

and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2024. The overall 35 percent reduction to the top line of this bill is simply irresponsible. With this bill, House Republicans are endangering public health, damaging our public lands and natural resources, and are failing to address the existential threat of climate change.

Communities in Minnesota and across our nation need reliable access to safe drinking water and clean air. The Environmental Protection Agency is tasked with safeguarding the air we breathe and the water we drink, cleaning up harmful pollution, and responding to public health emergencies like the train derailment last February in East Palestine, Ohio, where the EPA is still overseeing the cleanup of toxic contamination today. This bill includes a crippling 39 percent cut to the EPA that will jeopardize our public health. H.R. 4821 eliminates funding for environmental justice grant programs. These programs are designed to ensure disadvantaged communities that have historically suffered from underinvestment have access to clean air and water and climate resilience solutions. Just this October, the EPA issued \$3 million in environmental justice grants across the state of Minnesota to address environmental or public health issues and build a healthier future for all Minnesotans. These grants must be protected.

Our public lands and natural resources must be protected not only for today, but for future generations. H.R. 4821 threatens our public lands and critical watersheds throughout the nation, and specifically harms conservation efforts in Minnesota with harmful policy riders that would overturn two final decisions by the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management to protect the watershed that flows through the 1.1-million-acre Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. This wilderness protects a priceless reserve of water so clean that you can drink directly from the lakes. We should not be using a funding bill to ignore settled scientific record and overturn final decisions on mineral leases and mining withdrawals.

As Ranking Member on the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee, I am intimately aware that the Department of Defense considers climate change to be a top national security issue. Why are House Republicans harming our country's ability to respond to this threat? The drastic cuts made in this bill will put us at a severe global disadvantage in responding to climate change and helping communities who are directly affected by it.

Mr. Chair, instead of reevaluating their extreme 2024 funding bills and working to find a bipartisan path forward to fund the government beyond November 17th, House Republicans are moving forward with passing bills that have no chance of ever becoming law. With this bill, House Republicans are debilitating essential government agencies, jeopardizing our public lands and natural resources, and abandoning investments made by Democrats last Congress to address the threat of climate change. For all of these reasons, I must vote against H.R. 4821, and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

HONORING CAPTAIN CARRIE STEPHENS UPON HER RETIREMENT FOR 33 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES NAVY

**HON. JOHN S. DUARTE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2023*

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Carrie Stephens upon her retirement for 33 years of dedicated service in the United States Navy.

Captain Carrie M. Stephens was born and raised in Newman, California, attending public school there until college. She received her Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of the Pacific in June 1986. After working in the mortgage banking industry for a year, Captain Stephens attended McGeorge School of Law in Sacramento, California. In May 1990, she received her Juris Doctorate. While in law school, she was awarded the American Jurisprudence Award in Criminal Law. In November of 1990, she was commissioned in the United States Navy, Judge Advocate General's Corps. A month later, she was admitted to the California State Bar. Ms. Stephens has served a combined 33 years of active and reserve duty in the Navy, earning the rank of Captain.

From 1991 to 1994, Captain Stephens was stationed at the Naval Legal Service Office Treasure Island. She practiced criminal and civil law and was appointed as Special Assistant United States Attorney, Civil Division. In 1994, Ms. Stephens was transferred to Naval Construction Battalion Center Port Hueneme where she served as the base attorney handling civil and criminal matters and was later appointed Special United States Attorney, Criminal Division.

Upon her discharge from active duty in 1996, Ms. Stephens moved back to her hometown of Newman, and joined the Stanislaus County Public Defender's Office. As a Deputy Public Defender, Ms. Stephens handled all types of complex criminal matters. In 1999, she received a position with the office of Stanislaus County Counsel where for 18 years she represented the county child welfare agency, advocating for the protection of abused and neglected children.

In 2018, Captain Stephens was elected Superior Court Judge for the Stanislaus County Superior Court. She is the current Judge, presiding over the felony criminal department.

Despite leaving active-duty service, Captain Stephens continued her affiliation with the U.S. Navy Reserve. In early 2010, Captain Stephens was selected to become a military judge. After receiving specialized training at the Army Judge Advocate General's School in Charlottesville, Virginia, she was certified as a Special and General courts-martial judge where she presided over courts-martial from June 2010 to November 2015. She was elevated to Chief Judge, Navy and Marine Corps Trial Judiciary, Reserve Component in December 2013 and for two years, commanded a cadre of military judges. Thereafter, she was selected Commanding Officer, NR RLSO Japan for a two-year billet.

