

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### INTRODUCTION OF THE RESTROOM ACCESS ACT OF 2023

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 10, 2023*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Restroom Access Act of 2023, which would require retail establishments to provide individuals with medical conditions requiring immediate use of a restroom, such as Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis, access to employee-only restrooms when such establishments do not have public restrooms. Individuals would have to present a Department of Labor-issued identification card certifying such a medical condition.

Individuals with certain medical conditions need immediate access to a restroom. When public restrooms are not available, these individuals may experience uncomfortable or embarrassing situations. As long as there are no safety concerns, which this bill addresses, these individuals should be able to use employee-only restrooms.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

### RECOGNIZING THE 2022–2023 MID VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOFTBALL TEAM'S STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

#### HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 10, 2023*

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize the incredible achievements of the 2022–2023 Mid Valley High School softball team. During this year's season, the Spartanettes brought great pride to our community by winning the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) 3A State Championship for the first time in school history.

As the Member of the U.S. House representing the Mid Valley School District, I'm proud to celebrate the hard work, leadership, and comradery of the Spartanettes that led to their championship. They played with passion and a sense of faith in one another which was evident in every game. They demonstrated that when a group of individuals support each other with a common goal, anything is possible.

I want to acknowledge the coaching staff, led by Coach Mike Piercy, and Assistant Coach Joseph Bour, who have instilled a culture of commitment, integrity, and respect in these athletes. Under their guidance, Mid Valley truly played a season worthy of the first-ever softball state title in Mid Valley history.

The success of the 2022–2023 team is also a reflection of the support they received from their school and locality. From parents and families who cheered them on in every game,

including traveling to Penn State from Mid Valley for the championship. By teachers and staff who have provided guidance and encouragement, and by the businesses and organizations that also supported the team, the Mid Valley Spartanettes have been lifted up and given confidence by the entire community.

In Northeastern Pennsylvania we believe in the power of working together and showing civic spirit. The Mid Valley Spartanettes championship is a testament to the strength of that belief. These athletes demonstrated what can happen when we support our young people to the fullest.

So, I congratulate the 2022–2023 Mid Valley High School softball team on their historic season and thank them for inspiring us all. I'm proud to represent Mid Valley and look forward to celebrating many more successes in the future.

### HONORING CORPORAL RALPH M. SIMONI

#### HON. KEVIN HERN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 10, 2023*

Mr. HERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a very special veteran from Oklahoma's First Congressional District, U.S. Army Air Forces Corporal, Ralph M. Simoni.

Born in Jersey City, New Jersey, on July 6, 1923, Cpl. Simoni is celebrating his 100th birthday today. In 1943, Cpl. Simoni began serving our Nation during World War II at one of the most consequential moments in human history. He bravely served in the Asiatic-Pacific Theater of the war from 1943 to 1946 and received a Victory Medal for doing his part to secure Victory Over Japan Day, better known as "V-J Day", that marked the end of the war on September 2, 1945.

Cpl. Simoni served as an airplane propeller mechanic in the pioneering 4th Glider Section of the U.S. Army Air Forces. Cpl. Simoni's work helped U.S. glider aircraft drop paratroopers and light artillery into enemy territory. Glider missions were dangerous and designed for a single purpose that resulted in very few of the aircraft ever being recovered. Cpl. Simoni and the 4th Glider Section conducted several successful missions in New Guinea, Luzon, and the South Philippines liberation campaigns of World War II.

Cpl. Simoni now lives in my hometown of Tulsa and is deservedly being recognized today as the precious American hero that he is by his friends and family. Following the recent celebration of Independence Day, it is my honor to thank Cpl. Simoni on behalf of a grateful Nation for his remarkable military service and wish him a very happy birthday.

### HONORING THE LIFE OF SANDRA BLAUVELT

#### HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 10, 2023*

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Sandra Blauvelt, who passed away at the age of 81 on April 18, 2023. Sandra was a beloved member of the community and devoted public servant.

