

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING JANA MODENA AS ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S WOMEN OF THE YEAR

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Jana Modena as she is honored as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year. With over 20 years of committed service to the community, Jana's work has already had lasting impacts and will continue to do so in the years to come. She currently serves as Special Project Coordinator for the Fairfield Suisun Chamber of Commerce, where she assists in leading strategic initiatives and community programs to support local business development and regional economic growth. Through this position, she takes the important and compassionate role of providing the necessary assistance and support to local businesses, in order to ensure their longevity, and thereby bring a positive impact to the Fairfield community. This position requires a high level of knowledge and expertise, which Jana is well-equipped for. Over the years, she has gained ample experience in similar, community-based positions such as Community Liaison and Director of Grant programs for Leaven Kids, CEO and Executive Director for the Benicia Chamber of Commerce, and Marketing and Advertising for Jelly Belly Candy Company. Jana also plays a major role in the civic engagement community, as she coordinates a Fairfield-Suisun Local Leaders Roundtable within her current position and has served as Senior Field Representative for Assemblymember Tim Grayson. Perhaps what makes Jana's refined, expert-level career so notable is the compassion that she brings to each of her positions and accomplishments. She has managed to overcome several life obstacles, including a breast cancer diagnosis, and even dedicates her time to be an advocate for betterment of our region through roles like: Vice Chair for the Measure J and S Oversight Committee, Advisory Board for the public Safety Academy, and Board Member for the 100 Club of Solano and Yolo counties. Jana's tenacity, leadership, mentorship, and commitment to public service will continue to impact the community in numerous ways, for the years to come. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Jana Modena for her positive contributions to our community.

CELEBRATING THE MARKET AT OREGON DAIRY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. LLOYD SMUCKER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize and congratulate The Market at Oregon Dairy for 50 years in business.

Earl and Mary Hurst bought the Oregon Dairy Farm, located in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in 1952. By 1975, the Hursts had opened a small store that offered fresh milk, eggs, and produce. The family-run store transformed rapidly in the following decades. The current market was built in 1979 and a cafeteria, which would later become a family restaurant, was opened in 1986.

Since its founding, the Market at Oregon Dairy has been a staple in the local community. Their supermarket provides fresh, locally sourced products, some of which are grown on their own farm, as well as an award-winning bakery. The success of the market has transformed the Oregon Dairy farm into a hub that includes not only a restaurant, but a creamery, a gift shoppe, frequent events, and farm tours.

The Market at Oregon Dairy is now proudly operated by the third and fourth generations of the Hurst family. Their dedication exemplifies the strength of Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District, which is rooted in agriculture and sustained by successful family-owned businesses. I congratulate the Hurst family on reaching this remarkable 50-year milestone for the Market at Oregon Dairy and wish them continued success in the years ahead.

HONORING THE OUTSTANDING WORK OF MRS. LYDIA LARIMORE

**HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lydia Larimore, an outstanding school counselor at Neabsco Elementary School in Prince William County Public Schools, who has been named the 2025 Virginia School Counselor of the Year and selected as one of five national finalists for the 2026 American School Counselor of the Year Award.

Mrs. Larimore's recognition at both the state and national level reflects her remarkable dedication to the well-being and success of her students. Through her work, she has cultivated a school environment where every child is encouraged to grow academically, socially, and emotionally. Her leadership has strengthened the bonds between students,

families, and educators, making Neabsco Elementary a model for inclusive and compassionate counseling practices.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Larimore has shown a deep belief in the potential of every student. She goes above and beyond to ensure that each young person feels seen, supported, and capable of achieving their goals. Her innovative and student-centered approach has had a lasting impact on the school community, improving not only educational outcomes but also the sense of belonging and hope among those she serves.

Mrs. Larimore's recognition by the Virginia School Counselor Association and her selection by the American School Counselor Association as a national finalist are honors that reflect not only her individual excellence but also the number of educators who devote themselves to public service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending Lydia Larimore for her exceptional achievements, her compassion, and her commitment to helping young people realize their full potential. She demonstrates the highest standards upheld by Virginia educators and serves as an inspiration to all who believe in the transformative power of education.

