

States provides \$3.8 billion in security assistance to Israel's government each year, and I support the use of these funds for security purposes such as Iron Dome. These dollars should be used to keep the Israeli people safe, but unfortunately the American people do not know how billions of this annual security assistance is being spent. That is why I have worked for years to account for the use of these funds.

Not \$1 of U.S. aid should be used to commit human rights violations, demolish families' homes, or permanently annex Palestinian lands. Peace can only be achieved when everyone's human rights are respected, and Congress has a responsibility to not ignore the well-documented mistreatment of Palestinian children and families living under Israeli military occupation.

The resolution also fails to mention a two-state solution, for the first time ever. I echo the concerns of many of my House colleagues about this missing commitment for all parties to work together toward a peaceful future.

I join Jewish Voice for Peace, the Institute for Middle East Understanding, and many other civil society groups in opposition to this poorly written resolution.

There is a path to peace and security in the Middle East, and it requires leading with our U.S. values of democracy and equal justice for all.

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**RECOGNIZING PASCO COUNTY FIRE CHIEF SCOTT CASSIN**

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Fire Chief of Pasco County Fire Rescue, Scott Cassin. Chief Cassin has served Pasco County since 2010 and became Chief on August 26, 2012. For nearly 37 years, Chief Cassin has served in fire service, serving communities in Indiana and Florida. He has worked nearly every job available in the service and has exemplified his commitment and passion to all he has interacted with.

Overseeing Pasco County Fire Rescue which responds to 80,000 calls annually and operates a fleet of 175+ vehicles with 700+ personnel, Chief Cassin's strong leadership has allowed the department to innovate and continually push the limits of modern fire service.

I thank Chief Cassin for his years of service to our community. It is my hope that he enjoys the retirement he has earned.

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**HONORING NICOLE BRADDOCK**

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nicole Braddock, whom I have named the 2023 Climate Crisis Champion for Solano County because of the important work she has done to promote conservation and address the impacts of climate change on California's 4th Congressional District.

Nicole Braddock was born in Cedarville, California. She obtained a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California, Davis in Wildlife and Fisheries Biology, and she holds an MBA from Capella University. In addition to these impressive educational achievements, Ms. Braddock has a strong commitment to bringing communities together and building common ground in conversations around climate change.

Through her role as the Executive Director of Solano Land Trust, Ms. Braddock has championed the protection of more than 8,000 acres of working farms and natural areas as well as the restoration of miles of creeks and streams. Solano Land Trust goes beyond land conservation to ensure the establishment of strong relationships between community members and the land.

Ms. Braddock has also advocated for the development of accessible trails and picnic areas to promote public resources available to all members of our community. Ms. Braddock's strong desire to give back to the community is exemplified through her development of partnerships, which allow for every individual in Solano County to benefit from protected natural areas. Additionally, Ms. Braddock supports land conservation efforts through her work on the National Land Trust Alliance Leadership Council. The Land Trust Alliance works with local land trusts to expand land conservation locally and nationally.

Outside of her participation with the Land Trust, Ms. Braddock volunteers with numerous nonprofit organizations and provides pro bono coaching to local leaders working in land conservation. Ms. Braddock also serves on the board of the Solano Economic Development Corporation, an organization dedicated to growing Solano County's economy through the creation of new jobs and competition among businesses.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that Nicole Braddock is a leader dedicated to land conservation and environmental advocacy. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Solano County's 2023 Climate Crisis Champion.

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**HONORING TECHNICAL SERGEANT DENNIS GONZALEZ-FURMAN UPON RECEIVING THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS**

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman of the 437th Air Mobility Wing for earning the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service, dedication, and sacrifice during Operation Allies Refuge. He exemplifies the best of America, and his tireless efforts guarantee the safety of all those who call America home.

Last year, Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman joined the servicemembers of the 349th Air Mobility Wing in meeting a challenge of colossal scale, when they helped execute the drawdown of forces from Afghanistan. Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman and the 349th Air Mobility Wing played a critical role in the largest noncombatant evacuation operation in history, Operation

Allies Refuge, ultimately saving over 124,000 lives. They directly supported the evacuation of nearly 13,000 Afghans while simultaneously managing the security and operations at Hamid Karzai International Airport. I have listened to countless stories from this group of brave men and women that exemplify the character, leadership, and bravery that is cultivated in the United States Air Force.

