

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2024

SPEECH OF

HON. SYDNEY KAMLAGER-DOVE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 2, 2023

Ms. KAMLAGER-DOVE. Mr. Chair, the funds in H.R. 4821, The Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act to decrease by \$3 million and increase by the same amount the \$67,942,000 designated for the Department of Interior (DOI) Office of the Secretary are intended to be used for a Work Environment Survey for the Department of the Interior and all its bureaus. They will help generate data that can be directly compared to the Work Environment Survey done at Interior and the National Park Service in 2017 by the Federal Consulting Group and the CFI Group. The survey is necessary to determine whether progress has been made after years of efforts by the Department to address sexual harassment, discrimination, and other workplace satisfaction issues, and to determine how to target resources for future efforts. According to the Office of the Inspector General Report, the 2017 Work Environment Survey cost nearly \$2.4 million. Assuming inflation rates assigned by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, a survey conducted now would cost \$3 million.

HONORING UCLA CHANCELLOR
GENE BLOCK

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 3, 2023

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise along with my colleagues, Representatives LINDA SÁNCHEZ, JIMMY GOMEZ, BRAD SHERMAN, and JAY OBERNOLTE, today to honor UCLA Chancellor Gene Block on his 17 years of steadfast leadership at one of America's premier research institutions.

Originally from New York, Chancellor Block received his bachelor's and Ph.D. degrees in psychology from Stanford and the University of Oregon, respectively. Prior to his service at UCLA, Chancellor Block was internationally recognized for his research on the body's "biological clock." He continued his work at Virginia, leading a team that established an NSF Center for Biological Timing.

Since beginning his tenure in 2007, Chancellor Block's sure-handedness and optimism has navigated the Bruin community through numerous unprecedented challenges, including the COVID-19 pandemic and 2008 recession. He has led the campus towards great successes—like consistently ranking as the top public university in the nation. In his 17

years as Chancellor, the research budget has more than doubled—from \$4 billion to \$11 billion annually. This enables staff and student-researchers to develop solutions to society's most pressing issues.

Chancellor Block has also increased diversity of our body and the accessibility of a UCLA education. Enrollment at UCLA has grown by 9,000 students each year, and the school has acquired new properties in the South Bay and downtown Los Angeles and has strengthened ties with the region's diverse communities. UCLA's partnership with the Los Angeles Unified School District that began under Chancellor Block in 2009 brings UCLA instructional programs and teacher training to students in the underserved Koreatown/Pico-Union neighborhood. This work is important to the Southern California community that UCLA supports.

The Chancellor has overseen the fundraising of hundreds of millions towards making a UCLA education more accessible by bolstering scholarship initiatives like the Bruin Scholars initiative, Chancellors Centennial Scholars Program, and UCLA affordability initiative. As a result of his commitment to diversity and accessibility, nearly a third of UCLA graduates are first-generation college students—as Chancellor Block was himself.

I join my colleagues and fellow UCLA alums, Representatives SÁNCHEZ, GOMEZ, SHERMAN, and OBERNOLTE, in thanking Chancellor Block for his commitment to higher education in our nation and Southern California community. We wish him a smooth transition back into research and teaching.

Go Bruins.

RECOGNIZING THE 19TH ANNUAL
FAIRFAX COUNTY HISTORY CON-
FERENCE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 3, 2023

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Fairfax County History Commission on the occasion of the 19th Annual Fairfax County History Conference.

Since 1969, the Fairfax County History Commission has worked to identify, document, record and preserve the history of our region. There are few areas in the country that are as rich in history as our area is. The History Conference provides an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the past year while recognizing our neighbors who have made significant contributions to preserving and promoting our local history. Through the dedicated efforts of the History Commission and its many volunteers, we are assured that our history will not be lost and will be available for future generations.

This year, a number of dedicated individuals are being honored for their commitment to the preservation and education of history. I am

proud to enter their names into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Mike Salmon and Ean Eschenburg received the Mayo Stuntz Award for their work to promote and preserve the history of Fairfax County through video historic documentary production with their film, "Small Family Cemeteries: is There Room in Fairfax County?"

Josie Ballato received the Edith Moore Sprouse Prize for her interest in developing new data sources and maps to analyze influences on Fairfax County's growth from 1865 to 1965.

Carole Herrick received the Lifetime Achievement Award for her contributions to the preservation of history in Fairfax County through her roles in organizations aimed at presenting and preserving the history of McLean.

