

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

OPPOSING THE CHOICE IN AUTOMOBILE RETAIL SALES ACT OF 2023

SPEECH OF

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 6, 2023

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my opposition to H.R. 4468, the Choice in Automobile Retail Sales Act of 2023, which would prevent the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from finalizing the proposed rule titled "Multi-Pollutant Emissions Standards for Model Years 2027 and Later Light-Duty and Medium-Duty Vehicles" and further prohibit EPA from prescribing any regulations for new motor vehicles that would directly or indirectly result in the limited availability of new vehicles powered by any given engine technology.

EPA's vehicle emissions standards save lives. By 2030, these standards are projected to prevent 40,000 premature deaths and 34,000 hospital visits annually. However, H.R. 4468 would force Americans to breathe dirty, polluted air, needlessly putting tens of thousands of lives at risk. This bill would lock in dirty, fossil-fuel-burning vehicles for the foreseeable future, at a time when the American people are already experiencing the deadly effects of climate change. More fossil fuel cars mean more frequent and intense floods, stronger hurricanes, more dangerous wildfires, and more extreme heatwaves. Simply put, we are out of time. We must reduce climate pollution now.

California has long been a global leader in the fight against air pollution. We established the first vehicle emissions standards and the first greenhouse gas standards in the country because we know that strong air quality standards mean healthier communities and a livable climate. I am a proud Californian and a proud champion of strong vehicle emissions standards.

In July of 2023, I led 94 of my colleagues in a letter urging EPA to finalize the strongest feasible emissions standards for new light- and medium-duty vehicles, which would cut harmful emissions from passenger cars and pick-up trucks by more than 50 percent between 2026 and 2032.

H.R. 4468, however, would not only prevent EPA from implementing the proposed light- and medium-duty vehicle emissions rule—it would gut EPA's authority to regulate vehicle pollution altogether. It is disgraceful. We are faced with a choice between new zero-pollution technologies or doubling down on dirty fossil fuels. The choice is clear. I strongly oppose H.R. 4468, and I urge my colleagues to oppose this dangerous legislation.

SALUTING THE SERVICE OF SERGEANT FIRST CLASS STEVEN MOORE, U.S. ARMY, RETIRED

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the extraordinary career of Sergeant First Class Steven Moore, U.S. Army, Retired. Throughout his life, he has dedicated himself to his country and is an embodiment of the Army values of service, courage, and integrity. I am proud to present him with the Congressional Veteran Commendation.

SFC Moore dedicated over 20 years to serving our country in the U.S. Army, having been stationed around the world. While he was awarded many honors including the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, and Army Commendation Medal, SFC Moore takes great pride in knowing he served in the greatest military the world has ever known.

After over two decades in the military, SFC Moore followed his passion to continue serving our warriors, their families, and the veteran community through his countless hours of contributing his energies that work to support those who've served. As the Community Relations Officer at Fort Cavazos, he continues to showcase his limitless devotion to Central Texas warriors and veterans. His fires of patriotism and service continue to burn bright.

I join SFC Moore's friends and family in celebrating his outstanding achievements. His commitment to investing his time and abilities in devotion to his community makes him a deeply respectable and honorable recipient of a Congressional Veteran Commendation.

RECOGNIZING PEARL HARBOR DAY ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2023

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, we commemorate the anniversary of Pearl Harbor Day, December 7, 2023. We solemnly remember and honor the sacrifices made by the brave men and women who were thrust into World War II by the tragic events of that fateful day in 1941.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was a moment of profound loss and national awakening. It marked the beginning of a war that would test the very essence of our nation. However, it was also a catalyst that united Americans in a common cause, giving rise to the "Greatest Generation."

In the face of adversity, they displayed unparalleled courage and determination, rising above the challenges of their time to defend Liberty and justice. We remember those who perished at Pearl Harbor and the countless

others who would go on to fight and sacrifice in the years that followed.

That is why I fought to create the National World War II Memorial on the National Mall, a 17-year effort, and recently passed the Greatest Generation Commemorative Coin, whose federal sales will begin in 2024.

