

God Bless Marty and God Bless the United States of America.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 570.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
MILITARY SERVICE OF AIRMAN
BOBBY RAY STINSON

HON. DIANA HARSHBARGER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Mrs. HARSHBARGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to posthumously recognize and extend gratitude to Airman Bobby Ray Stinson for his honorable military service during the Vietnam War Era.

Airman Stinson was a man defined by his resolute and enduring love of country. Airman Stinson joined the United States Air Force in August 1964. Soon after, he was assigned to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas. During this assignment, Airman Stinson served as an aircraft mechanic. He dreamed of one day becoming an Air Force Pilot like his father-in-law. However, due to a service-related injury, Airman Stinson instead received an honorable discharge from the Air Force.

Following his military service, Airman Stinson returned home to his beloved wife, Shirley Jean in Tennessee. As a stalwart patriot, he made sure the American Flag flew high in their front yard in Blountville. In his civilian life, Airman Stinson served a multi-decade career at Eastman Chemical. At Eastman, Airman Stinson's leadership and character proved indispensable. He helmed the maintenance division, where he oversaw and managed large-scale machinery repair and power operations until his retirement in 1998.

Airman Stinson's word was his bond. His colleagues, friends, and neighbors knew him as a man of integrity, honor, and conviction. As a father, he taught his three sons, Mike, Travis, and Jeff Stinson of Blountville, Tennessee the difference between right and wrong, the value of hard work, and to never take the easy way out.

Even in his retirement, Airman Stinson's duty of service never wavered. Both as an active member of the Ruritan Club and a dedicated volunteer to the Blountville First Baptist Church, he would always lend a hand whenever he could. Airman Stinson loved to spend time with his family, especially his six wonderful grandchildren. A year before his passing, Airman Stinson and his wife celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary. He is remembered by all who knew him as a great Christian man, who always stood true to his faith in God.

Please join me in honoring the life of Airman Bobby Ray Stinson and for his patriotic service to our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL S. GOLDMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency, I am not recorded for votes on November 2, 2023.

MISS NJ AND MISS TEEN NJ
SENDOFF

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past November I had the pleasure of attending the send-off party for two exceptional individuals, Miss New Jersey 2023 Victoria Moztis and Miss Teen New Jersey Ashley Greco. In this upcoming year, these two will go off to compete in the prestigious 2024 Miss America Pageant. Our Miss New Jersey 2023, Victoria Moztis, is a resident of Northfield, South Jersey and recently graduated Magna Cum Laude from Rider University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre. Her Community Service Initiative, "LEAP: Literacy Enhancement, Artistry, and Performance," focuses on improving literacy worldwide through her partnership with The African Library Project and advocating for arts education. Victoria's talent in musical theatre has already earned her scholarships and recognition and she will carry these incredible talents with her to the 2024 pageant. Ashley Greco, our Miss New Jersey Teen 2023, is a recent high school graduate from Waldwick, New Jersey, and started at University of Massachusetts Amherst in the Fall 2023, majoring in Public Health with aspirations of becoming a Physician Assistant. Ashley's Community Service Initiative, "Be an A.L.L.Y.—Advocating for People with Disabilities," aims to educate and raise awareness about working with individuals with disabilities, breaking the stigma that surrounds them. Her hard work and dedication have brought her far, and I know she will shine on stage next year. As Victoria and Ashley embark on this exciting journey, I wish them all the success in the world. I am proud to have them represent New Jersey, and it was an honor to celebrate them last month as part of the road to Miss America 2024. Good luck, God Bless Victoria and Ashley, and God Bless the United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House floor for part of January 18, 2024. As a member of the Congressional Pro-Choice Caucus, I have spent my career in public office working to protect equal access to reproductive health care for all Americans. I also believe that the government has no place to influence an individual's decision to use family planning services such as birth control or abortion.

Had I been present to cast a vote, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 19.

