

Veterans have made considerable sacrifices serving this Nation. We must honor them and ensure they receive the benefits promised for their noble service. That is why I am introducing the Veterans Education is Timeless Act of 2023, removing arbitrary expiration dates for education benefits for veterans and their families.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill and uphold the commitments we have made to the men and women who serve and fought on our behalf.

As we approach Veterans Day, I express my profound gratitude to all veterans and especially recognize the 45,000 who live in Virginia's Fifth District. It is an honor to recognize and represent these Americans who sacrificed so much to defend the freedoms we enjoy.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CHAMPION CINDY MONTANEZ

(Ms. BARRAGÁN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BARRAGÁN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of an environmental justice champion, fighter for workers' rights, and former southern California assemblymember, Cynthia Montanez.

Cindy's activism started at UCLA, where she participated in a 14-day hunger strike to help establish the Chicano Studies Department.

At 25, she became the youngest councilmember of her hometown of San Fernando.

At 27, she became mayor.

At 28, she was the youngest woman elected to the State legislature.

Cindy used her talents to create immediate change for our communities. As an assistant general manager of the L.A. Department of Water and Power, she helped transition the Nation's largest publicly owned utility to cleaner energy. As CEO of TreePeople, she transformed the organization into the fastest-growing environmental nonprofit in southern California.

Madam Speaker, I thank Cindy for her tireless advocacy for Latino communities in California. She is gone way too soon. Rest in power.

HONORING VIETNAM VET WALTER BUECHI

(Mr. LANGWORTHY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a Vietnam veteran and Clarence, New York, resident, Walter Buechi.

For most of his life, Walt has been dedicated to serving our country and our community. In 1965, he answered the call to serve our Nation and spent 18 months as a radio operator in Viet-

nam. However, his service didn't stop when he made it back home.

Instead, he joined the Clarence Fire Department, where he continued to exemplify the qualities that make him a hero in the truest sense. As a firefighter, Walt put his life on the line once again. He has gone above and beyond the call to serve, and we owe him a debt of gratitude that can never fully be repaid.

Walt is facing his next battle as he has been diagnosed with stage IV cancer. When we support veterans healthcare in this body, he is the kind of hero that we are helping.

Madam Speaker, I ask our Nation to pray for Walt. We are grateful for his remarkable contributions to our great Nation, to western New York, and to the town of Clarence.

DYCKMAN BASKETBALL IS BACK

(Mr. ESPAILLAT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ESPAILLAT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dyckman basketball, the red carpet of streetball.

In my district, basketball is everything to Dyckman. It is the opportunity to connect with friends and neighbors in fellowship and celebration of the vibrancy of our community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, there was a halt in the 30-year tradition of the Dyckman summer basketball tournament, but I am here to tell you that Dyckman is back.

Featured in the sports documentary "Dyckman: The Comeback," the incredible team of Dyckman sports worldwide, CEO Ken Stevens and Sharon Bond, or Ms. B as she is known throughout the community, have poured a tremendous amount of love into the sport.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate them on their Emmy award-winning documentary, and I congratulate the dedicated Dyckman team.

Dyckman basketball is back.

CONGRATULATING KEYSTONE CENTRAL CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Keystone Central Career and Technology Center in Clinton County, Pennsylvania.

Keystone Central Career and Technology Center was named a semifinalist and received \$10,000 as part of the Career Z Challenge.

The Career Z Challenge, run through the Department of Education's Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education, aims to expand work-based learning opportunities for Gen Z students.

Schools, nonprofit organizations, and local educational agencies in urban and

rural communities across 35 States submitted entries describing their plans to create collaborative and sustainable work-based learning ecosystems to provide students with interconnected and expansive career development opportunities from grades 9 through 12.

Semifinalists will be eligible to move on to phase three, and during the 2023-2024 school year, semifinalists will receive technical assistance to support the refinement and implementation of their proposed WBL ecosystem plans.

They are also participating in a community of practice and have access to learning workshops, peer collaboration opportunities, and other resources.

Madam Speaker, as co-chair of the Bipartisan Career and Technical Education Caucus, I am pleased to see the next generation of learning of the many job opportunities CTE provides.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate Keystone Central Career and Technology Center and wish them good luck in phase three.

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROJECTS REJECTED FROM T-HUD BILL

(Ms. HOULAHAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HOULAHAN. Madam Speaker, as we consider the T-HUD appropriations bill, I stand here to remind this legislative body of the 3 of nearly 3,000 community funding projects that were rejected from this bill in July, including the LGBTQ Center of Reading in my home community.

The very sad reality can be boiled down to this: These organizations were rejected by the GOP-led House simply because they had LGBTQ in their names.

Let's be clear, these services provide lifesaving services like food and shelter for those who have been rejected from their homes because of whom they love. They equip our vulnerable populations with the tools they need for future success—financial literacy, professional resumes, and life skills, among many other things.

Unfortunately, the Republicans who pulled this funding are likely hopeful that the American people will not see this bigoted and targeted approach for what it is, but what we do here today does send a very clear message to our LGBTQ community. It is a message that says that too many of my colleagues in Congress don't want to support these vital community investments simply because of who they serve. We owe it to the American people to do better and to serve everyone.

Madam Speaker, for my daughter Molly, I ask those who are affected by this to not accept this bigotry and discrimination any longer.

