

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE RIGHT TO TRY CLARIFICATION ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I introduced the Right to Try Clarification Act. This legislation would expand access to life-changing treatments by including Schedule I substances that have completed phase 1 clinical studies in the Right to Try Act.

Oregon has a long legacy of ensuring that end-of-life patients have access to the full spectrum of treatment options to alleviate their condition and improve their quality of life. Patients and doctors deserve to discuss treatments—including psilocybin—that researchers find provide immediate and sustained relief from pain, anxiety, and depression for people battling terminal illness.

Federal restrictions have obstructed access to end-of-life care for too long, this legislation will change that and ensure that all patients have the Right to Try.

The psychedelics laws in this country are broken, including our laws governing patients' access to new and promising end-of-life care. Forty-one state legislatures have passed Right to Try laws, in addition to our federal Right to Try statute, to allow terminally ill patients access to treatments, including psilocybin, that are still in investigational stages. Both psilocybin and MDMA have demonstrated tremendous care potential in phase 1 and phase 2 clinical trials.

The Drug Enforcement Agency, however, has refused to accommodate Right to Try laws, denying terminally ill patients their freedom to elect their preferred treatments. These patients deserve to be able to discuss and pursue treatments with their doctors that researchers are finding provide immediate, substantial, and sustained relief from anxiety and depression for people battling terminal illness. That is why the Right to Try Clarification Act is necessary to ensure patients have the Right to Try these treatment options.

I look forward to working with Senators CORY BOOKER and RAND PAUL and my co-leads Representatives NANCY MACE, MADELINE DEAN, ANDY BIGGS, and LUIS CORREA to enact this legislation and clarify and strengthen the Right to Try.

CELEBRATING YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, SR.

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Mr. ROSENDALE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Yellowstone National Park.

Signed into law in 1872 by President Ulysses S. Grant, Yellowstone became the first national park in the world.

As the largest intact ecosystem in North America, Yellowstone is home to a few endangered animals, and over 1,700 species of trees.

Montana is the "Gateway to Yellowstone" and welcomes 72 percent of guests into the park each year.

The crown jewel of the West, Yellowstone has helped to sustain businesses in Montana for decades.

Flooding at the start of June destroyed bridges, roads, and homes around Yellowstone's north entrance in Montana, hurting many businesses and families, but Montanans have shown their resilience and have bounced back stronger than ever before.

This anniversary is not only a celebration but also a reminder of the strength and dedication Montanans have shown during this difficult time.

On behalf of the state of Montana, I would like to thank the National Park Service for their efforts to protect the environment and communities that make up the greatest national park in the country.

RECOGNIZING ELAINE M. WALSH, PH.D

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Elaine M. Walsh, Ph.D., for her outstanding community advocacy as she departs Manhattan Community Board 8 (CB8) after a quarter century of dedicated leadership and service.

Dr. Walsh first began her long history of community engagement during her time at Fordham University's Graduate School of Social Service, where she earned a Master of Social Work. She began her career as a social worker in New York City, becoming the director of senior citizen crime prevention for the New York City Department for the Aging and the director of elderly services at the Office of Victim Services.

Dr. Walsh has served as Director of the Public Service Scholar Program (PSSP) at Hunter College since 1986 after joining the university as an Associate Professor of Urban Affairs. The PSSP works to improve the city by preparing talented undergraduate students for careers in the public and non-profit sectors. The program also aims to increase representation of women, minority-group members and immigrants in leadership positions. Under Dr. Walsh's supervision, over 700 of the program's scholars have contributed more than 500,000 hours in service to communities throughout New York City.

Dr. Walsh served as a member of CB8 for 25 years and co-chaired the CB8 Zoning and

Development Committee. During her tenure, Dr. Walsh was a constant advocate for her community, particularly in regard to environmental concerns and infrastructure. During her time as a member, Dr. Walsh worked to support policies and programs that increased accessibility to city services for both businesses and individuals and served as the conscience of the Board in her consistent, forceful advocacy for the needs of under privileged New Yorkers.

