

the Agent Raul Gonzalez Officer Safety Act, H.R. 6678, the Consequences for Social Security Fraud Act, H.R. 6679, the No Immigration Benefits for Hamas Terrorists Act, and H.R. 6976, the Protect Our Communities from DUIs Act.

Our Nation is amid unprecedented chaos at our southern border. Every day, thousands of illegal aliens are flooding over the border and into our cities, increasing crime at alarming rates. The rise of unabated human trafficking at our southern border should be among our greatest motivations for meaningful action. While some illegal aliens are fleeing oppression and poor economic conditions in their countries, many of them are trafficking large quantities of drugs, weapons, and other contraband. At a time when Americans are dying from fentanyl and other drug overdoses at catastrophic rates, we must do everything in our power to slow the stem of trafficking. Moreover, with surges in violent crime across our country, we need to ensure that our federal immigration authorities have the resources necessary to remove illegal aliens who commit crimes against innocent Americans.

Each of these bills aim to empower federal authorities to reject or remove illegal immigrants who commit certain crimes. This includes aliens who intentionally evade border patrol agents or law enforcement assisting those agents; aliens who commit social security fraud; aliens who are convicted of driving under the influence; and aliens who are members of the Hamas terrorist group or involved in the October 7, 2023 attack on Israel.

We must take action to make the United States safer, and I am proud to support these efforts to do exactly that.

HONORING DR. CLEOPHUS A.  
ROBINSON

HON. ANDY KIM  
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2024*

Mr. KIM of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible accomplishments of Dr. Cleophus A. Robinson of the Willingboro Fort Dix/McGuire Air Force Base Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc.

Serving as a Tuskegee Airman in the United States Air Force during World War II, Dr. Robinson dedicated almost 40 years of his life to serving our country. It was in the Air Force when he joined the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, of which he has been a member for 74 years. In 1975, Dr. Robinson became a Grand Chapter Life Member of the fraternity and went on to become a founding member of the Willingboro Fort Dix/McGuire Air Force Base Alumni Chapter which aims to inspire interest in public service. Dr. Robinson's dedication to the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity and service has had ripple effects across our communities in Burlington County, New Jersey, and across the Garden State.

Not only has Dr. Robinson dedicated his life to serving his community and bettering the lives of those around him, he also received his Masters of Public Administration from the City University of New York, and later went on to earn his Doctorates in Education from Rutgers University.

The scope of Dr. Robinson's work has touched innumerable lives. He was one of the

founding members of the Southern Burlington County National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and served 15 years as a member of the Executive Committee of the New Jersey State Conference of NAACP. Through his work with this organization, Dr. Robinson uplifted the voices of his community and empowered underrepresented families across the state to stand up for what is right and just.

Dr. Robinson not only excelled at serving his country and community, but he is a family man, married to his wife, Leonia McClland, for over 60 years with three adult children.

While many community members locally know Dr. Cleophus Robinson and his positive impact in our community, today I'm proud to honor his tenure as a public servant and veteran of the United States Air Force. We are lucky to have his inspiration in our community.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS AND AMERICAN SAMOA COLLEGE ACCESS ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO  
SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2024*

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Northern Mariana Islands and American Samoa College Access Act, which would authorize tuition assistance grants to cover the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition costs for Marianas and American Samoa community college graduates seeking to attend a four-year public university.

The importance of having an educated citizenry is a bedrock principle of our nation and has been since our founding. And in today's competitive job market, a postsecondary education is increasingly becoming a critical necessity for obtaining a decent job with a decent wage.

The Northern Mariana Islands has only been part of America for forty-five years. We understand well that education is key to our continued growth, but the reality is that household incomes in the Marianas are less than half the national median. The U.S. territory of American Samoa is in similar economic straits. Poverty and unemployment rates there are among the highest in the country.

I believe the best way to improve economic conditions in these territories is to improve the educational opportunities available to our residents. Unfortunately, however, neither the Marianas nor American Samoa have a four-year institution of higher education. In fact, they are the only U.S. states or territories in the country without a public four-year college or university. Each has an accredited community college, but academic offerings are substantially limited.

Students from these U.S. territories wanting the advantages of a four-year university in another state or territory face significant financial difficulty. Nonresident students spend an average of \$16,380 in out-of-state tuition and fees more per year than their resident peers at public four-year colleges, according to College Board. That \$16,380 differential puts a four-year college degree out of reach for many students from our islands where the median

household income is \$30,000. And many students in the Marianas and American Samoa wanting to attend a four-year university not only face the cost of out-of-state tuition, but also the significant expense of travel. The Marianas is over 3,700 miles from the nearest state, Hawaii—a \$1,100 one-way trip by plane. American Samoa to Hawaii is over 2,500 miles, which is over \$800 one-way.

