

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE SPRINGFIELD INTERNATIONAL CHARTER SCHOOL GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 3, 2023*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Springfield International Charter School Girls Basketball Team on winning the Division V Massachusetts State Championship. This milestone achievement deserves the highest praise for the hard work and dedication of these exemplary athletes and coaches. Despite the countless challenges posed by this unprecedented season, the perseverance and commitment to success demonstrated throughout the year led their team to victory on this major stage in high school basketball.

The 2022–23 MIAA High School Girls Basketball Division V Tournament brought 47 of the most elite high school basketball teams from across the state to compete for this year’s State Championship. Members of the Springfield International Charter School Girls Basketball Team not only performed with exceptional mental and physical fortitude, but also displayed remarkable sportsmanship and character on their path to victory. They represented the First District of Massachusetts with great honor and distinction, and I am confident that the lessons learned during this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity will serve these young women well in their future endeavors.

The Springfield International Charter School Girls Basketball Team was led by their Head Coach, Tyrone Reid, who has provided crucial guidance and instrumental mentorship to his young athletes both on and off the hardwood. Coach Reid was assisted by Assistant Coaches Tom Campagna, Brandie Seymour, and Shyanne Wellington, and the victorious student athletes are Allannah Chambers, Dezmariah Collazo, Alexa Davis, Iyanna Hodge, Alicia Mitchell, Hailey Morin, Sara Pierce, Jaida Polk, Meiah Wise, Noelani Santiago, Jala Witherspoon, Olivia Dailey, Giavanna Mars, and Angel Stewart.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to once again acknowledge the Springfield International Charter School Girls Basketball Team for their superb achievement. I am proud of this group, and I wish them much continued success.

### TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF JIM LACY

### HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 3, 2023*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, James “Jim” Lacy, upon his retirement from The Center for Rural Development’s Board of Directors in Somerset, Kentucky.

When I embarked on a mission to establish The Center for Rural Development (The Center) in southeastern Kentucky, Jim was one of the first local leaders that we recruited to help advise us on agricultural issues in our rural region. Jim was one of the original board members when The Center opened in 1996 and has remained a dedicated advisor for more than 25 years. The Center was designed to launch innovative programs in leadership, economic development, education, advanced telecommunications, technology improvements and public safety training, while also serving as a venue for performing arts and cultural events in the community. The Center is now an iconic centerpiece of southeastern Kentucky, thanks to innovative leaders like, Jim Lacy.

In addition to his service at The Center, Jim’s expertise has been coveted by a number of Kentucky organizations, including Kentucky Farm Bureau Board of Directors, Kentucky River Resource Conservation and Development Council, Southern Kentucky Agriculture Development Association, among others.

When I consider the individuals who made the biggest impact in southern and eastern Kentucky over the last four decades, I count Jim Lacy among those who invested a great wealth of wisdom and worked tirelessly to make our region a better place to live. I’ll close with this blessing on Jim’s behalf from Numbers 6:24-26: “May the Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.”

### HONORING GAZELLE JACKSON’S LIFE AND LEGACY

### HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 3, 2023*

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of Mrs. Gazelle Jackson of Grand Prairie, Texas. Mrs. Jackson was born on May 5, 1925, in Timpson, Texas. She was educated in New Prospect before attending Franklin Beauty College in Houston. There, she met her husband, the late Mr. Bernice Tolliver, Sr. In the 1950s, the couple settled in Grand Prairie, where they raised their six children and became pillars of the Dalworth Community.

Friends and family know Mrs. Jackson was the chief owner and operator of Crown’s Barbeque for over 40 years, and she was known to friends and neighbors as “Mrs. Crown.” She never missed an opportunity to help those in her community who needed it. A walking act of kindness, Mrs. Jackson always had food to spare for those who couldn’t afford it and prepared meals for local families in grief. She spread love throughout her life.

Mrs. Jackson’s life was not without challenges. She will be joining her husband Bernice, as well as her 3 late children, Danny Lee

Jackson, Berdell Tolliver Morales, and Jay Vance Jackson. She resiliently stood by their sides through the years.

In the time leading up to Mrs. Jackson’s death, she was surrounded by the people that love her the most. Her granddaughters, Amber and Lowneka Calton, stayed by her side for weeks as she fell ill.

