

PERMISSION FOR MEMBER TO BE CONSIDERED AS FIRST SPONSOR OF H.R. 374

Mr. BURLISON. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that I may hereafter be considered as the first sponsor of H.R. 374, a bill originally introduced by Representative Gaetz of Florida, for the purpose of adding cosponsors and requesting reprintings pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Missouri?

There was no objection.

□ 1815

RESIGNATION FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. LOPEZ) laid before the House the following resignation from the House of Representatives:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

Washington, DC, December 5, 2024.

Hon. MIKE JOHNSON,
Speaker of the House,
Washington, DC

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Enclosed is my resignation letter to New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy, effective December 8, 2024. It has been the honor of my life to serve New Jersey's Third Congressional District. I'm grateful to the people of New Jersey for entrusting me with the great honor of representing them in the United States Senate and I hope to do so with humility and integrity.

Sincerely,

ANDY KIM,
Member of Congress.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,

Washington, DC, December 5, 2024.

Gov. PHILIP D. MURPHY,
125 West State Street
Trenton, NJ.

DEAR GOVERNOR MURPHY, It is an honor and privilege to have been chosen by the people of New Jersey to serve them in the United States Senate. As you know, Senator Helmy has announced his intention to resign so that New Jerseyans may have their duly elected representation in the United States Senate as soon as possible. I, therefore, write to submit my resignation from the United States House of Representatives, effective December 8, 2024.

It has been the honor of my life to serve New Jersey's Third Congressional District, its people, and the community that raised me for these past six years. I look forward to the opportunity to serve the entirety of our state and I hope to do so with humility and integrity.

I thank you for your leadership and the opportunity.

Sincerely,

ANDY KIM,
Member of Congress.

VETERANS AFFAIRS DOGE CUTS

(Mr. DELUZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DELUZIO. Mr. Speaker, I am all for protecting public money, fighting price gouging in the defense industry and others. I am not for the Depart-

ment of Government Efficiency going after veterans' healthcare to pay for billionaire tax handouts.

I use the VA for my care, as do thousands of my constituents in western Pennsylvania. Yet, DOGE proposes cutting \$119 billion from veterans' healthcare. That is more than a third of the Department of Veterans Affairs' budget. That is all types of healthcare: surgical, specialty care, dental care, counseling for combat veterans, and more. It is ridiculous.

My question to my friends on the other side of the aisle, President-elect Trump, and others is this: Do you want to cut healthcare for veterans who risked their lives for this country? If not, you should say you don't. You should stand up against this. If you do, folks like me are going to fight you every step of the way. This is the cost of war, and this country expects us to pay it.

REMEMBERING BRYCE A. JOHNSON

(Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Bryce A. Johnson, who passed away suddenly this week at the age of 52. He was a husband to Erika, father to Will, son to Terry, and a friend to me.

He was a dedicated public servant who served as the Tifton Judicial Circuit District Attorney. In addition to his legal career, his love for our country and politics led him to teach history and political science to students at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College. He also had a passion for Georgia high school football and cohosted a local Friday night high school football radio show for about 15 years.

Bryce was one of those guys that no matter what team he was on or what group he was in, the organization was better because of him. Bryce was a genuinely good person who will be missed by those of us who had the privilege to know him.

CONGRATULATING DR. GEORGE HANBURY ON HIS RETIREMENT

(Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to rise and recognize the distinguished career of Dr. George Hanbury, the president and CEO of Nova Southeastern University.

Since 2010, Dr. Hanbury guided this institution with vision, integrity, and a true dedication to excellence. His impact is evident in the growth, innovation, and spirit that defines NSU, its students, faculty, staff, and alumni.

During his tenure, NSU established a state-of-the-art teaching hospital. It also opened the Levan Center of Inno-

vation for startup businesses and student entrepreneurship. It became the third university nationwide to offer both osteopathic and allopathic medical degrees in 2018.

Dr. Hanbury also established the President's 64, an elite group of student leaders with the purpose to strengthen the relationship between the university and its community. During a recent interview, he said his 27 years at NSU is "the most noble thing I have ever done."

I wish him well on his retirement and thank him for, the thoughtful and committed work he has done to enrich the students and faculty at Nova Southeastern University.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSWOMAN DEBBIE LESKO

(Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mrs. MILLER of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my dear friend and colleague, DEBBIE LESKO, whom I have known for the past 6-plus years.

DEBBIE is such a hard worker. She has done so much incredible work serving her constituents in Arizona. She has done wonderful things for her State. For years, she served on the community committee for the Peoria Unified School District and later ran for school board.

From 2008 to 2018, she served in the Arizona legislature for 9 years, both in the house and the senate, where she received special recognition such as Champion of the Taxpayer, Guardian of Small Business, and Senator of the Year from various organizations, due to her outstanding work.

DEBBIE has served on several subcommittees within the Committee on Energy and Commerce during her time in the House of Representatives. She has served on several caucuses and founded the wonderful Protect Kids Caucus. In the 118th Congress, House Majority Whip TOM EMMER appointed her as a member of the whip team.

Some of DEBBIE's bills, including the Hands Off Our Home Appliances Act and the United States Ports of Entry Threat and Operational Review Act have either successfully passed in the House or become law.

She led a delegation to Taiwan where we had many discussions about the importance of ensuring their independence from China. We also had a lot of fun!

DEBBIE has achieved many great things over the years and has made a positive impact while partaking in politics. I can attest to this firsthand as we sat next to each other for nearly every vote and would often discuss policy on the House floor.