The bill follows the model of P.L. 106–98, the D.C. College Access Act, which allows students residing in the District of Columbia to apply for grants to help pay the cost of attending colleges outside D.C., but much smaller in scope and cost. My legislation creates a program through which public four-year schools in the 50 states, D.C., and other U.S. territories may be reimbursed for offering in-state tuition to undergraduate students from the Marianas and American Samoa.

The gentlewoman from American Samoa, Mrs. RADEWAGEN, is an original cosponsor of the bill. I urge my colleagues to support this bipartisan legislation and help give students from the Marianas and American Samoa the means needed to make their educational dreams a reality.

HONORING PAUL DILLON

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2024*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the career and accomplishments of one of southeastern Connecticut's most prominent veterans' advocates, Mr. Paul Dillon. Paul has dedicated his retirement from his service in the U.S. Navy to being a staunch defender of veterans both within his hometown of Gales Ferry, Connecticut, and around the southeast region.

Paul served in the Navy for nearly a quarter century from 1956 to 1980 and was an exemplary sailor. His service encompassed the Vietnam War and his tenure saw him promoted to U.S. Navy Master Chief. After service, he became a member of my Veterans Advisory Council, the president of the Nautilus Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Navy, and more. In 2012, he was befittingly inducted into the CT Veterans' Hall of Fame. The efforts he has made to protect and serve his country reflect his generosity and patriotism. His selfless commitment to his community and to veterans from across the country has undoubtedly inspired future generations.

Paul Dillon courageously and honorably served in the Navy during the Vietnam War, putting his life on the line to defend our nation. He was a Master Chief Radio Man on the USS *Oklahoma City* and USS *Providence* for three years. Paul rose to the challenge of working over 18 hour days, surrounded by constant fire. The stressful conditions of war were no match for Paul's tenacious spirit. He continued to work tirelessly to protect our country. His presence was integral to the protection and preservation of democracy and every American's liberty.

Unfortunately, Paul was exposed to Agent Orange during his tours and to this day he suffers from the health complications caused from the chemical exposure. After his years of active-duty service ended, he quickly focused

on advocating for veterans, especially for Blue Water Navy veterans like him who suffered from similar service-connected health complications. Shockingly, the U.S. Veterans Administration in the early 2000's refused to grant "presumptive eligibility" for agent orange exposure health illness for veterans of AMERICA'S sea services. The VA's "foot on the ground" rule granted such coverage for Army and Marine Corps ground troops creating an outrageous disparity and discrimination against Navy and Coast Guard veterans of the Vietnam War. It took 17 years of constant advocacy to finally get Congress to pass a new law correcting this injustice. Paul's personal experience with the lasting impact of exposure served to enhance his advocacy ability, giving him a unique understanding of the hardship endured by many Vietnam era veterans. It was an honor for me as his congressman to help achieve this hard-fought legislative victory as an original cosponsor of this measure.

When he was appointed as the Northeast Regional Vice President of the National Association for Uniformed Services (NAUS), he worked on behalf of other veterans to protect and enhance their earned benefits.

After his retirement from the Navy, Paul joined Sonalyst Inc. By 1983, he started at Northeast Utilities as a telecommunication manager at Millstone Nuclear Power Station, retiring from his second career in 1997. One year after his second retirement, Paul started at the Retired Activities Office (RAO) at NSB New London where he remains today.

Paul's sense of modesty and obligation to the Connecticut veteran community has been evidenced through his numerous volunteer commitments. In addition to his work at the RAO, he participates in events to honor the veterans of the district, such as when he lays wreaths on graves of veterans at the Jordan Cemetery in Waterford as part of Wreaths Across America. Moreover, he served the Co-Chairman of Kaps for Kids in Groton. With Kaps for Kids, he visits sick children, brightening their days, at a local hospital each Veteran's Day. His attentiveness to those experiencing adversity is heartening and inspiring.

I am honored and privileged to know Paul Dillon on a personal level. Paul has been an irreplaceable asset as a member of my Veterans Advisory Council. His wisdom surrounding veterans issues is extremely useful, it is a pleasure to receive his guidance. He is a dear friend of my office and frequently assists on myriad issues relating to veteran affairs.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize and immortalize the continued works of Paul Dillon. In addition to his distinguished service career, he has been a mainstay of the veteran community within my district. It is no small consolation to know that model citizens like Paul continue to inspire future generations. I ask my colleagues in the House to join me in commending and thanking Paul Dillon for his endless service to the public.

HONORING TONYA FINLEY-MCCAW

**HON. CORI BUSH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2024*

Ms. BUSH. Mr. Speaker, St. Louis and I rise to honor the life and legacy of Mrs. Tonya

Latrice Finley-McCaw. Mrs. Finley-McCaw was a remarkable servant leader who touched the lives of so many people across the St. Louis community.

