

District, I would like to thank Lt Gen Scobee for his service and wish him the best in his retirement.

RECOVERING AMERICA'S
WILDLIFE ACT, H.R. 2773

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, as a sportsman, I have long been a supporter and cosponsor of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act (RAWA).

This bipartisan legislation aims to promote and enhance Virginia's and our nation's conservation efforts and ensure the health of fish and wildlife across the U.S. RAWA would provide dedicated funding for the implementation of state fish and wildlife agencies' action plans and complement the American System of Conservation Funding, which is the financial contributions of hunters, anglers, target shooters, and boaters through excise taxes and related user fees, to ensure healthy populations of fish and wildlife for future generations to enjoy.

These conservation efforts could include re-introduction of imperiled species, conserving and restoring important habitat, fighting invasive species and disease, and more. This would significantly reduce the number of species in decline and would ultimately prevent these species from needing protections afforded under the Endangered Species Act. Restoring fish, wildlife, and their habitats is an effective way to restore critical natural infrastructure, create resilient habitats and communities, create jobs, and is an issue of national importance that has no political affiliation.

Unfortunately, I was not able to support H.R. 2773 on the House floor (Roll No. 267) because of changes to the bill text and failed attempts to address spending offsets after the Natural Resources Committee reported the bill on June 9, 2022. The bill that came to the floor contained substantial differences than the original introduced version of H.R. 2773. Additionally, the Majority failed to work with Republicans to address spending offsets and include a sunset provision.

I still support the original intent of RAWA to support State and tribal conservation efforts to restore wildlife. I look forward to Senate action to advance these goals while addressing the concerns of Natural Resources Committee Republicans and bill cosponsors that arouse when this legislation was considered on the House floor.

HONORING KENNETH "BABYFACE"
EDMONDS, SINGER, SONG-
WRITER, AND PRODUCER

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Kenneth Edmonds, better known as Babyface, an Indianapolis native, who will be inducted into the Madam Walker Legacy Center Walk of Fame on June 17, 2022.

Kenneth was born in Indianapolis to Marvin and Barbara Edmonds and raised in our great city. He began songwriting at the young age of 12 years old, and after taking on the name Babyface, he signed his first record deal after joining his first band Manchild. He later joined The Deele which enjoyed a fast breakthrough into the music world for their R&B and funk hits.

Kenneth has created a legacy through his music. His second album, "Tender Lover", which included the hit singles "It's No Crime" and "Whip Appeal", went double platinum and became a critically acclaimed triumph. Babyface continued to share his talents as a co-songwriter with noteworthy artists such as Johnny Gill, Whitney Houston, and Boyz II Men. He was later nominated for a Grammy Award for Album of the Year for his unforgettable work on The Bodyguard Soundtrack.

Kenneth went on to release "For the Cool in You", winning his first Grammy for "When I Can See You Again" for Best Male R&B Vocal. While continuing to win consecutive Grammys for Producer of Year, and working with versatile artists, he released, starred, and created the soundtrack for the 1997 movie, Soul Food.

Throughout his successes, Kenneth has maintained a respectful approach to his work and an endearing sense of humility—typifying our beloved Hoosier values. He has three children for whom he sets a remarkable example. Kenneth is a dedicated philanthropist, supporting organizations making a difference in the fields of health, education, and more. His list of achievements and awards are impressive, and his hometown is overjoyed with his latest recognition from the Madam Walker Legacy Center.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds. Our community is proud of his success and impact in the music industry, Indiana and our country.

RECOVERING AMERICA'S
WILDLIFE ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Recovering America's Wildlife Act, legislation that I have cosponsored which would strengthen our response to habitat loss, climate change, and disease impacting the health and well-being of threatened and endangered wildlife throughout our country.

Habitat loss, climate change, invasive species, disease, and severe weather have all taken a severe toll on birds, mammals, fish, amphibians, reptiles, butterflies, and bees. It is important that we take bold steps and invest in collaborative solutions to protect our wildlife.

