

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING WAIKINYA CLANTON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable person, Waikinya Clanton of Canton, Mississippi.

Waikinya Clanton is the State Office Director at Southern Poverty Law Center. One of Waikinya's professional accomplishments is helping to direct nearly \$1.5 million in funds to nonprofit organizations who were looking to help educate and strengthen engagement of communities in electoral politics, to help train women to skillfully assume elected office and empower and influence them to disrupt politics on a local, state, and federal level.

Previously, Clanton has served as senior adviser to the Democratic National Committee chair. She was the National Executive Director of the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women, where she led efforts that fueled electoral victories for Black women. In addition, she was a key aide to my Congressional staff as well. She also served as an Equity Adviser on race, gender, policy, and public engagement for social networking company Nextdoor and cosmetics retailer Sephora.

Clanton is a graduate of Tougaloo College, where she earned her bachelor's degree in sociology. She earned a master's degree in business administration from the University of Phoenix. She is a certified political operative through the Congressional Black Caucus Institute's political education and training Boot Camp as well as The Campaign School at Yale University, which is dedicated to increasing the number of women in elected and appointed office. Clanton is a certified Diversity and Inclusion Specialist through Cornell University's diversity and inclusion certification program.

Clanton is also the founder of Who's Who of MS Women and is a Black Church Digital Equity Fellow with the Multicultural Media, Telecom, and Internet Council as well as a Public Policy Fellow with the Eric H. Holder Public Policy Institute at Tougaloo College. She is also the inventor of the new card game, Quonvo.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing my former staff member, Waikinya Clanton for her dedication to the oppression within the state of Mississippi.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WOODSTOCK INSTITUTE

HON. JESÚS G. "CHUY" GARCÍA

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Woodstock Institute. Woodstock Institute is a

pioneering organization dedicated to promoting economic justice and racial equity within financial systems through comprehensive research and impactful advocacy efforts.

Woodstock Institute was founded in 1973 by Sylvia Scheinfeld as a center of community in Woodstock, Illinois to fight against redlining in Chicago.

Over the past five decades, Woodstock Institute has become a nationally-renowned, consequential organization leading the charge on fair and equitable access to credit, consumer financial protection and community economic development.

Woodstock Institute has been a leader in closing the racial wealth gap for Latino and Black communities across Chicagoland and the United States. At a time when banks are failing, people face a rental crisis, and interest rates keep rising, Woodstock Institute's work is more necessary than ever. I'm glad to have partnered with Woodstock Institute at a Congressional level on issues like capping consumer loans and reining in predatory lending. Together, we have worked tirelessly to address the urgent need for stronger consumer protection measures and to create a more equitable financial system for all Americans.

I am honored to commemorate Woodstock Institute on their 50th Anniversary. Here's to the next 50 years.

REMEMBERING PABLO "P.J." VARGAS, JR.

HON. MICHAEL T. McCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Mr. McCAUL. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I announce the passing of Pablo "P.J." Vargas, Jr.

Pablo was a constituent, a friend and the loving and dedicated father of the office manager for my College Station congressional office.

A lifelong Texan, Pablo attended Palo Alto College and moved to Bryan/College Station in 1990 to attend Texas A&M University to study civil engineering, where he graduated in 1992 and met his wife, Dee Dee Vargas, a Bryan native, whom he married in 1996.

P.J. was the proud parent of three children—Desiree Denise Carlin, Destinee Denise Vargas, and Pablo Vargas, III.

Just as his daughter Destinee is a dedicated civil servant, so was Pablo, who served the Texas Department of Transportation for 28 years.

Pablo loved to talk to everyone in the community and was always willing to help others. His generosity and his heart was as big as the state of Texas.

I extend my deepest sympathies to the Vargas family and the community he was so committed to serving.

HONORING THE LOCAL ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor The Local Organizing Committee (LOC). LOC has shown what can be done through hard work, dedication, and a desire to make a difference in their community.