HONORING JENNIE MOJICA AS ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S WOMEN OF THE YEAR

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jennie Mojica, recognized as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year. Jennie Mojica has made important contributions to the Filipino community in Vallejo and beyond. Ms. Mojica grew up in Vallejo, and while in high school, she created "Phone Friends" under the sponsorship of Filipino American Social Services, which was a hotline for elementary school-aged students. After earning her master's from Sacramento State University and a Project Management Certificate from Stanford, she joined Leadership Vallejo, where she now serves as a freelance consultant and senior project manager. Ms. Mojica played a central role in organizing Vallejo's largest free community festival, "Pista Sa Nasyon," which celebrates the diversity of the Filipino community. On behalf of the people of California's 8th Congressional District, it is my pleasure to honor and recognize Jennie Mojica for her invaluable contributions to our community.

● 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.

HONORING EVERETT TIMOTHY SANDERS

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable servant, Everett Timothy Sanders.

Everett Timothy Sanders, a former resident of Jackson, Mississippi, graduated from Lanier High School and Tougaloo College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1968. Following graduation, he enrolled in the University of Kentucky College of Law. His law school tenure was interrupted by his service in the U.S. Army. After his discharge, he returned to law school and graduated in December 1972.

After graduating from the University of Kentucky College of Law, Mr. Sanders worked for the Kentucky Labor Department. In 1974, he returned home, where he passed the Mississippi Bar Examination. In January 1975, Mr. Sanders entered practice with the law firm of Brown, Alexander, and Sanders.

In 1976, Mr. Sanders was elected County Prosecutor for Claiborne County, Mississippi, becoming the first African American to hold that position. He was also elected to two terms as the Democratic National Committeeman for the State of Mississippi from 2004 to 2012. Mr. Sanders has served in over 30 prestigious positions at both the state and federal levels. He is a member of the Magnolia Bar Association (former president), NAACP, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. (life member), among many other organizations. He is also an active member of the Knights of Peter Claver and Holy Family Catholic Church in Natchez, Mississippi.

He is married to Lillie Blackmon Sanders and is the father of two daughters, Aisha and Keshia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Everett Timothy Sanders for his dedicated service and his many contributions to the Natchez and Jackson, Mississippi, communities.

HONORING MRS. BRENDA ITTA-LEE

**HON. NICHOLAS J. BEGICH III**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. BEGICH. Mr. Speaker, it is with solemn respect and heartfelt sympathy that we honor the life and legacy of Brenda Itta-Lee. Her passing is a loss not only to family and community, but to the entire State of Alaska. As we reflect on her life, we recognize a trailblazer whose leadership, vision, and cultural heritage shaped the course of Alaska's history.

Brenda was the first Iñupiaq woman elected to the Alaska State Legislature. Her election in 1974 broke barriers and opened doors that had been closed to Indigenous women in public office. Yet her impact extended far beyond that groundbreaking moment. She carried the weight of that role with strength, representing her people with dignity and resolve. From her work in the Governor's Office to her influential

role as a delegate at the 1971 Alaska Federation of Natives Conference, she helped define Indigenous self-determination for many generations.

Raised in Utqiagvik, Brenda understood the responsibility of public service in deeply personal terms. She never forgot her roots, and she never stopped giving back. Her career was marked not only by political leadership, but by mentorship and advocacy. Whether testifying before Congress or encouraging young Alaska Natives to pursue their dreams, she made space for others to rise with her. Her leadership was as much about listening as it was about speaking, and her influence lives on in the many lives she uplifted.

She once said that her greatest accomplishment was simply serving as a role model to young people in her region. But that was not a simple task. It was a conscious, consistent choice to carry herself with grace, pride, and purpose in boardrooms, in classrooms, and in moments of national consequence. Through her life's work, she preserved traditions, advanced representation, and brought the full strength of Iñupiaq values into the halls of government.

Brenda's legacy will remain a guiding light for Alaska.

