

seat in South Carolina's Provincial Congress. He was reelected in 1776, thus becoming the first Jewish elected public official in the new United States. He served until he was killed in battle that August.

Most Jews in New York, Philadelphia, Newport, Charleston, and Savannah—where the Revolution was brewing—joined the cause early. In doing so, they staked their claim to political equality as a right, not a set of privileges to be granted.

As they did nowhere in Europe, Jews served as officers in the patriot armies. Mordecai Sheftall, a Savannah businessman, was a full colonel, then the third highest rank in the American army. David Salisbury Franks rose to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, served as a diplomat to France and Morocco during the war, and later became the assistant cashier of the Bank of the United States. Solomon Bush, whose father had signed a non-importation agreement, ended the war as a Lieutenant Colonel and the deputy adjutant-general of the Pennsylvania militia. His younger brother, Captain Lewis Bush, died in combat. There were no Jewish officers in the British army or among the Hessian mercenaries during the Revolutionary War. (However, Alexander Zuntz, a Hessian civilian commissary, served as the Hazzan of Shearith Israel congregation while the British occupied New York City. Impressed with American religious liberty, he stayed in New York after the war, and eventually became president of the synagogue.)

In the independent United States, every new state constitution granted Jews the right to vote, though nine of the first eleven of them originally limited office holding to Protestants or Christians. A few states retained established churches or special state benefits for some faiths. Religious tests for office directly denied Jews full political equality. These state establishments did not deny Jews religious liberty or legal rights, but they made them (and members of other non-favored faiths) less than equal citizens. This situation, however, was not destined to last very long.

When Pennsylvania's 1776 constitution, for instance, required state legislators to "acknowledge the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by Divine inspiration," the state's Jews protested. Members of Philadelphia's Congregation Mikveh Israel studied and annotated all state constitutions, noting where Jews faced discrimination, and then published letters in newspapers calling attention to the new constitutions' objectionable features. In late 1783, Philadelphia's Jewish leaders petitioned the Pennsylvania government to allow Jews to hold public office. Seven years later, Pennsylvania's new constitution removed the religious test for office holding.

In 1787 Congress, operating under the Articles of Confederation, passed the Northwest Ordinance, the forerunner of subsequent laws regulating the settlement of western territories and the creation of new states. The Ordinance provided for "extending the fundamental principles of civil and religious liberty" in the national territories. Written before the Constitution, this was the first national guarantee of religious freedom. The Confederation Congress, which included no Jews and only the occasional Catholic, could have easily established some kind of non-denominational Protestantism or Christianity. But it did no such thing.

In that same year, on behalf of Congregation Mikveh Israel, Revolutionary War veteran Jonas Phillips wrote to George Washington, who was then serving as the presiding officer of the Constitutional Convention, requesting the Convention protect Jewish political rights. As it turned out, the Convention had already agreed to prohibit

religious tests for office holding, but the willingness of Philadelphia Jews to lobby for their rights further illustrates American Jewry's newfound boldness.

On July 4, 1788, Philadelphia held a parade to celebrate the ratification of the new constitution. The Grand Federal Procession was led by an interfaith group of clergymen, including a rabbi, their arms interlocked. Later, when George Washington took the first presidential oath of office in New York City, Hazzan Gershom Mendes Seixas joined other clergy from the city as a witness.

The First Amendment, ratified in 1791, confirmed the right of religious free exercise for all Americans and guaranteed separation of church and state. Under the Constitution, Jews held federal offices, even where they could not hold offices under existing state constitutions. Thus, in 1801 President Thomas Jefferson appointed Reuben Etting to be the US marshal in Maryland, even though he would not have been allowed to hold any office under that state's constitution until 1826. Joel Hart and Mordecai Manuel Noah served as diplomats under Jefferson and Madison. Noah was later the sheriff of New York City, the "boss" of Tammany Hall, and a local judge.

The Constitution did not preclude individual states from barring Jews from public office. Maryland, Massachusetts, and New Jersey repealed these rules before the Civil War, while North Carolina did so during Reconstruction. New Hampshire finally abolished the practice in 1877. Nor could the constitutional expansion of Jewish rights end social antisemitism. Antisemitism, rooted in Christian theology, nationalisms, bigotry, private fears and ignorance, and the rantings of demagogues and conspiracy theorists, will, of course, never be abolished by government decree. A political system can regulate behavior and even promote tolerance, but cannot end private intolerance and hatred. In the Old World, however, anti-Jewish prejudice was often encouraged, supported, or even mandated, by governments. In America, from the outset, the law was on the Jews' side.