Mrs. Gazelle Jackson leaves behind a big, beautiful family that will have their roots in Texas for generations to come. My condolences are with her 3 children, 10 grandchildren, 21 great grandchildren, 5 great-great grandchildren, as well as her devoted aunt, cousin, and all of her nieces, nephews, friends and extended family.

### IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE MAYOR RALPH T. BROWN, JR.

### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 3, 2023*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated father, loving son, inspiring brother, and purposeful public Servant, dutiful soldier, and friend of longstanding, Mayor Ralph T. Brown, Jr. Sadly, Mayor Brown passed from labor to reward on March 24, 2023. A funeral service to celebrate his remarkable life was held on Sunday, April 2, 2023, at the Josh Gibson Center in Buena Vista, Georgia.

The journey of Mayor Ralph Brown began on January 10, 1960, when he was born to the union of Marie Fudge Brown and the late Ralph T. Brown, Sr. in Buena Vista, Marion County, Georgia. He was educated in the Marion County School System, graduating in 1977 from Tri-County High School. He enlisted in the United States Army in 1980 and served honorably as an Administrative Specialist and Recruiter.

During his service, he received numerous awards and commendations including Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon, Advance Level, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbons, M16 Expert Qualification Badge Driver and Mechanic Badge, and Driver–W, U.S. Army, Gold Recruiter Badge. His duty stations included Ft. Knox, Kentucky, USARB Columbus, RC, and Overseas. He retired as Sergeant First Class with 21 years of service.

After retiring from the Army, Mayor Brown moved back to his beloved Buena Vista, eager to make a difference. He quickly became involved in the community, ultimately being elected Mayor. Mayor Brown served the citizens of Buena Vista with great distinction from 2000 to 2020, following in the footsteps of his mother who served on the City Council and as Mayor Pro Tem. Mayor Brown was a consensus builder during his time as Mayor. He

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

was always looking for common ground with his ultimate goal being the betterment of Buena Vista. He retired as Mayor in 2020 and passed the baton to his brother, Mayor Kevin Brown, continuing the family tradition of public service. Mayor Brown's propensity for service did not stop at the Mayor's Office. He was a community specialist with the West Central Georgia Community Action Council and a program coordinator with The Student Transition and Recovery Program (STAR) Program at the Macon County Board of Education. Mayor Brown was also a member of the American Legion Post 309 and the Mayor of Georgia Committee. The great agricultural chemist George Washington Carver once said that "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and the strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Mayor Ralph Brown was concerned about the "least of these" during his life and made that passion his life's work.

But more than that, he was driven by his faith. God ordered the steps of his life. He was a dedicated member of the Poplar Spring Baptist Church and a member of a weekly bible study group—(Men Talk).

On a personal note, Mayor Brown was my friend of long standing. He never told me what I wanted to hear, but he always told me what he felt I needed to hear. I will miss his wise advice and sage counsel. Mayor Brown accomplished much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without the Grace of God and the support of his family including his beloved mother, Marie Fudge Brown; his children, Leisha Hunter; Lakisha Hunter Echols; and April Brown-Swan; and a host of family and friends who will miss him deeply.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 765,000 constituents of Georgia's Second Congressional District in paying tribute to Mayor Ralph T. Brown, Jr. and in extending our deepest sympathies to his family, friends, and loved ones during this difficult time of bereavement. Moreover, we pray that we will all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith, and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead. To God be the Glory for the life and legacy of Mayor Ralph T. Brown, Jr.

COMMEMORATING THE ARTISTIC  
ACHIEVEMENT OF GASPAR  
ENRÍQUEZ

### HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 3, 2023*

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to praise the artistic achievements of Gaspar Enríquez, a native El Pasoan who masterfully captures our borderland heritage and culture.

Gaspar was born in El Paso's historic Segundo Barrio. His artistic style is heavily influenced by his neighborhood, the place that has been the starting point on the journey northward for thousands of families coming from Mexico since the 1880s. He pays homage to the vibrancy of Segundo Barrio's history and development of our rich Chicano culture. Gaspar's art has been exhibited from the

Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C. to the Cheech Marin Center for Chicano Art and Culture in California. Thousands of people across the country have been able to appreciate the unique beauty of our community and history because of his masterful talent.

