

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN RECOGNITION OF LT. COL.
JASON CULLINANE

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Mr. KEATING. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Lt. Col. Jason Cullinane as he retires from the U.S. Army after three decades of service.

Raised in Falmouth, Massachusetts, Jason Cullinane had a passion for running from a young age. One of the seven "Running Cullinanes," Lt. Col. Cullinane ran in multiple Falmouth Road Races, served as captain of the Falmouth High School cross country team, and was named a Boston Globe All Scholastic and Cape Cod Times All Star athlete.

After graduating from Falmouth High School, Lt. Col. Cullinane went on to receive his Bachelor of Science in communications media from Fitchburg State University, where he was also a four-time NCAA All American in track and field. At Fitchburg State University, Lt. Col. Cullinane began what would be an extensive career with the U.S. Army, joining his school's Army Reserve Officers Training Corps program in 1989.

Following graduation, Lt. Col. Cullinane served his country and continued his passion for running, competing as an athlete for the U.S. Army multiple times at the International Military Sports Council (CISM). Lt. Col. Cullinane also ran in the 1996 Olympic trials in steeplechase and came in ninth at the 1998 U.S. Track and Field Championship. He then went on to run professionally for Reebok Boston and the Nike Farm Team, and wrote LogbookONE, a running training manual.

Following the attacks on September 11, 2001, Lt. Col. Cullinane returned to the U.S. Army and has been on active duty since. During his many years of service, Lt. Col. Cullinane was deployed to Bosnia, Afghanistan, and Iraq, managed training operations at several military bases, served as a policy analyst at the Pentagon, and received a master's degree in strategic studies from the United States Army War College.

After officially retiring from the U.S. Army this September, Lt. Col. Cullinane plans to spend ample time with his daughters, Niamh and Mayumi, and coach Falmouth Youth Running and the Falmouth Academy cross country team.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Lt. Col. Jason Cullinane. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing his career and commitment to serving his community and country.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA HOME RULE EX-
PANSION ACT OF 2022

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the District of Columbia Home Rule Expansion Act of 2022, which would expand D.C.'s authority to govern its local affairs. Specifically, the bill would give D.C. the authority to prosecute and grant clemency for all D.C. crimes and eliminate the congressional review period for D.C. legislation.

D.C. should—and will—be a state. However, until Congress grants D.C. statehood, there is no constitutional or policy reason Congress should not pass this bill. This bill is about local control over local affairs. It does nothing more than give D.C. the same authorities states and territories have over certain local governmental functions. Under the Constitution, Congress has plenary authority over both D.C. and the territories. It has already used its plenary authority to give the territories the self-governing authorities this bill would give D.C.

First, this bill would give D.C. the authority to prosecute all crimes committed under its laws. Congress already lets D.C. write D.C. criminal laws, and lets D.C. enforce them against some violators. Congress should let D.C. enforce them against all violators. This provision would effectuate a 2002 advisory referendum, approved by 82 percent of D.C. voters, to create a local prosecutor's office.

Currently, the U.S. Attorney for D.C. has the authority to prosecute most D.C. crimes committed by adults and some by juveniles, while the D.C. Attorney General has the authority to prosecute most D.C. crimes committed by juveniles and some by adults. Giving D.C. the authority to prosecute all D.C. crimes would not only give D.C. residents a say in the enforcement of all their laws, it also would save the federal government tens of millions of dollars a year by reducing the number of assistant U.S. attorneys in the U.S. Attorney's Office for D.C.

Second, this bill would give D.C. the authority to grant clemency for crimes committed under D.C. laws, as Congress previously has done. Currently, the President exercises the authority to grant clemency for D.C. crimes, though almost never grants it. D.C. residents deserve a say in whether their fellow residents deserve mercy.

Finally, this bill would eliminate the congressional review period for D.C. legislation. D.C. legislation takes effect after a congressional review period, unless a joint resolution of disapproval is enacted into law during the review period. The review process imposes significant costs on both D.C. and Congress, but only three D.C. disapproval resolutions have been enacted since passage of the D.C. Home Rule Act, and none since 1991, more than 30 years ago. Yet, the D.C. Council has had to develop

a Kafkaesque legislative process to comply with the review period, often having to pass the same bill multiple times. Congress loses nothing by eliminating the abandoned congressional review period. Congress can legislate on any D.C. matter at any time, and has done so many times outside of the review period, such as through the appropriations process.

