

These small businesses employ 44 percent of the region's workforce, over 1.2 million employees across the city of Houston.

These small businesses continue to rise as over 150,000 new business applications were filed across Houston last year.

The city ranks 10th nationally in new businesses per capita and these businesses continue to drive the city's economic growth upwards.

Further, nearly 35 percent of these small businesses with 50 or fewer employees are minority-owned and Houston ranks 5th in the nation for minority entrepreneurship.

Small businesses are not only vital for Houston, but for our entire nation.

Across America, small businesses account for over fifty-nine million jobs, constituting nearly half of the national workforce.

Overall, they generate one third of all U.S. business revenue, approximately 13.7 trillion dollars annually.

This bill helps to relieve the burdens of complex paperwork and uncertainty on these small businesses and best equips them for success in Houston and across the nation.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3801 and in supporting small businesses by streamlining reporting processes.

HONORING COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY TEAM

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2023*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Colorado School of Mines Men's Cross Country Team for winning the 2022 NCAA Division II Cross Country National Championship.

This has been an exceptional season for the School of Mines' cross country program. They managed to achieve a record-setting victory, beating the second place team by 133 points—the largest margin in NCAA history. They were honored for this achievement at the White House following the close of the season, which was another first for the program. None of this would have been possible without Coach Chris Siemers. The School of Mines Men's Cross Country Team has flourished under his leadership. His efforts were also recognized by the U.S. Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association, who deservedly chose him for their National Coach of the Year Award.

It is my honor to congratulate the School of Mines Men's Cross Country Team for their success. I hope there will be many more championships to celebrate in the future.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL U.S. METALCASTING WEEK

**HON. RUDY YAKYM III**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2023*

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the importance of National U.S.

Metalcasting Week and to highlight the significant contributions made by the metalcasting industry to our nation's economy and security. Metalcasting, an essential manufacturing process, plays a pivotal role in various sectors, including aerospace, automotive, defense, agriculture, infrastructure, and many others. This week-long celebration provides us with a unique opportunity to recognize and appreciate the achievements of this vital industry.

Metalcasting is the process of pouring molten metal into a mold to create intricate shapes and components used in a wide range of applications. From the engine blocks that power our vehicles to the turbine blades that generate electricity, metalcasting is at the heart of modern industrial production. It enables the creation of complex and durable metal parts that are essential for countless industries, fostering innovation and progress.

One cannot underestimate the economic significance of the metalcasting industry. According to the American Foundry Society, metalcasting contributes over \$44 billion to the U.S. economy annually and employs over 200,000 skilled workers. These jobs are spread across the nation, supporting local economies and providing stability for communities. The industry's direct and indirect impact cannot be ignored, as it contributes to our nation's prosperity and competitiveness on the global stage.

Moreover, metalcasting plays a critical role in national security. Defense systems, such as tanks, aircraft carriers, and missile guidance systems, rely on the durability and precision of metalcast components. The industry's ability to produce advanced materials and components that meet the stringent requirements of our armed forces is essential for maintaining a strong national defense.

National U.S. Metalcasting Week serves as a platform to raise awareness about the technological advancements and environmental achievements of the industry. Over the years, metalcasters have embraced innovation and sustainability, adopting cleaner and more efficient processes. By reducing energy consumption, minimizing waste, and recycling materials, the industry is actively contributing to environmental preservation and sustainability goals.

Furthermore, Metalcasting Week provides an opportunity to showcase the critical role of education and workforce development in sustaining this industry's success. It allows us to celebrate the skills and craftsmanship of metalcasting professionals while inspiring the next generation to pursue careers in this field. By investing in training programs and promoting STEM education, we can ensure a pipeline of talented individuals to support the continued growth of the metalcasting industry.

National U.S. Metalcasting Week is a time to celebrate the achievements of an industry that is vital to our nation's economy, security, and technological progress. The contributions of the metalcasting industry are felt in numerous sectors and touch the lives of millions of Americans. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing and appreciating the dedication and excellence of metalcasters, not only in Indiana's Second District, but all across the United States.

