

Despite the fact that catastrophe required a great deal of aid, few people actually received aid due to obstacles in the application process.

H.R. 255 would eliminate some of the obstacles that Texas residents experienced when attempting to obtain federal aid after Hurricane Harvey.

This bill would streamline the collection of information, reduce duplication of process, and make it easier for disaster victims to obtain assistance.

Lawmakers must improve the process for our constituents to receive aid as we see an uprise in these climate disasters.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation that would make the federal assistance process easier for victims of natural disasters.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
JAMES ANDERSON

HON. ANDY KIM

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2023

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the retirement of James Anderson, a public servant in New Jersey's 3rd District who dedicated his career to the Willingboro Fire Department for four decades.

James began his work with the fire department as a volunteer firefighter in May of 1982, serving our community day in and day out in times of crisis. Since that starting point of his career, he grew into a professional many in our district consider one of the most recognizable firefighters throughout Burlington County. After his first six years as a volunteer firefighter, James helped to establish the Willingboro Fire Department Underwater Search and Rescue Team, one of the first in the county. Following its development, he applied his expertise and leadership as the Dive Team Coordinator for the program.

Only a year after his work as Dive Team Coordinator, James earned the title of a career firefighter for the Naval Warfare Center right on our Joint Base in Lakehurst. It was there where he continued his work as an Aircraft Crash Rescue Firefighter. Even throughout his time on the Joint Base, James still held service in the highest regard and continued his volunteerism at the Willingboro Township Fire Department.

In 1991, James gained the title of Provisional Career Firefighter at the Willingboro Firehouse he started in, with which he served an additional eight years before transitioning to the Willingboro Township Bureau of Inspections applying his investigative and interpretative skills to fire investigations. In May of 2008 James returned to the Firehouse as a senior firefighter, where in his final professional role, he took the most pride in being a "senior man" and mentoring aspiring firefighters, who eventually graduated to become supervisors and officers themselves.

James' contributions to our Burlington County community have earned him numerous awards and accolades over the years. He earned life memberships within the Willingboro Fire Department and eventually the New Jersey State Fireman's Association. He was also recognized as Firefighter of the Year in 2014.

His respective units and teams were recognized time and time again for their courageous actions—twice with Unit Citations for multiple rescues—as well as most recently in 2022, with the Valor Award.

Through these remarkable milestones and achievements, James culminated his career with founding the Sean Anderson Foundation to give back to his fellow firefighters. Through this organization, they provide assistance and support to firefighters, emergency medical technicians, and the overall community relief efforts of Burlington County. It is because of his dedication both in his career and personal life, that many people can continue to feel safe every day as well as have the resources they need to succeed.

New Jersey is grateful for the work that James has done, and I hope that his career can inspire others to carry on his legacy as a champion for service. I know I speak for the 3rd District in wishing James a happy retirement filled with spending quality time with his family.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND SACRIFICE OF SERGEANT STEVEN ROBIN AND OFFICER BRANDEN ESTORFFE

HON. MIKE EZELL

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2023

Mr. EZELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the lives of 2 fallen heroes, Bay St. Louis Police officers Sergeant Steven Robin and Officer Branden Estorffe, who were shot and killed in the line of duty this past December.

Sergeant Steven Robin served 3 years with the Bay St. Louis Police Department after prior service with the Hancock County Sheriff's Office. Officer Branden Estorffe served 2 years with the Bay St. Louis Police Department.

During their law enforcement careers, both men received numerous accolades for their dedication to protecting their community.

Sergeant Steven Robin received Overall Top Academic Honors with the Hancock County Law Enforcement Training Academy. Sergeant Robin took on supervisory roles during his tenures with both the Waveland Police Department and the Bay St. Louis Police Department, serving as a Field Training Officer and Sergeant with both departments.

Officer Branden Estorffe was recognized for Top Academics with the Combat Readiness Training Center. Officer Estorffe also earned the Firearms Award with the Harrison County Law Enforcement Training Academy and maintained high firearms standards with the National Rifle Association and the Hancock County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team.

