

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ALVARADOSMITH AND FROST BROWN TODD LLC

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 18, 2023*

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to honor AlvaradoSmith and Frost Brown Todd LLC, and to congratulate these two law firms on their recent merger. AlvaradoSmith is a community staple in my district, and I am delighted to see their growth and to welcome Frost Brown Todd LLC into the California market.

AlvaradoSmith was started by two college friends, Salinas Alvarado and Ruben Smith, a Santa Ana native. After completing their studies, both went their separate ways and took on roles for big law firms. It was not until eight years later, in the 1980s, that a phone call about their common interests brought Alvarado and Smith back together to start their new firm.

AlvaradoSmith prides itself in not only helping clients in the United States, but also extending its services to clients across the border. Their offices might have only been in Santa Ana and San Francisco prior to their merger with Frost Brown Todd LLC, but they have always made it their goal to help anyone who is in need.

Frost Brown Todd LLC was founded in Cincinnati in 1919, and now is made up of 545 attorneys spread across the country. With this merger, Frost Brown Todd LLC will now be able to offer expertise on a range of topics—from real estate, energy, and infrastructure to litigation, employment, financial institutions, and international matters—to a whole new market already familiar with AlvaradoSmith's service.

Frost Brown Todd LLC and AlvaradoSmith stand for character, diversity, equity, teamwork, and hard work. With their merging, their combined clientele now has access to 575 attorneys in 16 offices across the United States.

Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, please join me in congratulating AlvaradoSmith on this merger and welcoming Frost Brown Todd LLC to our Orange County community.

CHARLES PALERMO

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 18, 2023*

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, last month, I had the pleasure of attending Charles Palermo's Eagle Scout Court of Honor. Charles began scouting in the first grade and eventually worked his way through the ranks to become an Eagle Scout. He is currently a sophomore at Ocean City High School and for his Eagle Scout project, he built a rock garden for the whole community to

enjoy. He enlisted members of the local Facebook group, Ocean City Rocks, along with residents of the neighborhood to come together and paint rocks for this garden. In this garden, people can choose to bring a painted rock of their own and leave it for others or they can take a rock for themselves to enjoy. Through his efforts, he has brought the community closer together and added joy and beauty to Ocean City. Charles has loved every part of his experience in Eagle Scouts, especially the outdoor and camping aspects. Last summer, he had the opportunity to travel to the Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico, where he took part in a ten-day backpacking trip. Charles should be proud of his accomplishments in scouting, and it was my honor to attend his Eagle Scout ceremony. God Bless Charles, and God Bless our United States of America.

RYAN MALLET

**HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 18, 2023*

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Ryan Mallett.

Mallett was a standout Quarterback at the University of Arkansas, an NFL Quarterback, and most recently a coach at Mountain Home High School and White Hall High School.

In his first season at Arkansas in 2009, he led the Razorbacks to an 8–5 record and Liberty Bowl victory.

He threw for 3,624 yards and 30 touchdowns, third all-time at Arkansas.

In 2010, he led the Razorbacks to a ten-win season and Arkansas's first BCS bowl berth. He threw for 3,869 yards and 32 touchdowns, both a school record.

He was drafted in the third round of the 2011 NFL Draft and made eight starts in his seven-year NFL career with the New England Patriots, Baltimore Ravens, and Houston Texans.

After retiring from football, he would go on to become a high school football coach.

Mallett first served as an assistant football coach at Mountain Home High School in Arkansas, recently moving to White Hall High School where he was preparing for his first season as the head football coach.

Ryan's heartbreaking loss of life far too early touched all Arkansans. His legacy will live on in Arkansas, not just through a distinguished playing career, but as a role model who impacted and improved the lives of the next generation of Arkansans.

CELEBRATING ALYSSA MILANO'S SERVICE TO THOSE IN NEED

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, October 18, 2023*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize Alyssa Milano, an actress, producer, writer and activist who has used her platform for decades to promote social causes and provide a voice to those who are not heard. Her trailblazing work both nationally and internationally is worthy of commendation.