In addition to inspiring many of us through his art, he also has inspired younger generations of El Pasoans through his teaching at Bowie High School for over 30 years. Gaspar makes a difference everyday by fostering his student's abilities to express themselves through art.

Today, it is my privilege to honor Gaspar Enríquez and the magic he has produced throughout his prolific career and thank him for using his talent to reveal the beauty of our community.

HONORING COMMISSIONER JAMES  
HOWELL

### HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 3, 2023*

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. James Howell, a dedicated public servant, who has gone above and beyond for the people of Mercedes, Texas.

The city of Mercedes, Texas is home to over 16,000 residents who are served, in part, by Mr. Howell as Place 1 City Commissioner. For the last three years, Mr. Howell has exemplified an unwavering commitment to the well-being and safety of our community while supporting its fast growth. Recently, the city of Mercedes has been given an A+ rating of their credit score and has taken action to address law enforcement vulnerabilities in schools. Mr. Howell has continued to work on solutions to the issues facing our community, focusing on hiring additional officers to protect the students and teachers of Mercedes.

Before his election to public office, Commissioner Howell worked to uplift young people and push them to reach their full potential, including during his stint as a Strength & Conditioning Coach for the St. Louis Cardinals. He also helped South Texas in the real estate industry, ensuring those he worked with could find a place to call home. Commissioner Howell has aided Mercedes in making substantial strides towards improvements in infrastructure and economic growth. With his innovative attitude and love for his community, Commissioner Howell has inspired people in Mercedes to work hard and dream big. As a volunteer firefighter, coach and educator, he has learned and exemplified what it means to step up and fight as a leader in Mercedes and for the entire Rio Grande Valley. From his education at the University of Texas Pan-American to his journey as a Ph.D. student, Mr. Howell has exemplified the importance of education and never giving up on the pursuit of excellence.

Mr. Speaker, Commissioner Jacob Howell, the City of Mercedes, and all our public officials who dedicate their lives to our amazing communities have my greatest thanks. I have no doubt that Commissioner Howell and all people of Mercedes will continue in their hard and tireless work to provide significant results for all Mercedes residents, and I am forever thankful for their service to our community.

HONORING JANICE BARRY

### HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 3, 2023*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and exemplary life of public service of Janice Barry, who passed away on February 19, 2023.

Born in Casper, Wyoming in 1944, Janice spent her childhood outdoors, skiing, skating, and riding horses. She moved west to California to attend Occidental College, graduating in 1966 to pursue a degree in medicine from the University of Southern California. While in medical school, she met her husband Peter, to whom she was married for 50 years.

Janice and Peter traveled extensively after her graduation from medical school. After a short stint in the Bay Area, they relocated to Anchorage, Alaska where Janice worked at the Teamsters Clinic. Following this, they moved to Panama to provide public health services at Gorgas Hospital.

In 1979, the family moved to Ross, California, and Janice opened her internal medicine practice, which she ran for 50 years until her retirement in 2020. She also was a physician for the Marin County Jail for 15 years. In addition, she traveled to Guatemala numerous times as a medical volunteer.

Balancing motherhood and her full-time practice, Janice remained active, hiking, and running through Marin's watershed trails. Her love of the outdoors translated into conservation work that she pursued through her presidency of the Tamalpais Conservation Club and efforts to preserve Bald Hill, which she accomplished after three decades raising funds for its purchase.

Beyond her full-time commitment to caring for the community's health, Janice completed marathons and biking events, traveled the globe, and made everything from wrapping paper to chocolate truffles from scratch. She was known for her beautiful landscape paintings, knowledge of wildlife, and deep compassion. Janice leaves behind her husband Peter; her brother, Gary Brown; and her children, Christopher, Piers, Hillary, and Andrew.

Mr. Speaker, Janice Barry exemplifies the best traits for public service through a multitude of professional and volunteer contributions. While she will be greatly missed, her legacy will endure through the positive impacts she had on communities across the globe.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 3, 2023*

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, on March 24, 2023, I was unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on Roll Call No. 161 in opposition to the so-called Parents Bill of Rights Act, H.R. 5.

The bill is just another example of extremist attacks on public schools. It does nothing to meaningfully support the engagement parents already have with their children's education and imposes unfunded and burdensome mandates to already underfunded schools. It sows