Service records only scratch the surface of the courageous actions performed during Operation Allies Refuge. These valiant servicemembers, like Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman, put their hearts and lives on the line to save so many and epitomize the values of courage and patriotism.

On behalf of a grateful country and all the constituents of California's Eighth Congressional District, I would like to congratulate Technical Sergeant Dennis Gonzalez-Furman of the 437th Air Mobility Wing for receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and extend my sincere gratitude for his sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great country.

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**HONORING SERGEANT HAROLD WAYNE LEONARD**

**HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Sergeant Harold Wayne Leonard of Bluff City, Tennessee for his heroic service. Sgt. Leonard saw multiple deployments, including serving in Germany during the Berlin Crisis, in South Korea, at Ft. Bragg during the Cuban Missile Crisis, and Vietnam.

Assigned to the 8th Artillery 25th Infantry Division, Sgt. Leonard and his comrades fought 60 continuous days and nights in Cu Chi where North Vietnamese rigged explosives, booby traps, and punji sticks. In grueling conditions, he served bravely in what his fellow soldiers coined as, "Hell's Half Acre". Along with his division, his service in the Battle of Cu Chi proved invaluable to the discovery of the Viet Cong's district headquarters with over half a million military and intelligence documents.

He and his division were awarded the second highest unit decoration bestowed upon a U.S. Army unit, the Valorous Unit Award for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy. A family man, he insists all recognition and commendations for his service are given to Mrs. Leonard, his devoted wife of 62 years, for her many sacrifices in providing him great love and care.

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**HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF FIRST SERGEANT RYAN DUBUQUE**

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 27, 2023*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize First Sergeant Ryan Dubuque on his retirement from the U.S. Army after 21 years of service to our Nation. After more than two decades of military service, including working to recruit the next generation

of Servicemen at the U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Ryan has become an indispensable part of the state of Michigan.

Receiving his education from Columbia College and Liberty University, 1SG Dubuque's service has made him a respected leader among Michiganders. In addition to his time with Army Recruiting, 1SG Dubuque also served multiple tours in Iraq. Choosing to defend our Nation's values both at home and abroad, 1SG Dubuque has continually shown his desire to lead those around him. His years of service in our Nation's military, both in recruitment and in deployment roles, has had a lasting effect on the community and his absence from our Armed Services will be felt across the state of Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize First Sergeant Ryan Dubuque for his 21 years of service in the U.S. Army. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to 1SG Dubuque and wish him and his family the best in their future endeavors.

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#### HONORING DENISE RUSHING

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##### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Denise Rushing, whom I have named the 2023 Climate Crisis Champion for Lake County because of the important work she has done to address the threat and impacts of climate change on California's 4th Congressional District.

Ms. Rushing has prioritized energy, environmental, and climate issues throughout her career. Her degree in Environmental Engineering from Stanford University informed the environmental work she has done with private firms and business start-ups. Her executive experience includes her flagship work as Director of Energy Efficiency for PG&E, where she pushed the market to adopt networked meter data for more efficient energy readings.

As a public servant, Ms. Rushing implemented her ecologically inspired approach to community and cultural transformation with incredible success. Over her two terms representing the Lake County's Third District on the Board of Supervisors, she championed two of the largest public solar energy installations in the western United States. Ms. Rushing also initiated the formation of key wildfire safety plans, new wildlife preservation sites, and two county-wide working groups on Energy Sustainability and Food Security. Her leadership has paved the way for Lake County to be awarded two state-wide honors for renewable energy and cultural projects: the Green California Energy Innovator of the Year Award and the Green California Leadership Culture Award.

Since her tenure in public office, Ms. Rushing has continued to find ways to dedicate herself to environmental advocacy in our community. She served multiple terms on the Sierra Club Lake Group Executive Committee, most recently as the committee chair from 2018 to 2021. Ms. Rushing is also the co-founder of Rockhaven Ecozoic Center, an

eco-spiritual nonprofit. Additionally, she volunteers as part of the Pachamama Alliance's Awakening the Dreamer and Climate Advocacy programs. She even offers her expertise to others in permaculture design certificate programs and regenerative land management courses for educators. She also provides free renewable energy education curriculum for the residents of Lake County.