Sergeant Steven Robin is survived by his wife, Amy, his parents, Michael and Julie Robin, his son, Brandon Boudreaux, his 2 special girls whom he considered daughters, Tessa Delsied and Emmaleigh Melton, his granddaughter, Rosie, his 2 brothers, Brian and Glenn Robin, his father-in-law, Lester Bush, his mother-in-law, Mary Bush, his brother-in-law, Brad Bush, his sister-in-law, Stephanie Bush, and his 2 godchildren, Braleigh, and Addilyn Delsied.

Officer Branden Estorffe is survived by his parents, Ian and Heather Estorffe, and his siblings, Lilly and Sophia Estorffe, Jordana and Chloe Gilkerson, and Andrew Porter, his grandparents, Rex and Lynda Estorffe and Tommy and Sheila Burkett, and his aunts and uncles, Lauren and Greg Walters, Jennifer and Jason Polk, and Chad Goodfellow.

May we remember their selfless commitment, their service, and ultimately their sacrifice. Their families are in the thoughts and prayers of myself, this body, and everyone in Mississippi.

RECOGNIZING HENRY LYKES

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2023

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, today I want to recognize Henry Lykes, a resident of Inkster in Michigan's 12th District Strong, for his hard work on behalf of retirees across southeast Michigan.

For more than 30 years, Mr. Lykes was an employee of Wayne County, from which he retired in 2001. Moved to action by attacks on retiree benefits, Mr. Lykes kept busy in retirement. Henry founded and acted as President of AFSCME Wayne County Retirees Sub-Chapter #38 in October of 2004. He was formative in making Sub-Chapter #38 one of the largest and most active AFSCME Retirees sub-chapters. He led that group until October of 2017. He was part of a legal action that resulted in healthcare retirees receiving a deserved monthly stipend.

In 2017, Mr. Lykes was elected as the founding President of AFSCME Retirees Michigan Chapter 255. He served in that capacity through November of 2022. He also served as the Executive Vice President of the Michigan Alliance for Retired Americans. Mr. Lykes fought for worker and retiree benefits to ensure a good quality of life for families across Michigan. In each of these organizations he was active as a delegate on the County, State and International levels. As a founding officer in these organizations he worked on bylaws, rules and regulations. He was an integral part of each organization and helped to build their memberships.

Mr. Lykes is proud of his service as a precinct delegate in Inkster. He has attended many state conventions as a delegate and has been a Michigan delegate to the Presidential conventions. Mr. Lykes enjoys spending time with his family, including Barbara, his wife of more than 40 years, their children, 8 grandchildren, and 5 great grandchildren.

Please join me in recognizing the numerous and remarkable contributions of Mr. Henry Lykes to southeast Michigan, and Michigan's 12th Congressional District.

INVESTING IN MAIN STREET ACT OF 2023

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 25, 2023

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 400, the Investing in Main

Street Act of 2023, to amend the Small Business Investment Act of 1958 to increase the amount that may be invested in small business investment companies.

As a strong supporter of small businesses, I believe that this bill will improve the livelihood of many small businesses that have continuously been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

This bill is designed to release more capital investment into small businesses in America.

The bill would allow certain banks and savings associations to invest more into small business investment companies by increasing the statutory cap from 5 percent to 15 percent.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the United States saw a significant rise in small businesses.

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2020 had the highest total number of applications for new businesses by far compared to all years that data was available.

From 2019 to 2021, there was a 20 percent increase in the number of small businesses created. That is more than double the average growth rate year to year.

According to the Kauffman Foundation, the increase in the rate of entrepreneurship during the pandemic was highest amongst Blacks, Latinos, and immigrants.

Even though there has been a significant rise in the number of small businesses during the pandemic, many businesses report negative impacts due to COVID.

In April 2020, the U.S. Census Bureau launched the Small Business Pulse Survey to produce data in real-time on the challenges small businesses were facing due to the pandemic.

When the first survey was collected in April of 2020, 90 percent of businesses surveyed stated that the pandemic had a negative effect on business.

When the last survey was collected in April of 2022, 70 percent of businesses surveyed stated that the pandemic had a negative effect on business.

Almost 3 years into the pandemic, small businesses are still struggling with getting back on their feet.

Cities such as New Orleans and Honolulu had some of the highest rates of small business closures in the country because their economies are largely built around serving visitors.

In large cities like San Francisco and Austin, the food industry was largely impacted because those who would typically eat out on their lunch break were now working from home.

The time for small business recovery is now.

The Biden-Harris administration has laid the foundation and has helped create the conditions for business and job creation.