According to the National Wildlife Federation, approximately one-third of bird species in North America are in urgent need of conservation action and over forty percent of American freshwater fish are currently at risk of extinction. Recent ecological changes, such as the increasing number of wildfires and rising average water temperatures, are pushing many species of animals towards endangerment and

extinction. As the representative for the great city of Milwaukee, located on beautiful Lake Michigan, I know just how important wildlife is to our economy, outdoor recreation, and the well-being of the environment.

This bill would bring much-needed resources to state, local and tribal wildlife professionals tasked with conserving wildlife and their habitat. The legislation would provide funding for the conservation or restoration of wildlife and plant species of the greatest conservation need, to implement the wildlife conservation strategies of states, territories, the District of Columbia and tribal governments, and support wildlife conservation education and recreation projects. Unless we invest in proactive, innovative solutions, we risk losing thousands of species.

I was happy to support this bill. Passing this legislation would be a good step in our continuing efforts to protect our environment and wildlife for the enjoyment of current and future generations.

HONORING PRESIDENT PAUL TRIBLE
ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM
CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Honorable Paul Triple for his 26 years of extraordinary service as the president of Christopher Newport University located in Newport News, Virginia.

Prior to his service at Christopher Newport University, President Triple served as a Commonwealth's Attorney for Essex County, Virginia before being elected to represent Virginia's First Congressional District in the United States House of Representatives. After serving three terms in this chamber, President Triple was then elected to the United States Senate, where he served one term. After working as a teaching fellow at Harvard University, he returned to the Virginia Peninsula to serve as president of Christopher Newport University.

Over the course of his tenure, President Triple has ensured that Christopher Newport University has remained focused on both the academic achievement and personal development of its students, a focus which is exemplified by the establishment of the President's Leadership Program. Through a combination of academic study and community service, the program prepares students for a life of leadership, service and civic responsibility.

Under Mr. Triple's presidency, enrollment at Christopher Newport grew from 2,920 to over 4,700, with a graduation rate of 74 percent. Full-time faculty also increased from 166 to 282, and the university library's holdings increased to 1.2 million volumes. In 1996, President Triple worked with then-Delegate Alan Diamonstein to secure a \$5 million appropriation for the university's Ferguson Center for the Arts and a 21 percent increase in the university's operating funds. Since then, President Triple has overseen \$1 billion in construction projects, including the recent \$60 million, 83,000-square-foot Mary M. Torggler Fine Arts Center. The university's endowment,

which stood at \$330,000 when President Tribble took office, has grown exponentially under his tenure and now exceeds \$60 million, securing a bright future for the university for generations to come.

Madam Speaker, as the Christopher Newport University community gathers to celebrate a truly remarkable leader, I want to congratulate Paul Tribble on 26 years of legendary service to Christopher Newport University, and over 50 years of service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and the nation. I also want to thank Rosemary Tribble, his wife and partner for over 40 years, for her countless contributions, and their two children—Mary Katherine and Paul. I thank President Tribble for his decades of service and congratulations on a well-deserved retirement.

CONGRATULATING LIVING LANDS & WATERS ON THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF CLEANING AMERICA'S RIVERS

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Mrs. BUSTOS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Living Land & Waters for cleaning America's rivers for 25 years. Based in East Moline, they are the only industrial strength river clean-up organization in the world.

Living Lands & Waters was founded in 1998 by Chad Pregracke, with the mission of helping to protect, preserve and restore the natural environment of America's major rivers and their watersheds. By expanding awareness of environmental issues and creating a desire and opportunity for citizens to take an active role, they are helping to make a cleaner river environment for all of us. The Living Lands & Waters crew lives up to nine months a year on their barge and hosts river cleanups, watershed conservation initiative workshops, tree plantings and other key conservation efforts. Impressively, they have removed over 10 million pounds of trash from rivers around the country.

It is because of community organizations such as Living Lands & Waters that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District. Madam Speaker, I would like to again formally congratulate Living Lands & Waters on its 25th Anniversary of cleaning up our country's rivers.

IN RECOGNITION OF MELISSA SANDOVAL AND MARVIN MACAULEY

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNÁNDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Ms. LEGER FERNÁNDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Melissa Sandoval and Marvin MacAuley.

