

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF HARRY H. HERNDON

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and service of Mr. Harry H. Herndon of Royse City, Texas. Mr. Herndon was born on August 5, 1947, one of four sons of J.E. Burr and Irma Wyatt Herndon.

Mr. Herndon graduated from Royse City High School in 1965 where he was named class favorite, wittiest, and most popular. Additionally, he was a class officer and a star football player for the Bulldogs for four years. Mr. Herndon later attended East Texas State University. On May 29, 1966, he married the love of his life, Virginia Lee Cross, with whom he had one daughter, Tena Michelle.

On October 19, 1967, Mr. Herndon heeded the call to serve his nation in the Vietnam War as a Platoon Sergeant in the 198th Light Infantry Brigade, Company D. During his deployment to Chu Lai, Vietnam, he received several awards, including the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal, Vietnamese Campaign Medal, and Combat Infantry Badge.

Tragically, Mr. Herndon was mortally wounded in combat on October 18, 1968, while serving on a mission in Quang Tin, Vietnam. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart for his gallantry and wounds in combat. For his heroism and service to our country, Harry H. Herndon Elementary School in Fate, Texas, is dedicated in his honor.

I have requested the United States flag be flown over our Nation's Capitol to recognize Mr. Herndon's life, valor, and service defending our great Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF MRS. MAYRENE BATES

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and lasting contributions of Mrs. Mayrene Bates, longtime Solano County educator and trustee with the Solano Board of Education. Passing away at 88, Mrs. Bates leaves behind an indelible legacy of over fifty years of service to Solano County.

Born in 1934, in a small Tennessee town at the time of racial segregation, Mrs. Bates attended grade school in a one-room schoolhouse. Later, she was forced to travel 32 miles to attend high school, as the segregation laws of the time prohibited her from attending the nearby school. Despite these unjust and adverse beginnings, Mrs. Bates developed a love for learning and eventually earned a

scholarship to the Atlanta University Library School, where she obtained a master's degree in Library Science.

In 1955, Mrs. Bates married James Bates and his service in the Air Force brought them all over the world, ultimately leading them to establish a permanent home in Fairfield. In 1970, Mayrene began working as the librarian at Fairview Elementary School and Grange Intermediate School. She later served as the vice-principal for Crystal Elementary School and Fairfield High School and eventually, as the principal of Crystal Middle School and K.I. Jones Elementary School. In her multitude of roles, Mrs. Bates never failed to prioritize the youth of Solano County and ensure all students in her community had the resources necessary to achieve their full potential.

Following her extensive career with the Fairfield-Suisun Unified School District, Mrs. Bates served as Director, and later as Assistant Superintendent, of the Solano County Office of Education. In 1997, her altruistic passion for supporting the students of Solano County led her to run for the Solano Board of Education, where she served until 2018. Throughout her tenure, she demonstrated steadfast dedication to the young people of her community and consistently advocated for programs to ensure all students have equal access to education.

Mrs. Bates' commitment to her community was expressed both through her decades of public service to Solano County and her vital work as President of the Fairfield-Cordelia Rotary Club and columnist for the Daily Republic. Her willingness to lend an ear and a helping hand to anyone in need earned her the widespread respect and gratitude of her community.

Mrs. Bates will be remembered not only for her decades of service to Solano County, but also for her genuine spirit of kindness and compassion. She impacted the lives of countless students and educators in her community and her steadfast leadership, constant smile, and patient mentorship undeniably enhanced the lives of her fellow Solano County residents.

Mrs. Bates' enduring spirit will live on in her husband, son, two grandchildren, and the community she dedicated her life to serving. I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to Mrs. Bates' loved ones. I know that they, along with the people of Solano County, join me in celebrating her life and legacy.

RECOGNIZING REGISTERED NURSE KRYSTLE M. O'SHAUGHNESSY FOR RECEIVING THE SECRETARY'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN NURSING

HON. CHRIS PAPPAS

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Registered Nurse Krystle M.

O'Shaughnessy for receiving the Secretary's Award for Excellence in Nursing. Every year since 1984, the Department of Veterans Affairs has awarded several outstanding individuals with this great honor. These individuals are directors, nursing executives, registered nurses, licensed practical or vocational nurses, and nursing assistants, all actively involved in patient care. They are nominated by their peers and go through a rigorous review process.