The congressional review period (30 days for civil bills and 60 days for criminal bills) includes those days when either house of Congress is in session, delaying D.C. bills from becoming law, often for many months. The delay forces the D.C. Council to pass most bills several times, using a cumbersome and complicated process to ensure that the operations of this large city continue uninterrupted. The congressional calendar means that a 30-day period usually lasts a couple of months and often much longer because of congressional recesses.

Placing a congressional hold on D.C. bills has not only proven unnecessary, but has imposed costs on the D.C. government, residents and businesses. District residents and businesses are also placed on hold because they have no certainty when D.C. bills, from taxes to regulations, will take effect, making it difficult to plan. It is particularly unfair to require the D.C. Council to engage in this unnecessary, labor-intensive and costly process to no effect.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

RECOGNIZING THE RIVERTON
PEACE POLE COALITION

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Riverton Peace Pole Coalition as they celebrate the United Nations' International Day of Peace.

Since 1981, people and organizations across the world commemorate this day in the hope of strengthening the prospect of peace. For New Jersey's 3rd District and beyond, this day of non-violence and cease-fire serves as a reminder for us to continuously strive for equality and justice. Now more than ever, our role on the world stage is magnified and our leadership in promoting international peace will be a positive influence in countries and cultures across the globe.

This year's International Day of Peace theme, "End Racism. Build Peace," is a reminder for us of how dismantling racism both in our own homes and overseas can positively impact people of color and other minority communities. We are at a pivotal point in history where internal divisions resulting from discrimination and racism have become more common and violent than in recent years. Following the COVID-19 pandemic and the rise

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of numerous social movements fighting for change, we have seen how conflicts around the world can affect some racial minorities harder than others. In keeping with the United Nations' values on this day, we recognize each of us can contribute to a future built on the premises and promises of human rights, everywhere.

I am incredibly humbled by what the coalition members in New Jersey's 3rd District are doing today to honor our commitment to build stronger communities and extend hope for empathy internationally. As they prepare to honor the United Nation's call for peace, I extend my best wishes to everyone in this district for doing their part to spread positivity and peace.

HONORING AND CELEBRATING
EDWIN J. 'DICK' MORRIS, JR.

HON. VICKY HARTZLER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Mrs. HARTZLER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Edwin J. 'Dick' Morris, Jr. of Peculiar, Missouri, in celebration of his 100th birthday on September 16, 2022.

Mr. Morris still lives at his home in Peculiar and continues to live life to the fullest. He makes weekly trips to visit his wife, Maxine, at her nursing home in nearby Harrisonville, and stays independent, still doing his own cooking, cleaning, and even mowing his own lawn.

Although his independence and drive today is inspiring, Edwin Morris is nothing short of an American Hero. Drafted in 1942, Morris served his country with the Forest Rangers, Coast Guard, Air Force and 442nd Signal Battalion. Joining the Armed Services at the same time as his brother, Morris first spent time on the West Coast as part of the Forest Rangers and Coast Guard and was then shipped out to New Guinea at the beginning of 1943 when they declared independence. He then spent the latter half of the war in Japan. Morris's service didn't stop after WWII; after returning home to his farm in Missouri for a few years, he reenlisted in the spring of 1951 to serve in the Korean War, where he worked with the only B-36 bomber in the area. After his service in the Korean War, Morris became a farmer and tractor salesman, and now spends his time visiting with friends and family at the Belton Senior Center.

Today, there are very few WWII Veterans like Edwin still with us, making the celebration of his service and this milestone in his life even more admirable. Mr. Morris is undoubtedly an American Hero and Treasure, and this country is better for people like him. Please join me in recognizing Edwin and wishing him a very happy 100th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MATT GAETZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Mr. GAETZ. Madam Speaker, my first vote on September 13, 2022, was not cast because of a proxy vote communications error. Further,

my letter sent to the Clerk of the U.S. House of Representatives on September 13, 2022, altered my proxy designation before Roll Call No. 421, which was received and verified pursuant to H. Res. 8. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 421.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF OFFICER BLAIZE MADRID-EVANS

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today with an aching in my heart as Missouri's Fifth Congressional District marks a somber occasion. I rise to honor and celebrate the life of Officer Blaize Alyxander Madrid-Evans, a 22-year-old member of the Independence Police Department who was killed one year ago today while responding to a call. Independence lost an incredible young man who wished to dedicate his life to protecting and serving everyday people as a police officer. Today, on this painful anniversary, we reflect on the selflessness and courage that Officer Madrid-Evans displayed throughout his 22 years of life.

