

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I was unexpectedly detained during vote proceedings. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 369.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE CHIEFS

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2023

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the 150th anniversary of the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC). Established in 1873, the IAFC represents the unified voice of the fire chiefs of career, volunteer, combination, and military fire departments worldwide. With a current membership of more than 11,000 strong, the IAFC has advocated for essential programs that keep our citizens safe from fires, hazmat incidents, structural collapses, acts of terrorism, pandemics, and other tragedies, both human-made and natural.

The year 1873 was a momentous one in the history of the United States. Levi Strauss and Jacob Davis received a patent for their famous jeans with copper rivets. The U.S. Naval Institute was established. And the IAFC was officially formed. Known first as the National Association of Fire Engineers, these brave firefighters were guided by a mission "to bring forward an exchange of ideas and introduce new machinery that would facilitate the workings of fire departments." Later, with the addition of Canadian members, the name was changed to the International Association of Fire Engineers, and it finally became the IAFC in 1926.

The IAFC has been a leader in developing important National fire service initiatives. In 1957, the IAFC petitioned the Federal Communications Commission to establish a 3-digit universal emergency services number. This decade-long effort resulted in the first 9-1-1 call being placed on February 16, 1968. In addition, the U.S. Fire Administration was created in 1974 in response to the landmark Report of the National Commission on Fire Prevention and Control.

The IAFC is a trusted partner of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, of which I am a longtime Co-Chairman. When I led the effort to create the FIRE grant program in 1999 and 2000, I worked closely with the IAFC to bring the voices of thousands of fire chiefs to Washington to deliver federal dollars directly to local fire departments for the very first time to afford training, equipment, and fire prevention programs. In addition, the IAFC provided significant assistance to the Congressional Fire Services Caucus's successful efforts to create the SAFER grant program to support the recruitment and retention of career and volunteer firefighters.

Today, the IAFC is a trusted voice to its members, the fire and emergency service

community, legislators, and more. The IAFC remains on the frontline helping local fire departments prepare for wildland fires and emerging technologies such as lithium-ion batteries and autonomous vehicles. In addition, the IAFC is assisting fire departments in harnessing data, developing EMS programs, and recruiting diverse and inclusive workforces to better provide service to their communities. Fire chiefs are the backbone of our cities and towns, and that could not be truer than in my hometown of Paterson, New Jersey. Paterson Fire Chief Brian McDermott will retire in August after over 28 years of distinguished service in the Paterson Fire Department. His leadership has been instrumental for the public safety and security of so many residents of New Jersey.

I ask every member to join me in recognizing the outstanding work of the IAFC. The organization remains dedicated to providing leadership, expertise, and integrity to its members, its federal partners, and the public. Here's to the next 150 years of the IAFC.

RECOGNIZING JOYCE HAMLETT

HON. RASHIDA TLAIB

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2023

Ms. TLAIB. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Congress' very own Joyce Hamlett, the Keeper of the Mace as the House of Representatives Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, as she retires from more than 3 decades of public service.

I still remember my first few months here, almost 5 years ago. One of the people who I looked for was a young woman sitting at the left of the House chamber. I would lock eyes with her and when she smiled at me, it was always a warm welcome.

Joyce Hamlett will be sorely missed as she retires as our Keeper of the Mace and Assistant Sergeant at Arms. She took her role very seriously. I know because I was one of the members, she reminded every so often of the rules of House. Ms. Joyce would even take out 1 of those laminated black and white articles from decades ago to remind me, this is how it has been.

Ms. Joyce has worked here in the Capitol for over 35 years. Her story is inspiring. She is the first Black woman to hold the post. From growing up in the tobacco fields of Broadway, N.C., to making history here in Congress, she never forgot her roots, and the strong character that her grandparents instilled in her. In a place that can sometimes be harsh, she always remained kind and fair to all. I will dearly miss Mother Joyce and never forget her hugs on some of the toughest days for me in this chamber. She may have been the Keeper of the Mace for the House Chamber, but she will always be my "Auntie" (Khalto).

Please join me in recognizing Sergeant-at-Arms Joyce Hamlett as we thank her for her many years of public service.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF TERRY STONE

HON. PETE STAUBER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2023

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of my friend, Terry Stone, from International Falls, Minnesota.