This year, one of the awardees is New Hampshire's very own Krystle M. O'Shaughnessy. In her role as an LPN, Krystle served as the first point of contact for Veterans participating in the Home Telehealth program. This program has become well known in the Veteran community for its patient-driven care, health education, and effective management of patient diseases. During staff shortages at the VAMC, Krystle took on the extra job of managing telehealth compliance, ensuring that all Veterans were seen on time and taken care of, including COVID patients who needed close monitoring.

I look forward to seeing all that Krystle and the Manchester VAMC accomplish in the years to come. I am confident that the Veterans of Manchester, and all of New Hampshire, will continue to benefit from Krystle's hard work. On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I commend Krystle for receiving this high honor, and I commend her fellow staff for making the Manchester VAMC a reliable and trusted health care partner for NH Veterans. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

CELEBRATING THE INCREDIBLE LIFE OF MRS. PATRICIA JOYCE SAUL ROCHON

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize New Orleans' beloved native daughter, wife, mother, true friend and confidant to many. Mrs. Patricia Joyce Saul Rochon departed this earth in the loving arms of her devoted family after a courageous and determined fight against metastatic cancer. She died on March 13, 2023, her 77th birthday, at Yale's Smilow Cancer Center in New Haven, Connecticut.

On March 21, 2023, Mrs. Rochon would have celebrated her 53rd wedding anniversary with her loving husband, Dr. Gilbert Rochon III, the 6th President of Tuskegee University; where Mrs. Rochon proudly served as Tuskegee University's First Lady.

Mrs. Rochon completed her early education in 1963 at St. Mary's Academy in New Orleans, LA. Four years later she graduated from Xavier University of Louisiana. Upon graduation she was accepted into and later graduated from Yale University's School of Drama,

• 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.

where she received her MFA in 1975. She also studied Communications at the Pennsylvania State University's College of Communications.

During her 16 years at Dillard University, Mrs. Rochon chaired the Department of Mass Communications. She later held a faculty appointment at the College of Communications at Purdue University. Mrs. Rochon was also an Emmy Award winning television news producer. She produced an array of television shows, which included, *Fast Track*, *Fast Track Te Informa*, *Primetime* and the New England Regional Emmy Award winning "Best Target Audience Series" *Urban Update* and *Black News*.

Mrs. Rochon is survived by her husband, Gilbert Rochon III, PhD, MPH; their daughter, Hildred Sarah Rochon, MD, MPH, MBA; their son, Emile Saul Rochon, MD; daughter-in-law, Jalelah Sophia Ahmed, MIA; son-in-law, Lillard Royal Lewis, Jr., MBA; grandson's Jayden Royal Lewis and Jameson Ramon Lewis; sisters, Anna Lois Saul Harrison and Margaret Ethel Saul Bordenave; brother, Herman James Saul, Jr.; brothers-in-law, Richard David Harrison; RADM Stephen Wayne Rochon, (RET.), Gregory Paul Rochon, Brandon Pierre Rochon; sisters-in-law, Sheryl Saul, Shirley Rochon and Janet Oliver Rochon; cousins Dr. Claudia Phillips Joplin, Dr. Michele Louise Phillips Pointer, Myra E. Phillips, JD and a host of beloved nephews, nieces and cousins!

She was preceded in death by her parents, Herman James Saul, Sr. and Louise Phillips Saul; Aunts, Magnettie Saul Perrault, Beulah Saul, Malcolm Saul, Florence Saul, Edith Saul; Uncles, Wallace Saul, Godfrey Saul, Dr. George Martin Phillips, Aunt Wimberly Ruth Phillips; Cousins George Martin Phillips Jr., Dr. Deborah Phillips Theado; sisters-in-law, Alexis Rochon, Dr. Melanie Rochon Bush; brothers-in-law Christopher Joseph Bordenave, III, Evan Ashley Rochon; grandmothers; Sarah Anna Merritt, Claudia Ethel Gates Phillips Tunnage and Marguerite Toye Saul; grandfathers, Joseph Saul and Thomas Phillips.

Patricia will forever be remembered as a devoted and loving wife and mother; a strong champion for the societal benefits of higher education; an advocate who served to advance the opportunities of students at Historically Black Colleges and Universities; and a fighter who believed in equitable health care access and equal opportunities for ethnic minorities and women. May she rest in peace and may God's perpetual light shine upon her.

**HONORING THE WORK OF
AMBASSADOR JAVLON VAKHABOV**

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the work of Mr. Javlon Vakhabov, who is retiring from his role as Ambassador of Uzbekistan to the United States, Canada, and Brazil. Javlon was born August 7, 1980, in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, which was at the time the capital of the Uzbek Soviet Socialist Republic.

