

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### CELEBRATING 120 YEARS OF U.S.- BULGARIA RELATIONS

#### HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate 120 years of diplomatic relations between the United States and Bulgaria.

I will always cherish serving as an International Republican Institute election observer welcomed to Sofia by Professor Stefan Stoyanov for the first post-communist election on June 10, 1990. Arriving in communist Bulgaria was shocking to step back into the 1930s of pathetic economic development and now it is energizing to visit modern Bulgaria with opportunities for all succeed.

Today, the U.S. Department of State issued the following statement:

“On September 19, 1903, John B. Jackson, Minister to Greece, Romania, and Serbia, presented his credentials to serve as the first U.S. Diplomatic Agent to Bulgaria—six years prior to Bulgaria’s proclamation of full independence from the Ottoman Empire. Today, we celebrate the one hundred and twentieth anniversary of that act and the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two great nations. Our relationship as bilateral partners, and our friendship as members of the transatlantic family of nations, has never been stronger.

“The United States and Bulgaria work closely together on a multitude of issues. Our shared commitment to provide military and humanitarian assistance to Ukraine in the face of Russia’s brutal war of aggression remains firm. We continue to deepen our collaboration on vital regional and global security issues as NATO Allies, working side by side in the NATO battlegroup hosted by Bulgaria and training together on a regular basis. Our nations are expanding cooperation on economic and energy issues to increase prosperity . . . and reduce Bulgaria’s reliance on Russian energy sources. Together, we are working to strengthen the rule of law and to boost democratic resilience against state-sponsored disinformation and malign influence. We also partner to promote innovation and economic opportunity through academic and professional exchanges and robust commercial relationships.

“People-to-people ties have been the bedrock of our a Bulgarian-American, began serving as the first U.S. Consular Agent in Bulgaria in 1912. Today, there are nearly 250,000 Bulgarians living in the United States, and nearly 90,000 Americans living in or traveling to Bulgaria every year. The warm relationship between our nations, based on shared transatlantic values, relationship since even before Asen Kermekchiev common interests, and family and cultural ties, continues to grow. We look forward to another one hundred and twenty years of friendship.”

Bulgaria is a valued ally in the ongoing Global War on Terrorism and now, sadly with the murderous invasion by war criminal Putin of Ukraine, Bulgaria is a stalwart for Democ-

racies Rule of Law opposing Dictators with Rule of Gun.

There is a bipartisan appreciation of Bulgaria where I am grateful to co-chair the Congressional Bulgaria Caucus with Representatives BRAD SCHNEIDER (IL), RICHARD NEAL (MA), and NEAL DUNN (FL). Bulgaria has been professionally represented by talented ambassadors such as Elena Poptodorova, Tihomir Stoytchev, and now Georgi Panayotov.

America wants the best for Prime Minister Nikolay Denkov and President Rumen Radev for the citizens of Bulgaria.

### HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED MILITARY SERVICE OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER JAMES P. COSE

#### HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Commander James P. Cose of Sneedville in Hancock County for his extensive service in the United States Navy. His military career began with his enlistment in September of 1969, where he volunteered for Nuclear Power Training and the Submarine Force.

After his training, he deployed to the U.S.S. *Holland AS-32* in Rota, Spain as a Fire Control Ballistic Third-Class Petty Officer, but was soon transferred to the U.S.S. *Thomas A. Edison SSBN 610*, which made strategic missile patrols in the Mediterranean Sea. His next assignment was to the Naval Ordnance Test Unit at Cape Canaveral, Florida, where tests on the *Polaris* and *Trident Fleet Ballistic Missiles* were conducted. PO Cose then transferred for more strategic missile patrols on the U.S.S. *Sam Rayburn SSBN 635*, where he was commissioned as a Limited Duty Officer and sent to Officer Training School (OTS). After OTS, he deployed to the *Alexander Hamilton SSBN 617* for more strategic missile patrols out of the North Atlantic, then transferred to the Officer Submarine Training Facility in New London, Connecticut, where he instructed Perspective Commanding Officers on weapons systems onboard the Nuclear Submarines. His next transfer was to the Naval Submarine Support Facility in New London, Connecticut to build torpedoes, as well as teach thousands of service members small-arms firearms training, as part of American nuclear weapons security.

His last command was to Commander Submarine Force, Atlantic Fleet (COMSUBLANT), at Norfolk, Virginia, where he served as a Chief Nuclear Weapons Inspector for all Fleet Ballistic Missile Submarines in the Atlantic Fleet. He retired with nearly 25 years of exceptional service in the U.S. Navy, rising through the ranks from an enlisted recruit all the way to Lieutenant Commander.

