

low-income people who are also simply accused. These changes would swing the door wide open to abuses, and they would disproportionately impact people of color.

These bills and other attacks on D.C.'s autonomy are emblematic of larger efforts to allow state and federal legislatures to exert control and authority over Black localities and roll back democratically authorized criminal-legal and police reforms. We call on you to fight this trend and vote NO on H.R. 5107 and H.R. 5214. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rob Randhava of The Leadership Conference or Nicole Zayas Manzano of The Bail Project.

Sincerely,

The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, The Bail Project, Advancement Project, Black Voters Matter Fund, Center for Policing Equity (CPE), DC Vote, Human Rights Campaign, Interfaith Alliance, Juvenile Law Center.

National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, National Council of Churches, National Education Association, National Organization for Women, NCNW, Pax Christi USA, Prison Policy Initiative, St. Joseph Justice Center—A Ministry of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, Vera Insitute of Justice.

HONORING JOSEPH LYNCH WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Chief Warrant Officer Three Joseph Patrick Lynch of Rockwall, Texas, and to honor him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. CW3 Lynch honorably served in the United States Army for twenty-three years.

During his distinguished career, Joseph served with honor in both combat and intelligence operations. From 1967 to 1969, he served in Vietnam, including in the Battle of Khe Sanh, before joining the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He later spent six years with the 2nd Military Intelligence Battalion in Pirmasens, Germany, as Officer in Charge of the Sensitive Compartmented Information Facility (SCIF) and Communications Platoon Leader. His expertise then led him to the 66th Military Intelligence Brigade in Munich, where he oversaw and adjudicated communications security violations across Europe. He concluded his career at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, with the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, serving as Brigade Signal Officer and Officer in Charge of the SCIF.

CW3 Lynch's exceptional service earned him numerous commendations, including the Silver Star, Purple Heart, Legion of Merit, 17 awards of the Air Medal—including the Air Medal with Combat "V" for heroism—five Army Commendation Medals, including one with Combat "V" for heroism, and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Since retiring from the Army, Joseph has been a founding member of the Rockwall Band of Brothers and the Rockwall Veterans' Court. He has been a longtime member of Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion Rockwall, and the Purple Hearts Society, while volunteering his time at Lakepoint Hospital to continue serving his community.

I am deeply honored to recognize Chief Warrant Officer Three, Joseph Patrick Lynch for his extraordinary courage, patriotism, and lifelong commitment to service. He exemplifies the very best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and of our great Nation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF WILLIAM "BILL" KNAPP

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of William C. "Bill" Knapp, a proud veteran of the United States Navy, a devoted husband and father, and one of Iowa's most influential builders of opportunity and community.

At the age of seventeen, Bill enlisted in the United States Navy during the final year of World War II. He deployed to the Pacific theater as a landing craft pilot during the Battle of Okinawa, where he carried Marines ashore under fire and returned with the wounded and fallen. That experience, faced at such a young age, instilled in him a lasting sense of duty and courage.

After the war, Bill married his high school sweetheart, Irene, and began a life marked by hard work and vision. He moved to Des Moines in 1948, attended AIB College of Business, and soon founded Iowa Realty. Under his leadership, the company expanded into commercial development and hospitality, becoming the largest real estate firm in the state and helping shape modern Iowa.

Bill believed success came with a responsibility to serve others. He gave generously to strengthen Iowa's communities, supporting institutions such as Drake University and the Iowa State Fair, as well as numerous local efforts to expand opportunity and civic life. A proud veteran, he never forgot those who served, donating the land for the Iowa Veterans Cemetery and sponsoring a Central Iowa Honor Flight so that fellow veterans could visit the memorials built in their honor.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Knapp's legacy is one of service, generosity, and enduring love for Iowa. He is survived by his wife Susan, his daughter Ginny, stepdaughters Sara and Anna, his grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. He leaves behind a state shaped by his vision, strengthened by his leadership, and made better by his unwavering commitment to others.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of William C. "Bill" Knapp, a patriot, a community leader, and a faithful servant of the people of Iowa.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD L. CARLSON

HON. MARK E. AMODEI

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. AMODEI of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Donald L. Carlson, who passed away peacefully at his home in Carson City, Nevada. Mr. Carlson was a native of rural Davis County, Iowa, but I believe

he would have considered Nevada his true home. His son, Sev Carlson, shared that his father described Nevada as "the land of opportunity, not only for others who migrated to the Silver State, but particularly for himself."

He moved out west in 1974 to pursue a career in education, specifically a professor of sociology at Western Nevada Community College. During his tenure, he served on WNCC's Faculty Senate, was recognized as an Outstanding Faculty Member in 1991, and received the Nevada Board of Regents' Academic Advisor Award in 2003.