Born in 1941 in Cleveland, Ohio, Sandra, fondly known as Sandy, grew up the youngest of 7 children. An ambitious and intelligent young woman, she attended Hathaway Brown School in Shaker Heights, where she served as the president of her high school class, won junior skating championships, and was admitted to Wellesley College. Sandy married her high school sweetheart, Gerrit Blauvelt, and they traveled across the country with their growing family while he finished medical school. After 2 years in the Navy, the family moved from Virginia to Larkspur, California where Sandy quickly began her decades of service to the Larkspur community.

At the old Larkspur-Corte Madera school, Sandy organized parents and community members to volunteer at a new after-school enrichment program, sharing their personal passions and skills with students. Her community organizing skills assisted Joan Lundstrom in becoming the first woman elected to the Larkspur City Council in 1971. She also helps to raise funds for the acquisition of a section of Northridge as open space in 1977 and ran the successful campaign of Hal Brown for Marin County Supervisor in 1984. After his election, Sandy served as his aide for many years.

Sandy dedicated decades of service to Marin County, including as the founding President of the Larkspur Community Foundation, 42 years on the Larkspur Park and Recreation Commission, and as a longtime member of the Marin Conservation League. Her contributions earned recognitions and she was deservedly awarded Citizen of the Year in 2005 by the City of Larkspur.

Along with her political savvy, Sandy was known for her dedication to friends, family, and neighbors and for her active role as a grandmother. While she will be greatly missed, her legacy will live on through the positive impact she had on her community.

Sandy was predeceased by her husband Gerrit and is survived by her daughter Molly Blauvelt, son Andy Blauvelt, grandsons Jonny and Sam Rank, granddaughters Sophie and Alice Blauvelt, and dozens of nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in extending condolences to Sandy's family and friends and in expressing deep appreciation for her decades of public service in her community.

• 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.

HONORING THE LIFE OF JIM  
HOUCK

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 10, 2023*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Jim Houck, a beloved journalist and Central Valley resident.

Jim Houck was a remarkable journalist whose spirit and dedication to the truth have left a deep mark on the field of journalism. Jim was not only a journalist; he was a storyteller, a mentor, and a friend to many. His career spanned an impressive 60 years, during which he fearlessly pursued the truth, never shying away from holding the powerful accountable.

Jim's journey in journalism began while he was still in high school in Bakersfield. From those early days, he developed a passion that never wavered throughout his career. He worked for esteemed publications such as the San Francisco Examiner, the Dallas Morning News, and the Baltimore Sun, where he honed his skills as a reporter and editor. Jim's tales of his time in San Francisco during the 1960s and '70s were legendary, capturing both the vividness and hilarity of his experiences.

In 1998, Jim joined the Visalia Times-Delta/Tulare Advance-Register, where he served as the city editor. He was a champion of public service journalism, earning 4 Gruner Awards for his outstanding coverage of critical issues—ranging from violations of open meeting laws to corruption scandals. Jim firmly believed in the public's right to knowledge and dedicated himself to ensuring that his readers were well-informed and empowered.

Jim's contributions extended beyond his professional accomplishments. He was a mentor and a friend to many and was admired and respected by those who had the privilege of working alongside him. His determination to uncover the truth inspired his colleagues and instilled in them the same dedication to their craft. Jim's storytelling skills were legendary, and it was not uncommon for fellow journalists to gather around his desk, captivated by his tales of covering high-profile cases or his adventures in journalism.

Beyond his devotion to journalism, Jim was also a passionate fan of baseball, particularly the San Francisco Giants. He found joy in sharing the victories and defeats of his beloved team with his fellow fans in the newsroom, engaging in good-natured banter with those who supported the Los Angeles Dodgers.

Jim's commitment to seeking the truth and holding those in power accountable serves as a beacon of inspiration for all journalists. His legacy will continue to live on in the hearts and minds of all who knew him. As we honor his memory, let us remember the lessons he taught us, the stories he shared, and the unwavering commitment he had to the pursuit of truth.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jim Houck for his commitment to journalism and his community. May we never forget his legacy and continue to be inspired by his story.

RECOGNIZING THE RAPPAHAN-  
NOCK HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS TEN-  
NIS TEAM STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 10, 2023*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Rappahannock High School Girls Tennis Team for capping off their undefeated season with the VHSL Class 1 State Championship.