WILLIAM CRIPPS

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I extend my congratulations to Fire Official and Firefighter William Cripps on his retirement this year after 25 years of service. Beginning his career in 1996, inspired by his father, he started at the City of Wildwood Fire Department as a part-time Firefighter and EMT. In 2000 he began working full time and in 2018 he took on the role of Fire Official in Wildwood, overseeing the Bureau of Fire Prevention. Throughout his service, William held many roles, including Cape May County Fire Coordinator, an instructor at the Cape May County Fire Academy, and a member of the Cape May County Urban Search & Rescue Team. He earned numerous awards, including the 9/11 Commendation for his response to the 2001 World Trade Center attacks and he also received Disaster Commendations for his work during Hurricane Sandy, Winter Storm Jonas, and Tropical Cyclone Ida. William's dedication shone through in the creation of the very successful Summer Cadet Firefighter youth program and the initiation of the City of Wildwood Fire Department's Fire Investigation Unit. This legacy runs in the family, with his brother Charles Cripps, Jr. and son Nick Cripps also embracing the noble path of firefighting. William Cripps is a symbol of dedication, and he leaves behind a legacy that will inspire generations of firefighters to come. I thank Firefighter Cripps for keeping South Jersey safe and I wish him well in his retirement. God Bless Fire Official and Firefighter William Cripps and God Bless the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING DR. LAURIE DENT

HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dr. Laurie Dent, a standout educator in our South Sound community who was recently named the 2024 Superintendent of the Year by the Washington Association of School Administrators.

As Sumner-Bonney Lake School District's Superintendent since 2016, Dr. Dent has not only shepherded school communities through numerous challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, but has also transformed schools' and individual students' performance trajectories through and in spite of pandemic-related challenges. Since the start of her tenure as Superintendent, the district's graduation rate has risen from 84 percent in 2016 to 92.1 percent in 2023, an achievement that her colleagues attribute to her staunch commitment to her "100% Graduation Campaign." Beyond the numbers, Dr. Dent's commitment to this campaign has undoubtedly strengthened schools, enriched students, and deepened community connections.

I commend Dr. Dent for being a standard-bearer in our state for what excellence in education is and should be, and I am honored to

spotlight her efforts in empowering local education professionals and supporting students' success in our South Sound community.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR THE RECOGNITION OF JANUARY AS "MUSLIM-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH" AND CELEBRATING THE HERITAGE AND CULTURE OF MUSLIM AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I am proud, as the longest serving Muslim in Congress, to introduce legislation to recognize January as "Muslim-American Heritage Month" and celebrating the heritage and culture of Muslim Americans in the United States. I thank the endorsing organizations that joined this important resolution: American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC), Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR), Islamic Relief USA, Muslim Americans in Public Service (MAPS), Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC), and Project Islamic Hope.

I am honored to partner with my Senate colleague, Senator BOOKER, to introduce this important resolution to recognize the many contributions of Muslims in the U.S. and worldwide. The value of this bill to Muslim Americans is great because their contributions to the establishment of the United States is an inspiration that others can look to as an example of what a diverse community of people can accomplish. Unfortunately, these contributions have historically been overlooked. Diversity is a cornerstone of American democracy and success; our American Muslim community is a vital contributor to our nation's strength, as well as to the talents, perspectives, and achievements this diversity brings. This bill illuminates the economic and cultural contributions of Muslims to America, and it helps combat harmful stereotypes.

Mr. Speaker, I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing January as "Muslim-American Heritage Month" and celebrating the heritage and culture of Muslim Americans in the United States by supporting this important legislation.

RETIRING OF NTSB'S "MOST WANTED LIST" OF TRANSPORTATION SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS

HON. VAL T. HOYLE

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the retirement of the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB's) "Most Wanted List" of Transportation Safety Improvements.

Many of us have interacted with the NTSB in our own communities in the wake of transportation tragedies and know they are well-regarded for their world-class crash and accident investigations.

Since 1990, the Most Wanted List has put a focus on needed transportation safety improvements across all modes of transportation, impacting communities across the country. It was introduced as a communications tool—before today's 24-hour news cycle and relentless social media—helping the NTSB focus its advocacy messages to policymakers. In its time, it was phenomenally effective.

