

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HAYDEN THOM

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past January, it was my honor to attend the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for an incredible young man, Hayden Thom. Hayden has been involved with the Scouts since the second grade and has been a very active member in the years since. Throughout his journey, he has held several leadership positions, earned thirty merit badges, and completed almost 200 hours of community service. His trail to Eagle Scout culminated with his Eagle Scout project where he helped design and install a new display for a World War II Anti-Tank Gun for American Legion Post 452 in Mullica Hill, South Jersey. This display included a new concrete pad, lighting, new flag poles, protective bollards for the gun, and decorative stone. He hopes to stay involved with the troops and give back by volunteering with his scout troop as an adult leader. In June of 2026, Hayden will graduate from Gloucester County Institute of Technology and plans to attend the Universal Technical Institute to further study the automotive industry. I know this young man will do big things, and I am incredibly proud of him for this accomplishment. God bless Hayden and God bless the United States of America.

TAX RELIEF FOR AMERICAN FAMILIES AND WORKERS ACT OF 2024

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 7024, the Tax Relief for American Families and Workers Act of 2024. Mr. Speaker, this bill is a wolf in sheep's clothing.

Let's be clear about what this tax deal is: just another Republican handout to big corporations and oil companies. Congressional Republicans are claiming victory with this bill, touting the \$600 billion in tax cuts for corporations if the corporate tax cuts in this bill are made permanent.

The 2017 Trump-GOP tax scam has added \$1.9 trillion to the deficit. Republicans voted to raise taxes on the middle class to pay for their deficit-exploding giveaway to big corporations and billionaires. Thanks to the Trump-GOP tax scam, big corporations and oil companies have enjoyed lower taxes and have taken advantage of tax credits. Big corporations like Amazon, Google, Facebook, and Marathon Petroleum already pay far too little in taxes each year. H.R. 7024 would give them access to even more tax cuts. Congress should be ensuring big corporations and oil companies

pay their fair share rather than helping them get a leg up.

I support the Child Tax Credit and voted for it in the American Rescue Plan, but H.R. 7024 is eighty-two pages long and only three pages pertain to the credit. In those three pages, the Child Tax Credit provisions fail to replicate the success of the improved Child Tax Credit provided to families by the American Rescue Plan. Under H.R. 7024, fewer families will be eligible, and the credit will be received as an annual refund. We heard from families who said the monthly payments are what made this credit so helpful to them in 2021 to pay their monthly bills, keep healthy and nutritious food on the table, and manage a mortgage or rent. I look forward to working with NETWORK, Save the Children, the Minnesota Council of Nonprofits, and other advocacy groups to put forward a tax bill that accomplishes all our goals with the Child Tax Credit.

I strongly opposed the Trump-GOP tax scam when it was rushed through Congress in 2017. Donald Trump and the GOP promised increased tax revenues to offset the massive debt they created, but it never materialized. Instead, the tax scam ballooned the deficit. I've been outspoken in the past about how harmful those tax cuts were, and I believe H.R. 7024 is another Republican scam to give big corporations a break while the rest of America picks up the tab. I urge my colleagues to reject H.R. 7024.

RECOGNIZING CHAIRMAN KEITH ANDERSON OF THE SHAKOPEE MDEWAKANTON SIOUX COMMUNITY

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate outgoing Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community (SMSC) Chairman Keith Anderson on a successful four years as Chairman of SMSC's Business Council.

Chairman Anderson served for five terms on SMSC's Business Council. I'm thankful for our strong working relationship during his time as Chairman and it is a privilege to represent the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community in Congress. In particular, I'm proud to have secured \$2.5 million in federal funding to help complete a clean water reclamation system at SMSC's new organics recycling facility, Dakota Prairie Composting.

Chairman Anderson continued SMSC's strong national presence having served as co-chairman of the Native Farm Bill Coalition, advocating for native farming practices and serving as board chairman for Koda Energy, a partnership between Rahr Malting and SMSC that creates energy by burning dry biomass fuels. As a member of the Business Council, he also helped oversee the construction and

opening of Hockata Ti, SMSC's cultural center and museum. I'm grateful for our partnership and wish Chairman Anderson the best.

