

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING SUPERVISOR NICK  
MICHELI

**HON. DOUG LaMALFA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2024*

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the public service career of Sutter County Supervisor Nick Micheli.

Nick is a third generation Sutter County resident and farmer. The Micheli family roots in Sutter County go back to when the family first started farming in Live Oak in the 1920's.

Nick's early education was in Sutter and Yuba County where he attended Sutter Union High School, and then Yuba College. Nick would further his education at the University of Phoenix, where he majored in Business Management and received an Associate's Degree in Business Fundamentals.

Nick would take over the family farm, Micheli Enterprises Inc., at the age of 20, after his father passed away. Nick continues to serve as the Manager and Owner of the farming operation and as the Secretary and Treasurer of the Lomo Receiving Co. in Live Oak.

Nick would also serve as a Board Member of the Yuba-Sutter Farm Bureau and California Dried Plum Board. In these organizations, Nick served on the Government Affairs and Management Committee.

Nick proudly serves as a local ambassador to Shriner Children's Hospital and is a 32nd Degree Free Mason who chairs the bicycle program for local elementary schools.

Nick and his wife, Sasha, have a daughter named Violet.

We thank Supervisor Nick Micheli for his years of service advocating for the agricultural industry while on the Sutter County Board of Supervisors. We wish him all the best in his career.

HONORING SAN FRANCISCO VA  
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2024*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi, Representative Kevin Mullin and Representative Jared Huffman to honor the San Francisco VA Health Care System (SFVAHCS) in celebration of its ninety years of providing high quality medical care and services to our country's veterans.

Conceived of by the newly consolidated Veterans Administration in 1931, San Francisco VA Medical Center opened its doors on the aptly chosen date of November 11, 1934. Located at historic Fort Miley in San Francisco, the original medical center remains the flagship of the California Bay Area's veterans health care system. Over the last nine dec-

ades, the hospital and staff have served thousands of veterans. In 2023, SFVAHCS provided care to 94,594 veterans with a combined 870,693 outpatient visits and 3,203 inpatient admissions.

Now as part of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), SFVAHCS continues to operate the medical center, manages a 120-bed community living center and oversees nine outpatient clinics across its service territory. Those clinics are located in downtown San Francisco, Clearlake, Eureka, Oakland, San Bruno, Santa Rosa, and Ukiah. The health care system is supported by an incredible staff of more than three thousand employees and three hundred volunteers.

For over sixty years, SFVAHCS has partnered with the University of California, San Francisco's School of Medicine to train physicians. Many generations of medical professionals that now support our country's greater health care system learned from the highly skilled clinicians at SFVAHCS. Moreover, the health care system boasts the largest competitively funded research program in the VA which is driving cutting edge health care innovations and technologies. These programs are a benefit to all Americans.

SFVAHCS' commitment to high quality health care does not go unnoticed. In 2023, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services received a 4-star rating for overall quality and a Silver Level Geriatric Emergency Department Accreditation from the American College of Emergency Physicians. In 2024, two outstanding SFVAHCS employees were recognized: Dr. Cynthia Delgado as one of TIME100's most influential people in health and Dr. Bruce Ovbiagele with the W Lester Henry Award for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion by the American College of Physicians.

Mr. Speaker, it is evident that the San Francisco VA Health Care System is a critical resource for the veterans of California's Bay Area. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor them here today.

HONORING ALVIN ROYSE

**HON. KEVIN MULLIN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2024*

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Councilmember Alvin L. Royse, fondly known as "Al," for his decades of exemplary service to his community, his profession, and his family. As Councilmember Royse completes his third term on the Hillsborough City Council, it is appropriate to reflect on his remarkable legacy of leadership and dedication.

Al was born in 1950 in the Peace Garden State of North Dakota as one of five children in his household. He began his career of service to the public by serving two terms in the North Dakota Legislative Assembly, where he championed key issues such as the Equal

Rights Amendment. He was later inducted into the University of North Dakota School of Accounting Hall of Fame and was awarded the University of North Dakota Sioux Award for Distinguished Achievement and Leadership.

He served as Mayor of Hillsborough in 2021 and 2022, bringing his deep expertise and collaborative spirit to the role. Al has served as Public Works Commissioner since 2021, after serving as Finance Commissioner from 2013 to 2020. His tenure on the Council has been marked by his steadfast advocacy for fiscal responsibility and sustainable infrastructure development.