Please join me in thanking American patriot, Lieutenant Commander James P. Cose for his

leadership and lifetime of service to our great Nation.

### HONORING THE SERVICE OF BETSY BINA

#### HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I’m honored to celebrate Betsy Bina as she embarks on her richly deserved retirement after decades of devoted public service. While we will miss her, she leaves the Legislative Branch with a noble legacy of accomplishment and will remain an example of excellence for all who follow.

Betsy and I worked closely together when she served as Clerk of the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee during my tenure as both its Chairman and Ranking Member. The MilCon/VA bill speaks to our nation’s most cherished values: supporting our nation’s heroes when they serve when they join the ranks of veterans, and when they spend eternity in their final resting places. Betsy deeply understood this and brought her tremendous talents, outstanding work ethic, and commitment to superb work to every challenge she encountered.

Over the years, I relied on her sage advice and counsel as we navigated the often-choppy waters of supporting the many critical responsibilities shouldered by Congressional Appropriators. Betsy distinguished herself with her keen understanding of the nuances of intricate funding policies, the priorities of both the military and veteran communities, as well as the needs of member offices. She was a consensus builder extraordinaire who deftly managed a staff of committed professionals, bringing out their best as they worked tirelessly to craft legislation to support our warriors and veterans.

While Betsy isn’t tired of the privilege of public service, she knows that everything has its season. But stepping away from work won’t give her much idle time as she remains an active and committed world traveler, cherished friend, and mentor.

Retirement marks not the end of a career, but the beginning of a new adventure. As Betsy Bina embarks on this new chapter of her life, I thank her for her exceptional work, remain grateful for our friendship, and wish her the very best.

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING THE MASSACHUSETTS GOLD STAR MOTHERS' TRIBUTE ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2023, AT BLESSED SACRAMENT

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 20, 2023*

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the fourth annual Massachusetts Gold Star Mothers' Tribute at Blessed Sacrament Church in Worcester, Massachusetts on Sunday, September 24, 2023.

The celebration will honor the families of servicemembers who lost their lives while serving the United States military. The tribute joins together several families from across the state to cherish the memories of their loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, these veterans paid the ultimate sacrifice and gave their lives in defense of this country. We are each forever indebted to their service to keep us safe at home. However, it's far too easy to forget to cherish the family they left behind.

That's why Cecelia M. Mason will gather these families in Worcester on Sunday. She knows that, through community, we can all feel the legacy of these servicemen and women. We can join them to thank and remember the families these heroes left behind. I am deeply thankful for the tireless work she has done to bring these families together.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in celebrating the lives of our fallen neighbors and cherishing the Gold Star Mothers, Fathers, and Families who never cease celebrating the legacies of their loved ones. I thank the Blessed Sacrament Church in Worcester, Massachusetts in advance for holding such a beautiful event and reception.

TRIBUTE TO THE NEW BUREAU COUNTY CIVIL WAR MONUMENT RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AFRICAN AMERICAN SOLDIERS

**HON. DARIN LaHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 20, 2023*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the unveiling of a new Bureau County monument dedicated to the contributions of the 45 African American soldiers who served honorably in the Civil War, and whose service, up until now, was not recognized alongside other soldiers from Bureau County who had their names listed on the Bureau County Soldiers and Sailors Monument.

Located in the historic district of Princeton, Illinois, this new monument pays tribute to Civil War Veterans from Bureau County who were members of the 29th U.S. Colored Infantry and 8th and 13th U.S. Colored Artillery units. The contributions made by these units supported military efforts in multiple battles, including but not limited to the Battle of Appomattox. These men include—Jack Allen, Robert Atkins, George Baker, James Blake, Robert Bland, Horan Brown, William Cofield, John Coleman, John Connor, John Cummings, Joseph Davis, John Edwards, Abram Harrison,

Thomas Heckley, James Henry, Thomas Houston, King Howard, Henry Jackson, Thomas Jackson, Dennis Johnson, Jacob Johnson, Samuel Johnson, John Jones, Franklin Lindsay, Andrew Manly, Lewis Masters, Charles Moses, Wesley Patterson, Henry Prosson, Robert Rhodes, Joseph Sanders, Jesse Smith, Richard Smith, Hamilton Stokes, Alexander Thomas, Libby Thompson, Washington Turner, William Washington (Concord Township), William Washington (Westfield Township), Aaron Wellcome, Charles West, John Williams, Thomas Williams, James Wilson, and James Winson.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the service and sacrifices of these 45 Civil War soldiers from Bureau County and expressing my thanks to those who made it possible for this monument and long overdue recognition to happen.

