

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEE PAY COMPRESSION RELIEF ACT OF 2023

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Federal Employee Pay Compression Relief Act of 2023, which would allow federal employees who reach the pay cap in their pay system to receive the base and locality pay adjustments they would otherwise be entitled to. Currently, federal employees who reach the pay cap do not receive such adjustments.

This bill would allow many of the longest-serving federal employees, District of Columbia residents among them, to receive the pay adjustments they would otherwise be entitled to but for the pay cap. This bill would help the federal government hire and retain the most qualified individuals.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

RECOGNIZING MISS SOLIE STENGER

HON. JOHN JOYCE

OF PENNSYLVANIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize the athletic accomplishments of Solie Stenger, from Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, who at 16 years old, has excelled in the sport of water skiing.

Utilizing the beautiful Lake Heritage to practice her sport, the local community has rallied behind her to support her travels to high-level tournaments across North America.

Recently, Solie came in first place in the U17 Girls Slalom at the Jr. Canadian Open and pulled in two other top-three finishes. She was one of only five Americans who won titles at the open and is on track to reach her goal of competing professionally one day.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I am proud to recognize the athletic ability of Miss Solie Stenger and look forward to her continued success.

HONORING MS. JACQULYN SAUNDERS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding musician, dedicated educator, committed community servant, and dear friend of longstanding, Ms.

Jacquelyn Saunders. She will be honored at the Chancel Choir's 60th Anniversary Gospel Concert at First Missionary Baptist Church of Thomasville, Georgia, on Sunday, August 6th, 2023.

Jacquelyn Saunders has used her life's work to help others to reach their full potential through music, theater, and education. It has been said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this Earth." Ms. Saunders has paid her rent, and she has paid it well. Ms. Saunders graduated from Morris Brown College in 1973 with a B.A. degree in English. During her matriculation at Morris Brown, she was initiated into the sisterhood of Alpha Kappa Alpha, Sorority Inc., which makes her a Golden Soror. She was also a member of the Morris Brown College Wolverine Marching Band.

Her love of knowledge and learning took her academic pursuits to the University of Georgia, Valdosta State College, (now University) Walden University, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she received her M.S. in Counseling Education in 1988.

Ms. Saunders has had a long and storied career as an educator that began in 1973. She has served in many roles during her professional career to include, instructor of English and Social Studies, English Language and Literature instructor, instructor of English Communications, Career Advisor Coordinator/Career Advisor, Counselor/Teacher, Upward Bound Counselor, Student Support Team and 504 Coordinator, 9th and 10th Grade Counselor and PK-5 Counselor. Her professional stops during her educational journey have included Brooks County Junior High School, Thomas County, Turn Around School, The University of Wisconsin, Thomas County Central High School, Thomas University, Thomasville High School, and J.K. Harper Elementary School. Ms. Saunders had a brief respite from her educational career from 1984-86 where she served in several roles at National Savings and Trust Bank in Washington, D.C. But she quickly returned to her first love of education.

A wonderful woman of God, Ms. Saunders served as church musician for Ochlocknee and Piney Grove Missionary Baptist Churches from 1959-69. From 1959 through the present, she has served as a church musician for Mercy Seat Christian and First Missionary Baptist Churches. She also has been a member of the acclaimed Georgia Mass Choir since 1981.

In addition, she has expanded her horizons in the performing arts by appearing in the 1996 movie, "The Preacher's Wife," which starred Denzel Washington and Whitney Houston, and she also appeared in the Broadway play "Why Do Good Girls Like Bad Boys?" She has also broadened her horizons by traveling and participating in an international tour of France, England, Spain, and Italy.

Amidst all her other activities, she has always found time to give back to her community. Jacquelyn Saunders has paid her rent, and

she has paid it well. Through her beloved Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc., she has given her time, treasure, and talent to many community initiatives. Ms. Saunders founded the Lambda Xi Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and served as its Basileus from 1977 through 79 and 1992 through 93. She is an example of what can happen when one carries out God's purpose for her life.

Jacquelyn Saunders has exemplified a life of service to God using her many talents to touch the lives of countless souls fortunate enough to cross paths with her. She has done so much for so many for so long.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the members of the Chancel Choir, First Missionary Baptist Church of Thomasville, Georgia, as well as the 765,000 people of the Second Congressional District, in honoring and commending Ms. Jacquelyn Saunders for her commitments to God, her community, and to humankind.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF FRANK R. CAPUANO

HON. PATRICK RYAN

OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Mr. RYAN Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Frank R. Capuano of Maybrook, N.Y., a beloved father, grandfather, great-grandfather, brother, and uncle; devoted companion; decorated World War II Army veteran; and cherished friend, who passed away on January 26, 2020.