Currently, wildfires are devastating my district. These fires have ravaged sacred, cultural, and familiar spaces while destroying everything in their paths. Tens of thousands of people are displaced and uncertainty sur-

rounds us. But, in this time of devastation, there are people who continue to give so much of themselves to meet the needs of their communities.

Some of these exemplary people include Superintendent Melissa Sandoval of Peñasco Independent Schools and Superintendent Marvin MacAuley of Mora Independent Schools.

Many communities in rural New Mexico are unincorporated or census-designated places without mayors, a town council, emergency managers, or special project coordinators. Despite this, communities like Peñasco and Mora are fortunate to have extraordinary superintendents.

When evacuation orders were looming and the need to prepare was imminent, Superintendents Sandoval and MacAuley got together and coordinated a response to provide shelter, warm meals, and a safe space for hundreds of displaced community members. They stepped up for their communities when it was least convenient.

I had the privilege of meeting with Superintendents Sandoval and MacAuley at the Peñasco Middle School evacuation site. As I walked through the gym and spoke to evacuees, their gratitude for the space created by Sandoval, MacAuley, and their teams, was evident. While these individuals and families were losing their homes, Sandoval and MacAuley ensured that they had fewer things to worry about.

People like Melissa and Marvin exemplify the strength of our communities. Their efforts remind us of the importance of showing up and stepping up for our neighbors whether through small everyday actions or large collaborative efforts.

Superintendents Sandoval and MacAuley represent the best of us.

I commend these two remarkable individuals for their leadership. I am thankful to them for all they have done and continue to do for their students and communities throughout northern New Mexico.

RECOGNIZING MRS. STACY COGGIN

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a dedicated professional with the Department of Veterans Affairs on the occasion of her retirement. Mrs. Stacy Coggin is an exemplary public servant who has demonstrated the highest standards of professionalism on a daily basis. She has served with the Department of Veterans Affairs, Office for Congressional and Legislative Affairs the last five years of her more than 22 years in federal service. Her career in faithful public service is a testament to the importance of selfless service.

For the last 5 years, Mrs. Coggin served as Congressional Relations Officer in the office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs. She has been involved in a remarkable breadth of important VA programs across the Department including compensation and benefits claims, appeals, and field operations. In this capacity, she spearheaded support for more than nine hundred Congressional oversight actions, from

requests for information to Committee on Veterans' Affairs hearings, helping this body ensure our Nation's veterans and their families receive the care and benefits they deserve.

As Mrs. Coggin embarks on a new chapter in life, it is my hope that she may recall, with a deep sense of pride and accomplishment, the outstanding contributions she has made to the Department of Veterans Affairs, the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, and the veterans of the United States. May her life be filled with health and happiness.

FEDERAL RESERVE RACIAL AND ECONOMIC EQUITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DOUG LAMALFA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2022

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, while I cannot rise in support of H.R. 2543, I would like to highlight one piece of this package that will make a difference in this district. Mr. Speaker, rural and low-income communities have many things in common including lack of access to financial services. In a rural area such as my district, constituents often drive 20–40 miles, even crossing county lines to receive access to their own funds. This is the case in more than one of the counties in my district. I want to applaud the efforts of the credit unions which are highlighted in this bill and support their efforts to bring more financial services to rural and unserved communities.

VISTA FIELD

HON. DAN NEWHOUSE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2022

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an exciting addition to Central Washington that has been years in the making.

Vista Field, formally a municipal airport, is well on its way to becoming a vibrant and pedestrian-focused town center with neighborhoods and urban lifestyle amenities. The 103 acres of land will introduce 1,000 single-family homes, retail shops, restaurants, and entertainment to the growing community of Kennewick. The Port of Kennewick is celebrating this new addition to the community by hosting a grand opening celebration, today, where community members can be the first to see the new public amenities, such as a commercial plaza, pedestrian bridges, fountains, and ponds.

Once completed, this new urban development is expected to bring in \$51 million in infrastructure investments in addition to over 3,000 jobs for our local community, contributing to a thriving local economy.

Vista Field is a perfect example of the innovative projects that are possible when local leadership and community collaboration are at the forefront, and I am excited to see this project take form and bring new opportunities for everyone in our community to enjoy.