

since the 2013 federal government shutdown to exempt the D.C. government from federal government shutdowns.

This bill would exempt the following agencies from federal government shutdowns: Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for D.C., D.C. Courts, D.C. Public Defender Service, D.C. Commission on Judicial Disabilities and Tenure, D.C. Judicial Nomination Commission and D.C. Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. With one exception, these agencies are not under the District's control and are funded exclusively by the federal government. These agencies provide critical local services to the District, including law enforcement, and should continue to function during a federal government shutdown.

Each of these agencies has been adversely affected by federal government shutdowns, including canceled services and furloughed employees. My bill would allow these agencies to continue to function during a federal government shutdown, in much the same way that the D.C. government itself is now exempt from shutting down during a federal government shutdown.

REMEMBERING CAPTAIN ANDRIY
"JUICE" PILSHCHIKOV

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2023

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life of Ukrainian fighter pilot Captain Andriy Pilshchikov, better known by his call sign "Juice," who tragically lost his life at the age of 30 while fighting for Ukraine's freedom on Friday, August 25, 2023.

Born in February 1993, Andriy was a Captain in Ukraine's Air Force 40th Tactical Aviation Brigade and leader of the "Ghost of Kyiv" unit. He flew MiG-29 fighter jets, protecting the central and northern Ukrainian air space from Russian attacks. Andriy earned the call sign "Juice" during his time in California performing training exercises with the U.S. Air National Guard because he preferred juice over alcoholic beverages.

Juice boldly resisted the Russian air offensive despite using aging Soviet-era technology. With destroyed ground-based navigation, Juice flew missions using simple Garmin GPS units.

Juice was one of the lead advocates for the delivery of F-16 fighter jets to Ukraine from allied countries. His efforts included contacting American government officials to encourage support for this cause. Many of us became familiar with Juice from his numerous interviews with prominent Western news outlets. Luckily, allied countries, including the United States, agreed to send F-16s. Juice was among the initial group of Ukrainian pilots slated for F-16 training due to his fluency in English.

Juice and 2 other pilots, Major Vyacheslav Minka and Major Serhiy Prokazin, tragically lost their lives on August 25 when a pair of L-39 Combat Trainer jets collided during a training accident near Zhytomyr.

In June 2022, I was introduced to Juice by actor and filmmaker Sean Penn. Over dinner in Washington D.C., Juice shared his passion for Ukraine's freedom and the need for the United States to provide fighter jets to his

country. I promised Juice I would seek that. And I plan to follow through on that promise.

Juice was a true Air Force leader, possessing tactical skills, confidence, and a calm demeanor under the immense pressure that war brings. His bravery and courage went above and beyond, flying over 500 combat hours, never once backing away from a fight. He is survived by his devoted girlfriend, Melaniya, and mother, Lillia. May we never forget his service and the ultimate sacrifice he made for the freedom of Ukraine.

HONORING THE 120TH ANNIVERSARY OF LITTLE UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. ABIGAIL DAVIS SPANBERGER

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2023

Ms. SPANBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Little Union Baptist Church in Dumfries, Virginia on their 120th anniversary.

For 120 years, Little Union Baptist Church has served as a space for the community to gather, connect, and worship. Little Union Baptist Church has deep roots in Dumfries, Virginia that can be traced back to Mary Bates—fondly referred to by many as "Granny Mary." Mary was born into slavery, but she had the determination to learn to read and write. After the Emancipation Proclamation, Mary settled in the area with her husband where she proved to be a pillar in the community. She served as a midwife, wrote letters on behalf of those who could not, and helped administer medications. In 1901, Mary convinced her husband John to donate land to build a local church, so people would not have to travel to neighboring communities to attend services. The church built on that land flourished and eventually came to be known to the community as Little Union Baptist Church.

Today, Pastor Michael L. Sessoms continues Little Union Baptist Church's longstanding tradition of building community. Under his guidance, the church continues to grow and provides families in the Dumfries area with a space to gather and celebrate.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 120th anniversary of Little Union Baptist Church.

RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF
RONALD GILSON

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2023

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to recognize the longtime treasurer of the Amherst Democratic Committee. Ronald Gilson. A resident of Amherst since 1962. Ron has been an indispensable member of the Committee since 1994.

He jumped in head-first, ensuring that technical operations like utilities, internal telephone banks, and essential supplies were always cared for at headquarters. His willingness to volunteer in this capacity was also incredibly valuable to Chairman Jeremy Zellner when the Erie County Democratic Committee moves its

headquarters to Larkinsville. Ron was there to ensure a seamless transition with the proper technology setup. Naturally, he also became familiar with the Committee's practice of posting signs, gathering signatures, and distributing campaign literature. Just 5 years into his involvement with ADC, the Amherst Democratic Chairman approached Ron to become a temporary treasurer. Temporary, of course, is not an accurate description of Ron's time as treasurer—as he just handed the reins over after 22 years.

Ron also volunteers his time at the Buffalo and Erie County Naval Park as a docent and technical advisor. He volunteers his knowledge and time to countless citizens and visitors, alike, so they can appreciate the fearless bravery of our veterans and the richness of our local history. On the tours that he provides, Ron has the ability to capture the imagination of young Americans, so they understand the sacrifices that were made to ensure our collective freedom. The staff at the Naval Park is undoubtedly grateful for his continued dedication to their endeavors.

Lastly, I would be remiss not to mention Ron's consistent involvement at the Niagara Frontier Radio Reading Service for the blind with his wife, Corine. Throughout the week, this organization reads newspapers, magazines, and books for the visually impaired. Ron's involvement with Niagara Frontier Radio Service, Buffalo and Erie County Naval & Military Park, and the Amherst Democratic Committee prove him to be a worthy candidate of recognition. I am excited to honor Ron for his selfless efforts that have such a tangible impact on our community.

TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF THE
HONORABLE DON SUNDQUIST

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2023

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the memory of my good friend, former Tennessee Governor Don Sundquist, who also served alongside us, in this House chamber for 12 years, as the U.S. Representative for the 7th District of Tennessee. He was a trusted leader and treasured friend who will be deeply missed.

He accomplished a rare feat that every elected leader aspires to, winning every election in his path of public service, including 6 terms in Congress and 2 terms as the 47th Governor of Tennessee. Don was an original "Reaganaut," first elected to Congress in 1982 during President Ronald Reagan's Administration. As a successful business owner and entrepreneur, his expertise and personal insight were invaluable in his leadership on the Ways and Means Committee, where he stood firm on conservative American values.

His love and compassion for the people of Tennessee led him from Capitol Hill to the Governor's Mansion in 1994. Unwavering in his convictions, Gov. Sundquist took on monumental issues, including welfare reform that lifted 40,000 families out of poverty, a comprehensive crime bill focused on victim's rights, expanding broadband to every public school and library in Tennessee, and earning National accolades for the state's economic success on his watch.

In addition to his courageous public service, he was also a proud veteran of the United States Navy. Of all the honorable titles that have been etched into history beside his name, Don's most cherished were husband, father, grandfather and friend. Thanks to our longtime friendship in the U.S. House, Don later introduced me to my beautiful Tennessee bride, Cynthia. He and his First Lady Martha graciously hosted our wedding at the Governor's mansion in 1999, remaining constant friends all the while. It is for his dedicated friendship and partnership in public service that I shall be eternally grateful. My wife Cynthia and I offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the entire Sundquist family and the people of Tennessee.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MONTEREY-SALINAS TRANSIT

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 18, 2023

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct honor and privilege of representing California's 19th Congressional District and on behalf of all the residents of the Central Coast, I would like to commend to my colleagues' attention to the 50th Anniversary of Monterey-Salinas Transit District (MST) for providing mobility services to the residents of Monterey County.

The Monterey Peninsula Public Transit System Joint Powers Agency was formed by the cities of Carmel, Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Seaside, and Monterey County on October 1, 1972, and began providing service on September 26, 1973. As the predecessor of Monterey-Salinas Transit, it served the Monterey Peninsula area, and later expanded to provide service to the cities of Marina, Salinas, and Watsonville. With the formation of the Monterey-Salinas Transit District on July 1, 2010, MST has served as much as one-fifth of the coastline of California from San Jose in the north to Paso Robles in the south at 1,300 bus stops in 25 communities throughout Monterey, Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, and San Luis Obispo Counties.

