

from the oil and gas sector and issued a proposed rule in November of 2021. (86 Fed. Reg. 63110 (Nov. 15, 2021); hereinafter "EPA's proposed methane standards"). As previously noted, CAA Section 111 is one of the "existing authorities" funded by Section 60107 of this Act. Section 111 is also one of the primary tools in the CAA for regulation of air pollutants from both new and existing stationary sources. (See H. Rept. 117–64, at 6 (footnote 19), 10).

Section 60113 of the IRA, the Methane Emissions Reduction Program, recognizes the importance of EPA's proposed methane standards and ongoing rulemaking to regulate methane from the oil and gas sector. Specifically, the new CAA Section 136 authorizes the Methane Emissions and Waste Production Incentive Program for Petroleum and Natural Gas Systems (the Methane Program), which establishes a waste emissions charge for "applicable facilities" and provides an exemption from the waste emissions charge based on compliance with EPA's proposed methane standards, if finalized. In including this exemption, Congress recognizes and reaffirms that regulation of methane from both new and existing oil and gas sources, including those located in the production, processing, transmission, and storage segments, is clearly authorized under CAA Section 111. And by applying the Methane Program to facilities located in the production, processing, transmission, and storage segments that would also be regulated by EPA's proposed methane standards, Congress recognizes that the regulation of methane emissions from these facilities is necessary for public health and welfare, including for climate protection. (See H. Rept. 117–64, at 3–5).

As part of the Methane Program, we are establishing a waste emissions charge exemption for applicable facilities that are in compliance with applicable emissions standards in effect pursuant to CAA Section 111(b) and pursuant to plans under CAA Section 111(d). The basis for this exemption will be a determination by the EPA Administrator that certain conditions are met before any applicable facility may qualify. First, the EPA Administrator must determine that CAA Sections 111(b) and 111(d) methane emission standards are in effect in all States where applicable facilities are located. Second, the EPA CAA 111(b) and 111(d) methane emissions standards must be finalized and in effect, and the Administrator must determine that those final standards will result in equivalent or greater reductions than EPA's proposed methane standards. Once the Administrator makes the appropriate determination, the exemption may be applied to any applicable facility subject to and compliant with methane standards pursuant to CAA Section 111. If any condition is not met after the Administrator has made the determination, applicable facilities will no longer qualify for the exemption and will again be subject to the charge.

Notably, the collective emissions from new or existing sources at an applicable oil and gas facility may be subject to a mix of standards under CAA Sections 111(b) and 111(d). Therefore, to qualify for the exemption, any new sources at the applicable facility should be in compliance with any applicable new source standards, and any existing sources located at the applicable facility should be in compliance with any applicable standards in a plan effective under Section 111(d).

Another key purpose of the Methane Program is to encourage the development of innovative technologies in the detection and mitigation of methane emissions, particularly to support the mitigation of impacts on low-income and disadvantaged communities most affected by pollution from oil and gas facilities. New CAA Section 136(a) provides funds to incentivize methane mitigation and monitoring, including to provide financial and technical assistance to reduce methane and other GHG emissions from petroleum and natural gas systems, mitigate legacy air pollution from petroleum and natural gas systems, and provide support for communities. In particular, Section 136(a)(3)(C) provides funds for supporting innovation in reducing methane and other GHG emissions and waste, and Section 136(a)(3)(E) provides funds for mitigating health effects of methane and other GHG emissions and legacy air pollution from petroleum and natural gas systems in low-income and disadvantaged communities. Additionally, new CAA Section 136(a)(2) and Section 60105(e) of the IRA provide funds for methane emissions monitoring under CAA Section 103(a) through (c). And new CAA Section 138(b)(2)(A) provides funds for community-led air and other pollution monitoring, prevention, and remediation, as well as investments in low- and zero-emission and resilient technologies and related infrastructure and workforce development that help reduce GHG emissions and other air pollutants.

Finally, EPA's proposed methane standards solicited comment on a program to require owners and operators of oil and natural gas facilities to investigate and mitigate so-called "super-emitter" emission events upon notification by a community, federal or state agency, or other third party of an emission event above a defined threshold. The funds provided by new CAA Sections 136 and 138 and Section 60105(e) of this Act could be implemented to support third-party monitoring activities using advanced methane detection technologies consistent with such a program, if finalized by EPA.

#### HONORING REVEREND ANN GRAY BYRD

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 23, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Reverend Ann Gray Byrd for her outstanding contributions to our community.

