

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DR. EMMANUEL BILIRAKIS AND
HONORABLE JENNIFER WEXTON
NATIONAL PLAN TO END PAR-
KINSON'S ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor my friend and colleague Congresswoman JENNIFER WEXTON and to urge support for H.R. 2365, the Dr. Emmanuel Bilirakis and Honorable Jennifer Wexton National Plan to End Parkinson Act, which was introduced by my friend Congressman GUS BILIRAKIS. This bill requires the Department of Health and Human Services to develop a comprehensive Parkinson's Disease research plan to address prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and ultimately, to find a cure for Parkinson's.

During her time in Congress, Congresswoman WEXTON has proven to be an effective representative for her constituents and a valued member of this institution. She has dedicated her professional life to serving the public in a variety of ways, including as a prosecutor, a judge, a state senator, and a Member of Congress representing Virginia's 10th Congressional District. She is a brave fighter and fierce advocate for Parkinson's Disease. She uses her platform to raise awareness of the disease and for resources to find a cure which is why supporting the Dr. Emmanuel Bilirakis and Honorable Jennifer Wexton National Plan to End Parkinson's Act is just one way to honor her effort.

Congresswoman WEXTON serves on the House Committee on Appropriations and House Committee on the Budget. She has accomplished many things during her tenure since coming into Congress in 2019 including the passage of her bill, the Expanding Findings for Federal Opioid Research and Treatment Act.

I wish JENNIFER peace and comfort as she continues to fight this disease surrounded by loved ones and would like to thank her for her service and dedication to this body. She has inspired many with her bravery and courage, both as an advocate for and someone diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease.

Again, thank you to Congresswoman WEXTON and Congressman BILIRAKIS. Their advocacy for Parkinson's Disease research is commendable, and with that, I strongly urge support for H.R. 2365, the Dr. Emmanuel Bilirakis and Honorable Jennifer Wexton National Plan to End Parkinson's Act.

DR. EMMANUEL BILIRAKIS AND
HONORABLE JENNIFER WEXTON
NATIONAL PLAN TO END PAR-
KINSON'S ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2365, the Dr. Emmanuel Bilirakis and Honorable Jennifer Wexton National Plan to End Parkinson's Act.

I am honored to rise in support today of this bipartisan legislation. Our work here today will allow people, of all backgrounds, who have experiences with Parkinson's to have hope for a future with more research, treatments, and cures.

This bipartisan legislation will bring diverse federal and non-federal stakeholders together along with patients and caregivers, to build a national strategy for prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cures for different forms of Parkinson's Disease.

This bill is also a historic step in our federal government's work to research and share data on this disease, following the model of the National Alzheimer's Project Act which became law in 2011.

Parkinson's disease, affecting more than 1 million people in the United States and nearly 10 million people worldwide, is the second most common and fastest-growing neurological disease. Although typical diagnosis occurs around age 50, this is not an "older person" disease and does not look the same for every patient. When a large population of people have a disease like Parkinson's disease, it is a matter of life or death to have an accurate understanding of how many people have the disease, where they live and why they have it. Shining a light on research that looks not only at genetic factors but also environmental factors, will provide promise for all aspects of the disease and potential triggers.

I want to thank my colleagues, Chairwoman MCMORRIS ROGERS, Representative TONKO, Representative WEXTON, and Representative BILIRAKIS, for working with us to ensure we as a country take this historic step in combating Parkinson's disease on all fronts. It is a wonderful legacy to our champions to name the legislation after two tenacious fighters who will not and did not succumb to the disease without making a mark.

Although Rep. WEXTON believes that many of the benefits from this legislation may not come to fruition in her battle against the disease, I disagree. The fact that she is fighting every single day, with grace, strength, and humor, is the motivating benefit from today. We see her face and hear her clear voice in every aspect of this bill. Her sheer determination, with the thousands of advocates who have shared their stories, brought us all together today and will be honored in this work.

This bipartisan work before us is the backbone of our Committee, and I am pleased we once again embraced the same principles to ensure that all patients are included in a plan to end this deadly illness. It is my deep belief that this legislation will make significant strides to end Parkinson's and will provide our family members, caregivers, and friends with real hope.

