

HONORING THE SERVICE OF LYLE ROCK

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

Mr. STAUBER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of my friend, Lieutenant Colonel Lyle Rock.

Lyle is a childhood friend of mine, and I have known him for over 50 years. We grew up in the same neighborhood and played hockey together.

Service to our Nation is a proud tradition in the Rock family. Lyle's father honorably served at the 148th Fighter Wing in Duluth, Minnesota, and Lyle followed in his footsteps, joining the Minnesota Air National Guard.

In 2009, Lyle volunteered to deploy to Iraq, where he served as the chief of logistics and Iraqi adviser at the Multi-National Security Transition Command—Iraq. He happened to serve in Iraq at the same time as my wife, Jodi, and even though they served at different locations, it always gave me comfort to know that he was over there with her.

During his career, Lyle has served at both the 148th Fighter Wing and the 133rd Airlift Wing, and he is currently posted at the Joint Force Headquarters, where he works as a director of plans and policy.

At this time, Lyle Rock is the longest serving Air National Guard officer, with 38 years and 11 months under his belt.

I find it especially impressive that throughout his entire service, he has only missed 2 days of drill.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to call Lieutenant Colonel Lyle Rock my good friend, and the State of Minnesota is proud of his decades of service.

MY SHERO, CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA LEE

(Ms. KELLY of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to send a message to my colleague, my dearest Sigma Gamma Rho sorority sister, and my shero, BARBARA LEE. She will always be an inspiration to me and many others.

When BARBARA LEE started her political career, she couldn't have known that she would become such a role model for so many people, especially Black women. She is an inspiration, and it has been my deepest honor to call her a friend and mentor.

I continue to look up to BARBARA LEE as a strong voice for civil rights, health equity, poverty elimination, and actually so much more. She was the driving force in establishing PEPFAR in 2003, a critical program that has saved over 25 million lives from HIV and AIDS all over the world.

I am honored to carry her legacy into the next Congress to reauthorize PEPFAR, one of the world's most suc-

cessful health programs. We must continue to fund this critical program until we end the HIV and AIDS pandemic.

I thank BARBARA LEE for all the work she has done and all the work she continues to accomplish in the future.

I love you, BARBARA LEE.

RECOGNIZING CONGRESSMAN PATRICK MCHENRY

(Mr. EMMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, Congressman, and chairperson of the House of Representatives Financial Services Committee, PATRICK MCHENRY, as he retires from Congress after 20 years of service.

Throughout his time here in Washington, Chairman MCHENRY has been a champion of innovation and always worked to ensure that American capital markets remain the envy of the world.

Chairman MCHENRY has been my personal mentor since I came to Congress, and I can't thank him enough for his counsel and guidance and his two decades of leadership, hard work, and dedication in the financial services space and beyond. His retirement is going to leave enormous shoes to fill and a legacy that will be felt by this institution for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, if it was physically possible to walk in PATRICK's shoes, I would. It has been a pleasure learning from him and serving alongside him. While we will miss having PATRICK here in these Halls, we wish him and his family the very best in the days to come.

RECOGNIZING CHRIS PACHOLEC

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

Ms. DEAN of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an extraordinary member of my team who joined our office 1 year ago as a Brookings Congressional Fellow and will, sadly, be returning to his previous role at the Department of Defense in the new year.

Chris Pacholec is a native of New Jersey, which we have forgiven him for. He has now earned the title of honorary Pennsylvanian.

A Renaissance man, Chris brings his joyful spirit, hardworking dedication, banking skills, Legos, and corgi, Dexter, to our office, faithfully and tirelessly serving Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District.

Chris took on the Foreign Affairs Committee work for my office during extraordinarily heavy times. He became an integral part of our legislative team right away, meeting with constituents, advocacy organizations, and fellow Hill staff.

In just under a year, Chris has become a de facto foreign policy expert and a valued member of our team.

We will miss his calm demeanor and wealth of knowledge, along with his infectious, positive attitude.

I speak for my whole team when I say: Thank you, Chris. We are sorry to see you go, and we hope that you will be back soon. Feel free to bring the cupcakes. We wish you the best.

HONORING DALE MURDEN, 2024 TEXAS FARM BUREAU PIONEER AWARD WINNER

(Ms. DE LA CRUZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. DE LA CRUZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dale Murden, a dedicated leader in south Texas agriculture, for winning the 2024 Texas Farm Bureau Pioneer Award.

As president of the Texas Citrus Mutual, Dale is a steadfast advocate for the State of Texas' citrus industry, championing legislative priorities such as the 1944 water treaty issue, pest and disease management, and leading innovation that strengthens our agricultural community.

Dale's work supports thousands of farmers and helps preserve the rich farming heritage of south Texas.

On behalf of the 15th Congressional District of Texas, I congratulate Dale on this well-deserved recognition, and I thank him for his service to our farmers and to the great State of Texas.

HONORING DONALD MCLEOD

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

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Donald McLeod, an Orange County airman.

