognition, the long hours and personal sacrifices our staff makes are indispensable to the success of a Member or committee.

For the last 4 years, I have had the distinct pleasure to serve as Chair for this Select Committee. During this time, I have been fortunate to have worked with so many talented individuals.

Our professional staff comes from all backgrounds, spanning the gamut of personal and professional experiences. This staff banded together as a team, and their record of success speaks for itself.

From Day 1, this team took to heart the words of Speaker NANCY PELOSI, that this Select Committee was not just an academic exercise but intended to deliver a roadmap of real policy achievements to tackle the challenge of a generation. Behind the scenes, the Select Committee staff built bridges to work closely with the incredible staffs of all the standing committees in the Congress, they reached across the spectrum of outside groups and advisors to foster new partnerships and forge compromise, while keeping our goals at the forefront of policy. In many ways the team served as a climate think tank for House Democrats, identifying “Climate Wins” and expanding the understanding of the climate crisis in all areas of policy and legislation.

As a result of their tireless work, the majority staff released a groundbreaking 2020 Climate Crisis Action Plan that has been called the most comprehensive climate policy plan ever in U.S. politics, which included a suite of 715 policy recommendations. And just this month, at the end of our tenure, the staff released a new report, Solving the Climate Crisis 2022: Key Accomplishments and Additional Opportunities. This 2nd report outlines the enormous record of success and progress, noting the more than 300 recommendations from 2020 that are now codified into federal law, the 430 plus that have passed the House under Speaker PELOSI’s leadership, and outlining the necessary steps forward in future years for the Congress to continue to tackle the climate crisis.

The staff always had as its compass that solving the climate crisis must be guided by science, rooted in justice, and powered by American workers. Undoubtedly their work will help make communities more resilient to the impacts of the climate crisis, create good-paying local jobs, slash energy bills, uplift disadvantaged communities, and position America to lead the emerging clean economy.

I would like to take a moment to specifically recognize our majority staff director, Dr. Ana

Unruh Cohen. Over the better part of the last 20 years, Ana has dedicated her work in the Congress to tackling the climate crisis, both in the House and Senate. Her deep knowledge of policy, collaborative spirit, and sharp political awareness was critical to the Select Committee’s effectiveness and success. Her tireless leadership is an inspiration for us all.

I would also like to recognize all our staffers, past and present, during the 116th and 117th Congresses:

Alison L. Cassidy, Deputy Staff Director.
Eric S. Fins, Deputy Staff Director.
Fatima Maria Ahmad, Senior Counsel.
Loyle Campbell, Rosenthal International Relations Fellow.
Grace Chan, Professional Staff.
Sydney Devitt, Digital Assistant.
Ebadullah Ebadi, Policy Assistant.
Melvin Félix, Communications Director.
Javier Gamboa, Senior Professional Staff.
Dana Gansman, Clerk and Director of Operations.
Jacob Hicks, Digital Director.
Aaron Huertas, Communications Director.
Rebecca Jablonski-Diehl, Senior Professional Staff.
Mackenzie L. Landa, Counsel.
Jakob Lindaas, Ph.D., Professional Staff.
Raleigh L. Martin, Ph.D., AGI/AAAS Congressional Science Fellow.
Samantha A. Medlock, CFM, Senior Counsel.
Mariah A. Morrison, Digital Production Specialist.
Sebastian Pons, Staff Assistant.
Zachary D. Pritchard, Ph.D., ASME Congressional Science & Engineering Fellow.
Abigail Regitsky, Ph.D., Professional Staff.
Rachel St. Louis, Operations and Press Assistant.

In addition, the Select Committee benefited from the support and wisdom of Kenneth Russell DeGraff, Senior Policy Advisor to Speaker PELOSI.

Thank you is not enough. These staffers have heeded the call to service, and for that I, and the American people, are eternally grateful. As this Select Committee comes to a close and the staff turns to their next chapter, I have no doubt they will continue to work every day to make a difference and be successful in whatever they turn to next.

RECOGNIZING BRANDON DEREK
WILLIAMS

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 15, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Madam Speaker, on behalf of a grateful nation and the Citizens of the Twenty-Fourth District of Texas, the 2022 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Brandon Derek Williams, Staff Sergeant, United States Air Force, of Euless, Texas for the honorable service he performed while serving in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Mr. Williams enlisted in the U.S. Air Force in 2001, serving as an aerospace maintenance specialist working on numerous large aircraft, like the C-5 and C-17. While stationed at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base he supported