Through a competitive selection process, Captain Stephens was designated an appellate judge assigned to the Navy and Marine

Court of Criminal Appeals from December 2017 to December 2019. From 2019 to the present, Captain Stephens has been with the Navy Reserve NAMARA Policy conducting legal reviews of courts-martial on behalf of the Judge Advocate General of the Navy and has served as a Special Assistant for the Deputy Advocate General for Reserve Affairs and Operations and Awards Board President.

Captain Carrie Stephens exemplifies the highest standards of duty, honor, and commitment through her 33-year career in the United States Navy. Not only is she an inspiration to her community of Newman, but she has also earned the admiration of California's 13th Congressional District. And this well-deserved retirement marks a new chapter in her life that she can cherish with her loving husband Tim Bazar, and their three amazing children: Olivia, Sydney, and Cameron.

HONORING COLONEL GLEN T. HELBERG

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2023*

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize my constituent, Colonel Glen Helberg, whose dedicated service as a military officer for 20 years exemplifies courage and outstanding leadership throughout a distinguished career.

COL Helberg's journey began when he was commissioned as an Infantry Officer after graduating from the United States Military Academy in 1999. His first assignment was with the 2nd Battalion, 187th Infantry, 101st Infantry Division, Ft Campbell, KY, from 2000 to 2002. There, he served as a rifle platoon leader and scout platoon leader and was later deployed to Afghanistan to support Operation Enduring Freedom. He eventually returned to Afghanistan on deployment twice in 2010 and 2012. After his command, COL Helberg's leadership was called on for various Joint Special Operations Task Forces.

Throughout his extensive career, COL Helberg has received numerous prestigious awards, including the Bronze Star Medal (2nd Award), Defense Meritorious Service Medal (3rd Award), Meritorious Service Medal (4th Award), Army Commendation Medal (4th Award), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Presidential Unit Citation, and Valorous Unit Award (4th Award), among others.

In addition to a remarkable career and extensive service to his country, I would also like to recognize COL Helberg as a beloved friend, father, and husband to Colonel Shannon Helberg. For over two decades, the Helbergs have exemplified the sacrifice of what it means to be a military family. Through numerous household moves across the country, changing schools for the Helberg children, and deployments to dangerous places for both Glen and Shannon, the Helbergs have remained steadfast in their dedication to our great nation and to each other.

I wish Glen and the Helberg family good luck in their future endeavors and thank them for their untiring service to this country.

RECOGNIZING BOSQ  
RESTAURANT'S MICHELIN STAR

**HON. LAUREN BOEBERT**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2023*

Ms. BOEBERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor Bosq, an exceptional restaurant in Aspen, Colorado, for being awarded the coveted Michelin star. This honor puts Bosq among the finest restaurants not only in Colorado, but in the entire world. Bosq joins the ranks of just over 200 restaurants in America to have this great honor.

The Michelin star represents years of hard work, dedication, and an unwavering commitment to culinary excellence. Michelin stars are a hallmark of fine dining and coveted honor by many of the world's top chefs and restaurant patrons. Not easy to obtain, the stars are awarded to restaurants that are the absolute best in a given city. Restaurants gain immense prestige and exposure as a result of this honor.

An Aspen native, Barclay Dodge and his wife Molly have created a dining experience that is nothing short of exceptional. Bosq offers four, five and nine course menus. Bosq is the only restaurant in Colorado's Third Congressional District to earn the Michelin star.

Bosq is set apart not only by its exceptional cuisine but its commitment to our Colorado community. The restaurant collaborates with local farmers and ranchers to ensure that the food is as fresh as it is delicious. They embody the very best of Colorado excellence and have brought a world-class dining experience to Colorado's Third Congressional District.

Bosq is a beacon of what can be achieved when talent, dedication, and love for one's community come together, and I am incredibly proud to represent this outstanding establishment. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bosq for being awarded the Michelin star and redefining culinary excellence in Colorado's Third Congressional District.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JAMES  
THEODORE HERFURTH

**HON. TRENT KELLY**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2023*

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of James "Jim" Theodore Herfurth, who passed away peacefully in his home November 1, 2023, in Osage Beach, Missouri.

Jim was born on July 21, 1937, to parents Theodore and Mathilda Herfurth in Eldon, Missouri. He attended Eldon High School where he played forward for the Mustangs Basketball team. The team ultimately won the State Championship in 1954, and Jim graduated in 1955. He continued his education at the University of Missouri, graduating in 1959 with a BS degree in banking and finance, and commissioning as a second lieutenant in the United States Army Artillery. He was stationed at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he served as a Finance Officer and as adjutant for the Target Artillery Department. His passion for his coun-

try led him to extend his original tour for an additional year due to the Berlin Crises.