CONGRATULATING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF COOKEVILLE, TENNESSEE

(Mr. ROSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ROSE. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate First Baptist Church of Cookeville on 150 years of spreading the Gospel throughout middle Tennessee.

I was raised at First Baptist Church and came to know my Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, was baptized, and was a member for many years of First Baptist. My wife, Chelsea, and I were married in this church. Needless to say, I have received many blessings from this congregation.

The church was organized in 1873 with a congregation of 34 members. They agreed on a church covenant, which reads, in part: The purpose of this body is to advance the church in knowledge, holiness, and comfort, promoting prosperity and spirituality.

They continue to fulfill that commitment 150 years later.

The folks at Cookeville First Baptist embody what it means to have a servant's heart, whether it be through their many Bible study groups or missions, like Operation Christmas Child or their Family Life Center.

Today, the church enjoys a membership of more than 1,300 members. That is the result of 150 years of persistence and faith.

Madam Speaker, I pray they will continue to be a blessing to our community for the next 150 years.

REMEMBERING THE 12 LIVES LOST AT BORDERLINE BAR AND GRILL 5 YEARS AGO

(Ms. BROWNLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BROWNLEY. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I come before this body to remember the 12 innocent lives lost 5 years ago today at Borderline Bar and Grill in Thousand Oaks, California.

Our community was forever changed by this tragedy inflicted by the plague of gun violence that continues to permeate every corner of our country.

While House Republicans wasted precious time fighting with each other over electing a new Speaker for 21 days and 21 hours, there were 33 more mass shootings, 1,030 people died from gun violence, and another 2,072 people were injured.

Within hours of Speaker JOHNSON being elected, there was a mass shooting in Maine that resulted in the tragic loss of 18 lives and left 13 others injured.

Madam Speaker, the American people are no longer satisfied with empty offers of thoughts and prayers in times of such tragedies. They want action, not meaningless words.

In memory of the Borderline 12, I call on Speaker JOHNSON and my Republican colleagues to bring commonsense, lifesaving gun safety legislation, including a ban on assault weapons, to the floor now.

CELEBRATING HMONG NEW YEAR

(Mr. GROTHMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, we are beginning November here. What does November mean? It varies from city to city, but it means the Hmong New Year.

Madam Speaker, I call to my colleagues' attention that some time during November or December, if you have a Hmong population close by, they will be celebrating their new year. I encourage everyone to show up and learn more about Hmong culture, their beautiful dress, great clothes, and great music.

Our country always has a debt to pay to the Hmong, who fought during the Vietnam war against totalitarian atheism, the most evil form of government we have ever known. Afterward, they came to our country.

Wisconsin has the third most Hmong in the country, and I have gotten to know many. I have yet to run into a Hmong family—I am sure they must exist—that was not doing very well. Everyone was getting married, having children, living the American Dream.

Madam Speaker, I congratulate my Hmong friends. I look forward to celebrating separate the new year in Oshkosh and Sheboygan. I hope that anyone listening out there finds their local Hmong New Year celebration.

CONGRATULATING TOWN OF BETHEL, NORTH CAROLINA, UPON ITS 150TH ANNIVERSARY

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate the town of Bethel in Pitt County, North Carolina, on its remarkable 150th anniversary.

This past weekend, Mayor Carl and Mrs. Wilson, board members and staff, former Mayor and State Representative Gloristine Brown, Pitt County Board of Commissioners Chair Mary Perkins-Williams, Sheriff Paula Dance, town residents, and others far and near joined to commemorate the significant milestone.

Bethel is not just a town. It is a place of cherished experiences, stories, and enriched traditions that have enhanced countless lives. Indeed, Bethel offers old-time charm and exceptional family-friendly amenities.

Madam Speaker, I wish the town residents many more years filled with joy, unity, and prosperity.

□ 1230

NAHASDA REAUTHORIZATION

(Mrs. PELTOLA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. PELTOLA. Madam Speaker, I have heard stories from people across Alaska, some of the most rural and distant parts of our country, of about 20 people sharing a house with only three bedrooms and one bathroom. They sleep in shifts because they don't have enough space.

Without enough places to live, people are being forced out of their communities, the communities they love and the Native cultures they were raised in.

The Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act, or NAHASDA, is called the backbone of Indian housing for the essential support block grants and financing it guarantees in order to develop critical affordable housing and community facilities. However, 15 years of inflation since the last reauthorization has decimated housing production.

I am asking Congress to reauthorize and properly fund NAHASDA. We cannot force Alaska Natives to make a choice between the communities of their place-based cultures or a roof over their head.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 4664, FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2024

Mrs. HOUCHIN. Madam Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 847 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 847

Resolved, That at any time after adoption of this resolution the Speaker may, pursuant to clause 2(b) of rule XVIII, declare the House resolved into the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union for consideration of the bill (H.R. 4664) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2024, and for other purposes. The first reading of the bill shall be dispensed with. All points of order against consideration of the bill are waived. General debate shall be confined to the bill and shall not exceed one hour equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on Appropriations or their respective designees. After general debate the bill shall be considered for amendment under the five-minute rule. The amendment printed in part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole. The bill, as amended, shall be considered as read. All points of order against provisions in the bill, as amended, are waived.

SEC. 2. (a) No further amendment to H.R. 4664, as amended, shall be in order except those printed in part B of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying this resolution, amendments en bloc described in