

this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Lieutenant Wood answered the call to be a police officer and answered the call again on July 26, 2023. My thoughts and prayers are with the Wood family, the Newberry Police Department and the entire community who mourns this tragic loss of life.

HONORING THE LIFE OF POLICE  
CHIEF KEN BURK

**HON. ZACHARY NUNN**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 4, 2023*

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Winterset, Iowa's Chief of Police, Ken Burk, who passed away on July 21, 2023, at the age of 59. Chief Burk spent the last 20 years dedicated to serving his community as Police Chief, and he leaves behind a lasting legacy of exceptional service.

To the people of Winterset, Ken Burk was more than just a Police Chief—he was a true pillar in his community. In a town of just over 5,300, almost everyone knew Chief Burk. Widely respected and always ready to chat about classic cars or the Kansas City Chiefs, he is remembered as a man who truly cared about his fellow neighbors and worked valiantly to keep his town safe.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues join me in remembering Chief Ken Burk as not only a tremendous public servant and protector, but as an even better person.

APPLICABILITY OF THE AIRLINE  
DEREGULATION ACT TO STATE  
WORKERS' COMPENSATION PRO-  
GRAMS

**HON. LANCE GOODEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 4, 2023*

Mr. GOODEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an important issue to both our nation's employers and their employees; and that is regarding the applicability of the Airline Deregulation Act (ADA) to State Workers' Compensation programs. When Congress enacted the ADA in 1978, one of the main goals was to place maximum reliance on competitive market forces to help lower prices and improve efficiency, innovation, variety, and competition in the delivery of air transportation services.

But the ADA was never intended to prohibit states from regulating workers' compensation systems.

In my home state of Texas, there has been litigation on this issue for over a decade, and there is no end in sight. That is why Congress needs to step in and why I filed Amendment 300 to H.R. 3935, the Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act.

My amendment, which unfortunately was not able to be made in order as part of the House's consideration of H.R. 3935, would have amended the Airline Deregulation Act to clarify that the original intent of the ADA was not to preempt state workers' compensation laws with respect to billing and payments for air ambulance services.

The foundation of the state workers' compensation system is individual state regulation of reimbursement amounts under their workers' compensation medical fee schedules, thereby creating cost transparency. In most states, this is accomplished by setting workers' compensation medical fee services at a percentage above what providers receive under Medicare.

As a result, workers' compensation coverage is widely available to employers of every size across all industries; and ensures employees are protected from the economic impact of workplace injuries.

Unfortunately, the protections and certainty this system affords both employers and workers alike started to be undermined in 2010 when numerous air ambulance service providers began asserting the ADA preempts state workers' compensation medical fee schedules, creating a pathway for air ambulance fees to unreasonably skyrocket.

The preemption of state workers' compensation laws within the ADA is a pure accident. When Congress passed the ADA in 1978 to deregulate the airline industry, it certainly did not intend to deregulate workers' compensation insurance payments to air ambulance companies.

As part of the 2018 FAA Reauthorization Act, Congress established the Air Ambulance and Patient Billing Advisory Committee at the Department of Transportation to address several issues involving air ambulance companies, including medical fees, consumer choice, and protecting consumers from balance billing. In March 2022, the Advisory Committee submitted its report to Congress, which included a recommendation to amend the ADA to clarify that it does not preempt state laws relating to state regulation of workers' compensation insurance programs.

My proposed amendment to H.R. 3935 embodies the Advisory Committee's recommendation and will address the accidental preemption of state workers' compensation laws and the inadvertent federalization of a part of state workers' compensation systems. This simple clarification that the ADA preemption provision does not apply to state workers' compensation payments for air ambulance services will return the issue to the states where it belongs, and air ambulance companies will have every opportunity to make their arguments on the appropriate payment amounts for their services within each state's workers' compensation system.

Unfortunately, my amendment was not included in the bill that was considered by the House, but I will continue to work with other members on legislation to address this important issue.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS  
OF MISS JESSICA THOMPSON OF  
MARYLAND

**HON. DAVID J. TRONE**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 4, 2023*

Mr. TRONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Miss Jessica Thompson, a resident of Middletown, Maryland and member of the Frederick County Knucklers marble shooting team. On June 22,

2023, Miss Thompson won the 100th Annual National Marbles Tournament. In addition to winning the top title in the girls' division, she won the honor of Good Sportsmanship. These titles earned her a college scholarship.

As this year marks the 100th annual tournament, it is regarded as the oldest children's competitive sport in the United States, having started in 1922. During the week of June 22nd, young girls and boys from all across the nation gathered to participate in tournaments, engaging in over 1,200 games of Ringer. Throughout the intense three-day event, Jessica displayed her exceptional skills by competing in more than 100 games. With determination and skill, she clinched the championship.