Terry embodied the spirit of northern Minnesota throughout his life. He started a radio club while attending Falls High School and later graduated from Bemidji State University.

He was a local businessman who was actively involved in his community, and even served as the president of the local Chamber of Commerce.

Terry also spent time as a volunteer with the International Health Service in Honduras where he helped provide medical and dental care to those in need. He even used his passion and expertise in radio to help set up solar powered radio systems to help clinics in rural villages communicate with each other.

Terry had a servant's heart and a passion for helping out those in need. He will be missed.

May Terry's legacy live on in our communities.

HONORING COLLEEN DOLAN

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2023

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent Colleen Dolan, from Chicago, for a successful career and to congratulate her on her much-deserved retirement.

Graduating from Lewis University with a degree in sociology and psychology, Colleen Dolan entered the workforce in 1975 as a bank teller at the First National Bank of Winnetka. After a year, she took the first step in what would be an impressively steep climb up the human resources corporate ladder as a Profit-Sharing Analyst in corporate accounting at the Continental Illinois National Bank. At Continental, she held several positions, rising to the rank of Sales Director—Personal Banking Relations at the end of her 13-year stint at the bank. Along the way, she had two boys, Shaun and Ryan Dolan, and instilled confidence in her late father, a Zenith Business Executive, that her degrees would be useful in carving out a promising career in a field he was only beginning to understand.

In 1989, Colleen made a considerable leap forward as the U.S. Director of Human Resources for Leica Microscope, a position she held for 10 years before transitioning into the world of commercial real estate: first as the Vice President of Compensation & Benefits for a year at Equity Residential before moving to Transwestern, where she would spend the last and most fulfilling 23 years of her career. She embodied the company's purpose statement: empowering good people to do extraordinary things together, Colleen started at Transwestern as Vice President and ascended to hold the roles of Senior Vice President and Executive Vice President before ultimately

joining the C-suite as the Chief Human Resources Officer.

Of her many achievements and affiliations, Colleen is the proud recipient or member of the following: Transwestern Executive Committee and Board of Directors, Human Resources Management Association of Chicago, American Management Association (AMA), Society of Human Resources Management (SHRM), Chicago Compensation Association (CPC), Transwestern Founder's Award Recipient, Real Estate Forum's Women of Influence Recipient, Notable Leader in Human Resources by Crain's Chicago Business, and a member of Transwestern's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion program both at the Steering Committee level and through leadership on both the Training and Belonging committees.

I send my heartfelt congratulations to Colleen Dolan for a career spent putting people first, bettering the lives of others, and defining company culture based on her principles of inclusion, fairness, and deep compassion. I know she is looking forward to spending even more time with her grandchildren, Parker, Hadley, and Patch, her sons Shaun and Ryan, and their wives Ashley and Lizzie. I am hoping Colleen enjoys this time with her family, as she has earned it.

SUPPORTING RESEARCH FUNDING FOR EPITHELIOID HEMANGIOENDOTHELIOMA AND OTHER RARE CANCERS

HON. JAMIE RASKIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2023

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the urgent need for research funding for epithelioid hemangioendothelioma (EHE). EHE is a rare and devastating cancer that can affect anyone of any age and that grows in the cells that make up our blood vessels, often appearing in the liver, lungs, and bones. This disease is very rare, affecting one in one million people, and is also exceedingly difficult to diagnose.

According to the National Cancer Institute, patients suffering from EHE often live with severe pain, broken bones, disability, and respiratory infections. Studies show that EHE is more common in women, but more fatal for men. Because of its status as an exceedingly rare form of cancer, there is no standard treatment available and meager funding for life-saving research.

This rare cancer is extraordinarily difficult to treat and often does not respond to chemotherapy and radiation treatment. Because there is no standard, effective treatment for EHE, many patients must resort to organ transplants and undergo a vascular embolization, where doctors block the artery supplying blood to the tumor.

One of my constituents recently lost his beloved cousin, Brianna Rae Carney, to this terrible disease. To honor her courageous, selfless spirit, he wrote me to encourage this body to raise awareness of EHE and invest in robust medical research.

Mr. Speaker, as a cancer survivor who owes my life to the excellent and effective medical treatment that I was fortunate enough to receive, I encourage my colleagues to join

me in supporting increased federal support for finding more effective treatments and ultimately a cure for this terrible disease.