Alyssa's activist career started as a young woman when she made an appearance on the The Phil Donahue Show with Ryan White, a young man who had been diagnosed with AIDS and forced out of his public school in Indiana. A kiss on the cheek to showcase that AIDS could not be contracted from simple skin-to-skin contact was the beginning of almost 40 years of activism coinciding with her incredible career in movies, television, books, and podcasts. In 2017, a post by Alyssa re-launched the #MeToo movement, encouraging survivors of sexual harassment and assault to speak up and bring awareness to the commonality of these sex crimes to the public. To this day, Alyssa remains an active and effective voice in the #MeToo movement.

In 2013, Alyssa created the comic book series Hackivist, which explored the modern world of hacking and global activism. In 2019, she released a children's book Hope: Project Middle School Book which is part of her 'Hope' book series which she co-authors with Debbie Rigaud. Alyssa also hosts the podcast Alyssa Milano: Sorry Not Sorry which deals with social and political commentary and frequently features fellow actors, activists, and political luminaries. Following the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in 2018, Alyssa co-founded #NoRA, a coalition of artists, activists, and survivors of gun violence in an effort to reduce the influence of the National Rifle Association in American government. In her current role as UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador for the United States of America, she continues to champion civil rights and charitable causes around the world.

Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the lifetime of work that Alyssa Milano has been kind enough to share with us. Wildly successful in her long professional career, Alyssa could have rested on her laurels and had an easy life. Instead, she has taken her platform at every stage in her career and used it to fight for good and what is right. I thank Alyssa, and we excited to see what more she can accomplish in the coming decades.

● 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.

MICHAEL SCHENCK

**HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, this month, it was my absolute honor to attend the retirement party of Master Gunnery Sergeant Michael Schenck. Born a South Jersey native, Schenck embarked on his remarkable Marine Corps journey in 1995. From early days at Parris Island, he rose through the ranks with fierce dedication. While deployed to Okinawa as his first duty station, he quickly excelled and earned promotions. After transferring to Camp Lejeune, he became Corporal and served in the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit across Europe and Africa. His journey continued as he joined G Battery, achieved Staff Sergeant, and served as a Civil Affairs Team Leader during Operation Iraqi Freedom. He further contributed to logistics planning and earned Gunnery Sergeant rank in 2006. His roles expanded, leading as the military-to-military chief for operations across Europe and Africa. Mastering logistics, he became Master Sergeant in 2011 and was promoted to Master Gunnery Sergeant in 2015. His awards, including the Legion of Merit and Navy Commendation Medal, testify to his exceptional service and commitment. Michael Schenck's journey epitomizes Marine Corps values and excellence and I hope he enjoys his retirement with his wife and two daughters. God Bless Master Gunnery Sergeant Michael Schenck and God Bless the United States of America.

**HONORING WE ARE THE 22****HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to honor "We Are The 22", an Arkansas-based veteran suicide intervention group.

"We Are The 22" was founded in 2017 by Mikel Brooks, a Little Rock resident and decorated Army veteran with two tours in Afghanistan.

Brooks, who had become addicted to pain medications in 2009 while recovering from injuries sustained in combat, founded the group following his own suicide attempt.

In just six years, "We Are The 22" has successfully responded to more than 430 calls from troubled veterans, has over 130 highly trained volunteers, and has become a trusted resource for local and state authorities.

I am proud to recognize the work of this dedicated organization and hope that they continue to serve as a symbol of hope for all veterans who may be struggling.

I thank Mr. Brooks for his service to our Nation and state.

**RECOGNIZING SAFE SCHOOLS WEEK****HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to acknowledge the annual Safe Schools Week. Safe Schools Week is celebrated every year to raise awareness about the importance of school safety and promote strategies for keeping students, teachers, and staff safe. This year for Safe Schools Week, I am proud to see so many schools in my district in Pennsylvania prioritize advocating for school safety policies.

As a member of the Bipartisan School Safety Caucus, I work with my colleagues to advocate for common-sense policies which center on improving the environment where our students learn and grow. We owe it to our students, educators, and school communities to prioritize their safety. Recent tragedies across our nation highlight the need to invest in substantive solutions to make our schools more secure, and I am proud of what is being done on the local, state, and federal level to ensure our schools are places of growth.