Furthermore, America's unprecedented acceptance of the Jews helped to induce other western nations, including Revolutionary France and mid-nineteenth-century Great Britain, to grant Jews similar rights, although the process in both countries was piecemeal, halting, and incomplete for many years. In Britain, for example, Lionel Rothschild won multiple elections to Parliament starting in 1847 but was unable to take his seat until 1859, after the Jews Relief Act had been passed. Full Jewish political equality in Britain was not achieved until 1871.

As we approach the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution, on July 4, 2026, it is important to recall how the patriotism of Jews led to their political equality and a national policy of religious liberty. The United States became the first western nation to prohibit any religious test for national public office, have no national or official faith, have no laws restricting Jewish secular life or religious observance, and allow for freedom of worship and belief on a broad national scale.

When George Washington wrote to the Newport Jewish community, this process was not yet complete, but the holdouts were few and relatively insignificant. The Revolutionary era set the stage for the ensuing two and a half centuries of Jewish flourishing in a country where, to return again to the words of Washington's historic letter, minorities enjoy religious freedom not because mere tolerance has been extended to them but because "all possess alike liberty of conscience and immunities of citizenship."

HONORING UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH CHANCELLOR PATRICK GALLAGHER ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER A DECADE OF SERVICE

HON. SUMMER L. LEE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Ms. LEE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Patrick Gallagher of Pittsburgh, PA.

After nearly a decade serving as Chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh, a tenure that included tremendous gains in Pitt's academic profile and demand, solidified the University's role as a community partner and anchor, and elevated Pitt's research stature, impact, and activity to near-peerless echelons of excellence, Mr. Gallagher will step down on July 15, 2023.

Over the course of Mr. Gallagher's Chancellorship, he enhanced the University of Pittsburgh's reputation as an economic engine for Pennsylvania. One out of every 32 Pennsylvania workers earns their degree from Pitt, resulting in \$5.2 billion in economic impact during his time. He has also positioned Pitt to continue this record, shaping the University's future through facilities like The Assembly, Pitt BioForge, and Victory Heights.

These future projects are part and parcel of Mr. Gallagher's commitment to the University's student body. Pitt student-athletes flourished under Patrick Gallagher's watch, earning 4 ACC championships in volleyball, 2 College Cup appearances for men's soccer, 1 conference championship in football, and 1 national wrestling championship. And while the University's applications for admission rose to record highs under his tenure, he ensured that tuition rates would remain affordable for Pennsylvanians through Pitt's strong relationship with the Commonwealth.

Under Mr. Gallagher's leadership, the University provided unprecedented support to its world-class researchers and its surrounding community. Today, the University ranks third in the country in terms of funding from the National Institutes of Health and secured its status and is one of just 24 universities nationwide to reach and exceed \$1 billion in sponsored research expenditures.

With these numerous accomplishments, Mr. Gallagher departs with the sincere appreciation and respect of the Board of Trustees as well as the admiration of Pitt's administration, faculty, staff, students, and alumni. Now, therefore, let it be proclaimed that the retirement of Chancellor Patrick D. Gallagher by celebrated and commended by all for exemplary leadership and remarkable contributions to higher education in Pennsylvania.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JAVIER M. SANCHEZ ON THE OCCASION OF HIS COMPLETED TERM AS PRESIDENT OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

HON. JAY OBERNOLTE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Javier M. Sánchez as he completes his term as the 130th President of the San Bernardino County Medical Society. He began this leadership position representing over 1,700 physicians on June 22, 2022. Dr. Sánchez is a family medicine physician partner of the Southern California Permanente Medical Group practicing at their Redlands medical offices. He received his medical degree from the University of Iowa Roy J. & Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine in 1996 and completed his residency in family medicine.

Dr. Sánchez has been focused on addressing disparities in medicine and helped develop the Southern California Kaiser Permanente Language Concordance Program which helps match those with limited English proficiency with physicians who are fluent in their first language. He has been a Clinical Professor of family Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine and is currently an Associate Professor of Family Medicine at the University of California Riverside School of Medicine. I commend Dr. Sánchez for his service as President of the San Bernardino County Medical Society and remain thankful for the work of all of our medical professionals in California's 23rd District and across the country.

RECOGNIZING THE ERWIN TOWNSHIP HISTORICAL SOCIETY

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 12, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Erwin Township Historical Society and their newly constructed walking trail and artifact building in Erwin Heritage Park. Erwin Township Historical Society has played an instrumental role in the preservation of Erwin's culture and history, and I'm confident their newest offerings will continue to have a lasting impact on residents for years to come.