It is with great pride that Maryland's sixth district welcomes the Queen of Marbles home to Middletown, and we wish her continued success in all of her endeavors.

HONORING THOMAS (TOMMY)  
CHRISTOPHER CHATMON, JR.

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 4, 2023*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize, a dedicated servant leader, seasoned business executive, faithful civil rights activist, great strategic thinker, loving husband, committed father, and friend of long-standing, Thomas (Tommy) Christopher Chatmon, Jr. Sadly, Tommy transitioned this life from labor to reward on July 22, 2023. A homegoing service celebrating his remarkable life will be held on Saturday, August 5, 2023, at The Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia.

Thomas (Tommy) Christopher Chatmon, Jr. was born in Albany, Georgia, on December 19, 1954, the third of 5 children to the late Thomas C. Chatmon, Sr., and Alma Chatmon. Raised in a God-fearing family, he became a member of Bethel AME Church, where he was a lifelong member and sang in the choir. His first fruits of education came as a student at the Hazard Laboratory School for Primary Education and St. Teresa's Catholic School in Albany. Tommy was also a product of the Dougherty County School System, graduating from Albany High School in 1972. Tommy made history while at Albany High School, becoming the marching band's first African American drum major. His love of music continued, and he delayed college after graduating with honors to travel with a band called Eden from 1968 to 1974.

In 1974, Tommy followed in his father's footsteps by attending our Alma Mater, Morehouse College. He graduated from Morehouse in 1979 with a bachelor's degree in political science. One of Tommy's proudest moments at Morehouse was when he was selected to serve as a U.S. Congressional Intern, in the office of United States Congresswoman Cardiss Hortense Collins.

After graduating from Morehouse, Tommy returned to his hometown roots in Albany to operate a family-owned business, Chatmon's Beauty Supply, Inc. He was a great strategic entrepreneur and as Chief Operating Officer for 17 years, he helped grow the family business to 10 retail locations in 4 different states.

Tommy's professional career also took him to work as the District Manager for the Georgia Census Bureau in 1980. In 1984, he was the Campaign Manager for Standup Strain's bid for Dougherty County Sheriff. Tommy cemented his bonafides during this time as a deeply respected political figure and social activist, once again following in the footsteps of his father, who had been active in the Albany Civil Rights Movement.

In 1998, when leaders in Albany decided to revitalize the city's downtown area by forming Albany Tomorrow, Inc., Tommy was selected to serve as its Executive Director. Forever a visionary and forward thinker, he was able to bring people and projects together for downtown to include the Hilton Garden Inn, The Flint River Aquarium, The Ray Charles Plaza, Turtle Grove Park, SKATE Park, The Albany Law Enforcement Center and Police Headquarters, Department of Human Resources Administrative Building, The Central Square, The Science Discovery Children's Museum, parking garages for the downtown business district, and The Dougherty County School Board Administrative Building. Tommy's proudest moment as the Executive Director was the groundbreaking of the Albany Civil Rights Institute, which tells the story of Albany's prominent role in the modern-day Civil Rights Movement. As his good friend Glenn Singfield put it, "There wouldn't be an Albany today without Albany Tomorrow, and there wouldn't have been an Albany Tomorrow without Tommy Chatmon."

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Faith is sometimes taking the first step without seeing the full staircase." In 2007, Thomas took a step on faith with the lessons he learned in his stint with Albany Tomorrow carrying his creative talents to Orlando, Florida, where the mayor appointed him as Executive Director of the Downtown Development Board/Community Redevelopment Agency. In this role, Tommy oversaw economic development for the Community Redevelopment Agency. He played a crucial role in achieving some of downtown Orlando's premier development in retail and business recruitment, marketing and special events programming, and housing development within the Community Redevelopment Area to include:

The Amway Center, The Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, Sun Rail, Chase, Plaza, Church Street Plaza, Citi Tower, Creative Village, 55 West, and many more.

It has been said that "service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this earth." Tommy Chatmon paid his rent, and he paid it well. He gave his time, talent, and treasure to numerous social and civil organizations, serving as Chair of Homeless Service Network of Central Florida Board, and the Starter Studio Board, The International Downtown Association (IDA), Nap Ford Community School, MyRegion.ORG, WMFW Community Advisory Board, and the Central Florida Urban League Board.

Tommy has been honored for his dedicated Community service to include Orlando's "10 Businessmen to Watch" and Orlando Magazine's "50 Most Powerful People", Georgia Trend Magazine's 100 Most Influential Georgians, Martin Luther King Celebration Leadership Award, and the Leadership Albany Outstanding Alumni Award.