With the evolution of almost 5.4 million small businesses in 2021, we must work to maintain and support these growing businesses.

The Biden-Harris administration partnered with the Small Business Administration (SBA) to reform the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP). The policy changes targeted small business and companies that were left out of previous relief efforts.

The data shows that these PPP policy changes provided more support in minority communities than the rounds under the previous administration.

The Small Business Relief under the American Rescue Plan included targeted grant relief and tax credits for small businesses hit by the pandemic.

The Small Business Relief produced immediate relief to more than 600,000 of the hardest hit small businesses.

The Biden-Harris administration was able to provide more than 6 million small businesses with \$450 billion in emergency relief via the Small Business Administration.

Investing more in our small businesses has had a profound impact on the job market in the United States.

In the first 3 quarters of 2021, small businesses with 50 employees or less created almost 2 million jobs in the United States, the fastest start to small business job growth in any year on record.

Investing in main street should continue to be a priority for Congress.

Through this bipartisan bill, certain financial institutions would have the ability to invest more into small business investment companies by raising the statutory cap.

I urge my colleagues to join me and support this important legislation that will expand access to capital, increase the number of small businesses, and create jobs at home.

We must show the American public that improving the economy is a priority in Congress. This bill is a good first step at doing so.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL BOZICK

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2023

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Michael “Mike” Bozick, who passed away on Thursday, December 22, 2022. Mike was a longtime community leader in the Coachella Valley, and he will be deeply missed.

Mike was born and raised in the coal mining town of Masontown, Pennsylvania. A call to serve his country in the Navy ultimately drew Mike to California, where he spent time stationed at North Island Naval Air Station in Coronado. After the Navy, Mike attended San Bernardino Valley College and met his future wife, Bobbie Jean Tidwell. After he earned a business degree from the University of Southern California, Mike worked in the electronic industry. During their time in Los Angeles, Mike and Bobbie had 2 children.

In 1966, Mike went to work at Richard Bagdasarian Inc. in Mecca, a small table grape business, along with Bobbie and her mother, Lucille. Before long, the Bozicks moved to the nearby Coachella Valley to start and grow their own table grape business. In what would become an amazing 53-year career in the grape-growing industry, Mike left his mark as an advocate and leader in the industry. The Bozicks were also incredibly active within their community and gave back in a variety of ways through the decades to Coachella Valley organizations.

Mike is survived by his wife Bobbie, their children, Nick and Cindy, daughter-in-law Stephanie, 4 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. I extend my heartfelt condolences to the entire Bozick family, his friends, and everyone fortunate enough to know Mike. Although he may be gone, the many contributions Mike made to his community and family will have a lasting impact.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF LARRY R. ROGERS, SR.

HON. ROBIN L. KELLY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 27, 2023

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today we honor the hard work and service of Larry R. Rogers, Sr.

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was one of the founding partners of Power Rogers, a successful and well-respected Chicago-based personal injury law firm;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was the first in his family to become a lawyer, doing so during an era where there were few African American attorneys;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. has served the people by excelling as a trial attorney, winning numerous multimillion-dollar personal injury settlements and verdicts for his clients;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. has been named one of the Ten Most Influential Illinois Lawyers by American Lawyer Media, as well as one of the top 10 litigators in the Nation by National Law Journal;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was presented with the John Paul Stevens Award, the highest award granted by the Chicago Bar Association and presented to attorneys who best exemplify the integrity and public service of late Justice John Paul Stevens;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was presented with the Leonard M. Ring Lifetime Achievement Award, a prestigious honor granted by the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was awarded the Chicago Bar Association’s Earl B. Dickerson Award, an honor bestowed to people of color whose careers at the bar show dedication to making the law the key to justice for all;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. was elected and served as President of both the Cook County Bar Association and the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, being the first African American President of the latter;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. has been awarded the DePaul University College of Law Alumni Award for Outstanding Service to the Legal Profession;

Whereas, DePaul University College of Law has an endowed scholarship carrying his name, providing tuition assistance for African American law students;

Whereas, Larry R. Rogers, Sr. dedicated his life to serving the people of Chicago and Illinois;

Now, therefore, be it *Resolved*, by the House of Representatives of the United States of America that the hard work and service of Larry R. Rogers, Sr. be remembered and honored.