HONORING THE BIRTHDAY OF MR. ZEDDIE COLEY

**HON. SHONTEL M. BROWN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2023*

Ms. BROWN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 90th birthday of Mr. Zeddie Coley, a remarkable member of the OH-11 community.

Mr. Coley was born in Albany, Georgia in 1933 and graduated from Monroe High School in 1950. He earned a bachelor's degree in education in 1953 from Albany State College, where he also became a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated. In 1974, he completed his master's degree in education from Cleveland State University. After receiving his formal education, Mr. Coley served in the United States Army.

Mr. Coley was married to Shirley Ann Jackson (1932–2019) for 68 years and together they have two daughters, Carma Coley (Warrensville Hts.) and Cynthia Coley-Ander-son (Chicago), both retired teachers. He is the proud grandfather of five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Coley began his teaching career in 1955 in the Cleveland Public Schools system as a fourth-grade teacher at Wade Park Elementary. Moving forward, he continued his career in the East Cleveland City Schools as a science teacher, retiring as an administrator in 1984. He continues to maintain contact with many of the students he has taught throughout the years.

Since 1964, Mr. Coley has lived in the Lee-Harvard Community. There, he served as an active member of the Harvard Community Services Center, a member of their Board of Trustees for 27 years and as president of the Walden Avenue Street Club for 30 years. In addition, he served as an Education Association Committee Chairperson. During his tenure, he was active in hiring several principals in the Lee Harvard area schools and spearheaded the track and field stadium renovation committee for John F. Kennedy High School. Mr. Coley has received numerous honors—Harvard Community Services Center's Lifetime Achievement Award, Senior of the Year for Ward 1, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority's Black Diamonds Award, John F. Kennedy's Community Volunteer Award, and the Neighborhood Leadership Award, to name a few.

He has been an active member of the East Zion Baptist Church for over 60 years. As an avid gardener, he takes pride in harvesting vegetables to share with his neighbors. When asked what he loves most about Cleveland, he says, "Cleveland gave me my wife, which makes me love it the most."

Happy birthday to Mr. Coley.

STEVEN HELMICK

**HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2023*

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Steven Helmick of Donald R. Roberts Elementary in Little Rock for being named the 2023 Arkansas Elementary School Principal of the Year.

Mr. Helmick is known for his outgoing personality and willingness to do whatever it takes to inspire his students, including running a mile for each of the 168 fifth graders in his elementary school, and camping out on the school's roof.

Steven Helmick has turned Roberts Elementary into one of the highest achieving elementary schools in Arkansas, receiving a grade of A from the state education leadership.

I congratulate Mr. Helmick on his well-deserved award and the outstanding work as Principal of Roberts Elementary.

---

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE  
OF CHARLES R. WOOTEN

**HON. ERIC BURLISON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2023*

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of Chuck Wooten. Mr. Wooten recently passed away at the age of 95, having dedicated his life and career to public service and giving back to his community. A U.S. Navy Veteran of World War II, Mr. Wooten served with honor and distinction overseas in Japan. His patriotism and love for his country were evident in every aspect of his life, and his military service exemplified his unwavering dedication to defending the principles upon which this nation was built.

In addition to Mr. Wooten's service to our nation in World War II, he also served as a Missouri State Representative for 5 terms, as well as a City Councilman for Springfield. During his time in the state legislature, Mr. Wooten played a critical role in the creation of the Missouri Veterans Cemetery located in my hometown of Springfield, Missouri. The Veterans Cemetery would not be a reality without Chuck Wooten.

Additionally, Mr. Wooten's many talents carried over to his career as a talk radio host on the legendary KWTO radio station in Springfield. He is survived by his wife Joan; his three children Johnnie, Donnie, and Mary, and daughter-in-law, Carole Wooten; also 10 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren.

Mr. Wooten is described by those who knew him well as an upbeat, always positive, kind, and generous man who would give you the shirt off his back. I can't think of a more deserving man to honor and recognize today.

---

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL POSEY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2023*

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, due to a family obligation was unable to attend session on June 22, 2023. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 284, YEA on Roll Call No. 285, and YEA on Roll Call No. 286.

