

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### CONGRATULATING ST. ELIZABETH ON THEIR CLASS 1 STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

#### HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 18, 2023*

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating St. Elizabeth's Baseball Team on their victory in Missouri's Class 1 Championship game.

The Hornets claimed the Class 1 title for the third time in 5 years and fifth in their program history. In an exhilarant game, the team broke open the 1–1 score with an incredible 5 runs in the top of the third inning. They never trailed and played so well that the game was cut short at the end of the sixth inning due to the "run rule" mercy rule. The Hornets should be commended for all their hard work throughout the past year and for bringing home the state championship to their school and community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the St. Elizabeth Baseball Team for a job well done.

### HONORING NORMAN CHAFFEE

#### HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 18, 2023*

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired NASA engineer, Norman Chaffee, and to recognize his achievements and outstanding efforts in inspiring countless rural students across Oregon through the Rural Schools Education Initiative program.

Throughout his 37-year career at NASA, Mr. Chaffee held several positions at the NASA Johnson Space Center from 1962 to 1998. He contributed to the Mercury program, Gemini, Apollo, Lunar, and Mars exploration programs. Mr. Chaffee has received numerous awards in recognition of his accomplishments including JSC Engineer of the Year in 1987, NASA Exceptional Service Medals in 1983 and 1991, a recognition from the State of Texas for his efforts in education outreach, and many more well-deserved awards and citations.

Continuing his devotion to education, Mr. Chaffee has continued to sustain a commitment for education and science having served as the Manager of the Space Settlement Design Competition for High School Students from 1999 to 2012 and continuing to be a champion for STEM.

After retiring in November 1998, Mr. Chaffee helped to create unique hands-on experiences for students in Oregon. In 2017, he led a personal tour of NASA's Robotics Lab at Johnson Space Center in Houston for students competing in the 2017 First International Robotics World Championship. Over 250 Oregon high

school students participated in this experience. His remarkable work has served to promote Science, Technology, Robotics, Engineering, Arts, Math, and Medicine educational opportunities to Oregonians of all ages.

On behalf of Oregon's 2nd Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Norman Chaffee.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. RUBEN GALLEGO

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 18, 2023*

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, today I missed a vote on H. Con. Res. 57, Expressing the sense of Congress supporting the State of Israel, due to the birth of my child. Had I been present on the House Floor, I would have voted YEA in favor of this resolution. Israel is our most important ally in the Middle East, and remains a crucial partner in combatting terrorism, countering Iran's malign influence, and promoting democracy in the region. I firmly and indisputably reject efforts to question Israel's right to exist as a Jewish state and will continue to strongly advocate on behalf of a stronger U.S.-Israel relationship.

### HONORING MR. JAMES MCBARRON II

#### HON. CLIFF BENTZ

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 18, 2023*

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of the late NASA Engineer, James McBarron II, and to recognize his lifetime achievements and commitment to inspiring countless students in rural Oregon through the Rural Schools Education Initiative.

Throughout his 38-year career at NASA, from 1961 to 1999, Mr. McBarron II contributed to the Mercury, Gemini, Apollo, Skylab, Space Shuttle, International Space Station missions. He began his career in 1961 as an aerospace technologist with the Crew Equipment Branch, Life Sciences Division, Space Task Group at Langley Field, Virginia. His positions throughout his career included working as Crew Chief Crew Systems Division, CTSD chief engineer for EVA projects, and Spacesuit Systems Manager. He earned numerous prestigious awards for his achievements including the American Astronautical Society Victor A. Prather Award for outstanding contribution in the field of EV protection in space in 1979 and awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Nixon in 1971 as a member of the Apollo 13 Mission Operations Team.

Mr. McBarron II assisted in the promotion of the Rural Schools Education Initiative program in Oregon which helps bring retired NASA engineers to rural areas in Oregon to share their

stories and inspire young students. By sharing his story and experience with Oregon students and community leaders he inspired hundreds of students to reach for the stars, to continue their education, and to enjoy their work while being successful.

On behalf of Oregon's 2nd Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and accomplishments of Mr. James McBarron II.

### NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024

SPEECH OF

#### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 12, 2023*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union has under consideration the bill (H.R. 2670) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2024 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Chair, I rise today to highlight the extraordinary work done by the Readiness Subcommittee, with support from Chairman WALTZ and bipartisan support through the Subcommittee, despite efforts to compromise the integrity of this bill.

As the Ranking Member of the Readiness Subcommittee, it is my responsibility to provide congressional oversight of and support to the sustainment, logistics, infrastructure, and readiness of our military. I'd like to take a moment and thank my staff for their tireless work—the Readiness Subcommittee staff and my personal staff, Robert Hurd, Iain Hart, and Taylor Brunstad. I am proud of the Readiness Subcommittee's contribution and efforts to support our military.

I firmly believe in the mission of our military and support the men, women, and families that sacrifice so much. However, I cannot in good faith support a bill that undermines access to reproductive care; eliminates efforts to address systemic racism; and blocks medical care and support for transgender servicemembers and their dependents. We owe it to our servicemembers to protect their rights while they are sacrificing to protect our freedom.

I do, however want to acknowledge the critical work we were able to accomplish in the original bill that passed through the House Armed Services Committee:

Support Mare Island with a provision that authorizes the Secretary of Defense to conduct a study on dredging Mare Island Straight in front of finger piers 2 and 3 to a depth of 30 feet to restore the usability of the piers for commercial shipbuilding in the future.

Conduct a study on the efforts required to recapitalize Mare Island Naval Shipyard to support domestic shipbuilding.

• 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.

Provide new federal loans and loan guarantees for repairs and retrofits of U.S.-flag civilian vessels in domestic commercial shipyards, like Mare Island Dry Dock.

Combat price gouging and close the loopholes giant defense contractors are utilizing to price gouge the Pentagon and American taxpayers.

Authorize the FireGuard program, crucial to fighting wildfires in California and nationwide.

Provide a report on the feasibility of using CH-47 helicopters for fighting wildfires.

Continue to fight nuclear proliferation by requiring the development of an integrated master schedule for nuclear warhead development.

Make improvements relating to civilian access to U.S. military installations. This helps workers, veterans, and others who need to get on base for their jobs, livelihood, or medical care in military communities like Travis Air Force Base in Solano County.

Modernize the Military's List of Medically Disqualifying Conditions for military service to ensure enlistees are not needlessly disqualified from serving or continuing to serve in the military. The current list of medically disqualifying conditions was designed when female enlistees were far less common, therefore many female enlistees are unnecessarily disqualified from enlisting due to normal conditions of their gender. This would also allow for the review of conditions like ADD/ADHD, previous mental health treatment and support, and other conditions that frequently receive a waiver.

Increase funding for environmental clean-up at former military installation sites to \$50 million dollars.

Require DOD to establish policy and process to identify and report encroachment related risks near military bases and installations, and to understand ways to mitigate associated risks.

Authorize continued funding for bio-industrial manufacturing infrastructure. This would establish a network of facilities that would support defense needs and assist in scaling commercial capacity so that the U.S. can compete with China, create new jobs, and us on robust agricultural feedstock.

Extend the deadline for the completion of the conveyance of a parcel of property at Sharpe Army Depot, Lathrop, California to 2026.

Increase funding for research and development for energy efficient aircraft development.

Continue to push the DOD on the sustainment and readiness of ships and aircraft via yearly reports from the GAO.

Utilize the lessons learned in the response to COVID-19 through "Operation WARP SPEED" to develop plans and operations for response to future pandemics or emergencies.

Support the American maritime industry by requiring reports on the preference afforded by domestic ports to U.S. military, commercial vessels enrolled in the Maritime Administration's (MARAD) strategic sealift programs, and other U.S.-flagged vessels, if any.

Demand responsible spending and furthering nuclear nonproliferation through studies on Plutonium Pit Aging.

It is unconscionable that the bipartisan bill advanced out of the House Armed Services Committee is being subjected to amendments that detract from its original mission to support our service members and keep American fam-

ilies safe. Regardless of the final outcome of this year's NDAA, I am pleased to have worked in a bipartisan manner to advance legislation out of the House Armed Services Committee that addresses the critical issues facing our military families and furthers America's national security interests.

