

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN
HERO ANNE POTTINGER

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Anne Pottinger, who is highly involved in our North Texas community and always finds a way to help others. She is a leader in numerous non-profit organizations, including the Freedom Mobility Foundation in Southlake and Holidays & Heroes in Fort Worth. Through her work with the Freedom Mobility Foundation, Anne helps to provide mobility equipment like track chairs to those in need.

I want to thank Anne for going above and beyond for our North Texas veterans and military families.

RECOGNIZING JAMES A. PROVOST
AS THE 2023 UPPER PENINSULA
VETERAN OF THE YEAR

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize James Provost for being named the 2023 Upper Peninsula Veteran of the Year. Through his continued service, charitable nature, and strong leadership, James has become an essential part of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

The U.P. Veteran of the Year is chosen annually by a selection committee consisting of past commanders of various service organizations throughout the peninsula. It is given to recognize Yooper veterans who go above and beyond in their service to their local communities and fellow veterans. None are more deserving of this honor than James. Prior to his work with veterans, James served in the United States Marine Corps, where he was decorated with the Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnamese Service Medal, Vietnamese Campaign Medal, and two Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citations. His devotion to the people of his country and community has not wavered since returning from military service.

It is impossible to fully list all the ways in which James works to better the lives of U.P. veterans. Since the organization's founding in 2014, he has been the Chairman of the Marquette County Veterans Alliance. Similarly, he has served on the Marquette County's Veterans Affairs Committee for the past 9 years. As a member of the committee, he works on the veterans crisis team, finding resources and housing for individuals in need. Furthermore, James has played a pivotal role in ensuring that veterans in the U.P. have consistent access to medical services. Through his fundraising efforts, he has helped the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 22 Veteran Transportation Program to purchase new vehicles and has personally logged thousands of hours transporting veterans to doctor appointments and hospital visits. Notably, in 2016 James was responsible for the AVTT Traveling Vietnam Wall's arrival in Marquette. He organized

many commemorative veterans events to coincide with the tribute. Since returning from the Vietnam War, James has spent years as an advocate for veterans, and the initiatives that he has begun have created the infrastructure of support that our military heroes need and deserve.

Outside of his work for veterans, James is an active community member. After providing the loan to start the Marquette County Youth Football League in 1990, he became the league commissioner for the following 20 years. In addition, he coached Marquette Junior Hockey for 12 years, serving twice as Vice President. Later, he founded the Central Upper Peninsula Hockey League and served as both Marquette Senior High School and Northern Michigan University's Goal Judge for over two decades. His contributions to his community have been previously recognized by Senator PETERS, Senator STABENOW, Governor Whitmer, and myself. Just last year, he was also honored as the 2022 Marquette County Veteran of the Year. As a service-member, a veteran, a volunteer, and a Yooper, James has consistently put the needs of others before his own.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to congratulate James A. Provost for his decades of service to fellow Michigan veterans and for being named the 2023 Upper Peninsula Veteran of the Year. Michiganders can take great pride in knowing the First District is home to such a selfless and devoted individual. On behalf of my constituents, I wish James all the best in his future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO SETH SCOTT

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my departing Chief of Staff, Seth Scott, for his years of service to the people of Arizona's Fourth Congressional District. It's a bittersweet day. Seth has worked with me for more than a decade—half of that here in the House. I often say hiring him was the best career decision I've ever made.

Few have as broad experience in government, law, media and politics. He cut his teeth in the Arizona Governor's office, Congress, and local government and ran several important political campaigns before returning to Arizona State University for law school. At the City of Phoenix and here in Congress, Seth has led my office with a steady hand. His acumen while serving as my Chief of Staff was always in clear view, and all the accomplishments we achieved would not have been possible without him at the helm.

His fierce intellect, sharp political instincts and deep policy expertise have made him an invaluable and sought-after adviser.

But it's his loyalty, integrity and a work ethic second to none that have endeared Seth to all who have worked with and under him. As deftly as he's handled complex legislative matters, he has also cultivated and mentored a generation of young staffers.

Seth has the talent and determination to succeed anywhere he chooses—but the people of Arizona are fortunate that he has chosen to devote his career to serving his community.