PAPERWORK BURDEN REDUCTION  
ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 21, 2023*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3797, the Paperwork Burden Reduction Act.

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide an alternative process for providing individuals with certain health insurance coverage statements.

H.R. 3797 allows American workers to access health insurance tax forms online, rather than mailing this form in excess to American households.

While only 1.4 percent of American workers and their families need this form, it gets mailed to millions each year, wasting taxpayer resources, and creating more work for small businesses.

This bill recognizes that more Americans than ever fill out their tax returns online and allows them to access this health insurance tax form online as well.

This bill saves small businesses owners time and money by relieving them of mailing excess copies of outdated paperwork.

As a result, small businesses will now have more time to focus on running their business, providing opportunities for their employees, expanding their business, and serving their customers.

In my home district of Houston, nearly 97 percent of the region's businesses are considered small businesses.

These small businesses employ 44 percent of the region's workforce, over 1.2 million employees across the city of Houston.

These small businesses continue to rise as over 150,000 new business applications were filed across Houston last year.

The city ranks 10th nationally in new businesses per capita and these businesses continue to drive the city's economic growth upwards.

Further, nearly 35 percent of these small businesses with 50 or fewer employees are minority-owned and Houston ranks 5th in the nation for minority entrepreneurship.

Small businesses are not only vital for Houston, but for our entire Nation.

Across America, small businesses account for over fifty-nine million jobs, constituting nearly half of the national workforce.

Overall, they generate one third of all U.S. business revenue, approximately 13.7 trillion dollars annually.

This bill relieves the burden of outdated paperwork on these small businesses and best equips them for success in Houston and nationwide.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 3797, the Paperwork Burden Reduction Act, and the economic growth of our Nation, which is fueled by small businesses.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF COLSTRIP, MON-  
TANA

**HON. MATTHEW M. ROSENDALE, SR.**

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2023*

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to recognize the centennial celebration of the town of Colstrip, Montana's energy capital. Colstrip is surrounded by beautiful open rangeland, farms, and ranches, but what has made this community truly remarkable is the Rosebud mine, which is responsible for much of the area's prosperity. This incredible facility serves as a crucial part of Montana's economy and energy sector. Since its establishment, the mine has not only powered Montana's economy but also provided reliable energy to the entire globe.

Colstrip was first founded by employees of the Northern Pacific Railway in 1924 to provide Americans with affordable and reliable coal to power their homes and businesses. During the Second World War, the mine was strategically important to America's war effort. Thanks to the work of the men and women of Colstrip, the Allies successfully defeated their enemies and defended freedom across the entire world.

I want to commend the people of Colstrip for their dedicated work to ensure the continuation of this vital part of Montana's economy and for contributing so much to our state's culture. Colstrip's tight-knit community has powered America for over 100 years, and I'm excited to see what the future holds for this model community. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the entire Colstrip community for their commitment to America, and it is a privilege to celebrate the mine's anniversary in the U.S. House of Representatives

---

HONORING THE U.S. ARMY'S 54TH  
COAST ARTILLERY REGIMENT

**HON. JIMMY PANETTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, June 23, 2023*

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the soldiers who served during World War II in the United States Army's 54th Coast Artillery Regiment. The 54th was the U.S. Army's only all-Black heavy artillery regiment and it shared the mission of defending the central coast of California from enemy attack.

This historic regiment defended the Golden Gate Bridge, the San Francisco Harbor, and Monterey Bay, in addition to the millions of tons of cargo and munitions coming out of the port. Further down the coastline, the 54th defended coastal oil terminals at Morro Bay and Port San Luis. The Monterey Bay was particularly vulnerable to Japanese invasion due to its gently inclining shoreline and ready access to a major coastal highway.

Activated at Camp Wallace, Texas on February 10, 1941, the 54th was comprised of Black soldiers from Texas, Kansas, and Missouri. Despite that these troops were armed and clothed with used weapons and second-hand uniforms dating to World War I, they did not complain and served with pride and distinction.