This week, it is also important to acknowledge the dedicated school officials, such as School Resource Officers, who protect our children. SROs are essential to crime prevention in schools and ensure that schools have a first responder already on campus in the event of an emergency. Beyond law enforcement, many SROs also serve as mentors in fostering relationships and reinforcing positive behaviors with students. Alongside my School Safety Caucus peers, I introduced the Strengthening Our Schools Act of 2023. This legislation would increase funding for SROs and ensure they have the resources required to support and protect students and school staff. I am grateful to the many School Resource Officers across Bucks and Montgomery counties for all they do to support our schools and communities.

In Bucks County, we are fortunate to have several school districts that have invested heavily in having SROs in their schools and we have many others that are in the process or laying the groundwork for an SRO program. The Bucks County school districts that have an existing SRO program include the following: Quakertown, Central Bucks, Council Rock, Neshaminy, Bensalem, and Bristol Borough.

As we acknowledge School Safety Week across the country, and raise awareness about the importance of strategies for keeping students and educators safe, I urge my colleagues to continue to focus on key policies to ensure schools have the necessary resources.

**HONORING "HOOKS & NEEDLES FOR CHARITY" AND "THE GOLDEN YEARS KNITTING CLUB"****HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the ex-

ceptional efforts of two remarkable clubs in Southern California that have dedicated their time, talents, and compassion to support their community: "Hooks & Needles for Charity" and "The Golden Years Knitting Club".

For years, these two clubs have crafted a legacy of love, warmth, and care through the art of crotchet and knitting. They have created a multitude of beautifully knitted and crocheted items that have touched the lives of so many. Their mission is to aid local hospitals, towns, and residents by creating and donating products like baby blankets, lap robes, head coverings, and many others. Their lovely and heartfelt creations continue to warm and comfort a variety of people, from hospital patients and veterans to children in abuse shelters. In doing so, they bring a little bit of home and hope to those who need it the most.

The women of these groups make blankets for families through the Ronald McDonald House, which provides housing for families with hospitalized children, and the Orangewood Children's Home, which houses children in foster care. These families, who are going through a difficult time in their lives, have received solace and support in the shape of warm and comfortable knitted presents. They also spend the month of July collecting goods for the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. (VFW) and VFW Auxiliary to send in care packages to troops overseas.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring and celebrating the tremendous contributions made by "Hooks & Needles for Charity" and "The Golden Years Knitting Club", as well as the love of country they display using their knitting needles and crochet hooks.

**EDUCATIONAL AWARD PROGRAM****HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker Pro Tempore, each year, I recognize outstanding young community leaders in the Second Congressional District that are high school juniors and seniors. Today, I rise to acknowledge the 37 honorees from this year's Educational Award Program.

I am proud to celebrate the character and accomplishments of this year's group of students and look forward to seeing all they do in the future. This year's honorees are: Skylar Hoyt, Layla Patrick, Trevor Tucker, Brandt Tipton, Zoe Wilson, Murtadha Malik, Reeves Bethel, Nicholas Tarini, Avery Ferguson, Lexi Aikman, Fiona Wolter, Tyler Browning, Nathan Mishra, Sydney Massey, Liam Johnson, Samantha Brookman, Tristan Hogan, Shelby Kiker, Malachi Robinson, Jerry Igweh, Clara Bozzay, Kerrigan Quast, Chyeanne Cossey, Andrew Pittman, Kayla Tolliver, Chloe McNabb, Kristopher Wilson, Madeline McNeil, Anna Patterson, Zane Ussery, Eva Reaper, Shiloh Seward, Allie Thomas, Calyn Hemphill, Addison Zimmerman, Kameron Mason, Muskan Pirani.

This group has received accolades such as first and second in their class, induction into honor societies, and attendees of Governor's School, Boys State, and Girls State.

They are National Merit Finalists, AP Scholars, and Presidential Service Award recipients.