

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSWOMAN
CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2024

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a dedicated public servant, loving wife and mother, champion for America's Military Families, and a distinguished member of this body, Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS. Earlier this year, Congresswoman MCMORRIS RODGERS announced that she would not seek reelection to return to the House of Representatives and, in turn, would be stepping down as the co-chair of the bipartisan Congressional Military Family Caucus.

Congresswoman MCMORRIS RODGERS cares deeply about our Nation's veterans and Military Families because of her background as a military spouse and parent. In 2006, she married her husband, Brian Rodgers, a U.S. Naval Commander, and her experiences as the spouse of a U.S. servicemember empowered her to become a strong champion for America's Military Families who often face unique challenges as they live and work in and around military installations in the United States and across the globe.

When our servicemembers enlist in the Armed Forces, they must relocate to military installations—often with their spouses and young children. On base, military spouses and children must quickly navigate a new landscape which can pose challenges: new housing, new schools, seeking employment, and sometimes even moving abroad.

After recognizing these same challenges in my district, serving as the Member of Congress representing U.S. Army servicemembers and their families at Fort Moore, Georgia—Congresswoman MCMORRIS RODGERS and I joined together in 2009 to form the bipartisan Congressional Military Family Caucus. For the past 15 years, I have been honored to serve alongside the Congresswoman as her co-chair.

Congresswoman MCMORRIS RODGERS record of public service is historic and worthy of admiration. Growing up, she worked at the family orchard and fruit stand in Kettle Falls, Washington. In 1994, she won a special election to serve in the Washington House of Representatives, faithfully serving her district for 11 years, including 1 year as House Minority Leader before successfully running for the United States Congress.

During her third term in Congress, MCMORRIS RODGERS was elected by the House Republican Conference as the Vice Chair, and she would hold this role for four years before becoming only the second woman to serve as Chair of the Republican Conference from 2013 and 2019.

In January 2021, MCMORRIS RODGERS became the first woman to serve as the top Republican on the powerful House Energy and

Commerce Committee as Ranking Member, and in 2023 becoming Chair. Chair MCMORRIS RODGERS has been a leader on countless issues affecting the American people including emerging technologies, strengthening rural communities, helping to strengthen American energy resiliency and independence, and of course fighting for Military Families and veterans.

Every year since we founded the Congressional Military Family Caucus, Co-chair MCMORRIS RODGERS and I have hosted the Military Family Caucus Summit—alternating between Fairchild Air Force Base in Spokane, Washington, and Fort Moore in Georgia in order to give the members of America's Armed Forces, their spouses, and their children an opportunity to hear from Department of Defense leaders and subject matter experts, share their experiences and challenges, and bring forward policies that improve the quality of life for our Military Families around the world.

Over the past 15 years, the Caucus has brought to the forefront numerous issues that affect our servicemembers and Military Families. Together, we have tackled issues such as food insecurity, medical care, spousal employment, family relocation challenges, childcare, and so much more. But we cannot tackle these issues without community input. The Caucus has been very successful in bringing together our Military Families and veterans, veteran service organizations, Blue Star Families, Chambers of Commerce, community activists, and more so that we can have the robust discussions that these important issues deserve.

On a personal note, I will greatly miss Cathy's partnership and friendship on the Congressional Military Family Caucus, and she certainly has big shoes to fill as co-chair. During our time together in Congress, I have been inspired by her advocacy on behalf of individuals with disabilities, her dedication to our veterans and Military Families, and her commitment to statesmanship and bipartisanship in the United States Congress. And while the Congressional Military Family Caucus will continue on after her retirement, I look forward to joining her for our last Congressional Military Family Caucus Summit together in Spokane this August.

Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS has accomplished so much in her life, and this was made possible by the grace of God and the love and support of her husband, Brian, as well as their three children—Cole, Grace, and Brynn.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join my wife, Vivian, and me; along with the people of her District, her state, and the American people in recognizing and commending Congresswoman CATHY MCMORRIS RODGERS for her dedicated service to people, especially her leadership and advocacy for our Nation's Military Families. While her leadership will be greatly missed in the halls of Congress, we wish her and her family the best as she embarks upon the next chapter of her life.

RECOGNIZING ANNA OSINSKI
PERRONG'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2024

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Anna Osinski Perrong, a remarkable constituent from my district, who is celebrating her 100th birthday. Anna was born on July 27, 1924, in Sellersville, Pennsylvania. She graduated from Girls High School in 1941 and continued with her undergraduate degree at Temple University School of Pharmacy where she met her future husband, John Pierce Perrong. She graduated from Temple University in 1944.

She participated in numerous (Rho Psi) sorority functions during her years at Temple University. Anna and John were married after he returned from World War II, where he served as an Army medic in Germany. Anna started her career at Dupont as a chemist and later worked at Sharp & Dohme as a research chemist.