After leaving active duty, Jim began his finance career with IBM in Kansas City, Missouri. In 1964, he began his 35-year banking career with Central Trust Bank in Jefferson City, Missouri while simultaneously joining the 420th Civil Affairs National Guard Reserve Unit. During his career with the Central Bank organization, Jim rose through the operations and loans divisions, as well as the ranks of the Missouri National Guard, until Central Bancompany's acquisition of Bank of Lake of the Ozarks in 1987. Jim was then named President and CEO of the newly named Central Bank of Lake of the Ozarks, and he earned his rank of Colonel in the Missouri National Guard.

Passionate about his community, Jim left a mark wherever he lived. His commitment to his community was evidenced through his involvement in the new construction of roads and bridges, economic development through Central Bank, public schools, YMCA, hospitals, and the Dogwood Animal Shelter. He had a strong sense of community and worked hard to make his home a better place for everyone.

Although a busy man, Jim still found time to enjoy his hobbies. He loved to play golf, spending an equal amount of time playing as he did trying to convince his grandchildren to play. When he wasn't golfing, Jim was snow skiing, visiting Palm Springs, or visiting he and his wife's friends in Tucson, Arizona.

Left to cherish his memory is his wife Marjorie M. Herfurth, his two children from his marriage in 1961 to Barbara A. Silvers: daughter, Kimberly Herfurth Ayscue of Franklinton, North Carolina; son, J. Matthew Herfurth and his wife Jeane Herfurth of Madison, Mississippi; his four grandchildren Michael and Andrew Boyleir; daughter, Grace, of Monet, Missouri. He was preceded in death by his sister, Barbara Herfurth Moffitt.

Jim's life was one of service, grace, and love for his family and community. He will be deeply missed by all whom he encountered.

RECOGNIZING NORMAN G.  
SANBORN

**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2023*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the life and legacy of Norman G. Sanborn, a World War II veteran and active volunteer who was a friend to many in New Hampshire. A native Granite Stater, Norman lived a life of service from his time in uniform through the last several decades as an advocate for his fellow veterans. Today I want to recognize Norman's clear commitment to his community and his country, and extend my sincere condolences to his family, friends, and large network of loved ones.

Born and raised in Rochester, Norman spent his life in service to our state and nation. In 1945, at the age of 16, Norman left high school to join the Merchant Marines, sailing through dangerous waters on cleanup missions as the War came to a close. Upon returning to New Hampshire, Norman met his wife Ruth and together they raised their three

children. For many years Norman was an effective and experienced car salesman, working at a number of dealerships in the region. In his retirement Norman became an advocate for veterans, spending his days educating school children on World War II, visiting veterans in local nursing homes, and hosting his very own television broadcast interviewing fellow servicemembers. As a member of many fraternal and veteran organizations, including the American Legion and the Knights of Columbus, Norman deepened his community ties, cultivating lasting relationships with his neighbors. While we can never fully repay our debt of gratitude to Norman, we recognize his commitment to service and immeasurable impact on our state.

Today as we remember Norman's life, we celebrate his commitment to supporting those around him. I commend Norman for his deep sense of duty to our state and country, and I want to once more offer my sincere condolences to his family and loved ones. I enjoyed our conversations and his sense of humor every time I would visit the New Hampshire Veterans Home in Tilton. Norman's compassion and purpose for which he served, to better the lives of those around him, is an inspiration to all who knew him. On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I thank Norman for his unwavering sense of service.

RECOGNIZING MS. MARIA GAMBOA

**HON. MATT GAETZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, November 6, 2023*

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Maria Gamboa, an English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) Interpreter in the Okaloosa County School District. As an employee with more than 25 years of service, Ms. Gamboa worked in Exceptional Student Education (ESE) at Crestview High School for 13 years before spending the past 14 years as an ESOL Interpreter at Pryor Middle School and now Choctawhatchee High School.

At Choctaw, Ms. Gamboa offers academic support both in the classroom and in the after-school tutoring program. She provides the right level of encouragement while also holding students accountable for attending school and taking advantage of the opportunities which lead to graduation. Ms. Gamboa has also assisted in implementing a monthly English Language Learners (ELL) Parent Information Night to better inform families about high school life. Furthermore, she assisted in creating a weekly language acquisition class for any ELL family that wants to strengthen their English skills.

According to her principal, Michelle Heck, Ms. Gamboa has "earned the respect, admiration, and love of our Choctaw staff because of her kind-hearted self, always making time to lend an ear to any and all who need someone to listen, bountiful amounts of patience and her endless generosity to our students, parents, and staff members alike."

Ms. Gamboa is a mother to five Okaloosa County School graduates, all of whom have received college scholarships. She is a firm believer that every family deserves the opportunity to be equipped with the necessary resources to help their child succeed in their