Frank Capuano was born on October 16, 1921, in Brooklyn, N.Y., to Pasquale and Michaelina Capuano. In 1943, he was drafted into the U.S. Army and served as a Heavy Truck Driver in the rank of Technician, 5th Grade during World War II with Bravo Company of the 398th Infantry Regiment.

During World War II, Frank served in Central Europe, Northern France, and the Rhineland. He fought bravely in numerous historic battles such as the Battle of the Bulge, which helped secure victory for the Allied forces in Europe, as well as the Battle of Heilbronn. Frank was a courageous and selfless patriot.

Two months after the Battle of Heilbronn, on June 27, 1945, Frank was awarded the Bronze Star, which is awarded by the Department of the Army in recognition of heroic achievement, heroic service, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service in a combat zone. Frank received numerous other awards for his service. He received the Army Good Conduct Medal, American Campaign Medal, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal (3 Service Stars), and the World War II Victory Medal.

On May 23, 2013, Frank was awarded the French Legion of Honor in the rank of Chevalier for his bravery and service in Northern France during World War II. The French Legion of Honor is the highest military honor that

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can be awarded by the nation of France and is awarded for excellent military conduct.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the accomplishments and legacy of Frank R. Capuano. It is my privilege to rise in recognition of his service and to honor his memory.

HONORING DOUGLAS CATER

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and dedication of Douglas Cater, Director of the Schoharie County Sunshine Fair and President of the Cobleskill Agricultural Society. For nearly 50 years, Mr. Cater has been a leader in his community and a staple of Schoharie County for his efforts overseeing every aspect of the Fair and his deep roots in Schoharie County.

Mr. Cater has been involved with the Schoharie County Sunshine Fair since his youth as an exhibitor and an auctioneer and has been on the Fair Board since 1975. As a 1966 graduate of the Reisch American School of Auctioneers, Mr. Cater has the voice and tempo needed for what he is best known for; he has announced the New York Sire Stakes Harness Races in Schoharie since 1973.

Mr. Cater has also been a long-term member of the Cobleskill Agricultural Society and is a very active fundraiser in the community. He works with many local organizations, such as the Albany County Community Caregivers, Schoharie Valley Animal Shelter, and the Schoharie County ARC.

For his years of dedication, Mr. Cater has been awarded the United States Trotting Association Blue Ribbon Fair Award, the New York State Association of Agriculture Fairs Hall of Fame Award in 2013, was named the President of the New York State Association of Agriculture Fairs in 1992, and the Sunshine Fair was named the Business of the Year by the Schoharie County Chamber of Commerce in 2010.

I extend my deepest gratitude and congratulations to Mr. Cater on a lifetime of achievement and success, and it is my honor on behalf of New York's 21st Congressional District to recognize the commendable life and inspiring legacy of Douglas Cater.

SPORTS LEAGUES' CONCERNS ON FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS WAIVER

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a Statement of Administration Policy about protected airspace over major sporting events. Temporary Flight Restrictions over stadiums and related facilities have been in effect for over 20 years, since Congress first enacted them into law in 2002. Congress acted not to protect the stadiums themselves, but the millions of fans who attend events and the athletes who compete in them. I submit as

well a letter from the security directors of the National Football League, Major League Baseball, the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and NASCAR, in which they affirm that the Temporary Flight Restrictions, which Congress created, form an essential part of the security architecture that protects these events. Section 813 of the pending bill opens up this airspace, putting those fans and athletes at undue risk. There is no valid public policy reason for it. I urge that before this legislation becomes public law, the decision to weaken these restrictions be reversed and the current law be left undisturbed.

STATEMENT OF ADMINISTRATION POLICY
H.R. 3935—SECURING GROWTH AND ROBUST LEADERSHIP IN AMERICAN AVIATION ACT
July 17, 2023

The Administration supports enactment of a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) reauthorization bill and applauds the bipartisan work of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. The Administration is focused on ensuring that the aviation sector works well for the American people, and reauthorizing the FAA in a timely manner will help achieve that goal. H.R. 3935, the Securing Growth and Robust Leadership in American Aviation Act, would enhance aviation safety; invest in, and improve on-the-job safety for, our aviation workforce; integrate into the national airspace system new entrants such as Advanced Air Mobility and Commercial Space operators; strengthen passenger rights; and improve our aviation infrastructure.