Dr. Walsh serves as President of the East 86th Street Association, which she helped to establish in 2004. The Association seeks to "improve the quality of life along the East 86th Street corridor by conducting research, education, and advocacy projects" while facilitating community dialogue to encourage civic participation and foster neighborhood pride. Under the leadership of Dr. Walsh, the East 86th Street Association has worked on many projects which have greatly improved residents' quality of life.

Dr. Walsh has previously received awards including the New York City Chapter's "NASW Leadership Award", the NYC Public Advocate "Advocate's Award", Fordham University's "Alumni Award", the Manhattan Borough President's "Women's Leadership Award", the NYC Comptroller's Award "Outstanding Irish Educator in Social Policy and Leadership", the Our Town newspaper's OTTY award for her continued leadership and advocacy in the East 86th Street Association, and was named one of the 2013 New York State Senate's "Women of Distinction".

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments and contributions of Dr. Elaine M. Walsh. Her dedication and leadership have helped cultivate a better, more lively community for the residents of Roosevelt Island and Manhattan's Upper East Side. Dr. Walsh's service and commitment to improving the lives of New Yorkers will leave a lasting impact on her community and our city.

RECOGNIZING THE RESILIENCE OF THE PEOPLE, CULTURE, LAND, AND WATER OF NEW MEXICO

HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, as we mark National Latino Conservation Week, I rise to celebrate the resiliency of the people of Las Vegas, Mora, and the surrounding New Mexico communities. Since April, the Forest Service-caused Hermit's Peak Fire and Calf Canyon Fire has ravaged the area. I am proud to join my resilient community to celebrate our combined strength and capacity to recover during challenging times. The Hispano heritage of this area is a strength we will rely on to heal.

Now in its fourth month, the fire has burned over 340,000 acres and become the biggest

● 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.

wildfire in New Mexico's history. It forced thousands of New Mexicans to evacuate and burned hundreds of homes and structures. Make no mistake, the negligence of the U.S. Forest Service caused this fire, and the federal government bears responsibility for the cost and the damage. I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for their support of my legislation to fully compensate affected residents and businesses, which passed through the House last week.

After the fire ignited, hurricane-force winds and an historic drought enabled the wildfire to strengthen and spread dangerously quickly. It destroyed places where I, and so many others like me, grew up and explored; places where we gathered wood and tended to our acequias; places where we buried loved ones and practiced our faith; places where we raised our children; places where we hunted and fished; and places of cherished memories. Yet, my hometown of Las Vegas and the communities in Mora and San Miguel counties, and our other dear neighbors continue to persevere despite devastating destruction. Hispano, together with Indigenous and Anglo families, have been stewards and conservationists of these lands for centuries, and they will not give up on their lands now.

There is one common thread among the countless people I've talked to and their stories of loss and heartache: resiliency. Residents bravely defended their land, honoring shared ancestors. Families and neighbors from across the community opened their doors to one another in a beautiful, shared sense of New Mexico community. Firefighters and first responders risked their lives to save others. We honor their sacrifice along with those who donated their time, resources, and money to help those forced from their homes.

Our land, water, culture, and communities will endure despite the catastrophic wildfires and ongoing floods. Our faith in each other remains unbroken. Our traditions remain unbroken. We remain unbroken.

I draw strength and determination from our shared commitment to protect the natural, cultural, and recreational resources that make these areas so beautiful. We will Rise from the Ashes and, as we have done for generations, continue to fight for what we love.

HONORING VITA SWARERS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Vita Swarers on the occasion of her birthday, July 24th. Vita serves as the Deputy Director of Casework and the Deputy District Director in my Conroe district office, and she has spent the past 15 years serving the people of the Eighth Congressional District of Texas.

Vita started working for me as a caseworker in January of 2008 when my district office was originally in Orange, Texas. Vita has always been a devoted member of my team and I have experienced the depth of her commitment firsthand. Following the last redistricting of Texas in 2010, Vita chose to relocate her home from Orange to Huntsville in order to continue her work in my new district office.

When Hurricane Ike struck the 8th District, Vita's own home was flooded but she helped countless victims' recover first. Thousands of Texans' lives have been improved because of Vita's tireless efforts on behalf of the community.

In addition to her amazing casework success, Vita also directs our Military Service Academy Program which, because of the academic and athletic accomplishments of our prospective cadets, typically sends 15 or more cadets to the four service academies. The staff of the academy admission offices refer to the program Vita spearheads as a "model program" and Vita frequently consults with new Congressional offices on how to set up and run a successful program.