Since the creation of the List in 1990, the NTSB successfully promoted and saw significant policy changes that led to several transportation safety wins, including:

Positive Train Control: legislation requiring full implementation of PTC on tracks with regularly scheduled intercity or commuter passenger rail service and Class I railroad main lines carrying poison- or toxic-by-inhalation hazardous materials.

Fuel Tank Safety: implementation of safety recommendations on fuel tank inerting systems and enactment of a related FAA final rule.

Occupant Protection:

Child passenger safety laws requiring booster seat use and requiring that children ride, properly restrained by a child car seat or seat belt, in the back seat.

Crashworthiness improvements across all modes, including the adoption of crash-resistant fuel tanks in helicopters.

Seat belt laws—requiring that all occupants in all vehicles equipped with safety belts use them.

Recreational Boating: implementation of alcohol-impaired boating laws, requirements for personal flotation devices, and requirements for boater education.

Additional areas of safety improvement that the Most Wanted List addressed include human fatigue, runway safety, alcohol and drug impairment, the shipment of hazardous materials, rail tank car safety, as well as pipeline leak detection and mitigation.

I also want to take a moment to acknowledge the agency's thorough and professional investigations that have led to safety recommendations which prevented future tragedies.

America's transportation industry is among the safest in the world, and the NTSB is its conscience. But unlike Congress, the agency can only recommend, not require or implement these changes. For almost 35 years, the "Most Wanted List" focused the agency's advocacy efforts that led to the enactment of new safety policies.

The NTSB feels now is the moment to change with the times. Its Board is calling for a more nimble safety advocacy program, freed from the structure of a formal list.

As they embark on that change, I want to join the Board and the agency in celebrating the legacy of the "Most Wanted List" on the occasion of its retirement. It has served the nation well, and it has helped save many American lives.

RECOGNIZING KATELYN CLELAND

HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Ms. STRICKLAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Katelyn Cleland, a South Sound

resident who has shown exemplary commitment to community service and self-improvement, and congratulate her on being awarded the Bronze Medal Congressional Award for such service.

I commend her desire to better both herself and the community around her and know that her contributions to our South Sound community merit Congress's highest form of recognition that can be granted to America's youth.

I hope that Katelyn's service has paved the path for more achievements in the next chapters of her life, as well as inspired others in our community to prioritize service.

HONORING GEORGE SALLIE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Ms. SEWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and legacy of George Sallie, who at 94 years old, was among the oldest living Foot Soldiers from Bloody Sunday and passed away on January 18, 2024.

Mr. Sallie was born on March 15, 1929, in Fostoria, Alabama, as the youngest of five children to the late Monroe and Mamie Sallie. He received his education in the segregated school system of Lowndes and Dallas Counties. At a young age, he learned to value hard work. Mr. Sallie was the son of sharecroppers and dropped out of school early to support his family. Despite leaving school, he never abandoned his "helmet of salvation," which was education.

Mr. Sallie married Minnie Walker on October 4, 1952, and they enjoyed 65 years of marriage. The Sallies built their union on biblical principles to nurture their love for God and desire for equality. George and Minnie were longtime members of the Freewill Christian Church in Selma, Alabama.

The United States Army drafted Mr. Sallie two days after his wedding. He completed basic training at Fort Rucker, Alabama, and did his first tour in South Korea with the 8th Infantry on February 26, 1953. Mr. Sallie experienced segregation in the military, and while in Korea, he realized that he was fighting for a freedom he did not have himself.

After being discharged from the Army, Mr. Sallie returned home and fought for veterans to receive a fair and equal education. He and his wife, Minnie, championed educational cases for veterans and encouraged everyone in their community to pursue higher learning.

In 1955, the Sallies moved to Selma, Alabama. They quickly became involved in the Civil Rights Movement, helping to raise funds to support a committee to travel to Washington, D.C., to assist Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with the March on Washington.

In 1966, Mr. Sallie pursued a career in electoral politics, running for a seat on the Dallas County School Board and then again in 1970, vying for a seat on the Dallas County Commission. Though he was unsuccessful in these elections, Mr. Sallie's life inspired future generations of African American leaders to engage in community activism and pursue elected office.

Mr. Sallie was a distinguished community leader and a man of principles and high morale. He earned the title of a Foot Soldier on