

beginning. He counseled my brother, Michael, first, working with him in this body and then the Governor's office.

President Trump saw his incredible value, leading to Ryan's service in the Trump-Pence administration Office of Speechwriting, in which he helped me in my term here. His future was limitless, but to my good fortune, Ryan agreed to join my team when I was elected to office.

For years, he has been my eyes and ears in the district, giving my constituents the support that they deserved while I was here in Washington. From scheduling to communications to policy, Ryan can do it all.

Despite Ryan's expertise, he is a humble man. He would never ask anyone to do something he isn't willing to do himself. A leader can only be respected to the extent he respects others, and Ryan exemplifies this principle. Our staff is successful because they are led by someone who sees their value, someone who supports them and wants the best for their future.

I would not have been the legislator I am without his wise counsel, levelheadedness, and strong spirit.

As we close this chapter in Congress, I am beyond grateful for Ryan, his beautiful family, and his friendship, and I look forward to watching his career unfold.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless Ryan.

RECOGNIZING LANI CZARNIECKI

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of the most trusted advisers and a dear family friend of all the Pences. Since 2001, Lani Czarniecki has counseled the Pence family as the longest-serving Pence staffer.

When my brother, Michael, started in the House of Representatives, he needed someone he could trust back in the district. He found that in Lani.

When Michael returned to Indiana as Governor, Lani faithfully followed him to support our State. In the White House, Lani was one of the first people who Michael hired.

I myself was blessed when Lani agreed to join my office, giving me aid and support in a way no one else could.

Lani knows Indiana and service, but even more so, Lani knows people, and everybody knows Lani. He is a people person, someone who never meets a stranger. Always a calming presence in the room, everyone who meets Lani is immediately drawn to him. They see his kindness and character from the very first moment they meet him.

Lani is a role model for what public service should be. Throughout my time in office, I have turned to his counsel time and time again, knowing that he will always tell me the truth.

Indiana and this country are better because of Lani's work, and I am a better man because of Lani. I cannot thank him enough for his years of service, and I look forward to many more years of friendship to come.

Mr. Speaker, may God bless Lani.

RECOGNIZING MISTY HOLLIS

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take a moment to honor a dear

friend and public servant in Richmond, Indiana, and throughout the State of Indiana.

Any Republican who seeks office in Indiana would do well to consider Misty Hollis' trusted counsel. In fact, Misty was one of the first calls I placed when I declared myself a candidate for this seat some 7 years ago.

Misty has long served as the Sixth District Republican chair and was named in 2015 as the Indiana Federation of Republican Women's Woman of the Year.

Misty is the executive director and CEO of the Richmond Family YMCA, served two terms on the Richmond Common Council, and served in roles for Wayne County and Richmond Community Schools.

Misty is a true public servant and role model for so many. She gives so much of her time, talent, and treasure to better her community. Even throughout her recent health struggles, Misty has always put others first. I cannot say enough how much we care for and admire Misty and her beloved husband, Tim.

We thank them both for their friendship, and may God bless Misty Hollis.

#### THE HONORABLE GRACE F. NAPOLITANO'S FAREWELL REMARKS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to speak in this Chamber one last time as a most humble Representative of the 31st District of California.

Mr. Speaker, I am incredibly grateful to the people of San Gabriel Valley and southeastern Los Angeles County for the trust that they have placed in me for the last 26 years. It has been my distinct pleasure and honor to serve them and to work tirelessly with them on issues that directly impact our district and our region.

Born in Brownsville, Texas, to an immigrant mother and a father from San Antonio, I have worked since the age of 12 for everything I have achieved. I was not expected to succeed with only a high school diploma. I believed in myself and was helped and mentored by so many people who believed in me.

I have been extremely fortunate to have made so many dear friends in the House, and it has been a great joy to serve alongside them. Past and current colleagues from all walks of life have enriched this whole experience, been friends and family, and have helped me better serve my constituents.

I especially thank my colleagues in the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Natural Resources Committee, Congressional Mental Health Caucus, Youth Challenge Caucus, and so many others. I thank them all for their partnership, mentorship, and collegiality.