In 2001, Javlon earned his bachelor's degree in International Law from the University

of World Economy and Diplomacy. Subsequently, he graduated in 2003 from the University of World Economy and Diplomacy with his master's degree in International Law.

Javlon joined the Uzbek Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 2001, serving early career assignments as an attaché, 3rd secretary, and chief of division. In 2006, President Islam Karimov appointed Javlon to the Uzbek National Security Council, serving as leading consultant and as head consultant until 2011, when he was promoted to deputy secretary of the Council. For most of 2013, Javlon served as director of the Institute for Strategic and Inter-Regional Research, a government-funded think tank in Tashkent. In November of 2013, Javlon became one of the leadership team at the Foreign Ministry, as one of four deputy ministers of foreign affairs. On July 29, 2015, he was promoted to first deputy minister of foreign affairs, the title he held when he was appointed ambassador to the United States.

He has served as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Uzbekistan to the United States of America since late 2017. Since late 2018, he has served as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Uzbekistan to Canada with residence in Washington, D.C.

I thank him for his leadership and wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

**RECOGNIZING MARCH 27TH TO
MARCH 31ST AS NATIONAL AREA
HEALTH EDUCATION CENTERS
(AHEC) WEEK**

HON. SUSIE LEE

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mrs. LEE of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize March 27th to March 31st as National Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) Week.

The AHEC program was originally authorized in 1971 to enhance the workforce of health professionals who staff brick-and-mortar Community Health Centers. Today, Area Health Education Centers (AHECs) offer hands-on and innovative health career curriculums for pre-college level students, and are committed to continuing education, clinical training of health professionals and responding to community health needs. The nation's 300 AHECs are in nearly every state and in multiple U.S. territories. Administered by the HRSA, AHECs are federally funded, and many are also supported by state governments, foundations, or other partners.

AHEC clinical training placements put health professional students in a variety of real-world settings, such as migrant, urban, and rural community health clinics and health departments that provide healthcare to rural and underserved populations. Connecting students to community populations helps facilitate future engagement and help build network alliances for health career students who wish to remain in their clinical practice regions and continue providing more sustainable healthcare in rural and underserved areas following their training.

AHECs are also responsive to community priorities. They are dedicated to collaboratively developing community health education curriculums, for both online and face-to-face train-

ing programs, through unique partnerships that meet the broader range of public health needs of diverse and severely rural and underserved populations.

The need to strengthen the healthcare workforce, particularly for underserved communities, has become far more acute over the past several years. According to new Association of American Medical Colleges, the U.S. could see a shortage of up to 124,000 physicians by 2034, and the American Hospital Association says more than 200,000 new registered nurses are needed each year to meet increasing health care needs and to replace nurses entering retirement. AHECs continue to be committed to addressing shortage areas and expanding the healthcare workforce, while maximizing diversity and facilitating distribution, especially in rural and underserved communities.

In the past 5 years, the AHEC program has trained 2 million healthcare professionals, who are prepared to deliver culturally appropriate, high-quality, team-based care, with an emphasis on primary care for rural and underserved populations.

I have developed a close relationship with and am proud to support the Nevada AHEC program. I have previously led efforts to increase funding for the national AHEC program in recent fiscal years. As highlighted throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, Nevada's health workforce needs to be prepared to meet their communities' needs now more than ever. The Nevada AHEC program is one way we will be able to continue to make a significant and sustainable impact in improving healthcare services for the rural and most underserved areas of our state. By having programs that are responsive to local and community needs, and by connecting health students and professionals early on in their careers to the most vulnerable communities, the Nevada AHEC program continues to create a culturally and structurally competent health workforce to tackle the unique challenges our state faces.

On behalf of my constituents, the Nevada AHEC program and the national AHEC program more broadly, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing March 27th to March 31st as National AHEC Week.

**PATHWAY LA'S 45TH
ANNIVERSARY**

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 27, 2023

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Pathways LA on 45 years of service to the district.

Pathways LA is a non-profit organization whose mission is to strengthen low-income and vulnerable working families, promote high quality early care and education services for children of all abilities, develop knowledgeable early care providers and promote economically resilient communities. Since its founding Pathways LA has been committed to the healthy development and school readiness of young children from disadvantaged communities.

With a staff of more than 60 individuals who reflect the linguistic and cultural composition of the families they serve, Pathways LA assists thousands of families and children every year,