He has been a great friend and trusted confidant of mine, and he will continue to be well after he departs—though perhaps with a few less late-night and early morning phone calls. I wish him all the best as he takes on this new challenge.

HONORING TEXAS-24 HOMETOWN
HERO CHIEF JIMMY PERDUE

HON. BETH VAN DUYNÉ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYNÉ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our TX-24 Hometown Hero, retired police chief Jimmy Perdue. Chief Perdue spent over 40 years in public service, 18 of them serving as the North Richland Hills Chief of Police and Director of Public Safety. Under his leadership, the North Richland Hills Police Department earned "Recognized Status" from the Texas Police Chiefs Association Foundation Best Practices Recognition Program in 2011, a status which the department continues to maintain year after year. He also served as a past President of the North Texas Police Chiefs Association and as the President of the Texas Police Chiefs Association from 2022–2023.

Chief Perdue continually displayed his dedication to public service by developing the Women of Law Enforcement Conference, leading the city's response to the COVID-19 outbreak, overseeing the design and construction of the North Richland Hills Animal Adoption and Rescue Center, and bringing the SHIELD program to life, a 3-day training course for NRH police officers. I commend Chief Perdue for going above and beyond for our community and congratulate him on his retirement. He will be missed.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT
OF COLUMBIA ELECTRONIC
TRANSMITTAL OF LEGISLATION
ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the District of Columbia Electronic Transmittal of Legislation Act, which would permit the Chair of the Council of the District of Columbia to transmit legislation to Congress in the form of the Chair's choosing, including electronic form. This bill would bring the congressional review process for legislation enacted by D.C. into the electronic age. Last Congress, the Committee on Oversight and Reform passed this bill.

While I do not believe there should be a congressional review process for D.C. legislation—and I have introduced a bill to eliminate the review process—this bill would not change the review process, except that it would give D.C. flexibility in the form it transmits legislation to Congress. This bill's only purpose is to reduce administrative burdens on D.C. and Congress.

The D.C. Home Rule Act requires the Chair of the D.C. Council to transmit legislation to

Congress for a review period. The legislation takes effect upon the expiration of the review period, unless a resolution of disapproval is enacted into law during the review period. The Home Rule Act is silent on the form of transmittal, but Congress has always required the legislation to be physically transmitted.

Electronic records are recognized as valid under Federal and State law, and Federal, State and local governments conduct official business electronically. For example, under the Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, which was enacted into law more than 20 years ago, with respect to any interstate transaction in which the parties consent, "a signature, contract, or other record relating to such transaction may not be denied legal effect, validity, or enforceability solely because it is in electronic form." In 2002, the E-Government Act, which facilitated the Federal Government providing information and services to the public electronically, was enacted into law.

Federal agencies transmit regulations and other documents to the Federal Register electronically. Congress is also capable of conducting official business electronically. For example, the House permits Members, including acting through their staff, to introduce legislation and submit statements into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD electronically.

The requirement that D.C. physically transmit legislation imposes costs on the Council. The Council engages in a 12-step process to physically transmit legislation, including printing two copies of each bill and committee report, arranging a time for delivery of these documents to the offices of the Speaker and President of the Senate and having two staffers drive to the Capitol to deliver the documents—two are necessary because of parking restrictions.

The physical transmittal process also imposes costs on Congress. The following congressional offices and committees are involved in the physical transmittal process: the offices of the Speaker and President of the Senate, the House and Senate parliamentarians, the House Clerk, the Senate Secretary, the House Committee on Oversight and Accountability and the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

The aftermath of the January 6, 2021, attack on the Capitol highlighted the burdens of physical transmittal. After temporary fencing was installed around the Capitol, D.C. employees could not enter the Capitol. This delayed transmittal of D.C. legislation until Council and congressional staff developed a workaround, which consisted of staff meeting outside the fencing to transmit legislation.

I recognize that Congress requires all so-called executive communications, including D.C. legislation, to be physically transmitted, but D.C. is the only entity required to transmit legislation to Congress for a review period.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 125 YEARS OF MONESSEN

HON. GUY RESCHENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Mr. RESCHENTHALER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the city of Monessen, Pennsylvania, in celebration of its 125th anniversary.