Tommy accomplished much in his life, but none of it would have been possible without

the grace of God, the love and support of his elementary school sweetheart, his beloved wife Brenetta, and his three children, Yvonne, Brittany, and Cory.

On a personal note, Tommy was my friend, my Morehouse brother, and longtime supporter. Over the years, he gave me wise counsel, for which I will be forever grateful. Likewise, during his life, Tommy did so much for so many for so long. He touched countless lives, and because he did, the world is a better place.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join my wife Vivian and me, along with the 765,000 people of the 2nd Congressional District, in extending our deepest condolences to the family of Mr. Thomas Christopher Chatmon, Jr., his family, friends, and all who mourn his loss. May we all be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks, and months ahead.

RECOGNIZING LOGAN  
LANGEMEIER FOR HIS SERVICE  
TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**HON. BARRY LOUDERMILK**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 4, 2023*

Mr. LOUDERMILK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a dedicated staffer who is moving on to a new venture. After graduating from Georgia Southern University with a degree in accounting, Logan came to my Congressional office as an intern. Although he is originally from South Lake Tahoe, Nevada, he quickly became an honorary Georgian.

Logan was college football starter for 3 years at Georgia Southern. He was named on Sun Belt Conference Academic Commissioner's List and the Sun Belt Conference Academic Honor Role.

Logan has a strong desire to serve, and an even stronger dedication to this country. Despite having a job offer in hand after graduation, Logan chose to come to D.C. to work as an intern, and immediately made an impact on our office.

When the opportunity arose for Logan to join the staff of my House Administration subcommittee, he didn't hesitate. He saw it as another opportunity to serve—and he has been invaluable from day 1.

Logan is moving on to the next phase of his life, where he will begin his career in accounting. Logan has left a lasting impression on our entire team and will be impossible to replace; but I am grateful for his service, and I look forward to seeing him continue to succeed as he enters his new role.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF JOSEPH SCOTT

**HON. MARC A. VEASEY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, August 4, 2023*

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life and legacy of Fort

Worth native Joseph Garnett Scott, otherwise affectionately known by many as "Coach Scott" by many in the community.

Joe was a pillar of our community and was well-known around Fort Worth as 1 of the most dapper and well-dressed men in the city. Joe was born in 1953 and was a member of New Mt. Carmel Baptist Church for many years. Joe got his education in the Fort Worth Independent School District and graduated from Polytechnic High School, where he was an all-district athlete in football and track. He would go on to earn his bachelor's degree at Howard Payne University in Brownwood, Texas; there, he continued a successful football career as a 3-year starter. He obtained his master's degree at Tarleton State University in Stephenville, Texas.

Joe spent many years serving our community as a teacher. He started his career in the Fort Worth Independent School District as a Physical Education teacher assistant and track coach at William James Middle School, where his team was successful and won many awards on the track. He then became a Physical Education teacher and head football, track, and soccer coach at Wedgwood Middle School, where his teams were both dominant on the field and track. He would later transition to high school as a ninth-grade English teacher and football and track coach at Paul Laurence Dunbar High School. He was known by many for having a gift for forming positive relationships with his students and athletes.

Joe's first administrative position as an Assistant Principal at Handley Middle School, where he consistently supported leadership, students, faculty, and staff. Joe then progressed to an Assistant Principal at Dunbar High School. As a high school assistant principal, his days were filled with working with students and faculty, along with attending many games and activities throughout the school year. Joe's first principalship was at Dunbar 6th Grade Center. Joe thought it was most important that the building reflected a safe, welcoming, and attractive learning environment at all times. For the next 10 years, he was fortunate enough to become principal of his alma mater, Polytechnic High School. His years as the instructional leader of the Poly Parrot Community brought years of hard work, determination, and accomplishments. After this, for the next several years, his love for fashion and style led him to work in the retail industry. Soon after, he felt a strong desire to return to the world of education as a substitute teacher and administrator, where he continued to touch many lives throughout the district.

Joe was also a family man who was a loving husband and father. He was always the life of the party, cracking jokes and enjoying whatever food had been prepared. He was also known for being a "Master" Gardener. He spent endless hours planting flowers and consistently maintaining a manicured yard. He put just as much thought into planning his daily coordinated "outfits". He is survived by his loving wife of 43 years, Patricia Scott, his children, Tracy Carter, Kena Nicole Knox Brown, Evin Scott, and Whitney Scott; grandchildren Maxine, Connor, and London, Aunt, Willie B Jones, Great-Aunt Macie Bonner and a host of relatives and friends. May his memory live on forever.