CONDEMNING ANTISEMITISM ON
UNIVERSITY CAMPUSES AND
THE TESTIMONY OF UNIVERSITY
PRESIDENTS IN THE HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND
THE WORKFORCE

SPEECH OF

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 13, 2023

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I am deeply concerned about the rise of anti-Semitism on campuses. We must do all we can to put an end to this disturbing trend. Yet, Rep. STEFANIK's Resolution, H. Res. 927, which I voted against, does not do that.

The University presidents' responses at the House Education and the Workforce Committee hearing on Tuesday, December 5, 2023, were wholly inadequate and failed to make clear that the genocidal statements they were asked about were unacceptable and must be unequivocally condemned. Despite that, Congress is not a hiring and firing authority for private educational institutions. The Resolution is a cynical political ploy by a Member of Congress who lacks the moral authority to take a stance on this issue for a myriad of reasons.

Rep. STEFANIK is a supporter of known White Supremacists and their disgusting political ideologies. She is an avid supporter and endorser of ex-President Trump, who publicly described White Supremacists chanting "Jews will not replace us" as "very fine people on both sides," who uses anti-Semitic tropes in campaign materials, and hosts holocaust revisionists at his home, including Nick Fuentes. Rep. STEFANIK herself has echoed the messages of the "Great Replacement Theory," a far-right, racist conspiracy theory that inspired the perpetrators of Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue massacre, among others.

Instead of taking concrete actions to stop the tragic rise of anti-Semitism on college campuses, this very serious issue is being politicized by the Majority. We all should vocally oppose anti-Semitism but this resolution is not genuine. I will not be a part of an over-reaching political ruse. I will, instead, support appropriate and actionable measures in Congress.

• 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.

AERYOUS THRESHER

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Aeryous Thresher for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Aeryous has achieved great things, all while overcoming adversity and challenges along the way. Students like Aeryous, who strive to make the most of their education, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Aeryous's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wheat Ridge High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Aeryous Thresher on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

RECOGNIZING NANCY QUIRK

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. GALLAGHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable career of Mrs. Nancy Quirk and to celebrate her retirement from the Green Bay Water Utility in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Nancy began her career in civil engineering with her studies at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. A Wisconsin-certified Professional Engineer, she worked at the Madison Water Utility before accepting the position of Technical Engineering Service Manager at Waukesha Water Utility. For the past ten years, Nancy's career brought her to Green Bay as General Manager of Green Bay Water Utility, the third largest drinking water utility in the state.

Nancy's vision, commitment, and perseverance has elevated the Utility as an industry leader that prioritizes the health and welfare of its customers. Thanks to her leadership, Green Bay Water Utility became one of the first in the nation to voluntarily remove all known public and private lead service lines.

The removal of lead service lines was no small task. Nancy facilitated her team's efforts to research records from the 19th and early 20th centuries to find potential lead lines, locate current property owners, knock on 3,000 doors to check pipes, and use specialized cameras and vacuums to scan lines for lead. At the time, utilities were prohibited from replacing privately owned lines, but the Utility worked with Wisconsin legislators to allow the Utility to replace 247 privately owned lead lines at no cost to homeowners. Nancy pooled funding sources for the five-year, \$8 million lead pipe removal project and led her team to replace nearly 2,000 public and private lines in total.

Removing lead service lines was a remarkable example of how Nancy's work benefitted the citizens of Green Bay, but her vision for the future of safe water in Green Bay didn't stop there. In 2018, the utility took the forward-thinking step of proactively testing for

PFAS. This allowed the Utility's water quality team to continue to closely monitor any PFAS as research evolves. Additionally, Nancy oversaw the implementation of unidirectional flushing for the entire distribution system, scouring of raw water lines, combining pressure zones, and instituting the Utilis Satellite Leak Detection System. At half the cost of the previous system, the Utilis system found potential leaks in more than 10 percent of the City's water pipes in the first year alone. The repairs to those leaks saved the City an estimated 30 million gallons of water.

An astute manager, Nancy's list of improvements to internal operations is impressive. As General Manager, Nancy oversaw the business of wholesale service to customers, adding a neighboring town and three villages. Nancy restructured the Utility and streamlined employee operations through improved communications, staff additions, and cross training. She instituted employee benefits, appreciation programs, and events. She also sought upgrades for technologies, equipment, distribution lines and the facility itself.