The legacy of Pearl Harbor Day reminds us of the strength that unity and resilience can bring to a nation. It is a reminder that even in the darkest hours, the American spirit shines bright, and we stand strong together.

Let us pay tribute to the sacrifices that paved the way for a better future. Their memory continues to inspire us to uphold the values of freedom and democracy.

RECOGNIZING THE HISTORIC SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH ON CELEBRATING THEIR 175TH YEAR OF SERVING THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS COMMUNITY

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Historic Second Baptist Church as they celebrate their 175th year of serving the Greater New Orleans Community.

In the year 1848, the Second African Baptist Church was originally a group of Negroes who congregated under the guidance of the white members of the Coliseum Place Baptist Church, for the purpose of rendering praise and honor to God in their own modest way. The church was later incorporated, and in 1857 the First Baptist Church of New Orleans turned over Lot 4 (which they purchased in 1852) to four churches, all of which operated at 2525 Melpomene Avenue.

In 1861, Rev. Thomas Miles took over the church. Shortly thereafter, the First African Baptist Church came back and the two operated together until Second Baptist incorporated in 1866. Since that time, this church as an institution has been in continuous existence and has served its congregation without interruption. Even more important than age is the history of the congregation's growth. It has had a steady growth, and its service to the community has grown with time.

During the entire span of its life, the church has had only seven ministers—namely: Reverends Willis, Racks, Steptoe, Brown, Hubbs, late Pastor, Rev. Thomas Nelson Washington, and present pastor, Rev. Robert Bryant Jackson, who was elected in January of 1997. The late Pastor, Rev. Thomas Nelson Washington, served the congregation for 53 years, while his immediate predecessor, Rev. Ambrose Hubbs, was the pastor for 39 years. This is an indication of not only fine pastoral leadership, but lay leadership as well.

In September of 1961, the church grounds at 2525 Melpomene Avenue were purchased

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by the New Orleans Housing Authority. Through the kindness of Rev. C. H. Hayes and the members of Wesley Methodist Church, they worshiped in their church edifice up until March 1, 1964, when they moved to their current edifice at 2505 Marengo Street. The fine Christian spirit and friendship that was exhibited by this pastor and congregation will always be remembered with grateful hearts by those members of their church who experienced this display of Christian charity. May God forever bless them.

Over the years, God has made Historic Second a Beacon Light of Gospel Truth to this community and communities beyond. In respect to its witness to communities beyond, God not only gave our late Pastor Washington a vision to broadcast the Gospel Message over the airwaves, but also provided sufficient grace to keep the broadcast for 55 years through August 28, 2005. Begun in 1950 on WWEZ, the radio airwaves carried our services live from 10:00–11:00 p.m. People in all areas of the city began to follow the Radio Broadcast of Historic Second Baptist Church and its dynamic young pastor. As a result of these many years of broadcasting, many members were added to the church.

As a much-respected spiritual force in this city, Historic Second Baptist Church has worked to educate, equip, and empower its members and our city's residents to perform their civic duties and responsibilities. In the 1960's, under the leadership of Pastor Washington, voter registration classes were held at the church to teach citizens of color how to register to vote. Their famed Radio Choir desegregated the Municipal Auditorium with its Annual Musicals, successfully fulfilling 21 contracts. Each time 5,000 to 8,000 people gathered to hear Pastor Washington and the Radio Choir at its best. One year, the Radio Choir was accompanied by the New Orleans Philharmonic Orchestra—a night long to be remembered. And it was their own late Rev. Avery C. Alexander who was dragged up the steps from the basement of City Hall, as he attempted to desegregate the City Hall cafeteria. The importance of Historic Second Baptist Church is felt to this day in our community, as countless individuals seeking public office still make their way to the church on Sunday mornings to appeal to this congregation for their support.

Through the years, Historic Second Baptist Church has stood as a symbol of pure idealism in the sense of what Jesus of Nazareth characterized in His teachings. As an institution and a definite entity of the Church Universal, this assembly, in golden purposes and architectural design, represents the fulfillment of the need for the true spirit of the changing times of this ultra-modern age—that is, the promotion of institutionalized Christianity to meet the needs of children, young people, and adults.