Named as the first grant recipient from the Michigan History Alliance, the Erwin Township Historical Society has been deservingly recognized for their part in protecting and cataloguing Michigan's rich history. From erecting park benches to the restoration of the East End Schoolhouse to become their museum, the Erwin Township Historical Society has expanded their reach in the community and has become a familiar and trustworthy service for all residents to utilize. We are blessed to have organizations of this caliber in Northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula, and I am appreciative of their work and service.

On July 1, 2023, the Erwin Township Historical Society will celebrate the completion and dedication of their new walking trail and arti-

fact building in Erwin Heritage Park. I want to thank all involved in the Erwin Township Historical Society for making these endeavors possible and for facilitating a successful ceremony.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Erwin Township Historical Society for their work to preserve the history and culture of their community. On behalf of Michigan's First District, I wish the historical society and their supporters the best in their future endeavors.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 13, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 18

1 p.m.
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe
To hold hearings to examine Russia's alpine assets, focusing on money laundering and sanctions evasion in Switzerland.
SD-G50

JULY 19

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to consider S. 1253, to increase the number of U.S. Customs and Border Protection Customs and Border Protection officers and support staff and to require reports that identify staffing, infrastructure, and equipment needed to enhance security at ports of entry, S. 1444, to increase the pay and enhance the training of United States Border Patrol agents, S. 2251, to improve the cybersecurity of the Federal Government, S. 2248, to require a pilot program on the use of big data analytics to identify vessels evading sanctions and export controls and to require a report on the availability in the United States of emerging and foundational technologies subject to export controls, S. 1332, to require the Office of Management and Budget to revise the Standard Occupational Classification system to establish a separate code for direct support professionals, S. 1524, to ensure that whistleblowers, including contractors, are pro-

tected from retaliation when a Federal employee orders a reprisal, S. 2032, to require the reduction of the reliance and expenditures of the Federal Government on legacy information technology systems, S. 1973, to require the purchase of domestically made flags of the United States of America for use by the Federal Government, an original bill entitled, "Northern Border Coordination Act", an original bill entitled, "Mitigating Foreign Influence in Classified Government Contracts Act", an original bill entitled, "Border Enforcement, Security, and Trade Facilitation Act", an original bill entitled, "Wildland Firefighter Paycheck Protection Act", an original bill entitled, "PUMP Technical Corrections Act", an original bill entitled, "Purchased Data Inventory Act", an original bill entitled, "Streamlining Federal Grants Act", an original bill entitled, "PFAS-Free Procurement Act", an original bill entitled, "Government Ethics Transparency Act", an original bill entitled, "AI Leadership To Enable Accountable Deployment Act", an original bill entitled, "Eliminate Useless Reports Act", an original bill entitled, "Federal Cybersecurity Workforce Expansion Act", an original bill entitled, "Grant Transparency Act", and the nomination of Fara Damelin, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Federal Communications Commission.

SD-562

2 p.m.
Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine the economic impact of diabetes.
CHOB-210

2:30 p.m.
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
Subcommittee on Water and Power
To hold hearings to examine S. 461, to make certain irrigation districts eligible for Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program pumping power, S. 482, to amend the Klamath Basin Water Supply Enhancement Act of 2000 to provide the Secretary of the Interior with certain authorities with respect to projects affecting the Klamath Basin watershed, S. 739, to clarify jurisdiction with respect to certain Bureau of Reclamation pumped storage development, S. 1118, to establish the Open Access Evapotranspiration (OpenET) Data Program, S. 1215, to require assessments of opportunities to install and maintain floating photovoltaic solar panels at Bureau of Reclamation and Corps of Engineers projects, S. 1521, to amend the Federal Power Act to modernize and improve the licensing of non-Federal hydropower projects, S. 1662, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey to the Midvale Irrigation District the Pilot Butte Power Plant in the State of Wyoming, S. 1955, to amend the Central Utah Project Completion Act to authorize expenditures for the conduct of certain water conservation measures in the Great Salt Lake basin, S. 2102, to provide for drought preparedness and improved water supply reliability, S. 2160, to amend the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 to authorize certain extraordinary operation and maintenance work for urban canals of concern, S. 2161, to provide financial assistance for projects to address certain subsidence impacts in the State of California, S. 2162, to support water infrastructure in Reclamation States, S.