I express my gratitude to my extraordinary staff, most of whom have been with me for the majority of my time in Congress. I have the best staff in Washington. They are the most knowledgeable in water, transportation, and mental health, led by my wonderful chief of staff, Joe Sheehy, Jerry O'Donnell, Joseph Ciccone, Morgan Leonard, Sam Schiller, and Daniel Chao, my former chief of staff. They have always been accessible, polite, and helpful.

I also thank my incredible staff on the Subcommittee of Water Resources and Environment, Ryan Seiger, Logan Ferree, and Alexa Williams, all in the gallery.

In my district, my staff has always been in the community, meeting with residents, local agency staff, and volunteers to improve how the Federal Government services and invests in our community. They have dealt with hundreds of casework issues every year, getting veterans their proper benefits, Medicare recipients their proper care, and recent immigrants their proper status in the United States.

They have been led by my district chief of staff, Perla Hernandez Trumkul, Elena Robles, Robert Pence, Carrie Lam, Leandra Berdin, Tracey Cooper-Harris, and Irma Elisheva Diaz.

I thank my current staff and all previous staff in both offices for their service to our community and our Nation.

I also thank the countless hard-working staff who make Congress run smoothly. These are the cafeteria workers, custodians, post office workers and letter carriers, and so many other employees of the AOC and CAO; the always-helpful Democratic Cloakroom staff; stenographers; employees of the Clerk, who always assist with legislative business; the friendly lady in the Lindy Boggs Reading Room; the incredible doctors, nurses, physical therapists, and medical staff in the Office of Attending Physician; the many brave Capitol Police officers, who protect us all; and so many others.

Lastly, I am incredibly grateful for my remarkable, supportive, and loving family. Each and every one of them has provided the encouragement, guidance, and love that has sustained me through my 26 years of Federal service and 13 years of prior State and local service.

My husband, Frank, was my rock and my greatest encouragement.

My children have taken care of many family obligations while I have been away in Washington.

My beautiful grandchildren and 13 fabulous great-grandchildren have been my inspiration to make America a better place for future generations.

I thank my son Fred and his family—his wife, Norma, and Freddie, Veronica, Elizabeth, Andrea, Niko, Nolan, Brooklyn, my first great-great-grandchild on the way, and Daniel. I thank my son Edward and his family—Kelly, Bryan, Nathaniel, Scott, Nick, and Danielle; my son Mike and Lourdes; my daughter Cynthia and her husband, Curt, and

Jennifer, Tyler, Ethan, Emma Grace, Hayley Joan, Ryan, Jocelyn, Brenna, Kinsley, and a great-grandson arriving soon; Dillon and Chelsey; my beloved late daughter's family, Christopher, Karina, Christopher Jr., Grayson, Michael, and Dominic.

I thank them all for supporting my service and supporting me throughout my career. I am so very proud of them all.

Once again, I am proud of everything we have accomplished together throughout my tenure.

I also thank my constituents for trusting in me to be their Representative. As I have said to both Republican and Democratic Presidents alike, my focus has been representing my district first, State second, and Nation third.

I will continue fighting for the San Gabriel Valley through my last day in office.

I wish everybody a merry Christmas, a joyous holy season, and much health and happiness in the New Year and beyond. May God bless everybody in this House and those who serve in it.

#### RECOGNIZING CHIEF WILLIAM C. "BILL" MOBLEY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. NORMAN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. NORMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in this hallowed House of our Nation's Capitol to recognize and honor a man who has served his community well for a long period of time, Chief William "Bill" Mobley, a remarkable individual whose lifetime of service and dedication to his community, his State, and his country have earned him the great honor of being inducted into the South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame.

This agency was formed back in 1797, and it exists today in 2024. In 227 years, only 400 people have met the standards to be inducted into the Hall of Fame in South Carolina.

Chief Mobley's career is a testament to his unwavering commitment to justice and public service. A graduate of the University of South Carolina, Chief Mobley distinguished himself early in his law enforcement career, earning the JP Strom Award from the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy. This recognition is reserved for the very best, and Chief Mobley embodied this excellence throughout his 43-year tenure with the York Police Department. From 2000 until his retirement in 2010, he served as chief of police, leading with integrity, professionalism, and a steadfast commitment to protecting the citizens of York.