The Administration looks forward to working with the Congress to address the Administration's concerns with this legislation, a number of which are outlined below.

PROTECTION OF AVIATION CONSUMER RIGHTS AND PROMOTION OF COMPETITION.

The Administration is strongly committed to protecting the rights of aviation consumers and promoting competition in the aviation industry. The Administration opposes provisions in the bill that would reverse important gains made by this Administration to combat junk fees in the airline industry and would eliminate longstanding consumer protections. The Administration believes that the disclosure requirements currently in place for passenger tickets are necessary to help consumers comparison shop for a ticket. The Administration encourages the Congress to include the Administration's proposals to expand consumer protections by banning family seating junk fees, requiring up-front disclosure of add-on fees, and requiring automatic refunds and additional compensation for controllable flight cancellations and delays. The Administration further supports opening up airport gate access and preventing anticompetitive practices that block new entrants.

INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS.

While the Administration appreciates the language aimed at ensuring continued U.S. implementation of Open Skies agreements while promoting labor standards for U.S.-based aviation sector workers, the Administration also urges the Congress to add provisions to implement U.S. international commitments and ensure our aviation partners follow suit. The bill should be amended to include provisions for U.S. implementation of global market-based measures of the International Civil Aviation Organization, and to establish U.S. leadership relating to the understanding and mitigation of the non-Greenhouse Gas climate impacts of aviation.

AGENCY RESTRUCTURING.

While the Administration supports the goal of improving the efficiency of the orga-

nizational structure of the FAA, it does not support the proposed changes in FAA rulemaking review and the weakening of the Administrator's ability and authority to determine the appropriate size and allocation of the air traffic controller workforce. The Administration also has concerns with provisions that would make fundamental changes to the agency's structure, eroding the discretion of the Administrator to manage the agency in the most efficient manner.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINES AND PROGRAM CHANGES.

The legislation includes multiple rulemakings, reviews, reports, and other requirements with aggressive time lines, along with the creation of numerous programs that are not conditioned on the availability of appropriations.

The Administration is also concerned that proposed major structural changes to airport infrastructure programs are untested, and may be difficult to implement depending on the level of resources made available. The bill would also reduce the amount of competitive airport grant funding, which would reduce the FAA's ability to address important safety and capacity issues.

STANDARDS FOR AIRPORT SERVICE WORKERS.

The Administration urges the Congress to include provisions that will improve job quality for, and therefore aid in the recruitment and retention of, those who clean planes, handle baggage, assist passengers who use wheelchairs, and provide other services critical to safe, stable, and timely operations for aviation customers.

AGE STANDARDS FOR PILOTS.

The bill includes a provision that would raise the retirement age for pilots in commercial operations. Making this change without doing research and establishing any necessary policies would be outside the international standard.

MAINTAINING SAFE AND SECURE AIRSPACE DURING MAJOR SPORTS EVENTS.

While the Administration supports the goal of providing accessibility to and public use of the national airspace, it is concerned that provisions proposed in the bill could introduce unnecessary risks to those attending major sporting events if the effectiveness of safety and security buffers currently provided by temporary flight restrictions were to be decreased. To the extent that the proposed provisions are intended to accommodate airshows, the Administration urges the Congress to consider alternative methods to deconflict airshows and major sports events rather than potentially put aviation operations in close proximity to events attended by millions of Americans each year.

JULY 18, 2023.

DEAR MEMBERS OF CONGRESS: We write to urge you to oppose the weakening of a law that protects the millions of sports fans and spectators who attend professional and collegiate sporting events each year. The current statutory ban on aircraft—including unmanned aircraft systems ("UAS") or drones—flying over large stadium sporting events throughout the country provides necessary safety and security protections against real and potential threats.

We are deeply concerned about section 813 of the House version of the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") Reauthorization Act. If adopted, the language would establish a broad and complex waiver program that would permit countless aircraft to fly near and over stadiums during games, putting millions of fans at risk, and unnecessarily so. Congress wisely eliminated a similar waiver program back in 2003, after discovering troubling and persistent failures, gaps, and vulnerabilities in the process for conducting background checks and issuing waivers.