She has accomplished so much in her work, and I am sure that she would say her greatest achievements in life are being a mother to her children and a

grandmother to her beautiful grandchildren. As a mother and grandmother, myself, I know how much of a blessing family is.

I wish there could be more opportunities for us to work together DEBBIE, but I know you will do a fantastic job as you enter your next chapter of life serving as Maricopa County Supervisor.

Thank you for your commitment to helping make Arizona a better place to live, for helping our nation, and for upholding conservative values.

We will all miss you!

THANK YOU TO JO-ANN YOO

(Mr. GOLDMAN of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GOLDMAN of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my heartfelt gratitude to Jo-Ann Yoo for her lifetime of public service on behalf of the AAPI community in my district and the entire city of New York.

This year, Jo-Ann will retire after 13 years as executive director of the Asian American Federation, an organization dedicated to supporting the 1.5 million Asian-American community members in New York City.

Under Jo-Ann's leadership, the AAF played a leading role in combating the horrific rise in anti-Asian hate in 2020, organizing and ensuring local community response to provide safety to AAPI New Yorkers.

Jo-Ann testified at a public briefing held by the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights on the Federal response to anti-Asian hate, and she serves on New York City's Advisory Board on Implementation of Racial Justice Commission, working to end hate and discrimination of all kinds in our city.

Jo-Ann leaves behind a lasting legacy of spirit, courage, determination, and advocacy that will be felt for decades to come. Thanks to Jo-Ann, New York City is a better and far more tolerant place.

HONORING THE LATE CORPORAL MATTHEW A. WYATT

(Ms. MANNING asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Corporal Matthew A. Wyatt.

After graduating high school in June 2001, Corporal Wyatt made the courageous decision to serve his country. He joined the Marine Corps, where he was based at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina before deploying to Iraq.

On December 3, 2004, Corporal Wyatt gave his life to stop an enemy attack on his base. He was only 21 years old. Corporal Wyatt bravely acted without hesitation to save the lives of his fellow servicemembers.

Today, his memory is carried forward by his father, Marine Gunnery Ser-

geant Alan Wyatt; his mother, Verlene; and the entire family, who proudly uphold the three-generation legacy of military service.

Corporal Wyatt's stepmother, Lauren, also continues to honor his legacy through her work in my district office, where she serves veterans and military families, ensuring they receive the support they need.

To pay tribute to Corporal Wyatt's sacrifice, I am proud to support legislation to rename the United States Post Office in his hometown of Millstadt, Illinois, in his honor. While no act of gratitude will ever be enough to fill the void left by Corporal Wyatt's absence, I hope this naming will comfort his loved ones and remind them that his sacrifice will not be forgotten.

CELEBRATING BLUE COLLIE COFFEE SHOP

(Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Disability Awareness Month, we celebrate the inspiring work of Blue Collie Coffee Shop in Louisburg, North Carolina.

Since creating Blue Collie Coffee Shop, Al and Paige Sayles have provided meaningful employment opportunities for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Blue Collie has employed over 16 individuals, helping them gain meaningful skills and confidence while fostering an inclusive work environment where everyone has a chance to thrive.

Al and Paige's dedication to creating opportunities and building a more inclusive community is nothing short of remarkable. Their work transforms lives, opening doors and breaking down barriers one cup of coffee at a time. I thank Al and Paige.

SERVING IN CONGRESS HAS BEEN THE HONOR OF MY LIFETIME

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 9, 2023, the gentlewoman from Arizona (Mrs. LESKO) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and to submit extraneous material on the topic of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It has been the honor of my lifetime to serve in these sacred Halls of the U.S. House of Representatives. Part of that great honor is to serve with fan-

tastic colleagues, Members of the U.S. House of Representatives.

I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. GOSAR), my great colleague. Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my good friend, the gentlewoman from Arizona, DEBBIE LESKO, Representative DEBBIE LESKO.

Representative LESKO has served Arizona's Eighth Congressional District with distinction and honor. She has fought for Arizonans and all Americans and has been a champion for the people she represents.

It has been my honor serving with Representative LESKO in the Arizona delegation. As a colleague, we frequently collaborated as advocates on behalf of communities in Arizona.

It is an honor to stand here tonight before you and tell my friend DEBBIE LESKO how much she means to me and how much I am going to miss her in these hallowed Halls of the House of Representatives.

However, I am heartened. I know she won't be too far away, and you can bet I am going to continue to phone her whenever I need her advice or just to talk.

More importantly, I am confident her character, demeanor, and principles will continue to serve her well in Maricopa County, where she has been recently elected to the Board of Supervisors. However, I am worried about it. In Congress, DEBBIE represented 800,000 people with full-time staff, but now she will represent over a million people with just one full-time employee. DOGE should learn something from you.

Congress' loss is Maricopa's gain. I am grateful to have had the opportunity to serve with her. I applaud her for her service and wish her all the best. Arizona is a better place because of DEBBIE LESKO.

May God bless her and her husband, Joe.

Mrs. LESKO. Mr. Speaker, I thank Representative GOSAR for his remarks. It means so much to me.

Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. STANTON), another colleague.

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to send off my colleague, DEBBIE LESKO, and honor her long career in public service.

I first got to know DEBBIE when she was working on pension reform as a State senator and I was working on pension reform as mayor of the city of Phoenix.

We were both elected to Congress in the year 2018, and over the last 6 years, we have probably canceled each other's votes out more often than not.

□ 1830

Mr. Speaker, you know what? We have developed a really great friendship, spending so many hours together, talking about our families and politics at Sky Harbor International Airport and DCA as we wait to board our weekly flights back and forth to Washington.