Beyond his contributions to local government, Al's impact extends to national service. A retired Senior Partner with Deloitte & Touche LLP, he distinguished himself as Global and U.S. National Managing Partner for Tax Industries, among other leadership roles. A Certified Public Accountant and attorney, Al has also lent his expertise as a consultant to businesses and a lecturer on global economics, corporate ethics, and leadership development.

Al's contributions to nonprofit organizations are equally significant. He is a past National Chairman of both the American Heart Association and Voices for Healthy Kids. His work for these organizations earned him numerous accolades, including the 2021 Gold Heart Award and the 2024 Morgan Stark Memorial Award from the American Heart Association. Locally, he has supported education, youth sports, and civic organizations, serving as a leader for groups such as the Hillsborough Schools Foundation, Boy Scouts, and Peninsula Family Service.

A proud resident of Hillsborough since 1985, Al raised his children, Matthew and Jennifer, in the community. Al's role as a father, grandfather, and active participant in his children's lives has been a source of immense pride. An avid skier, tennis player, and history enthusiast, Al is looking forward to spending more time with his grandchildren, traveling, and pursuing his love of reading following his time on the Hillsborough City Council. Al's tenure is a testament to his unwavering commitment to public service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Councilmember Alvin L. Royse for his decades of extraordinary service and his enduring commitment to making his community and our Nation a better place. His legacy will continue to inspire future generations of leaders.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2024*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 477 and YEA on Roll Call No. 478.

• 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.

TRIBUTE TO MAHMOUD OTHMAN  
ATTA

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2024*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life and work of Mahmoud Othman Atta a highly-respected leader in the Muslim and interfaith community, veteran, husband, father and grandfather. Mr. Mahmoud Othman Atta was born on June 22, 1936, and he died on November 10, 2016, at the age of 80.

Mr. Atta was born in the Palestinian territories in El-Bireh, Palestine and moved to Milwaukee at age 16 with his dual-citizen father. He graduated from West Division High School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, attended two years of technical college and was drafted into the U.S. Army, serving as a medic. After his military service Mr. Atta returned to the Palestinian territories, where he married his wife, Intisar and had two children. He later returned to Milwaukee with his family in the mid-1960s.

He is regarded as the Milwaukee area's first de-facto imam, leading prayers and religious services in homes, though he never held the title full time. Local Muslims hailed from various homelands, speaking different languages and Mr. Atta bridged those divides through communal worship. He organized classes to teach Arabic, the language of the Qur'an so that everyone would be able to pray and read the Holy Book together.

Mahmoud Othman Atta was one of the Islamic Society of Milwaukee's seven founding members. Mr. Atta guided Milwaukee's Muslim community and the Islamic Society of Milwaukee in the 1970's, when an estimated 200 Muslims lived in the city. He helped lead fundraising for the purchase of its main center on the city's south side and served on the society's first board of trustees, a position he held for about a decade.

Mahmoud Othman Atta was a natural leader. He saw the value in reaching across racial and religious lines, joining interfaith organizations and Muslim-Christian dialogue groups. He was respected for his character and his knowledge. Mr. Atta would open his home to a stranger, realizing how it felt like to be alone without family, so he always had a soft spot in his heart for students or individuals who were coming from overseas.

Mr. Atta worked as an engine technician at Briggs & Stratton for about 25 years, retiring in 1990 after suffering his first stroke. Mr. Atta had been in declining health in recent years and suffered a stroke while he and his wife spent several months in the Palestinian areas. He returned to the Palestinian territories every year or two, where his large family is well-known. About 1,000 people there have attended visitations spread over three days, after his death.

Mahmoud Othman Atta is survived by his wife Intisar; 2 sons Othman and Ihsan; 2 daughters Janan and Bayan; and 12 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, Milwaukee has experienced a profound loss with the passing of Mahmoud Othman Atta. He had an attachment to Milwaukee, and he loved the Midwestern lifestyle. Today, I thank him and his family for their immeasurable achievements. I mourn his loss and I salute his legacy.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. GLEN  
TATE

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2024*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the life of Dr. Glen Tate. He passed away this year after a long life spent advocating for the Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas.