#### HONORING AND COMMENDING ELOISE GOOD

#### HON. DONALD NORCROSS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 18, 2023*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Eloise Good for her 100th birthday celebration.

On July 16, 2023, family and friends gathered to celebrate the 100th birthday of Mrs. Eloise Good at Lucien's Manor in Berlin, New Jersey. Eloise Good was born on July 14, 1923, in Virginia. She moved to Glassboro, New Jersey, as a teenager where she later met her husband Pearly L. Good and continued to raise her family there.

Mrs. Eloise Good has been a hardworking and active community member and citizen. As a teenager, she organized a Christmas Savings Club for her neighborhood to enable them to save money during the holiday season, eventually recruiting members from all over her community. Mrs. Good is a longtime active member of the Democratic party. She served as a poll worker for a decade and worked on Governor James Florio's campaign for both New Jersey State Assembly and Governor.

In 1980, the Good family moved to Camden where she continued her efforts to support her community by successfully organizing a petition against the St. Lawrence Cement Plant in Camden, New Jersey, in opposition to the environmental threats the plant posed to her South Camden neighborhood. Furthermore, Mrs. Good is a committed and active member of the NAACP.

Eloise Good comes from a devoted military family. Her father, Henry Lee-Finney, fought in WWI and her husband served in WWII. Her grandson, Malcolm Sykes, served in the United States Marine Corps from 1989 to 1991, in the Army National Guard from 1998 to 2005, and in Operation Iraqi Freedom from 2004 to 2005. Another grandson, Jefferey Ferren, honorably gave his life in defense of this country on April 2, 2012, while on duty in the United States Navy. His widow, Gabrielle Kubinyi, is a member of the Gold Star Family.

Eloise and Pearly Good were married for 72 years until his passing in 2014. Today, she is a mother of 7 adult children, 20 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and 6 great-great-grandchildren. Mrs. Eloise Good is a shining example of what it means to lead a life filled with purpose and compassion.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in honoring and celebrating the 100th birthday of Mrs. Eloise Good of the City of Camden, New Jersey, a resident dedicated to her community and who has thoroughly served them to the best of her ability.

Be it known to all, that I hereby honor Eloise Good, and extend great appreciation for outstanding service to our community.

COMMEMORATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF VETERANS AFFAIRS ILLIANA

#### HON. DARIN LAHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 18, 2023*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor a remarkable organization, the Veterans Affairs Illiana Health Care System. The Veterans Affairs Illiana expands across central Illinois and is a vital organization that provides care to Veterans in Illinois and Indiana. After many years of success and service, the Veterans Affairs Illiana is celebrating their 125th anniversary.

The Veterans Affairs Illiana Health Care System has united Veterans in the area since 1898 to successfully provide primary and specialty care to Veterans. Originating in Danville, Illinois, Veterans Affairs Illiana serves as the 8th oldest Veterans Affairs facility. The Veterans Affairs Illiana expanded services across central Illinois beginning in 1977 with outpatient clinics targeted to serve Veterans residing in rural areas. Today, the members of the organization work hard to support, serve and care for the Veteran community throughout 34 counties in Illinois and Indiana.

Illinois has become a state of advocacy for Veteran groups like Veterans Affairs Illiana Health Care System that come together and enhance opportunities for Veterans, their families, and the community. I extend my sincere congratulations to Veterans Affairs Illiana Health Care System for a successful 125 years, and I wish them continued success.

#### HONORING EMMA KENNER

#### HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 18, 2023*

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an incredible woman by the name of Emma Kenner. Emma Kenner is a child of God, and she gives thanks and praises to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Emma was a Queens native hailing from Jamacia, New York. An inspirational and dedicated 103-year-old constituent who has had a major impact on the district. She has spent decades serving the communities of Southeast Queens as a shining example to future community leaders.

Emma has a lengthy resume with accomplishments across a plethora of fields. She spent many years working at the New York State Department of Mental Hygiene, served as a coordinator of the New York Board of Elections, and was the former president of the 113th Police Precinct Council. She has also played a major role in New York's political field by volunteering at many local elected official's offices such as Senator Comrie, Floyd Flake, Archie Spigner, and my very own. A woman undoubtedly devoted to public service and the advancement of our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Emma Kenner for her dedication to politics, her city, and her community.