In 1945, Mr. McLeod joined the Army before transferring to the newly created U.S. Air Force.

From the excitement of the Berlin airlift to the isolation of Greenland, Mr. McLeod faithfully served his country at every post.

When he returned to civilian life, Mr. McLeod used his aircraft expertise to land a job with McDonnell Douglas, where he worked for almost 10 years. In 1985, Mr. McLeod retired and began a career with his newly minted wedded wife as a Catholic missionary.

Mr. McLeod retired for a second time in 2010 and currently lives in my district in Anaheim, where he enjoys the events put on by the American Veterans Assistance Group. His dedication to serving others is unmatched, and I am happy that he is enjoying his well-deserved second retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. McLeod for serving his country and for his dedication to our community. He is a valued member of our community.

HONORING AND CONGRATULATING
OMER OSMAN

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

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my fellow Peorian, Omer Osman, on his retirement as secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation.

Omer comes from very humble beginnings. Born in the country of Sudan the fourth of 11 children, he learned English by watching American Westerns and soap operas on television. He moved to the United States as a young man for college and graduated from Southern University, where he studied civil engineering before beginning a career in Peoria, Illinois.

Osman began at IDOT, the Illinois Department of Transportation, as a civil engineer in 1989 and worked his way up the ranks, becoming, in 2019, Illinois' 13th transportation secretary. In 2021, he was the first person of color to be confirmed in the role.

Along the way, he became a proud graduate of Bradley University, located in my district, with a master's degree in civil engineering in 1995.

In his role as transportation secretary, Omer oversaw over 80 airports, an expansive waterway infrastructure system, and 300,000 miles of roads, bridges, and railroads that transport 25 percent of the country's freight, which passes through Illinois.

The bottom line is that Secretary Osman has lived the American Dream and has been an integral part of preserving and growing the infrastructure we have today in Illinois. His legacy will last for years to come.

It is my privilege to congratulate my good friend on his retirement and wish him and his lovely wife, Magda, and their three children all the best.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 15 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1725

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. MOLINARO) at 5 o'clock and 25 minutes p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 4 of rule I, the following enrolled bill was signed by the Speaker on Thursday, December 19, 2024:

H.R. 5009, to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2025 for military activi-

ties of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 19, 2024.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 19, 2024, at 2:49 p.m.

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the bill S. 709.

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the bill S. 3791.

That the Senate agrees to the House amendment to the bill S. 4367.

That the Senate agreed to S. Con. Res. 46.

That the Senate passed S. 432.

That the Senate passed S. 608.

That the Senate passed S. 961.

That the Senate passed S. 1059.

That the Senate passed S. 1088.

That the Senate passed S. 1760.

That the Senate passed S. 2018.

That the Senate passed S. 2042.

That the Senate passed S. 2151.

That the Senate passed S. 2615.

Appointment: National Commission on the Future of the Navy.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Acting Clerk.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE
CLERK OF THE HOUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Clerk of the House of Representatives:

OFFICE OF THE CLERK,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 19, 2024.

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

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted in Clause 2(h) of Rule II of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on December 19, 2024, at 2:49 p.m.

That the Senate passed S. 2620.

That the Senate passed S. 2742.

That the Senate passed S. 3123.

That the Senate passed S. 4129.

That the Senate passed S. 4209.

That the Senate passed S. 4511.

That the Senate passed S. 4607.

That the Senate passed S. 4994.

That the Senate passed S. 5000.

That the Senate passed S. 5125.

That the Senate passed S. 5136.

That the Senate passed S. 5595.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 5443.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 6062.

That the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 8666.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely,

KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Acting Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER
PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the Chair will postpone further proceedings today on motions to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered, or votes objected to under clause 6 of rule XX.

The House will resume proceedings on postponed questions at a later time.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS AND DISASTER RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2025

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 10515) making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2025, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 10515

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "American Relief Act, 2025".

SEC. 2. TABLE OF CONTENTS.

The table of contents of this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title.

Sec. 2. Table of contents.

Sec. 3. References.

DIVISION A—FURTHER CONTINUING
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2025

DIVISION B—DISASTER RELIEF SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2025

DIVISION C—HEALTH

Sec. 3001. Short title; table of contents.

TITLE I—PUBLIC HEALTH EXTENDERS

Sec. 3101. Extension for community health centers, National Health Service Corps, and teaching health centers that operate GME programs.

Sec. 3102. Extension of special diabetes programs.

Sec. 3103. National health security extensions.

TITLE II—MEDICARE

Sec. 3201. Extension of increased inpatient hospital payment adjustment for certain low-volume hospitals.

Sec. 3202. Extension of the Medicare-dependent hospital (MDH) program.

Sec. 3203. Extension of add-on payments for ambulance services.

Sec. 3204. Extension of funding for quality measure endorsement, input, and selection.

Sec. 3205. Extension of funding outreach and assistance for low-income programs.

Sec. 3206. Extension of the work geographic index floor.

Sec. 3207. Extension of certain telehealth flexibilities.