HONORING ISRAEL NITZAN

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2023

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend my heartfelt congratulations to Israel Nitzan for successfully completing his distinguished tenure as the Acting Consul General of Israel in New York, a role he has admirably held from 2018 to 2023.

The Office of the Consul General, or the Lishka, plays a pivotal role in fostering strong ties between the State of Israel and influential organizations and agencies in the New York Metro area. Throughout his tenure, Consul General Nitzan has been instrumental in bolstering Israel's positive image in the media, while keeping the local community abreast of significant developments within the Israeli community and political landscape. He has effectively rallied support for Israel, inspiring both members and young leaders to take proactive and supportive measures for the nation. Additionally, his initiatives in organizing missions to Israel and fostering enduring relationships with local, state, and national elected officials have proven invaluable in enhancing understanding and cooperation between our Nations.

Beyond his tenure in New York, Consul General Nitzan's illustrious career has spanned the globe. He notably served as the Spokesperson in the Israeli Embassy in Egypt from 2002 to 2005, followed by his role as Deputy Chief of Mission from 2009 to 2011. In his subsequent role as Minister-Counselor for Political Affairs at the Permanent Mission of Israel to the United Nations, Consul General Nitzan represented Israel's interests before the UN Security Council, effectively monitoring and advancing Israeli political engagement and policies within the UN system.

Israel Nitzan's dedication and tireless efforts have undeniably advanced America's relationship with 1 of our closest and strongest allies. As he concludes this chapter in his career, I extend my sincere gratitude for his invaluable contributions. May he be commended for his outstanding service, and may his future endeavors continue to be marked by success and dedication to the cause of international diplomacy.

RECOGNIZING WISCONSIN SUPREME COURT JUSTICE PATIENCE ROGGENSACK

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2023

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Wisconsin Supreme Court Justice Patience Roggensack's 20 years of service on the Wisconsin Supreme Court.

Justice Roggensack's legal legacy will be long remembered. She helped to guide the court throughout her tenure during some of its

most important times. She has mentored countless attorneys and judges and will continue to serve as an important role model for the next generation of judges. She will always serve as their fiercest advocate.

Justice Roggensack led a historic career. Before serving on the Supreme Court, Justice Roggensack served on the Wisconsin Court of Appeals for 7 years. She was elected to the Supreme Court in 2003. I had the great honor of working for Justice Roggensack shortly after law school and saw her dedication to the law, her diligent work ethic, and her compassion for serving Wisconsin. Everyone who has worked with Justice Roggensack, including myself, has benefited from her mentorship.

12 years after her election to the Wisconsin Supreme Court, Justice Roggensack became the first Justice to be elected by her colleagues in the court to the position of Chief Justice. She held the position of Chief Justice for 6 years until relinquishing it in 2021. Justice Roggensack's incredible service, dedication, and outstanding accomplishments will be long remembered after her July 31, 2023 retirement.

I congratulate Justice Patience Roggensack on her retirement and 20 years of service to Wisconsin.

COMMEMORATING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 27, 2023

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today, I wish to commemorate the 33rd anniversary of the enactment of the Americans with Disabilities Act, or ADA. This core civil rights law prohibits discrimination against Americans with disabilities by requiring public and private institutions to provide equal access to goods, services, and opportunities, such as employment, public transportation, and telecommunication.

Today, 1-in-4 U.S. adults has a disability that substantially impacts life. The law provides a framework to make the United States fully-accessible to tens of millions of Americans, whether in workplaces, housing, schools, transit, or businesses. I applaud the successes that the disability advocates have secured over the past decades. We know the passage of the ADA law was the beginning and not the end. According to the Federal Transit Administration, 99 percent of all busses are ADA-accessible, in contrast to just 65 percent prior to the ADA. However, we still have metros, trains, and planes that are not accessible. A 2020 GAO report found that two-thirds of school districts had facilities with barriers that could limit access for people with disabilities. We also know that advocates have waged and continue to wage the legal battles to improve access to buildings and transportation that should have occurred 33 years ago.

Although disability advocates have secured important accomplishments over the past decades, much more is needed to achieve an equitable society for Americans with disabilities. Americans with disabilities face an unemployment rate of 6.8 percent compared to 3.7 percent for their peers without disabilities. According to a new analysis by the National Partnership for Women & Families: only 36 percent of