Prior to its founding, the area consisted of 8 farms. However, Civil War veteran James M. Schoonmaker and other great Americans, saw the promise of an industrial city on the Monongahela River. Thus, Schoonmaker convinced famed industrialist William Donner to set up a tin plate mill within the new community. Thanks to the American Tin Plate Company's success, the community grew rapidly, and the borough of Monessen became incorporated on September 3, 1898.

Throughout the early 20th century, Monessen's community played active roles in the suffrage and labor movements, events surrounding Prohibition, and in the industrial efforts powering American operations in World War I and World War II. In 1921, the city also had a multitude of nationalities and mirrored the ethnicities of the Pittsburgh region, serving as a microcosm of America as a whole. At its peak, the city's population reached over 20,000 residents. Today, the town is still an important part of the southwestern Pennsylvania community. Its residents exemplify the values of hard work, dedication to one's community, and good citizenship.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District, I congratulate the City of Monessen on its 125th anniversary and applaud their determination to build a better community for themselves and their children. I am confident that Monessen's people will strive for and achieve an even more successful next 125 years.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF HARVEY DOLEMAN, SR.

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Harvey Doleman, Sr. Mr. Harvey Doleman, Sr. is a native of Anniston, AL. He received his grammar school education at Central Girard Elementary School, Phenix City, AL, and graduated from South Girard High School in 1953. He attended Chattahoochee Valley Community College.

Upon graduating from high school, Mr. Doleman joined the United States Army. Mr. Doleman was assigned to U.S. Army Chemical Corps, Senior Instructor Chemical School, at Ft. McClellan, AL, where he specialized in chemical warfare. He also had overseas assignments during his service including Korea 1956–1957, Germany 1963–1966, Korea 1967–1968 and Vietnam 1970–1971. His final duty assignment and major command was HHC, US Army School/Training Center, TRADOC.

He received recognition for his service including National Defense Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster, Good Conduct Medal (Fourth Award), Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea), Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, 2 Overseas Bars, Bronze Star Medal, 6 Service Awards, Stripes and Sharpshooter (Rifle M-14 & Rifle M-16).

After serving 20 years, 4 months, and 19 days in the Army, he retired from active duty with an honorable discharge as Sergeant First Class on February 28, 1974.

He worked a Civil Service job at the weapon pool at Ft. McClellan, AL after retiring from the Army. Later he fully retired to enjoy life, especially with his family.

His family is his pride and joy. He has 5 children—Gwendolyn Carter, Harvey Doleman, Jr., Phyllis Doleman Teague, Sharon Doleman and Frederick Doleman.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. Doleman for his service to our country.

HONORING HOMETOWN HERO OLIVER BURKE

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Oliver Burke. Oliver, a rising junior at Greenhill School, recently led his fellow Boy Scouts in a wildflower seed building service project to help preserve the endangered Backland Prairie. He brought together 50 of his fellow Scouts from rural and urban communities across North Texas—most of whom did not previously know each other—and they made more than 3,800 native wildflower seed balls.

In addition to his leadership in the Boy Scouts, Oliver spent the last year serving on my Congressional Youth Advisory Council and recently participated in our annual Congressional Art Competition. I thank Oliver for his dedication to service, bringing people together, and bettering our North Texas community for generations to come.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF TOM BENSLEY

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 29, 2023

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Tom Bensley for his 14 years of service as Sheriff of Grand Traverse County. Throughout his time working for the people of Northern Michigan, including nearly five decades in law enforcement, Tom has shown considerable poise and professionalism while making his community a safer place.

Following 3 years of service in the United States Army, Sheriff Bensley attended Northwestern Michigan College. In 1971, he joined the Grand Traverse County Sheriff's Office as a seasonal marine officer. By 1974, Tom was promoted to a full-time road patrol officer. In the spring of 1983, he was named supervisor of the department's marine safety section. He received numerous awards for his service including the 1985 Employee of the Year and two Awards of Merit. Tom temporarily retired in 1999, before being elected as the 34th Sheriff of Grand Traverse County in 2008. He would go on to hold this position for 14 years, until announcing his upcoming retirement in September of 2023. Additionally, he was an active member of the Sheriff's Office dive team for 35 years.

Throughout his distinguished career, Sheriff Bensley prioritized his community's safety and well-being above all else. Tom's longtime devotion to our country is commendable, and the