RECOGNIZING BRIGADIER GENERAL MATTHEW WARD HIGER ON THE OCCASION OF THIS RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE AT EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2023

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Brigadier General Matthew Ward Higer's retirement from our United States Air Force. His final assignment on Active Duty was as Commander of the 412th Test Wing at Edwards Air Force Base, California. In this role General Higer led nearly 8,000 personnel in the developmental test and evaluation of the KC-46, KC-135, KC-10, C-17, C-5, F-35, F-22, F-16, B-1, B-2, B-21, B-52, T-7A, RO-4, and numerous other emerging technologies. General Higer also served as the Installation Commander of United States Air Force Production Plant 42 and Edwards Air Force Base, globally recognized as the center of the aerospace testing universe.

General Higer has proudly served our country as a military officer since he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant on May 7, 1993, through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps, Detachment 060, at the University of Southern California. He served our nation as an F-16 instructor pilot and an experimental test pilot amassing 3,000 military flight hours in 40 different aircraft. His 30-year career encompasses two combat deployments, countless nights away from family, and fifteen assignments at diverse locations well beyond California including Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Texas, South Korea, and right here in Washington D.C. His leadership potential and demonstrated commitment to integrity, service, and excellence resulted in his promotion to Brigadier General on December 2, 2020.

General Higer exemplifies the very best of our High Desert community and our nation's commitment to building servicemembers dedicated to the profession of arms. His superior leadership and devotion to duty has not gone unrecognized. He is the recipient of decorations including the Aerial Achievement Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, and upon his retirement he will be awarded the Distinguished Service Medal.

General Higer's active duty military service to our nation would not have been possible without the love, support, and encouragement of his family. His wife of 22 years, Leslie—also an Air Force veteran, and children, Alex and Zev, are also each deserving of our deepest gratitude for their support of the General throughout his service to our country. Heather and I thank the General and his family for their devotion, service, and sacrifice.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Brigadier General Higer for his three decades of selfless service to our Nation, in commending him for his steadfast dedication to our Constitution, and in wishing him many years of joy and peace in his well-earned retirement.

SALUTING THE SERVICE OF REAR ADMIRAL MARTIN JANCZAK, U.S. NAVY, RETIRED

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I'm honored to present a Congressional Veteran Commendation to Rear Admiral Martin Janczak, U.S. Navy, Retired. Throughout his life, he has dedicated himself to his country as he embodies the Navy's storied code of honor, courage, and commitment.

RADM Janczak was stationed all over the world during his 30 years of naval service, ranging from places like Vietnam, Hawaii, Guam, and South Korea. As the Navy force shore commander responsible for United States Navy activities in Guam, Saipan, Tinian, and the surrounding islands, he supported American force projection in the Pacific. His superb work was recognized with various awards including the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit, and Defense Meritorious Service Medal.

RADM Janczak's life and career reflect hard work, activism, and dedication to what's best for Central Texas. He devotes his energies to numerous organizations, has served in both elected and appointed leadership positions, and continues advocating for our nation's heroes. He has made lasting and positive contributions to the place we're all glad to call home.

MDM Janczak's Congressional Veteran Commendation is a small token of our appreciation for his contributions to the military and his community. I join his colleagues, family, and friends in honoring his career, commending his commitment to public service, and wishing him nothing but the best in the years ahead.

MR. TERRY GENDRON

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 11, 2023

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored and proud to recognize Mr. Terry Gendron (Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army Retired) upon the occasion of his retirement after invaluable years of tireless, faithful, and selfless service to our Nation.

Mr. Gendron comes from a family of service. Not only did his mother serve in the Army as a frontline surgical nurse in World War II, and his father was career Army Infantry who served in WWII and Korea, but he and all three of his brothers wore the uniform as well. While Terry would rather talk about his family over himself, his service warrants its own illustrious recognition.

Terry enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1975. He graduated Officer Candidate School in 1977, and served in myriad command and staff positions until he earned an Honorable discharge after more than 22 years of loyal service on December 31, 1997. His awards and honors include—but are not limited to—the Meritorious Service Medal (4th Award), Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award), Army Achievement Medal (2nd Award), Army Good Conduct