Born in February 1948 in Corpus Christi, Texas, Dr. Tate's childhood was spent on a small farm near Victoria, and quickly moved to Devine. Here, his love for all animals, but especially horses and cattle, was born.

Dr. Tate took this love and turned it into a career. In 1973, after graduating from Texas A&M, Tate received his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and opened two practices, with one in Alberta, Canada, and the other in Lytle, Texas.

Beyond his business successes, Dr. Tate was also renowned for his heifers. His Brangus heifers were frequently the highest selling in many special replacement female sales.

An avid rodeo fan, Dr. Tate traveled across this continent to watch the sport and spend time with his treasured friends in team roping.

Dr. Tate was especially dedicated to the Independent Cattlemen's Association of Texas, where he served on the ICA Board of Directors and chaired the committee on animal health and safety.

He was also an active member of the South Central Texas ICA chapter and served on their board. In 2019, he was awarded the South Central Texas Independent Cattlemen's Association Trailblazer Award at the annual ICA convention.

Dr. Tate is survived by his wife of 55 years Diana and 3 children, Justin, Jennifer and Gaylyn. Glen especially loved family time with his 6 grandchildren—Lane, Bradley, Tyler, Taryn, Dalton and Josie, as well as 3 great grandchildren—Cohen, Stevie Lynn and Lottie Jane.

HONORING ALISA MCAVOY

**HON. KEVIN MULLIN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, November 22, 2024*

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Alisa McAvoy, School Board Trustee for the Redwood City School District, upon her retirement after 17 years of dedication and advocacy for public education.

Alisa was born in Oxnard, California in 1963. She moved to Northern California where she attended Stanford University to pursue her Bachelor and Master's degrees in Civil/Environmental Engineering with an energy planning emphasis and graduated in 1987.

Alisa's commitment to protecting the environment has been illustrated by her time working for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Dedicated to pollution prevention and agriculture sustainability, she worked as an engineer and manager overseeing hazardous waste management projects across several states.

Alisa's journey into educational advocacy began in 2007, when she was elected to the Redwood City School District Board of Trustees. During her years on the Board, Alisa served as Board President and Vice President three times. Additionally, she has participated on numerous District committees including Policy, Wellness, Call to Action, School Choice Programmatic, Local Control Accountability, Superintendent's Advisory, Feasibility Study, and Community Outreach. The length and depth of knowledge and experience acquired through active participation in Board committees deepened her commitment and tireless advocacy for education.

As a school board trustee, Alisa has engaged extensively with community members, parents, staff, teachers, and elected officials to foster collaboration to ensure a high caliber and meaningful public education for all students. Her leadership includes chairing initiatives and successfully advancing multiple Redwood City School District ballot measures, securing over \$500 million to support facility upgrades, capital projects, ongoing operations, and educational programs.

Alisa has devoted numerous volunteer hours at school events across San Mateo County, and in the schools, helping with math, art, field trips, special events, science and more. Alisa has always advocated for education, especially for adequate and consistent funding with community partners, parents, elected officials, state and federal officials and non-profits and community groups.

With a passion for service, Alisa, has served on various boards including Little Hands, Carlmont Parents Nursery School, Clifford School Parent Teacher Organization, Redwood City Education Foundation, North Star Site Council, Family Connections, and the Family Connections Authors Night, Emerald Lake Country Club, Redwood City Woman's Club, League of Women Voters, San Mateo County iZone Leadership Team and Policy, and San Mateo County Community Choice Energy Advisory Committee.

Because of exemplary service in public education, Alisa has been recognized for her achievements, receiving Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award in 2011 from Family Connections, the Golden Oak Service Award from the California State Parent Teacher Association, and the 17th District Parent Teacher Association in 2020. For her decades of service to the San Mateo County education community as a Redwood City School District Trustee, Alisa was recognized with the 2024 J. Russell Kent Award.

When Alisa is not advocating for public education, she enjoys bicycling, hiking, enjoying nature, cooking, attending musicals and concerts, and spending quality time with family and friends. She resides in Redwood City with her husband, Neil McAvoy, and has two daughters Marissa and Clara.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the extraordinary service to public education that Alisa McAvoy has demonstrated over the past 17 years. All the families that she has impacted through her advocacy are better off because of her determination to improve student education outcomes.