Nancy's passion for providing safe drinking water extends beyond the borders of the Green Bay Water Utility and its service area. A member of the American Water Works Association (AWWA) since 1987, Nancy chaired the Wisconsin Section of AWWA and is a past National Director representing Wisconsin. She served six years on the Water Utility Council for AWWA where she was the regulatory chairperson of the technical advisory groups. She was a trustee for Municipal Environmental Group-Water in Wisconsin and the Regulatory Committee for the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (AMWA). Today, she concludes her term as one of 15 representatives appointed nationwide to EPA's National Drinking Water Advisory Council.

Nancy's achievements have not gone unnoticed. She was awarded as a Distinguished Alumni in Engineering from the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. She received the Leon Smith Award from the Wisconsin Section of the AWWA and was awarded the George Warren Fuller Award for Distinguished Service to the Water Supply Field by the American Water Works Association. Most recently, Nancy was named a NEW Watershed Champion for her work in improving area waters.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mrs. Nancy Quirk for her exceptional leadership and commitment in embracing the core values of the Green Bay Water Utility. She has made our communities a better and safer place. Upon her retirement, she leaves the legacy of providing safe drinking water for thousands of people in Northeast Wisconsin. We are grateful to her for granting us the security of knowing the water that flows from the Green Bay Water Utility to our tap is safe to drink.

HONORING CC AND REGINA YIN

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 14, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Rep. JOHN GARAMENDI, to honor CC and Regina Yin's 30 years of service to our community

through the Yin Ranch in Vacaville. The couple's continued support to civic engagement is further demonstrated through their founding of the Asian Pacific Islander Public Affairs Association (APAPA) 22 years ago and co-founding of the Chinese American Association of Solano County (CAASC).

Both CC and Regina Yin are immigrants from China and Taiwan to the United States. CC Yin graduated from the University of Washington with a master's degree in civil engineering, whereas Regina also graduated from the University of Washington with a master's degree in social work.

CC and Regina Yin are the proud franchise owners of 30 McDonald's branches in Northern California, including 16 in our beloved Solano County. We are very grateful for the thousands of jobs the Yin family have created for the people in our community. Additionally, in May of 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, CC and Regina Yin donated millions of pieces of personal protective equipment including surgical masks, gowns, and hand sanitizers to frontline workers in Vallejo, the surrounding Bay Area, and nationwide communities.

Over the past 30 years, the 40-acre Yin Ranch in Vacaville, California has been filled with cherished memories and wonderful moments in partnership with the community. Comprised of many scenic areas, including the lake, Olive Garden Courtyard, Vista Pointe Event Center, Main House with Cottages, and a new Asian Heritage Center (Cultural Pavilion), the Yin Ranch is a beautiful and unique property, which hosts weddings and community events for public benefit.

The Asian Heritage Center was rebuilt after the devastating 2020 LNU Lightning Complex fires which destroyed the original structure. CC, Regina, and their family then quickly rebuilt the structure into a new 18,000 square foot indoor location with an event hall, wine cellar, and outdoor deck space to allow the community to quickly regain access to the important resource.

For decades, the Yin family has been dedicated to giving back to our communities in Solano County and throughout the state of California. They have supported hundreds of non-profit organizations, including the one they founded, APAPA. CC and Regina Yin responded to an alarming lack of Asian Pacific Islander (API) representation at all levels of government. With grassroots support, APAPA set out to engage voters, partner with the community, and develop API leaders of tomorrow.

Today, APAPA has over 50 volunteer-driven chapters and hundreds of student-interns each year hosted by public officials. The Yin family is committed to furthering APAPA's mission to advance the Asian Americans and Native American Pacific Islander (AANAPI) communities. Through leadership and civic engagement, CC and Regina Yin collaborate with diverse organizations, public officials, and community leaders to create awareness for AANAPI communities. They strive to fight hate crimes, address systemic racism, and provide opportunities for voices to be heard.

CC and Regina Yin have three daughters: Mary Yin Liu; Betty Lin; and Carol Yin. Their family believes in the American Dream and a legacy of community engagement.

Mr. Speaker, CC and Regina Yin have established a legacy befitting of their enduring