MIDDLE TOWNSHIP AMBULANCE CORPS

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past January it was my pleasure to attend the Middle Township Ambulance Corps Installation of Officers Dinner in Cape May Court House, South Jersey. During this dinner we recognized members for their outstanding achievements, honored those who displayed exceptional bravery during the pandemic, and celebrated the installation of these officers. It was my honor to celebrate the following new officers as they took their oath of office: Deborah A. Rue as President, Theodore Bohn as Vice President, Deborah Brannon as Treasurer, Julie Mounts as Secretary, Joseph F. Eagan, IV as Chief, Gary Seabridge, Jr. as Assistant Chief, Brian Mounts as Captain, Zachary Lex as First Lieutenant, Andrew Raniszewski as Second Lieutenant, and Charles Roach Third Lieutenant. Middle Township Ambulance Corps, Inc. is the sole volunteer ambulance corps in Middle Township, covering over 89 square miles. Our South Jersey community feels safer knowing this group of amazing people will always be there to answer their call. I want to thank them for their unwavering dedication and their invaluable contributions to our community. God Bless Middle Township Ambulance Corps and God Bless the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING AMANDA ARCHER OF CANTON CITY PUBLIC HEALTH

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amanda Archer from Canton as the Ohio-13 Champion of the Week. Amanda is the first woman to lead Canton City Public Health as Health Commissioner in its 175-year history. In addition to working for the health department since 2014, she also worked as an epidemiologist in the Stark County Coroner's Office as an epidemiologist to inform decisions and policies to help prevent disease in the community.

This experience made her an easy fit as the lead epidemiologist for Canton's COVID-19 response in 2020, helping Canton residents understand critical information about the virus. Amanda has dedicated herself to the health and wellbeing of her community, and I am excited to see how she leads Canton City Public Health in her new role.

• 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.

Congratulations once more to the Ohio-13 Champion of the Week, Amanda Archer.

TRIBUTE TO MAYOR TONY JUNIOUS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a trailblazing public servant and pillar in the Summerton, South Carolina, community. Mayor Tony Junious tragically passed away on January 27, 2024. He was loved by everybody who knew him and will be sorely missed.

Born and raised in Summerton, Tony embodied the spirit of the town. Attending Clarendon County schools, he had an insatiable desire to learn and graduated from Scott's Branch High School as class President in 1995. Though Tony became a successful entrepreneur, it was his passion for education that led him to public service. The community elected him to serve on various Clarendon County School District Boards of Trustees. During his tenure, Tony increased high school graduation rates, began career readiness programs, volunteered at school events, mentored young leaders, and organized scholarship dinners for Scott's Branch High School Seniors. He was especially committed to younger students and ensuring they had a strong foundation to prepare them for the future.

After spending two decades advocating on behalf of Summerton's children, Tony ran for Mayor of Summerton with a bold vision of moving the town forward bolstering economic development, improving the water system, and bringing more healthcare options to the area. On April 5, 2022, Tony was elected the first Black Mayor of Summerton. In his first year, Mayor Junious achieved significant milestones; securing a \$25,000 Hometown Grant, securing \$12 million in infrastructure grants, initiating a Hood zone study, participating in the Broadband Internet Access Survey, establishing a Community Clean-Up Group, and passing an ordinance on firearms safety.

While Mayor Junious had big visions for Summerton, he had an even bigger heart. He had a gift for making every person in the town feel they belonged and that their voice was heard. With an infectious smile and a heart of gold, he emanated a sense of pride for Summerton that rippled through the entire community. Even during difficult times, his warm presence and astute leadership reassured everyone that no challenge was too big to overcome. Whenever Mayor Junious set his mind to something, rest assured he would achieve it.

A man of deep faith, Tony attended various churches throughout his life and was ordained an Elder and Minister. He recently received his Doctorate under the leadership of Apostle Elizabeth Gipson at the Open House of Prayer Healing and Deliverance Ministries, where he served as Chair of the Pastor aide committee.

Left to cherish Tony's memory is his loving wife, LaShenda Miller Junious, his mother, stepmother, grandmother, four sons, three daughters, stepdaughter, adopted daughter, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, and many more.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me in recognizing the life of Mayor Tony Junious. In his honor, the people of Summerton have committed to moving forward with the vision Mayor Junious put in motion, a testament to the enduring impact of his legacy that will resonate for many years to come.