Mr. Speaker, Denise Rushing is a dedicated leader in energy and environmental advocacy. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her here today as Lake County's 2023 Climate Crisis Champion.

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#### CELEBRATING THE VILLAGE OF HINSDALE ON ITS SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

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##### HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the Village of Hinsdale, Illinois. A place that has been a pillar of Cook and DuPage counties for nearly two centuries.

Hinsdaleans have long played an important role in shaping the community. It was thanks to Hinsdaleans that the village undertook numerous civic improvements that were ahead of their time. In the 1890s civic projects such as a water pumping station, a sewage system, electric street lights, street paving, and sidewalks contributed to the village's appeal.

I am honored to represent the Village of Hinsdale and thousands of Hinsdaleans in Congress.

Happy Sesquicentennial, Hinsdale. Here's to the next 150 years.

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#### HONORING MRS. ANGIE WOMBLE RAWLS ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT AS DIRECTOR OF CHORAL ACTIVITIES AT PEARL HIGH SCHOOL

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##### HON. MICHAEL GUEST

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Mr. GUEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Angie Womble Rawls on the occasion of her retirement as Director of Choral Activities at Pearl High School.

Mrs. Rawls has dedicated her 30-year professional career in the Pearl Public School District to cultivating excellence in education through her role in the fine arts. Not only has she taught her students how to read music and stay on key, but she has also helped build leaders through guidance, encouragement, and persistence. Mrs. Rawls has provided her students with exciting opportunities and has given them lasting joy in music.

Mrs. Rawls has been recognized by her peers as a phenomenal pianist, an award-winning choral director, and a respected clinician and adjudicator. Her choirs regularly receive all-superior ratings, and she has played an in-

tegral role in building a legacy of success in the Pearl Schools choral activities program. Mrs. Rawls received the Ernestine Ferrell Award, the highest honor for a choral director in Mississippi, in 2018, the Heart of the Arts Award for the State of Mississippi in 2019, and the Mississippi Music Educators Association Outstanding Music Educator of the Year Award in 2020. Mrs. Rawls was named 2022–2023 Teacher of the Year for the Pearl Public School District in recognition of her dedication to her students and for her substantial role in the success of the district overall.

I thank Mrs. Rawls for her dedication to Mississippi's future leaders and for her success in bringing the joy of music to so many in our state. May the Lord continue to bless her and keep her.

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#### HONORING NADINE ELMGREN ON HER RETIREMENT AND 42 YEARS OF SERVICE IN MONTESSORI EDUCATION

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##### HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 27, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Nadine Elmgren for 42 years of service as a Montessori Educator. Of her 42 years in Montessori Education, Nadine spent 35 years in The Children's House, acting as the Young Children's Community Guide, Primary Classroom Guide, Teacher Mentor, and Elementary Classroom Guide. Her undeniable drive to support her students and the community is applaudable, and she has had an immense impact on the lives of those she has worked with throughout her extensive career.

Upon graduating from Marylhurst College with a bachelor's degree in education, Nadine began her certification process for Montessori Education. She has continually strived to be an example for her students, as well as a reliable and trustworthy influence during their formative and perhaps most important years in school. Nadine has demonstrated what it truly means to be an exemplary educator, contributing to the academic and social growth of countless children throughout her time in Montessori Education.

Prioritizing the success and wellbeing of her students, Nadine has personally sacrificed much in her endeavor to change her students' lives for the better and to prepare them for their bright futures. It is a loss for the region that Michigan's First District will be without Nadine when school starts next fall, but her retirement is the culmination of years of hard work and an unwavering dedication to putting her students above herself. She deserves our gratitude for her tireless efforts to help those around her and the community in its entirety.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Nadine Elmgren for her decades of service to the Montessori Education system, including 35 years at The Children's House. She has led by example for her career and has been truly cherished by her coworkers and students alike. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I extend my gratitude to Nadine and her family and wish them the best in their future endeavors.