The LOC of Greenville, MS, is a collaboration of various organizations, churches, business owners, community leaders, activists and grassroots organizers that work together through their resources to culturally and holistically improve the conditions in which their community lives. They work diligently throughout the community and surrounding areas to bring awareness, education, empowerment, outreach, training and self-help programs through love and unity.

The LOC is organizations that through planning and action committees work to give the community a voice. The LOC's mission is to be the liaison between the people and the local government in overcoming difficulties that face the black community. Under the 3M-Model and The National Agenda, they work to accomplish this mission. The town hall meetings are the driving force that they use to reach people.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing The Local Organizing Committee for their outstanding service and commitment.

CELEBRATING THE OUTSTANDING LIFE OF ACTIVIST AND COUSHATTA LEADER ERNEST SICKEY

HON. TROY A. CARTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and activism of Ernest Sickey, leader of the Coushatta Tribe who dedicated his life to advocating for the rights and well-being of Native American communities. Sickey devoted his life to serving his people and fighting for their rights. He played a pivotal role in securing federal recognition for his tribe, ensuring its sovereignty, and the preservation of its rich heritage. He tirelessly worked to improve healthcare, education, and economic opportunities for Native Americans.

Ernest Sickey was born on the Coushatta Reservation in Louisiana in 1942. He grew up in poverty and experienced firsthand the discrimination and marginalization that Native Americans faced in the United States. Despite these challenges, he was determined to make a difference in his community. He became a

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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.

leader in the Coushatta Tribe, serving as a tribal council member and later as the tribe's chairman. He was a tireless advocate for Native American rights, working to improve access to healthcare, education, and economic opportunities for his people. In addition to his work on behalf of the Coushatta Tribe, Ernest Sickey was a respected leader in the broader Native American community. He served as the president of the National Congress of American Indians and was a founding member of the United South and Eastern Tribes.

Recognition of Sickey's devotion and impact extended beyond his tribal boundaries and even had an impact at the State and National level. Ernest served as the first executive director of the Office of Indian Affairs in Louisiana and used his position to preserve and share Native American culture and traditions to help bridge gaps between communities, aiming to foster understanding and unity. He was a true activist and wanted to make the world a better place for everyone, not just his own community. He met with governors and presidents to advocate for funds to support Native American tribes and their members. Sickey played an instrumental role in getting the re-acknowledgment for the Coushatta Tribe from the federal government in 1973.

Ernest Sickey's legacy is one of courage, determination, and service. He dedicated his life to fighting for justice and equality for Native Americans, and his impact will be felt for many generations to come. On behalf of the people of Louisiana's Second Congressional District, I offer my deepest condolences to Ernest Sickey's family and friends. We are grateful for his life and his service, and we will continue to honor his memory by working to build a more just and equitable society for all Americans.

CONGRATULATING UNIVERSITY OF
LA VERNE PRESIDENT DR.
DEVORAH LIEBERMAN ON HER
RETIREMENT

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great enthusiasm and immense gratitude, to congratulate University of La Verne President Dr. Deborah Lieberman on her retirement.

Serving as president since 2011, Dr. Lieberman has demonstrated unwavering commitment to the mission and vision of the University of La Verne, as well as constant dedication to its remarkable students and faculty. Her passion for the University of La Verne is evident to anyone who has ever met her.

President Lieberman's vision has loyally supported the university values and mission of delivering quality academic programs at the undergraduate, masters, and doctoral levels. Some of her tremendous accomplishments include: establishing a College of Health and Community Well-Being; instituting the La Verne Experience; raising \$128 million in the largest comprehensive campaign in institutional history; significantly increasing funding for student scholarships; fostering growth of the university as a Hispanic-Serving Institution; expanding the international student population;

increasing the number of named colleges, endowed deans, and endowed faculty positions; and, significantly increasing the institutional endowment.

Dr. Lieberman is the 18th president of the University of La Verne, a nationally ranked and Carnegie-recognized private institution for civic and community engagement. Located in Southern California in the 31st Congressional District, the University of La Verne was founded in 1891 and educates approximately 8,000 students.