A passionate advocate, Mrs. Finley-McCaw fought tirelessly for the rights of families and workers, including aiding efforts across the region and state for living wages and the right to unionize. Together, alongside her inspiring son and a stalwart community leader, Rasheen, the pair were never far from a picket line, joining striking workers and allies demanding fair wages in the "Fight for \$15" movement.

Mrs. Finley-McCaw was indefatigable. In addition to her strong support of labor rights and economic justice, she also chaired St. Louis City's Moms Demand Action chapter in an effort to tackle the crisis of gun violence in our communities and received several leadership certificates and accolades for her wide-ranging work and advocacy throughout the St. Louis region.

Born on July 7, 1970, in Chicago, Illinois, to her loving parents, Samuel and Dorothy Finley. She was also blessed with an amazing sister, Tejuanina Finley. Finley-McCaw attended and graduated from Parkway South High School, where she was crowned prom queen. She later pursued higher education at St. Louis College of Health Careers and obtained her certification as a phlebotomist.

Mrs. Finley-McCaw was married to the love of her life, Rick McCaw, for 27 years. She is the proud mother of three sons: Rashaad Crawford, Rasheen Aldridge, and Rasheed Finley. She is the stepmother to Rickey McCaw, Rikieya McCaw, Malik McCaw, and Bernard Wings. When she wasn't spending time with her family or working to improve the lives of her St. Louis neighbors, Mrs. Finley-McCaw loved to cook (especially on holidays), play with her dogs, travel, and spend time with her grandchildren.

Mrs. Finley-McCaw was a great friend and mother figure to many. I have fond memories of her. I have fond memories of her helping to support me as I worked hard to represent the people of Missouri's First District. She provided unparalleled guidance and never faltered in the work of ensuring St. Louis has the representation it deserves at every level of government. I got to witness what a remarkable human she was to those around and what an incredible mother she was through my personal friendship with Rasheen. She touched so many of our hearts and she will be deeply missed. May her memory forever be a blessing.

RECOGNIZING MARIAN  
MACFARLAND'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2024*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marian MacFarland, a remarkable constituent from my district who is about to celebrate her 100th birthday. Marian was born on February 13, 1924, in Eldred, Pennsylvania, moved to Feasterville, and now resides in Newtown, Bucks County.

Marian Edgar graduated from Eldred High School, in Eldred, PA. She moved to Philadel-

phia, PA working at a Munitions Plant where she met John Russell MacFarland. Russ worked at the Naval Yard as the Chief Petty Officer in charge of repairs and re-outfitting the Naval ships. Marian and Russ were married on January 17, 1948, after he came home from World War II.

Marian and Russ moved to the suburbs in 1952, building their dream home together in Feasterville, PA. Marian worked for Strawbridge's department store in Philadelphia before starting a family. She and Russ are blessed with two sons, John and David, and one daughter, Jean Marie. She also has six grandchildren, and seven great grandchildren. She is immensely proud of the many family "get togethers" at her home where the main course was always chips and dip served with tuna hoagies.

Marian made her move to Buckingham Valley Rehabilitation Center with ease, making new friends as she shared her joys of life. She still enjoys gardening, working in the yard, trimming her plants, and attending to her flowers daily. Marian loves dancing, and she insists that it is what kept her in such great shape all these years. She loves her pet therapy visits and a nighttime snack with her roommate. Everyone who knows Marian would agree that her sweet tooth is her top priority.

Marian has an enthusiastic sense of humor and imagination. She loves to reminisce with her daughter Jean and son-in law, Bill about life's great memories, while her son David always comes for nightly visits. Marian has created lasting memories that affect every person she has encountered thus far in her life, and it is my fervent hope that she continues her positive impact on our community, district, and country.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to please join me in extending our heartfelt congratulations, sincere well-wishes, and all of God's Blessings to Marian MacFarland on the celebration of her 100th Birthday.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF BELLE ORTIZ, THE MOTHER  
OF MARIACHI

**HON. GREG CASAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 6, 2024*

Mr. CASAR. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to call the attention of the House in recognition of the life and legacy of Belle Ortiz, a legendary San Antonian and the Mother of Mariachi.

Born on February 12, 1933, Isabel "Belle" A. Ortiz grew up on the west side of San Antonio, TX. She began her musical journey at the age of four, and as a youth, Ms. Ortiz performed across the city with various orchestras. After graduating from Our Lady of the Lake University, she began her career as a public school music teacher, eventually landing at Lanier High School, her alma mater, in 1970.

At a time when speaking another language besides English was frowned upon, Ms. Ortiz was committed to teaching music that reflected the rich cultural diversity of Texas. At Lanier High School in San Antonio, she created the high school ballet folklorico program, the first of its kind in the country. Through her continued advocacy, thousands of schools,