Mr. Carlson also owned Survey Research Systems, a political opinion research company, to study and analyze what motivates voters. While he agreed to represent clients all over the Nation, his particular interest was polling the needs of Nevadans and ensuring their policy goals for elected officials were heard.

I owe immense gratitude to Mr. Carlson, who played a pivotal role in both my personal and professional life. He was deliberate in choosing whom to support, and I am deeply thankful for his support of me over the years. While we did not always see eye to eye, I always valued his insight, honesty, and the lessons he shared. He was an exceptional teacher, not only in the classroom, but also to countless individuals he inspired and guided with principle in their pursuit of public service throughout our great state.

On behalf of the 2nd Congressional District of Nevada, I want to recognize and honor the extraordinary life of my friend Don Carlson and the lasting impact he made on our community. He was a remarkable man, and while he will be deeply missed, his legacy will not be forgotten.

HONORING JOHN KISIC WITH A CONGRESSIONAL VETERAN COMMENDATION

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Staff Sergeant John Kisic of Cooper, Texas, and to honor him with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Staff Sergeant Kisic honorably served in the United States Air Force from 1983 to 1986 and in the United States Air Force Reserve from 1986 to 1989.

During his time in the Air Force, Staff Sergeant Kisic served as a loadmaster and was actively involved in transportation coordination and operational logistics. His responsibilities included overseeing the safe loading and unloading of cargo and equipment, managing flight line support operations, and serving as both a vehicle operator and vehicle commander. He played a key role in repositioning aircraft on active flight lines and preparing aircraft for long-term storage, ensuring all operations were conducted safely, efficiently, and in support of mission readiness. He was stationed at Altus Air Force Base, and Carswell Air Force Base, and achieved the rank of Senior Airman in the active force and Staff Sergeant in the Air Force Reserve. For his service, he received the Air Force Training Ribbon and the Air Force Good Conduct Medal.

Since separating from the Air Force Reserve, Staff Sergeant Kisic has continued a

life of dedicated public service and community involvement. He has served as a volunteer firefighter with the Delta County Fire Department for over 21 years. His entry into the fire department was a natural extension of his work as an employee and manager with Texas Parks and Wildlife, where he maintained and managed Doctor's Creek State Park. Following his service with the park, John joined the Texas Department of Transportation, beginning in the maintenance division and steadily advancing into the engineering department, eventually managing traffic signals for the area and ensuring the safety and efficiency of local transportation infrastructure.

Within the veterans' community, Staff Sergeant Kisic currently serves as Vice Commander of American Legion Post No. 483, where he contributes to local veteran initiatives. He is also an active member of New Hope Church, serving on the leadership council, and a devoted family man, who supports his children and grandchildren with the same dedication he has shown to his country and community.

I am deeply honored to recognize Staff Sergeant John Kisic for his exceptional leadership, patriotism, and lifelong devotion to serving his country and community. He exemplifies the very best of Texas' 4th Congressional District and of the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF JAMES "JIM" NEIL CRAIN

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to commemorate the life of James "Jim" Neil Crain and recognize him for the excellent work and impact he had on the Grandview community. Introduced to public service at an early age as an Eagle Scout, Jim dedicated the rest of his life to serving the City of Grandview and caring for anyone he crossed paths with. Jim showed endless love for his community, and the impact he had will be remembered forever.

Born on October 3, 1945, in Kansas City, Missouri, Jim spent his early years studying in the Grandview school system before moving onto William Jewell College where he graduated with his bachelors in 1967. To further his studies, obtained a master's degree in business administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. In addition to his education endeavors, Jim served during the Vietnam War in the U.S. Army as First Lieutenant and was later honorably discharged in 1971.

As an Operations Manager at Hallmark Cards, Jim had a 34-year successful career before retiring in 2004. Being a Grandview native, Jim decided to seek ways to get involved with his hometown and committed himself to improving and growing the City of Grandview. Leading with kindness, service, and compassion, Jim served as a Grandview Alderman for 40 years and remained active on the Parks and Recreation Commission during his tenure. Jim's dedication to the constituents of Grandview is evident through the various groups he was involved in, including serving as Board Director for the Grandview Assistance Program,

and as a founding member of the Grandview Youth Court where he acted as treasurer and board member.

Beyond his professional life, Jim led a life of faith, empathy and wisdom. Jim could often be found spending time with his family, watching a Kansas City Chiefs game or NASCAR race. He spent his life uplifting and empowering the residents of Grandview through his leadership and commitment to being a voice for the community. Though Jim has passed, his legacy and impact on his community will remain long past our mortal lifetimes. I am reminded of Mark 10:45—"For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Jim's life was one dedicated to serving others in need, improving the lives of countless people throughout. Jim's legacy will live on through his loving family, friends, and the current and future generations of Grandview. As we celebrate and fondly appreciate the decades of devoted service from Jim, let us be inspired by him to uplift our community.