President Lieberman is currently Chair-Elect of the New American Colleges & Universities (NAC&U), and serves on the Boards of the Coalition of Urban and Metropolitan Universities (CUMU), the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU), Casa Colina Centers for Rehabilitation, La Plaza de Cultura y Artes, the L.A. County Fair Board, and the LA Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Lieberman has broadly published books and articles in higher education literature on the topics of intercultural communication, faculty development, diversity, and institutional transformation. Awards she received include the Oregon Council for Hispanic Advancement's "Si Se Puede Award," the Carnegie Foundation "Oregon Professor of the Year," the ACE "Bringing the World into the Classroom" National award, the Student Union President of the Year, and the Ellis Island Award.

Prior to her presidency at the University of La Verne, Dr. Lieberman was Provost at Wagner College on Staten Island and Vice Provost and Professor of Communication Studies at Portland State University. She graduated with her Ph.D. from the University of Florida; with her MA from San Diego State; with her BA from Humboldt State, and her AA from Mt. San Antonio College.

After receiving a request from the University of La Verne led by President Lieberman, I was very proud to secure \$2.2 Million in FY2023 Community Project Funding for the University of La Verne's Institute of Mental Health. Both my District and D.C. offices have had an excellent working relationship with President Lieberman and her government relations team, which we look forward to continuing as Dr. Lieberman serves in an advisory role to the university. I extend my sincere congratulations to my dear friend, Dr. Deborah Lieberman, and wish her a happy and fulfilling, well-deserved retirement. I thank her, and God Bless.

HONORING SABRINA TANNER-
MOORE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable servant, Mrs. Sabrina Tanner-Moore.

Sabrina is the proud daughter of the late Fred Tanner and Jerlean Gamble. She is the amazing mother of three—Keldrick Tanner, Diamond Moore, and Jarquarius Moore; and two beautiful grandkids—Dylan Kace and Kali Ivy. She's a lifelong resident of Greenwood, Mississippi. After graduating with honors from Elzy High School in 1989, she continued her education at Alcorn State University, where

she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in English, in 1993.

In the year 2000, Sabrina graduated *summa cum laude* from Mississippi Valley State University with a Master of Art in Teaching. In 2009, Sabrina obtained an Administrative license. After completing tedious coursework in 2014 in education with concentration in Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development, Sabrina obtained her Specialist Degree while maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

With education being her forté, Sabrina began her teaching career in 1993 with Greenwood Public Schools as a Substitute Teacher with genuine love for helping others to excel. In 1998, Sabrina became a highly Certified Teacher. She's taught 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th grade English. She's also served as an adjunct teacher at Mississippi Delta Community College, where she taught beginning English courses.

In 2012, she served as the District Instructional Coach for the Greenwood Public Schools District. In 2013, she served as an Assistant Principal at Threadgill Elementary, and at Greenwood High School in 2016. In 2019, she became the Chief/Director of the Greenwood Alternative School for the Greenwood Leflore Consolidated School District.

Sabrina has been in the educational field for 28 years, and recently retired in December 2022. In February 2023, she launched her skincare business, Body Luck. Sabrina has received numerous awards and recognitions while employed with Greenwood Public Schools.

Sabrina has been an active member of Delta Sigma Theta since her inception in 1993 with Delta Epsilon at Alcorn State University. She has served in many capacities with the Greenwood-Ltta Bena Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

Sabrina enjoys reading, traveling, shopping, dancing, teaching, volunteering, and spending quality time with family and friends, and making handmade soaps and other skincare products. She is happily married to her wonderful husband, Dwight Moore of Greenwood, MS.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Sabrina Tanner-Moore for her dedication and tenacity to serving her community and desire to be an example for all.

HONORING U.S. ARMY LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOE M. SAHL

**HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK"
FLEISCHMANN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 7, 2023

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Joe Sahl, Commanding Officer of the Nashville District of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers and recognize a lifetime of service to our Nation.

LTC Sahl received his commission in 2004 and has served our Nation in assignments across the United States and around the world. He has served in the 62nd Engineer Battalion, the 1st Armored Division, the 2nd Combined Arms Battalion, the 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, as an Engineer Company and Brigade Engineer Observer/Coach/Trainer at the National Training Center,