

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR: ANJALI RIMI

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Anjali Rimi as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Anjali is a dedicated leader, activist, and community member.

As a transgender immigrant from South Asia, Anjali has overcome many challenges while continuing to give back to her communities.

As one of the co-founders of Parivar Bay Area, Anjali has transformed the services available for transgender, gender non-conforming, and intersex immigrants from the Global South. Parivar Bay Area emerged from earlier grassroots organizing, including a project that redistributed almost \$1 million worth of food, housing funds, and livelihood grants for transgender South Asians to open their own businesses.

In addition to her work globally, Anjali is deeply involved in LGBTQ+ activism in the Bay Area, through fundraisers, arts and cultural showcases, and social support group meetings. She was the first South Asian transgender person to be recognized for her LGBTQ+ activism in the California Legislature and has also received recognition from former Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

Anjali has accomplished all of this while remaining a kind and patient person and serving as an inspiration to others for her dedication to serving her community and improving the status of marginalized groups.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Anjali Rimi for her positive contributions to our community.

HONORING TARRANT COUNTY
ADMINISTRATOR G.K. MAENIUS

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2023

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize G.K. Maenius, long-time Tarrant County Administrator, embodies what it means to selflessly serve your community. Over his 35-year tenure as County Administrator, G.K. Maenius guided Tarrant County through numerous challenges, four county judges, and a doubling in population from 1.1 million in 1988 to 2.2 million today.

With a staff over 4,600 and operating budget of \$900 million, he masterfully managed personnel and taxpayer dollars, creating a county with a reputation marked by efficiency

and fiscal responsibility. The years he spent supporting businesses, spearheading bond programs, and modernizing county technology have not gone unnoticed.

I thank G.K. for consistent commitment to the welfare of our community. I wish him the best in his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR: AMY FABI

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Amy Fabi as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Amy has served her community of Solano County in a profound and meaningful way.

Early in her career, she worked tirelessly to provide advocacy and academic support to Asian American Pacific Islander, Latinx, and African American families in the East Bay. Working with diverse communities led her to her current role as Commissioner with First 5 Solano where she works to ensure a solid foundation for all children.

Amy graduated from UC Berkeley and received her master of social work from San Francisco State University. As a licensed social worker, she has seen the impact of trauma on childhood development and the importance of support services for vulnerable youth. Inspired by those she meets through her work, she advocates tirelessly for all children to have access to opportunities that will allow them to achieve their fullest potential.

Beyond her professional work, Amy is a member of the board for the Vacaville Police Activities League, scholarship chair for the Chinese American Association of Solano County, and internship chair for the Solano County Asian American Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association. She has earned numerous awards for her volunteerism throughout the community and her commitment to serving others inspires all who know her.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Amy Fabi for her positive contributions to our community.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL WALTER
L. MODDISON

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2023

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize Colonel Walter L. Moddison, call sign "Gromit," upon his retire-

ment from the Air National Guard after 39 years of distinguished service.

Colonel Moddison is from Great Falls, MT. He joined the Air National Guard in October of 1984 and completed Basic Training in June of 1985. After serving fourteen years as an enlisted member, he received his commission in 1998. He began his career as a Drill Status Guardsman and was then hired as a full time Technician/Deputy Base Civil Engineer in 2001 following a career as a practicing architect.

After serving at the Wing level for several years, including deployment to Ground Zero on 9/12, he accepted a headquarters position at the National Guard Bureau where he served the field units and filled many key Civil Engineering and leadership roles. He assumed his current position in January of 2021 as the Deputy Director, Engineering, for the Air National Guard Director of Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection, and The Air National Guard Civil Engineer. In this capacity, Colonel Moddison oversees the policy development and programs that support over \$19B in world-class infrastructure and the 18,800 personnel who build, manage and protect those assets.

In addition to his numerous awards and decorations, Colonel Moddison is particularly proud to have once shot 79 on the Old Course at St. Andrews and my understanding is that he plans to devote a material portion of his retirement to his passion for golf, along with spending more time with his wife, Georgia and their dog, Maximus.

I thank Colonel Moddison for his service to this Nation. He is a Great American and will be missed in the Guard.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR: AUDREY CORMIER

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Audrey Cormier as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Audrey is a community volunteer who is dedicated to advocating for youth and women of color. She is passionate about STEM education, diversity, climate advocacy, and golf, and has organized many events for underrepresented groups based on those interests.

As a member of Easter Hill United Methodist Church, she organized a trip for church youth to attend STEM days at Lawrence Livermore Labs, a Federal research facility. She also coordinated the attendance of five African-American sixth grade girls at a STEM conference at St. Mary's College.

Audrey's love of golf has led her to serve on several boards and organizations, including those that expose youth and African-American

• 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.

women to the sport. She founded a weekly Zoom session for women to discuss their golf journeys and provide support for each other, showing the impact of her love of golf on her community.

Audrey is also passionate about the positive impact diversity has on an organization and the importance of creating inclusive spaces. During her 30-year career at Chevron, Audrey served as the Manager of Diversity and Inclusion, where she was responsible for developing workplace inclusion strategies and mentorship programs. As an active alumna of Auburn University, she is also a member of the college's Advisory Board for the Office of Inclusion, Equity, and Diversity.

Audrey's dedication to her community and work to advocate for youth and women of color cannot be overstated. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Audrey Cormier for her positive contributions to our community.

HONORING CHIEF OF STAFF
ELLIOTT GUFFIN

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2023

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to honor the public service of a long-time member of my team, George Elliott Guffin IV, and wish him success as he enters the next stage of his career.