OPPOSITION LETTER BY THE NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE AND EDUCATIONAL FUND, INC. ON THE COMMON-SENSE LAW ENFORCEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY NOW IN DC ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5107) AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CASH BAIL REFORM ACT OF 2025 (H.R. 5214)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 19, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, the House of Representatives debated the Common-Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability Now in DC Act of 2025 (H.R. 5107) and the District of Columbia Cash Bail Reform Act of 2025 (H.R. 5214). I include in the RECORD a letter opposing these bills by the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc.

LEGAL DEFENSE FUND,
November 18, 2025.

Re "Vote No" on H.R. 5107 and H.R. 5214.

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

Hon. HAKEEM JEFFRIES,
House Minority Leader,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER JOHNSON AND MINORITY LEADER JEFFRIES: The NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc. (LDF) strongly opposes The Common Sense Law Enforcement and Accountability in D.C. Now Act (H.R. 5107), and The D.C. Cash Bail Reform Act (H.R. 5214). These bills will make the District of Columbia (D.C. or the District) less safe and just. Congresses must cease these repeated attempts—against the will of D.C. residents and locally elected leadership—to override D.C. laws that were enacted by and for the District. We urge all members to "Vote No" on these harmful bills.

COMMONSENSE POLICING REFORMS HAVE NOT HINDERED HISTORIC LOW CRIME RATES IN D.C.

H.R. 5107 would strike down, without sufficient justification, the majority of Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Amendment Act of 2022 (CPJRAA), which enacted police transparency and accountability measures informed by the recommendations

of the D.C. Police Reform Commission, a body of retired law enforcement, community leaders, experts, and directly impacted residents. While only two years of crime data is available since the implementation of the CPJRAA, that data shows drops in violent crime each year following the passage of the law in 2024 and again in 2025. Therefore, the CPJRAA's passage, at a minimum, had no negative impact on public safety in D.C. In fact, after the CPJRAA was enacted, D.C. saw a 30-year low in violent crime and thus the law is associated with MPD's successful crime reduction efforts.

The 2022 D.C. statute also includes measures D.C. residents deemed important such as mandatory public release of body worn camera footage within five days of officer-involved deaths or serious bodily injury, strengthened civilian oversight of police use of force, limitations on consent searches, requiring additional law enforcement training on racial bias and de-escalation tactics, the creation of public databases of sustained officer misconduct cases, and the prohibition of the possession or acquisition of military weapons by law enforcement agencies.

Historically criminal justice laws and policies have been determined by local jurisdiction based on their specific needs. Several other jurisdictions have enacted policies similar to those in the CPJRAA. States across the country have enacted policies like these because many believe that holding law enforcement accountable for abuse of power and racial bias can deter misconduct. Some jurisdictions have seen reduction of crime after holding law enforcement accountable for violating the law and their department policies.

Moreover, the power provided through the CPJRAA to remove disciplinary matters from collective bargaining was much-needed. Before the law's enactment, a 2022 report from the Office of the District of Columbia Auditor found that the reinstatement of 36 fired Metropolitan Police Department D.C. (MPD) officers had cost the city \$14.3 million in back pay. Notably, 15 of the reinstated officers had been terminated for misconduct classified as a "threat to safety" which includes cases when an officer imposed risk or harm to people, through action or inaction, including physical or sexual violence and mishandling firearms. The CPJRAA, by excluding disciplinary matters from collective bargaining, offered an opportunity to improve MPD's accountability system which benefits the public and officers alike. The reinstatement of "bad cops" has also been shown to demoralize officers who observe their colleagues return to the force despite their failure to abide by policies or laws.

WITHOUT DUE PROCESS MANDATORY PRETRIAL DETENTION JEOPARDIZES LIBERTY

H.R. 5214 would reinstate cash bail and create mandatory detention for a person charged with certain offenses before even going to trial. Requiring a person merely charged with an offense to be detained pretrial with no opportunity for a hearing to challenge the detention raises serious due process concerns, as there is no opportunity for the court to determine if this serious deprivation of liberty is justified. This legislation would significantly change the system D.C. has had in place since 1992, that has produced higher appearance rates than the national average without wealth-based pretrial detention. Between 1990 and 2009 the number of people charged with an offense who received cash bail jumped from 37 percent to 61 percent. Cash bail has, historically, disproportionately impacted low-income Black communities while disparities in the Black-white wealth gap persists amidst racially discriminatory policies that have not been