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Chief Mobley's public service extended beyond his work in law enforcement. For 18 years, he volunteered with the York Rescue Squad and York Fire Department, demonstrating a willingness to serve whenever and

wherever his community needed him the most.

His professional affiliations, including the South Carolina Law Enforcement Association, the South Carolina Police Chiefs Association, and the York County Fraternal Order of Police, reflect his longtime dedication to advancing the law enforcement profession and mentoring those who followed in his footsteps.

Chief Mobley's sense of duty began long before his career in law enforcement. He proudly served his country in the United States Marine Corps from 1964 to 1970 where he achieved the rank of lance corporal. His commitment to the ideals of service, sacrifice, and leadership that define the Marine Corps carried over into every aspect of his life.

Beyond his professional accomplishments, Chief Mobley has been a pillar of his community. He has served as president of the Clover Optimist Club, coached Dixie League youth baseball for over 20 years, and he has contributed to organizations such as the Catawba Bow Hunters Club, the National Rifle Association, and the VFW Post 66. He is a man of deep faith, and he is also a devoted member of the Union Baptist Church.

Chief Mobley's life of service is even more extraordinary by the unwavering support of his loving wife, Emily. They have been married since 1966.

Together, they have raised four daughters, instilling in their family the same values of faith, service, and community that has defined Chief Mobley's life.

Chief Mobley represents the very best of South Carolina. His introduction into the South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Hall of Fame is a fitting tribute to a life lived in service to others. His legacy of leadership, compassion, and commitment to justice has and will continue to inspire generations to come.

On behalf of the people of South Carolina's Fifth Congressional District, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to Chief Mobley on this well-deserved honor. May his remarkable achievements remind all of us the difference one dedicated individual can make.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that you will join me in saying a big thank you to Chief Mobley.

#### HOLDING THE MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO A HIGHER ETHICAL STANDARD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. CASTEN) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CASTEN. Mr. Speaker, last week the Speaker of the House and the majority leader said that the report into serious allegations of misconduct by former Representative Matt Gaetz was "moot" because he had resigned from Congress.

I rise today to remind my colleagues of four names and 4 years: 1987, Bill

Boner; 1990, Don Lukens; 2006, Mark Foley; 2011, Eric Massa.

Those are four Members of Congress, spanning each of the last four decades: two Democrats, two Republicans. All four of them resigned from their seats while under investigation by the House Ethics Committee. Allegations against these Members included acceptance of bribes; sharing inappropriate, sexually explicit images; and sex with a minor child.

In all of those cases, the work of the Ethics Committee continued even after their resignation. In three of the four cases, the report of the Ethics Committee was released to the public.

In none of those cases did anyone have the gall to declare those reports to be moot.

Now, in 2024, another Representative has resigned while he was under investigation by the House Ethics Committee for allegations, including acceptance of bribes; sharing of inappropriate, sexually explicit images; and sex with a minor child. Mr. Gaetz is also alleged to have engaged in illicit drug use.

We all understand that even the allegation of such activities being committed by one of us cheapens this whole institution. We also all respect the traditions of this House. While they may sometimes need reform, we tread carefully before setting any new precedents.

We find ourselves with a tradition going back at least four decades that Members of the House who are under investigation by the Ethics Committee for these sorts of allegations cannot prevent that information from becoming public simply by resigning from their seat, yet that is exactly the precedent that the majority voted to upend last week when they voted to kill the resolution to compel the release of the Ethics Committee report on Mr. Gaetz.

Every Member of this body now needs to ask themselves if they believe that the precedent of this House holding itself and its Members to a higher ethical standard is one worth keeping.

They need to ask themselves if they believe that even if you resign from this body, future employers, whether in the public or private sector, should know if you can be trusted to represent their institutions with dignity and honor, can be trusted with their financial resources, can be trusted around underage children.

Make no mistake: Everyone who voted against the release of the report last week was saying that, no, the time has come for a new precedent where the rules no longer apply to us; where from this day forth, the Republican majority shall loudly proclaim: What happens in D.C. stays in D.C.

As our friend and former colleague Elijah Cummings would have reminded us, we are better than this.

Upholding precedents and maintaining the integrity of this House is not moot.