A native of Jackson, Mississippi, Elliott is a proud graduate of the University of Mississippi—a fact he will share with you within five minutes of meeting him. Elliott began his congressional service in the United States Senate in the office of Senator ROGER WICKER prior to joining my staff in May 2016 and beginning a long tenure of service to the people of North Carolina's 8th, and later 9th, Congressional District.

As a young staff assistant, Elliott excelled at many things. His sunny disposition, eagerness to learn, and dedication to public service are the main reasons why I didn't fire him that time he forgot and stranded a scheduled tour group at the White House. However, my faith in Elliott was rewarded as he grew to be a trusted advisor, mentor to others, an exceptional leader, and a valued part of the team.

Advancing as a legislative correspondent, legislative aide, legislative assistant, senior legislative assistant, legislative director, deputy chief of staff, and chief of staff, Elliott never wavered in his commitment to serving our constituents. Over the years, he helped me secure legislation to push for the paving of roads for the Green Gap community in the Uwharrie National Forest—a process that will soon come to fruition. In addition, Elliott helped me secure multiple pieces of legislation to address the needs of our farmers, expand rural broadband access for North Carolinians, and increase support for our region's troops, military families, and veterans.

I am especially proud of the work Elliott accomplished in defense of the Second Amendment, drafting legislation with me to harden and secure schools and pushing for concealed carry reciprocity.

Over the years, Elliott has established himself as a trusted leader and friend to his col-

leagues. He was the backbone of our office—always willing to do whatever was needed to help the team. I have been impressed by the attention Elliott gave to his managerial role by setting aside time to work with each member of our staff in order to help them develop into great congressional staffers. Through his dedicated leadership, Elliott has taken what has always been a great team and built an exceptional one by understanding the values and motivations of his peers.

Of all his tremendous achievements for North Carolina and the country, I am most proud of the man I've had the privilege to watch him grow into. I always tell my staff that over all things, family is first. Elliott has taken this to heart since day one, even ensuring I made it to my son's soccer game as we drove from the opposite end of North Carolina. I've been able to see the same values watching him get married and start his own family, starting with his lovely wife, Ariel, and their beloved dog, Moose.

Elliott Guffin made a difference. He made a difference to me and to his colleagues. He made a difference in the lives of my constituents. He made a difference to this institution. And he made a difference to the United States of America.

Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, please join me today in congratulating Elliott Guffin for more than seven years of incredible service to the House of Representatives and to the people of North Carolina, and wishing he, Ariel, and Moose the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING THE 2023 WOMEN OF
THE YEAR: BARBARA BREWER

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2023

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Barbara Brewer as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year.

Barbara retired from the United States Air Force after 20 years but continued her service as a civilian employee and is now a Unit Program Coordinator in the 21st Airlift Squadron at Travis Air Force Base. In addition to her official duties in this role, Barbara selflessly volunteers for more responsibilities, including Security Program Manager, Paying Agent, and Resource Advisor. She has been essential to the squadron's success and is fondly referred to as "Squadron Mom."

Barbara is the liaison between the aircrew, government travel agencies and foreign embassies, ensuring rapid travel in support of USTRANSCOM operations. Her actions have directly contributed to the success of over 5,000 flight hours, 1,300 sorties, and 7 million pounds of cargo successfully delivered to meet our Nation's priorities. Every member of her squadron knows they can rely on Barbara regardless of time or day or the reason for the call, because she shows unfailing care for every servicemember.

Barbara was chosen as an Assistant Mission Commander for the Capstone Military Leadership Program where she manages the development of over 50 Generals and Flag Officers. On one mission she was asked to

speak about her experiences as a woman in the military with the women of the Zambian Air Force, a country where women were historically excluded from service.

Barbara's 35 years of service to our country have led to a profound impact on her squadron. Travis AFB, and beyond.

On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Barbara Brewer for her positive contributions to our community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MEDICAID
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2023

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN

OF NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 6, 2023

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to introduce the Medicaid Accountability Act of 2023. My legislation would remove barriers to operating Medicaid Fraud Control Units in the territories, advancing our ability to recover taxpayer money through the investigation of Medicaid provider fraud, abuse, and neglect.

The U.S. territories are subject to a hard, statutory cap on federal Medicaid support, unlike the 50 states and the District of Columbia. As such, any spending for the operation of an MFCU is counted against the cap and subtracts from the amount of federal funding available for the coverage of healthcare services.

Congress has acknowledged this challenge. We acted to exempt MFCU spending from Puerto Rico's cap through P.L. 115–31, Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2017. This exemption was extended to the U.S. Virgin Islands through P.L. 115–123, Bipartisan Budget Act of 2018. We did not, however, extend this exemption to the other territories although all territories are statutorily required to operate an MFCU.

Congress has previously agreed that spending towards systems improvement measures should be exempt from the cap. In addition to MFCUs, Congress has exempted spending related to Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System, Medicaid Electronic Health Record Incentive Program, and the design and operation of the claims and eligibility systems.

Without such exemptions, territories must choose between covering healthcare services or making systems improvements. And faced with various emergencies—from natural disasters to a pandemic—in recent years, territories have prioritized the coverage of healthcare services. Furthermore, certain territories have repeatedly exhausted their limited block grant, leaving no federal funding to support systems improvement measures.

My bill, the Medicaid Accountability Act of 2023, plugs a gap in our nation's ability to protect taxpayer money. By extending the exemption on MFCU spending to all territories, Congress can promote the success of the territories in meeting statutory obligations to combat healthcare fraud and safeguard our Medicaid population from abuse, neglect, and misappropriation of funds.

I thank my colleagues who joined me in introducing this legislation—Mr. MOYLAN, Ms. PLASKETT, and Ms. RADEWAGEN.