Anna and John moved into their new home in Northeast Philadelphia in 1950. They were blessed with a son and daughter, Robert and Carolyn.

Anna took time out from her career to raise her children but after the children matured, she went back to work as a pharmacist at Germantown Hospital from 1968 to 1991 and later volunteered her time at the hospital for over 20 years. Aside from her pharmacy career and being a homemaker, she played the cello in the Olney Symphony Orchestra for nearly 50 years and was active in several string quartet groups. Additionally, Anna served as Personnel Chairman for the Olney Symphony. She still remains in contact with many friends she made over the years in music.

Her favorite activities have always included making family holiday dinners. Besides her two children, Anna has two grandchildren, Jon and Rob, and two great-granddaughters, Emma and Ava which happen to be identical twins. Additionally, she has a very supportive son-in-law, Sean Corsaut, and a loving daughter-in-law, Karen Perrong.

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 Anna Osinski Perrong on the celebration of her 100th Birthday.

HONORING TEATRO VISIÓN: 40
YEARS OF BUILDING COMMUNITY

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2024

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of myself and Representatives ANNA

• 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.

ESHOO, RO KHANNA, and JIMMY PANETTA to recognize the accomplishments of Teatro Visión for 40 years of community building and social justice work in San Jose, CA.

Teatro Visión was founded in 1984 in San Jose, California, with the mission of inspiring the people of Santa Clara County and surrounding areas. The theater was co-founded by Elisa Marina Alvarado, who is a director, actress, and dancer. Through Teatro Visión, Elisa Marina Alvarado established Instituto de Teatro, an educational program that teaches comprehensive training in theater for Latino communities.

For the last 40 years, Teatro Visión has produced and presented projects that have been made accessible to the entire community, emphasizing activist theater and focusing on Latino and Chicano communities, integrating Latin American cultures. Teatro Visión's recent projects include "Miss You Like Hell," "Luz: A Shadow Play Inspired by Senior Stories," and "Raices, El Libro de los Caminos," performed at the Mexican Heritage Plaza in San Jose.

Teatro Visión's work is centered in the Mayfair neighborhood located in East San Jose where their main stage, the Mexican Heritage Plaza, is also situated. Over 77 percent of the Mayfair neighborhood is made up of Latinx; 66 percent of which speak Spanish at home. Teatro Visión's programs give accessibility to Title I schools in Mayfair, where many students come from economically disadvantaged households.

Teatro Visión has shared powerful stories and convictions that speak to the courage, compassion, and power of many minority communities. The team at Teatro Visión are strong leaders that our community needs now and in the future.

HONORING CITY OF MISSION VIEJO
CITY MANAGER DENNIS WILBERG

HON. YOUNG KIM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2024

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to thank Mission Viejo City Manager Dennis Wilberg for his decades of service to our Mission Viejo community and to Orange County.

His work in the public and private sectors of civil and transportation engineering, including 20 years as City Manager, has left an enormous impact across Mission Viejo and the County.

From helping create the second-largest animal shelter in Orange County and building a water treatment facility, to increasing public safety and maintaining the City's transportation network, there's no question how he has become the longest-tenured city manager in Orange County.

I thank him for his dedication to keeping our communities safe and connected.

We are grateful for his leadership, and I wish him a wonderful retirement.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE
REPRESENTATIVE SHEILA JACK-
SON LEE

SPEECH OF

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday July 22, 2024

Mr. BEATTY. Madam Speaker, I rise today, I join my Congressional colleagues, the Nation, the city of Houston, and the loved ones of Congresswoman SHEILA JACKSON LEE in mourning her passing.

She began her journey to greatness by breaking barriers as a Yale University student, municipal judge, and Houston City Councilwoman before continuing her fight against injustice in the U.S. Congress. Congresswoman JACKSON LEE was a pioneering advocate and a tireless champion for justice and civil rights, standing up for the most vulnerable and holding those in power accountable.

Her legacy includes creating the Juneteenth federal holiday and her relentless fight for reparations to address the painful history of Black Americans. It features innovations in reauthorizing the Violence Against Women Act and a passionate persistence in reintroducing the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act in May 2024. My Congressional sister was tireless in her work for voting rights, healthcare, education, and labor.

As Chair Emerita of the Congressional Black Caucus, I am especially grateful for her guidance, intellectual command of issues, and service as my legal advisor and parliamentarian. As a Black woman, I felt immense pride watching her on the U.S. House Floor, confidently addressing subject matter experts in any field and prevailing.

I will deeply miss our friendship, debates, laughs, and travels together, but I will always remember her as a "national treasure."

Rest in power to my friend. May her legacy and dedication strengthen and encourage us in the days ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 26, 2024

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 400.