Rev. Byrd was born March 30, 1936, in Tatum, Texas. She moved to Santa Rosa in 1952, where she was one of only three Black students at Santa Rosa High School. From a young age, she was deeply involved in the local chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), cofounded by her father. During her 70 years living in Santa Rosa, Rev. Byrd went on to make an incredible impact in our community through her work serving as the President of the Santa Rosa-Sonoma NAACP chapter. She also served as Sonoma County Chapter Chair of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

In 1992, Rev. Byrd helped to establish and served as the Executive Director of the Gray

Foundation. The Foundation provided over \$180,000 in scholarships to help low-income Sonoma County high school students attend college. Rev. Byrd was a founding member of the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women and Sonoma County People for Economic Opportunity. Rev. Byrd was the recipient of the 2016 ACLU Jack Green Award and multiple NAACP accolades including the Legacy Award. She was also recognized with a Woman of the Year award by the California State Legislature in 2005.

In addition to her extraordinary public service, Rev. Byrd devoted her life to her two children, two grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. She instilled the spirit of activism in her family and was proud of young people carrying on her legacy by taking to the streets to advocate for a better future. Ms. Byrd passed away on July 7, 2022, and she will be greatly missed by our community.

Madam Speaker, it is evident that Rev. Ann Gray Byrd has left a monumental impact on our Santa Rosa community. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor her and her legacy here today.

#### HONORING THE SERVICE OF CHRIS FARNITANO

#### HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 23, 2022*

Mr. DeSAULNIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of long-time community leader and Health Officer of Contra Costa Health Services, Dr. Chris Farnitano, as he enters retirement.

Chris has dedicated his career to improving the lives of others and advancing wellness and compassionate care within Contra Costa. In 1997, he assisted in the development of the Pittsburg Health Center's HIV Medical Clinic, which was the first-of-its-kind in the nation. Over the course of more than thirty years, Chris served in various leadership roles within the Contra Costa Regional Medical Center & Health Centers including as Family Medicine Department Chair, Director of Ambulatory Care, and Assistant Residency Program Director. In 2018, Chris began serving as county health officer, continuing his commitment to provide excellent health care to Contra Costa residents.

Chris's commitment to promoting public health and wellbeing in our community is apparent in all the work he has done. As a part of Contra Costa Health Services, Chris has led our county's response to the COVID–19 pandemic. Chris was instrumental throughout the pandemic in helping to minimize the spread of the virus within our county and countless lives have been saved thanks to Chris' leadership.

Throughout his career, Chris has been an exceptional health care provider to countless families and a reliable source of quality information and guidance to our office on the pandemic.

Chris's work has had a significant impact in our community and our county admires his compassion and dedication. While we will miss him, please join me in congratulating Chris on his retirement and honoring his more than 30 years of service.

HONORING BARBARA LYNN  
THOMAS

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 23, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable individual, Barbara Lynn Thomas.

Barbara Lynn Thomas was born Barbara Parks to the late Booker Parks and Emma Parks of Darling, MS. She is the eldest daughter born to this union.

Barbara attended school in the Quitman County School System, where she graduated with honors. She later attended Coahoma Jr. College and Hinds Community College, where she attained three different degrees while working a full-time job and raising her three children. She worked at Mississippi Department of Corrections, where she retired with 25 years of service; at the Quitman County School system, giving them 21 years of service; and simultaneously getting a degree in Cosmetology. She would have a 20-hour workday but still managed to care for her children. That alone shows how driven she is.

She doesn't have many jobs to list but believes that longevity at a job is worth its weight in gold. In 2008, she retired from the workplace at the tender age of 43, knowing that she had put in the work.

What makes this candidate so special is the fact that she is a true giver. There have been so many community functions where she would have events and just simply give things away to those that showed up; ex: at her birthday parties, Christmas parties, and at her grandchildren's birthday parties, guests get gifted, too. She simply loves gifting and seeing the happy faces of the recipients. She now uses her creativity in the kitchen and in her yard. She states that this is her happy place. She is determined to master any task she takes on. She is extremely creative in the kitchen, whereas she can look at a picture on a magazine cover and imitate that dish or dessert. She can really inspire you with some delectable dishes. The Quitman County area should be proud to have this amazing cook at their fingertips. She once told someone that she just likes being happy and loves seeing the happiness in others from the fruits of her labor.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Barbara Lynn Thomas for her dedication in serving her community.

RECOGNIZING MR. JACK CLINE

**HON. SHARICE DAVIDS**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 23, 2022*

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Jack Cline, former Associate Vice Chancellor of federal relations at the University of Kansas (KU), for his advocacy on behalf of the University and the University of Kansas Medical Center.