Nadine Mironchuk received the Lifetime Achievement Award for her service as a Sister historian and long-time member of Fairfax County's Bull Run Civil War Roundtable. She has been a longtime champion and devotee of both Civil War history in Fairfax County.

Robert E. Beach received the Distinguished Achievement Award for his support of the Fairfax County History Commission over the past 22 years. His academic and practice backgrounds as an Architect specializing in historic restorations has been an extraordinary resource for the Commission.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating all the honorees and thanking the Fairfax County History Commission for the important work they do for the Northern Virginia community.

HONORING THE CAREER OF
RICHARD BARON

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 3, 2023

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate Richard Baron of Woodstock, Connecticut who retires from his work with the Woodstock Fire Marshal's office on November 30, 2023. Richard's retirement concludes 50 years of exemplary service to the Town of Woodstock, the last 27 of which were as Fire Marshal. His outstanding dedication to his community and expertise will be sorely missed.

From his earliest days in northeastern Connecticut, Richard was destined to be an exceptional member of the Woodstock community. He attended the Woodstock Academy and Ellis Technical School in Woodstock and Danielson respectively and was drawn to helping others by following a special calling to the challenging work of public safety. At a very young age, Richard began his journey at the Muddy Brook Fire Department as a volunteer, which gave him a chance to apply his technical knowledge and caring disposition to the tasks of a firefighter.

• 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.

Richard's professional career has also been defined by his service to the community—in the halls of Connecticut's state government, where he worked with the Connecticut Department of Transportation for over 31 years. His talented work and leadership skills were rewarded over the years with a series of promotions. At the time of his retirement, he had risen to the position of Fleet Manager for the entire state of Connecticut, which is a huge responsibility, requiring tremendous logistical and organizational skills.

In November of 1973, when Richard joined the Muddy Brook Fire Department, one of three volunteer departments serving Woodstock and the surrounding community, he started on the training squad. He has since remained a dutiful protector of his neighbors, serving 50 years in fire safety through many different capacities. He has always been guided by a principle to contribute wherever he felt he was needed by the town. Richard spent 45 of those years as an EMT. Given his diligence, Richard was promoted several times within the Muddy Brook Fire Department. His valuable contributions to the community were recognized and he achieved the rank of Captain by the early 1980s. During his time as Captain, Richard committed himself to advancing fire safety in Woodstock and took on the role of Deputy Fire Marshal for the town in 1984.

In 1990, Richard was promoted to Deputy Chief of the Muddy Brook Fire Department. Only two years later he was promoted again to Chief of the Department, a position he would hold until 1995. It was not just his extensive experience and impressive ethic that prompted these promotions, but also his obvious leadership qualities. Richard has always been willing to share his abundance of knowledge by mentoring and recruiting new members of the fire department.

Richard was appointed Fire Marshal by the Town of Woodstock in 1996, the position from which, after nearly another 30 years, he retires this month. Richard has been essential in presenting fire safety and prevention techniques. As Fire Marshal, he has been responsible for assisting all three Woodstock Fire Departments with fire suppression and hazardous materials activities. Richard's impact has reached far beyond administering the basic duties of a Fire Marshal. He has used his plentiful experience to create poster contests for children, scholarships, and more to help publicize and educate the public on Woodstock's fire safety activities. During this time, Richard has also served as the Safety Officer for the Muddy Brook Fire Department, demonstrating how deeply he cares about protecting those within his community.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent such committed constituents like Richard Baron. Richard is an institution unto himself whose retirement leaves shoes that will not easily be filled. However, we can take solace in the knowledge that Richard's legacy lives on in the countless firefighters he mentored and, despite his retirement, that he will remain close to the Woodstock firefighting community. Having positioned the town of Woodstock for greater success, Richard has earned this retirement and will appreciate time with his wife of 30 years, Beth, and their family. Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House join me in recognizing Richard Baron's community-oriented contributions to the town of Wood-

stock and congratulating him on his well-earned retirement.

RECOGNIZING COBB
PARATORY ACADEMY'S PRE-
ORING OF VETERANS HON-

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 3, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Cobb Preparatory Academy's effort to honor its community veterans.