RECOGNIZING THE HONOR FLIGHT OF CENTRAL OREGON

**HON. CLIFF BENTZ**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 20, 2023*

Mr. BENTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Vietnam and Korean War Veterans from the Honor Flight of Central Oregon who, through the efforts of Honor Flight of Oregon, are visiting their memorials on the National Mall. When I meet these heroes, I am reminded of the enduring words of Richard Watson Gilder who said, "Better than honor and glory, and history's iron pen, was the thought of duty done and the love of his fellow-men." These words, Mr. Speaker, still ring true today. Those who value liberty are indebted to these heroes, for each one of them defended our freedom through acts of service, sacrifice, and bravery all on behalf of our country. It is my privilege to include in the Record their names.

The Veterans on this Honor Flight from Oregon are: Thomas Adams, USAF; Lloyd Albright, Army; Donald Beckett, USMC; James Carmean, Army; Robert Carter, USCG; LeRoy Chu, USAF; David Cupp, Army; Harold Darcey, Navy; Kenneth Delzer, USAF; Thomas Doughtie, Army; Ralph Dow, Navy; David Gentry, Navy; Kenneth Hauge, Navy; John Heriza, Navy; Lee Houston, Army; LeRoy Johnson, Navy; Arland Kunz, USAF; Kenneth Lawler, Navy; Thomas McCall, Navy; Richard McDonnell, Army; Roger McGrady, USMC; James Mills, Navy; Gerald Newcomb, Navy; David Pete, Army; Robert Seidenberg, USAF; Murray Turnbow, Army; Herb Waits III, Army; and Jerry Wilken, Army. These heroes join over 260,000 Veterans, who since 2005, have been honored through the nationwide Honor Flight Network of volunteers. I would also like to recognize the volunteer's, guardians, and those who have also served our country: Randy Albright; James Anderson; John Baldwin; Kaylie Boschma; Matthew Carter, Navy; Kylie Cross; Don Deland; Georgia Edwards; Rodney Edwards; Tiffany Grimsley; Samuel Houston; Joshua Kimzey; Samantha Kimzey; Judith L'Homme; Jose Lopez III, Army; Jennifer Mays; Megan Marino; Clint McAuliffe; Rosalie McGaugh; Krista McKnitt; Jessica Meyer; Zachary Mills; Dane Prevatt; Craig Reed; Cody Rheault; Kevin Scoggin, USAF; Megan

Silvey; Colby Keith Sime Jr., USMC; Wendi Schmid, Army; Wendy Stauffer; and Michael Woll, Army.

Mr. Speaker, in his 1988 Veterans Day address President Ronald Reagan said, "We remember those who were called upon to give all a person can give, and we remember those who were prepared to make that sacrifice if it were demanded of them in the line of duty, though it never was. Most of all, we remember the devotion and gallantry with which all of them ennobled their nation as they became champions of a noble cause." As a Nation, we must never take for granted the liberties we enjoy today, recognizing that these freedoms have been hard-won by the honor, commitment, and sacrifice of our Veterans. Each Member in this chamber and citizen in these United States should be humbled by the courage of these brave Veterans who voluntarily underwent the dangers necessary to preserve our country. I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking these Veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their remarkable service and devotion to our great country.

HONORING SUSAN GLAWE

**HON. GREG STANTON**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 20, 2023*

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Susan Glawe, who we lost at the age of 80 on August 14, 2023.

Sue moved to Phoenix in 1962, where she began her career at the Arizona State Legislature and the Chamber of Commerce before finding her true calling at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, where she remained until her retirement. It was through her work at BCBS that many of us came to know her—as Vice President of Community Relations, she redefined effective, compassionate corporate giving. The causes she championed were deeply impactful in Arizona, touching all corners of the state.

Sue was never one to do anything halfway. In addition to her deep professional involvement, she managed to chair, sit on the board, and hold membership in dozens of nonprofit organizations in her personal capacity. She was a deeply respected and trusted advisor and mentor to a generation of non-profit leaders—and quite a few political leaders as well. Sue understood government and civic space better than anyone. She held elected leaders to the same standard she held herself: to deliver results, but always to do so with integrity.

Sue lived by a motto to wake up every morning and do something good for someone else. But despite her remarkable accomplishments, she was always humble when it came to accepting praise. In fact, the most you would ever hear her talk about herself would be when she was talking about her family. She's survived by her beloved sons, Mike and Chris, and grandchildren Phoebe, John, and Thomas.

I thank Sue for her years of counsel and friendship. Godspeed.