On June 8th, the Raiders ended their season on a high note. At the Burrows-Burleson Tennis Center at Virginia Tech, each member of the Rappahannock High School Girls Tennis Team had high level performances, defeating George Wythe 5–3. Leading up to the title match, the team had a 5–1 win over Buffalo Gap in the state semifinals and a 5–0 win over Riverheads in the state quarterfinals.

I would like to recognize Head Coach Ms. Taylor Yeatman for her great leadership throughout the season. Next, I would like to recognize the student-athletes themselves for their hard work: Mackenzie Ferguson, Layla Gaines, Haley Haydon, Ciera Mundie, Sadie Packett, Virginia Tribble, Averil Vaughan, Addison Vaughn, Laney Williams, and Maggie Wonderling.

And finally, I would like to recognize the assistant coaches: Mr. Jamie Pritchard and Mr. Jackie Morris.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing the accomplishments and hard work of the student-athletes, coaches, and volunteers of the Rappahannock High School Girls Tennis Team. I look forward to seeing their continued excellence on the court.

RECOGNIZING THE 20TH ANNIVER-  
SARY OF THE NATIVE AMERICAN  
BASKETBALL INVITATIONAL

**HON. GREG STANTON**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 10, 2023*

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the Native American Basketball Invitational on 20 years of commitment to youth empowerment and fostering athletic talent within Native American communities. Since 2003, NABI has been the largest and most prestigious all Native American Basketball tournament in the nation, cultivating the spirit of competition and camaraderie among our youth.

NABI brings together thousands of students each year to compete, but its legacy goes far beyond the basketball court. NABI inspires our youth through education and empowerment programs that instill the values of being a good teammate, friend, and citizen. This minority and women-led organization has created opportunities for Native American athletes to shine at the collegiate and professional levels. NABI's advocacy on and off the courts has resulted in nearly half a million dollars in scholarships for youth through its College Scholarship Fund—breaking down barriers to allow students to pursue their highest ambitions.

I thank the NABI founders GinaMarie Scarpa and Mark West, its community part-

ners and those involved in this commendable endeavor. Our community is stronger because of them. I am confident that their passion and service will continue to empower and inspire generations to come.

CELEBRATING WILLIE ANN HUFF

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 10, 2023*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Willie Ann Huff, who on July 15, 2023, will celebrate her 90th birthday. Mrs. Huff is the daughter of the late Sarah and Willie Vinson, and the eldest of 11 children.

Willie Ann Huff has 5 children of her own, Gloria, the late James Vinson, Edward, Timothy, and Debra. She is also the grandmother of 12, the great-grandmother of 30, and has 4 great-great grandchildren.

Mrs. Huff is known for many things and one of them is her pineapple-coconut cakes, her gift giving spirit that she shows to all, and hosting the best Christmas parties and cook-outs for her entire family. She is also known for her sharp sense of style, with the hats, furs, and suits to match her signature Obama purses and Cadillac.

Above all else, Willie Ann Huff is a brave fighter, surviving multiple bouts with cancer. I hereby take official note of the joyous occasion of Mrs. Willie Ann Huff's 90th Birthday and invite all citizens to join me in wishing her the happiest of birthdays.

RECOGNIZING KEVIN  
KLINKENBERG FOR OVER TWO  
YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE NEW  
DEMOCRAT COALITION

**HON. ANN M. KUSTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 10, 2023*

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the service of one of the New Democrat Coalition's most exceptional staffers, Kevin Klinkenberg. Kevin recently left the Coalition to begin his tenure as a Senior Advisor and Congressional Liaison at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). I can truly say that HHS and all Americans are lucky to have him in this role.

In his 2 years with the Coalition, including my tenure as Chair of the New Democrat Coalition, Kevin proved himself to be an invaluable asset who shaped our policy work and outreach efforts. From health care and trade to immigration, Kevin's work was exemplary. We would not have been able to accomplish all that we have without Kevin's presence on our team.

Kevin also led the New Dems' outreach work, forming critical relationships with important stakeholder groups, from labor to the business community. His commitment to expanding the reach of the New Dems has positively impacted each of our nearly 100 members, including me, and his work will continue to benefit the Coalition long after his departure.

Kevin has not only contributed to the Coalition through his superb work but also through