Outside of the office, Vita is a natural caregiver, loves serving others, and gives her all in every aspect of her life. Vita is the type of person who can overcome anything—when life gives her lemons, she throws them right back—very hard. Vita is a devoted mother to three, grandmother to seven, and great-grandmother to four. She loves her family deeply and says that one of her goals in life is to live long enough to meet her greatgreat-grandchildren.

One of Vita's favorite ways to spend time with her family is to compete in local competitions. Vita is a well-decorated Texas champion—holding first place trophies throughout Texas for her famous chili.

On behalf of the Eighth Congressional District of Texas, it is a pleasure to formally recognize Vita for her long years of dedicated service and the instrumental role she has played on behalf of the constituents of the 8th District of Texas. It is an honor to work with someone as special as Vita, and I am grateful for her service. I thank Vita for everything, and wish her a Happy Birthday.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF CORPORAL FOYID MOCKBIL

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Corporal Foyid Mockbil of Howell, Michigan on the occasion of his retirement from Dearborn Police Department. His 25 years of service to the Dearborn community are worthy of commendation.

A graduate of Fordson High School, Corporal Mockbil was the first Yemeni American hired at the Dearborn Police Department, joining the team in 1997. Throughout his career, he has held various positions in the department including in Patrol Operations, Field Training, and on the SWAT Team as an operator. Additionally, he has served as an Honor Guard Member, School Resource Officer and as a plainclothes officer. At the time of his retirement, he was serving as Senior Officer of the Patrol Division on the night shift.

From the halls of Dearborn's elementary schools to events throughout the community, Corporal Mockbil is a familiar face to generations of Dearborn residents. Known for his bravery, professionalism, and compassion, he was active in the ACCESS substance abuse program and a frequent volunteer at charity events all over Metro Detroit. A friend to all

and a mentor to his peers, Corporal Mockbil has been a great representative of the department for almost 3 decades. All who have the pleasure of knowing him can attest to his infectious energy and joy. Despite being an officer, he never misses a chance to have fun and make memories. Corporal Mockbil resides in Howell, Michigan with his wife Marcie and their daughters Elayna and Elissa.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in congratulating Corporal Foyid Mockbil for his exemplary career at the Dearborn Police Department. I join with Corporal Mockbil's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my gratitude to him for his honorable service and thank him for his role in protecting our community and the people of Dearborn for over 2 decades. We wish him the best in retirement and lots of time spent with friends and family.

HONORING RODRIGO "ROD" GARCIA

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 20, 2022

Ms. CHU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Rodrigo "Rod" Garcia, who passed away on July 2, 2022. Rod was a respected visionary, leader, and advocate whose incredible life was defined by his dedication to empowering the Hispanic community to achieve educational excellence, economic opportunity, and social equity.

Rod Garcia was born in East Los Angeles, California in 1943. He graduated from California State University, Los Angeles with a bachelor's degree of science in engineering and also obtained an associate degree in engineering from East Los Angeles College, launching a lifelong career in the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) field. Rod subsequently served as a civil engineer for the City of Los Angeles and worked for the Port of Los Angeles in Public Works, Building and Safety. Due to his expertise in the field of engineering and his leadership abilities, Rod went on to chair the City of Monterey Park's Planning Commission as well as serving on the Dean of Engineering's Advisory Board for his alma mater, California State University, Los Angeles. Rod also served as president of Century Diversified, Inc., an engineering and construction firm, for over thirty years.

Rod was one of the few Hispanic engineers amidst a tech boom in California in 1973 and despite being in the minority in the STEM field, he gathered a cohort of fellow Hispanic engineers determined to contribute and diversify the sector. That's why, in 1974, Rod founded the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) with the mission of ensuring networking and education opportunities for Hispanic students and professionals in the Southern California region. Shortly thereafter, SHPE's first collegiate chapters were established at California State University, Los Angeles, East Los Angeles College, and the University of Southern California. For five decades, Rod's high-spirited and fearless leadership propelled the SHPE to reach 13,000 memberships and 286 chapters nationwide. His unique ability to unite community partners