Through the foresight of the MST board members and the ongoing support of the federal government, transit service in the Monterey Bay region is consistently at the forefront of technology and innovation, with annual ridership reaching as high as 5 million passengers on traditional fixed-route buses as well as Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit minibus service for disabled customers, the popular MST Trolley system for visitors, "MST OnCall" demand response services in south Monterey County, and the JAZZ Bus Rapid Transit system. In 2014, with 73 percent voter support, MST became the first public agency in Monterey County to pass a countywide local funding initiative known as Measure Q to support the mobility needs of veterans, seniors, and persons with disabilities. MST was also the first transit operator in the country to finance and construct a bus operations and maintenance facility utilizing the federal Build America Bureau—Rural Initiative program, and the first transit operator to implement an open-loop, contactless payment sys-

tem that provides discounted fares to eligible customers.

Now for the second half of its first century of operation, MST is moving forward with a slate of new projects and initiatives to support their vision of connecting communities, creating opportunity and being kind to our planet. These include the implementation of the Better Bus Network, the outcome of a yearlong planning effort that will provide the residents of Monterey County with faster, more direct connections to work, school, shopping and medical appointments. The proposed MST SURF! Busway and Bus Rapid Transit will extend the existing JAZZ BRT system 6.5 miles north from Sand City to Marina utilizing bus-only lanes and zero emission vehicles to improving access and opportunities for connections to jobs on the Monterey Peninsula, recreational activities and easy access to educational opportunities including nearby California State University, Monterey Bay. Finally, MST is putting rolling stock and infrastructure in place today that includes enroute inductive charging stations, designing micro-grid technologies, and procuring battery electric buses as it moves to transition to a fleet of 162 buses to planet-friendly 100 percent zero-emission buses powered from renewable sources.

In addition, MST is at the forefront of forging partnerships with local stakeholders to expand public transit options throughout the community. This past year, MST celebrated 30 years of partnership with the City of Monterey and Monterey Bay Aquarium in providing fast, fun, and free transit services to visitors and residents alike reducing visitor related traffic congestion, lowering greenhouse gas emissions, and reducing microplastics from vehicles traveling adjacent to the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary. MST's partnerships also extend to local colleges, with a EcoSmart Pass program with California State University-Monterey Bay Hartnell Community College, and Monterey Peninsula Colleges, discount pass programs available to all Monterey County school districts.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to commend the Monterey-Salinas Transit District for providing 50 years of exemplary public service to the Central Coast and ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to wish them well on the next 50 years.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, September 19, 2023 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

SEPTEMBER 20

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine artificial intelligence in financial services.

SD-538

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine public investment.

SD-608

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Rebecca Kelly Slaughter, of Maryland, Melissa Holyoak, of Utah, and Andrew N. Ferguson, of Virginia, each to be a Federal Trade Commissioner, and Douglas Dziak, of Virginia, to be a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

SR-253

10:45 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider the nominations of James C. O'Brien, of Nebraska, to be an Assistant Secretary (European and Eurasian Affairs), Dennis B. Hankins, of Minnesota, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Haiti, Nathalie Rayes, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Croatia, and Tobin John Bradley, of California, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Guatemala, all of the Department of State, and other pending nominations.

S-116

2 p.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Economic Policy

To hold hearings to examine child care since the pandemic, focusing on macroeconomic impacts of public policy measures.

SD-538

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine Putin's personal prisoner Vladimir Kara-Murza.

RHOB-2200

2:15 p.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine growing the economy of the future, focusing on job training for the clean energy transition.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Subcommittee on Water and Power

To hold hearings to examine drought impacts on drinking water access and water availability.

SD-366

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Fisheries, Water, and Wildlife

To hold hearings to examine drinking water infrastructure and tribal communities.

SD-406