The school honored: Sergeant Jaclyn Berry. Mr. Eddy Brown. Mr. Chales R. Burton. Sr.. Mr. Kenneth Burton, Frazier Burrough. Mr. Tony Butler, Mr. Victor Byers, Ms. Nashonda Carter, Mr. Jimmy Catlett, Mr. Johnny Daniel, Mr. Donald Ray Dennison, Mr. Lonnie Elvin, Mr. Steven Folks, Mr. Adrian Fredricks, Mr. James Glover, Bishop Charles D. Gregory, Sr. Mr. Jason Granholm, Mr. Thomas Hall, Mr. Joe Harrington, Reverend Clyde Hill, Dr. D.R. Hill, SFC Daryl Ledford, Reverend Levi Lyles, Mrs. Wanda Lyles, Staff Sergeant Alyssa Louis, Lt. Retired Colonel Franklin McClain, Mr. Franklin McClain, Jr., Mr. Thaddues Moore, SFC Edward Mos, Jr., Reverend John H. Oliver, Mr. Antonio Phillips, Mr. Harold Ray, Reverend Ross Reed, Ms. Smoot, Mr. Stanley Shack, ILT, Brianna Sutton, Major Thomas, Mr. Antonio (Munford) Oliver, Commissioner Fred Wilson, Mr. James Woods, Mr. Fernaldo Wood, Mr. Danny Patterson and many others.

It is touching to see Alabamians go to such great lengths to honor our Nation's veterans, who have given so much to ensure the safety and well-being of America.

I would like to thank Mrs. Tersia J. Moore Hall. Principal of Cobb Preparatory Academy, faculty, staff, parents, and students for their efforts in this initiative that honors and expresses deep appreciation for their community members that have served their country.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Cobb Preparatory Academy for its efforts to honor our veterans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK DeSAULNIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 3, 2023

Mr. DeSAULNIER. I regret that I was unable to vote on Thursday, November 2, 2023, during the second vote series.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

NAY on Roll Call No. 567, on agreeing to Amendment No. 2 to H.R. 4821, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024;

NAY on Roll Call No. 568, on agreeing to Amendment No. 15 to H.R. 4821, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024;

NAY on Roll Call No. 569, on agreeing to Amendment No. 59 to H.R. 4821, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024;

NAY on Roll Call No. 570, on agreeing to Amendment No. 60 to H.R. 4821, the Depart-

ment of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024;

NAY on Roll Call No. 571, on agreeing to Amendment No. 61 to H.R. 4821, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024;

NAY on Roll Call No. 572, on agreeing to Amendment No. 66 to H.R. 4821, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024;

NAY on Roll Call No. 573, on agreeing to Amendment No. 70 to H.R. 4821, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024;

NAY on Roll Call No. 574, on agreeing to Amendment No. 73 to H.R. 4821, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024;

NAY on Roll Call No. 575, on agreeing to Amendment No. 74 to H.R. 4821, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024;

NAY on Roll Call No. 576, on agreeing to Amendment No. 75 to H.R. 4821, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024;

NAY on Roll Call No. 577, H.R. 6126, Israel Security Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2024; and

YEA on Roll Call No. 578, H. Res. 798, Condemning the support of Hamas, Hezbollah, and other terrorist organizations at institutions of higher education, which may lead to the creation of a hostile environment for Jewish students, faculty, and staff, as amended.

HONORING MEL SHELDON, JR.

HON. RICK LARSEN

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 3, 2023

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. I rise today to acknowledge that November is Native American Heritage Month. My district includes sovereign tribes whose people and culture contribute greatly to our region and nation: the Tulalip Tribes, Lummi Nation, Nooksack Indian Tribe, Samish Indian Nation, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe, Upper Skagit Indian Tribe, Nooksack Indian Tribe and the Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians.

November is also a time to honor the women and men for their service in the United States Armed Forces. This Veterans Day, I honor the women and men from Native communities in northwest Washington who have fought for freedom, their homeland and their culture. More than 140,000 American Indian and Alaska Native veterans live in the United States today, including approximately 5,000 American Indian and Alaska Native veterans in Washington. Historically, Native peoples have answered the call to serve at the highest per capita rate of any population, embodying the values of bravery and sacrifice.

The Tulalip Tribes' proud history in the U.S. Armed Forces exemplifies the tradition of Tribal service. During the Vietnam War, approximately 42,000 American Indians—one out of every four eligible Native people—served in the U.S. Armed Forces, including 39 members of the Tulalip Tribes. My friend, Mel Sheldon, Jr., was one of these servicemembers. In August 1969, soon after graduating high school.