HONORING THE VICTIMS AND FIRST RESPONDERS OF UNITED FLIGHT 629

**HON. GABE EVANS**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. EVANS of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, it is with a solemn heart that I rise today to honor the victims and first responders of United Airlines Flight 629, and to mark the upcoming 70th anniversary of one of Colorado's most heartbreaking tragedies.

On the evening of November 1, 1955, United Airlines Flight 629 departed Denver's Stapleton Field bound for Portland, Oregon. A short time later, the aircraft exploded in midair over Weld County—land now encompassed within my district, killing all thirty-nine passengers and five crew members on board. The cause of that explosion was later revealed to be a bomb—placed in a passenger's suitcase by her son, in an attempt to collect her life insurance benefits.

The wreckage rained down across farms near Longmont, where residents, law enforcement officers, and volunteer firefighters rushed toward the flames, with the hope of saving lives. Among them were local family farmers, whose land bore the brunt of the explosion, and community members who did not hesitate to serve in the face of unimaginable devastation.

In the days that followed, Weld County saw both deep sorrow and remarkable compassion. William "Clayton" Bearly, the longtime manager of Johnson's Corner, witnessed the explosion that night and immediately stepped forward to support first responders, investigators, and National Guard personnel. His quiet service stands as a reflection of the strength and kindness that Colorado communities show in times of crisis.

The Flight 629 tragedy would go on to leave a lasting imprint on Colorado and on the Na-

tion. It became a turning point in aviation security and a somber reminder of the fragility of life. But above all, it revealed the courage of ordinary Coloradans who responded with extraordinary grace.

This year, as we reflect on the tragedy of that night seventy years later, the Denver Police Museum, together with History Colorado, Wings Over the Rockies, the CELL, the University of Denver, FlyteCO Tower, and the Weld County Flight 629 Memorial Committee, will unveil permanent memorials in both Denver and Weld County to honor those who were lost as well as those who answered the call.

Mr. Speaker, every passing year does not diminish the pain of this tragedy, nor does it lessen our duty to remember. Today, we honor the forty-four innocent lives who perished aboard Flight 629 by including their names into the RECORD, that they may never be forgotten:

F.E. "Jack" Ambrose, Samuel Arthur, Bror and Irene Beckstrom, John Bomelyn, Frank Brennan, Louise Bunch, Brad and Carol Bynum, Thomas Crouch, Barbara Cruse, Carl Deist, John Des Jardins, James and Sarah Dorey, Gurney and Elizabeth Edwards, Helen Fitzpatrick and son James, Lee Hall, Virgil and Goldie Herman, Elton Hickok, Jacqueline Hinds, Marion Hobgood, John Jungels, Daisie King, Gerald and Patricia Lipke, Lela McClain, Stewart and Suzanne Morgan, Peggy Peddicord, James Purvis, Herbert Robertson, Harold Sandstead, Sally Scofield, Jesse Sizemore, James Straud, Clarence Todd, Ralph and Minnie VanValin, Donald White, and Alma Winsor.

Mr. Speaker, may we remember each of these forty-four souls with reverence, and may we honor the first responders and citizens who ran toward danger that night with gratitude and respect. Their courage, compassion, and resilience continue to define the spirit of Colorado.

May their memory be eternal, and may God grant peace to the families who still carry this loss, knowing that their loved ones are remembered by a grateful state and Nation.

HONORING JOY BRUNO AS ONE OF CALIFORNIA'S 8TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S WOMEN OF THE YEAR

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, October 28, 2025*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Joy Bruno, recognized as one of California's 8th Congressional District's Women of the Year. A beloved member of our community, Joy's life is a testament to service, compassion, and leadership. Since joining the Northern Solano Lodge No. 2534 of the Sons and Daughters of Italy in America in 1994, Joy has devoted over three decades to strengthening cultural heritage and community bonds. She has served as Lodge President two times and has held numerous leadership roles, including Vice President, Trustee, and Orator. Her commitment has also extended statewide, where she has served as State Deputy for several Northern California lodges and as a board member of the Grand Lodge of California. For over twenty years, Joy has chaired