Blaize Madrid-Evans was born on June 2, 1999 in North Kansas City, Missouri. Blaize grew up in Kansas City up until his senior year of high school. In 2018, he graduated from Smithville High School. He then began working for the American Medical Response (AMR) as an Emergency Responder, where he remained for nearly two years. In July 2021, Blaize graduated from the Police Academy and started his tour with the Independence Police Department. Sadly, Officer Madrid-Evans' tour would last only two months.

Officer Madrid-Evans is remembered as being a sharp-dressed coffee connoisseur who loved going out to eat, playing computer games, and putting Sriracha on all sorts of foods. Blaize was an organ donor, and in the year since his passing, he has saved seven lives and enhanced another thirty-seven. Through the donation of his corneas, skin, muscles, tendons, bones, and other tissues, the Midwest Transplant Team estimates that Blaize will impact the lives of up to seventy-five people. In one instance, Blaize's kidney was donated to a fellow police officer in Springfield, Missouri who was critically injured in the line of duty. Even after ending his watch, Blaize has continued to make his charitable presence felt through acts of service and sacrifice. Blaize's life came to an end far too soon, but in his death, he has bestowed the gift of life upon others. He would not want it any other way. He was a beloved son, brother, fiancé, friend, and police officer. According to his family, Blaize was loving, kind, respectful, and brought joy to all those who had the privilege of knowing him. He was a bright light in his loved ones' lives and has been missed terribly this past year.

On September 15, 2021, a tragedy occurred, and Blaize's life was cut short by an act of senseless, indescribable violence. When news broke that Officer Madrid-Evans had passed away, all of the Greater Kansas City Area grieved alongside his family, friends, and fellow officers. As we spend this day in loving

remembrance, I keep all those who had the privilege of knowing Blaize Madrid-Evans in my thoughts and prayers. As I have been told, to know Blaize was to love him, and I am deeply saddened to have never met this fine young man. I mourn with Blaize's long list of family and friends. No parent or grandparent should have to outlive their child or grandchild. I truly hope that the love and support that Independence and the surrounding areas have offered has brought some comfort into their lives. Blaize was so loved.

Officer Madrid-Evans was awarded the highest form of recognition from the Independence Police Department, the Medal of Valor on March 25, 2022. The medal is a profound honor given only to officers that display extraordinary acts of heroism and courage that go above and beyond the call of duty. Additionally, Officer Madrid-Evans was added to the Smithville Education Foundation's Wall of Fame in February of 2022. These tributes cannot heal the loss of Blaize, but they are symbols of gratitude for his distinguished service and boundless bravery.

When tragedies like this occur, it is difficult to comprehend the loss we all feel. In times like these, I am called to Scripture. Matthew 5:1-3 says, "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Let us find solace in the word of God and remember that we will be reunited, once more, in the Kingdom of Heaven."

Today, my thoughts—and the thoughts of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District—are with Officer Madrid-Evans' family. Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life and everlasting legacy of Blaize Alyxander Madrid-Evans. Let us admire the fearlessness of Officer Blaize Madrid-Evans while never forgetting the sacrifice he made in the name of protecting others.

NEW FEDERAL COURT OPENS IN THE MARIANAS

HON. GREGORIO KILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 15, 2022

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Speaker, on September 16, the United States District Court for the Northern Mariana Islands will be officially moved into its new courtroom and offices in Gualo Rai on the island of Saipan. The U.S. Pretrial and Probation Office, the U.S. Marshals Service, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the Federal Protective Service are also now housed in this new building, leased by the General Services Administration from Marianas Management Corporation for the next twenty years.

To commemorate this move I want to add to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a history of the federal court in the Marianas, which is part of the ongoing story of how the people I represent have become members of the American political family and have been included in the institutions of the United States government.

I am indebted to the research of Ms. Lallane Guiao-Seng, MPA, who formerly interned with the Marianas congressional office and is now Generalist Clerk for the U.S. District Court. Ms. Guiao-Seng prepared a photo exhibition