For a decade, Mr. Cline served as a tireless, dependable, and admired advocate of the educational and research enterprise in Kansas. As he begins his new role as Vice

President for federal relations at Northeastern University in Boston, I can only express gratitude for Mr. Cline.

Mr. Cline was recognized for his hard work last year when he was named a "Top Lobbyist" by the National Institute for Lobbying & Ethics.

The previous year, he received the Jennifer Poulakidas Achievement Award for his contributions to and achievements in university governmental relations; he was also recognized as a "Top Lobbyist" by The Hill that same year.

Alone, these accolades don't tell you what's truly special about Mr. Cline, and why we'll miss him so much. Following a career in the armed services, Mr. Cline chose to continue living a life of service, spending years walking these hallways to ensure the entire Kansas congressional delegation knows the valuable work occurring at KU.

Not once has Mr. Cline shied away from a question, a task, or a request; he's bent over backwards to ensure KU's priorities are heard throughout Congress.

Mr. Cline may now be a Northeastern University Husky, but he will always remain a part of our KU family and will forever be a Jay hawk. Rock Chalk.

HONORING TOURO UNIVERSITY  
CALIFORNIA

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 23, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with my colleague, Rep. JOHN GARAMENDI, to honor Touro University California on its 25th anniversary.

Touro University California is a graduate medical school with over 6,000 alumni. Founded in 1997, it offers programs in Pharmacy, Physician Assistance, Public Health, Nursing, Education, Osteopathic Medicine, and Medical Health Sciences. Touro University California has made a massive difference in the community, with over 55 percent of the School of Education graduates serving within 55 miles of the university and more than 80 percent of School of Nursing graduates serving locally within Solano County. Touro University California provides scholarships to underrepresented minority students from disadvantaged backgrounds, improving education and health for all. It currently has about 1,400 students and 100 faculty members. Touro University California has graduated more primary care physicians than any other university in the state.

In addition to proving excellent education, Touro University California is also committed to serving our community. It provides free health screenings through its Mobile Diabetes Education Center and Pharma2Home Initiative, as well as running more than 125 free community clinics that have delivered over 5,200 vaccines. These clinics both help community members and give students an opportunity to get clinical hours and patient experience.

Touro University California works with many community service programs to provide a variety of support to the community. Those programs include: Student-Run Free Clinic, Social

Justice Series, Drug Safe Solano, Project Happy, Biotech Academy/Teen Life Conference, and many more. It has delivered over 3,000 books to local children, working to ensure that Solano's children are not only physically healthy but also mentally healthy.

Madam Speaker, Touro University California provides an invaluable service to the community. It is, therefore, fitting and proper that we honor it here today.

RECOGNIZING MR. GARY RICE

**HON. DAVID G. VALADAO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 23, 2022*

Mr. VALADAO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gary Rice and congratulate him on his 35-year career as a teacher in Hanford, California.

Mr. Rice began his career teaching first grade at Western Christian School in Hanford. After one year, he transferred to Pioneer Union Elementary—where he would teach for the next 34 years. As a teacher at Pioneer, Mr. Rice taught multiple grade levels, including first, third, fourth, and fifth grade.

Mr. Rice's true passion was teaching fourth grade because he was able to educate his students about one of his favorite subjects, the history of the State of California. As a fourth-grade teacher, Mr. Rice regularly led students on field trips to Sacramento to visit the California State Capitol, the city's historic Old Town neighborhood, and the California State Train Museum. He also led students on field trips to visit the historic California Missions, such as Mission San Miguel and Mission San Antonio.

As a dedicated educator, Mr. Rice was heavily involved in the school's extracurricular activities. He regularly organized the Pioneer Spelling Bee and was a fixture at the school's ukulele club—both teaching students how to play and encouraging them to show off their talents at events like the Pioneer talent show.

Mr. Rice is the type of teacher that students never forget. His sense of humor, passion for learning, and dedication to his students have made a lasting impact on the thousands of children he has taught over his 35-year career.

I ask all my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the incredible career of Mr. Gary Rice.

HONORING SUSALYN BENNETT

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, August 23, 2022*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a brilliant photographer, Susalyn Bennett. Susalyn has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to achieve success.

Susalyn Bennett has been a photographer for The Clinton Courier for almost a decade. Susalyn has spent countless hours taking photos of the children, events, celebrations, seniors, and much more. Thanks to her, we have enjoyed almost a decade of photo documentation of our community's events,