HARVEY AND MADALYN ROVINSKY

HON. JEFFERSON VAN DREW

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Mr. VAN DREW. Mr. Speaker, this past December, I had the honor of celebrating Harvey and Madalyn Rovinsky and their retirement after almost 60 years in the jewelry business. Through their hard work and dedication over the years, Harvey and Madalyn have cemented their names in the luxury jewelry industry. Harvey joined the jewelry business at a young age, working with his father as a watchmaker. In 1966, he joined Bernie Robbins Jewelers, working for his future parents-in-law. He learned vital business lessons from Bernie, emphasizing credibility and customer relationships. In 1992, Harvey and Madalyn transformed the company, creating an exquisite jewelry destination that now has three locations spread over Pennsylvania and New Jersey. Under their leadership, Bernie Robbins has become a highly decorated business, receiving countless recognitions and awards. In 2022, they received the National Jeweler Retailer Hall of Fame Award and Bernie Robbins Jewelers was recognized as a New Jersey Top Workplace for employee engagement. Because of their hard work, Bernie Robbins has become synonymous with expertise and exceptional customer experiences in a welcoming atmosphere. I hope Harvey and Madalyn enjoy their retirement, and I know their legacy will continue to shine brightly for years to come. God Bless Harvey and Madalyn and God Bless the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF ANEELAH AFZALI

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Aneelah Afzali, who is stepping down after over seven years of service as the Executive Director of the American Muslim Empowerment Network of the Muslim Association of Puget Sound (MAPS-AMEN).

Aneelah founded MAPS-AMEN in December 2016 to combat rising islamophobia and empower the Pacific Northwest Muslim American community. I was proud to bring Aneelah as my guest to the 2017 State of the Union Address during my first year in Congress. Her story as a Muslim American woman of color is truly the American story. Aneelah's presence demonstrated to President Trump that he could not silence the patriotism and resolve of people in this country based on their race, reli-

gion or country of origin. Her continued organizing over the next seven years impacted the lives of thousands and exemplified her commitment to the realization of a just world.

Throughout her career, Aneelah's work with faith and non-faith communities has built bridges across religious, racial, cultural and political divides. Aneelah currently serves on a number of governing and advisory boards. Through this service, she emphasizes intersectionality and equity within the contexts of a wide array of issues such as gun violence prevention, racial justice, immigration reform and educational equity. She also continues to work with the Washington State Refugee Coordinator to welcome and resettle of Afghan refugees. She is a true community activist, interfaith leader, and civil rights advocate.

Aneelah's particular combination of brilliance, commitment to organizing and community, tenacity and strategic ability has been a true gift to our region and our people. She has inspired and celebrated the leadership of countless others, and of regular community members taking action and recognizing the power of their voices. Her integrity and values underlie everything, and she has never wavered from those no matter how challenging the situation. I have been continually inspired by Aneelah's work to combat hate and create a more equitable society.

As she continues her work to empower communities in new ways, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Aneelah's many accomplishments and contributions to our country. On behalf of Washington's 7th Congressional District, I thank Aneelah for her partnership, service to the people of the Pacific Northwest and dedication to the fight for justice.

RECOGNIZING AARIT KOUL OF JACKSON MEMORIAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. EMILIA STRONG SYKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 1, 2024

Mrs. SYKES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Aarit Koul (Air-it Cool) from Jackson Memorial Middle School in Massillon as the Ohio-13 Champion of the Week. Aarit is the winner of the 2023 Congressional App Challenge for Ohio's 13th Congressional District. As part of the 2023 Congressional App Challenge, Aarit designed an app called "CareCivic," which is designed to encourage young people to become civically engaged.

CareCivic includes information about our government and important events in United States history, as well as games like ping pong and trivia so you can learn while playing. Aarit's app is an impressive combination of technical skill and passion for civics rolled into one. Aarit's app helps teach younger generations just how precious our democracy is and why it's important they make their voices heard to create change on the issues they care about.

Congratulations once more to the Ohio-13 Champion of the Week, Aarit Koul.