

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE SERVICE OF DETECTIVE PETE DEATES

HON. BRYAN STEIL

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Mr. STEIL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Detective Pete Deates of Kenosha, Wisconsin. Detective Deates has served the Kenosha community admirably for over 23 years through his work as a detective and as President of the Kenosha Professional Police Association (KPPA).

Detective Deates' service to the greater Kenosha community includes 15 years as a detective, with the majority of his time in the Sensitive Crimes Unit. Most recently, he helped start the Kenosha Police Department's first Internet Crimes Against Children Unit, combatting criminals who prey on children. Detective Deates also serves as the canine handler for the Kenosha Police Department's Electronic Storage Detection Canine, Iris. Detective Deates and Canine Iris spent the last several years traveling the State of Wisconsin, holding the worst criminals accountable and protecting those in need. His detail-oriented approach to policing and his commitment to mentoring the next generation of law enforcement deserves recognition. Detective Deates consistently modeled the professionalism, dedication, and bravery necessary to keep our community safe. In October of this year, Detective Deates was recognized as the 2025 First Responder of the Year by the Wisconsin State Legislature.

In his role as President of the KPPA, Detective Deates advocates for law enforcement officers and diligently worked to enhance officer safety, training, and wellness. Under his 19 years of leadership, Detective Deates successfully fostered a strong, collaborative relationship between the KPPA and the City of Kenosha, strengthening the Kenosha police force and ensuring that safety is the top priority.

Families across Kenosha are grateful for Detective Deates' work. For over two decades, he has served as a steady example of what law enforcement should be. Whether helping a traumatized victim, briefing a prosecutorial team on a complex case, or standing shoulder-to-shoulder with officers after a difficult call, his lead-by-example approach makes his department and community stronger.

Detective Deates' dedication and courage should serve as an inspiration to us all. I want to congratulate Detective Deates on his retirement and his impressive career and thank him for all he has done to make Kenosha and Wisconsin a better, safer place.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO DESIGNATE THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA AS AN EMPOWERMENT ZONE

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would designate certain areas of the District of Columbia as an empowerment zone. This bill effectively would reauthorize many of the unique federal tax incentives for business investment in D.C. that expired in 2011. With the Trump administration's mass firings of federal employees, budget cuts and proposed relocation of federal agencies, as well as the continued prevalence of remote and hybrid work, this bill is especially important.

In 1993, Congress created the national empowerment zone program to encourage investment in low-income communities and delegated to federal agencies the authority to designate communities as empowerment zones. D.C. was not so designated. However, in 1997, working primarily with Republicans in Congress, I created federal tax incentives for investment in D.C. by businesses and individuals. The business tax incentives were similar to, but more generous than, those available under the national empowerment zone program. I got the D.C. tax incentives continuously reauthorized until 2011, when Congress refused to extend these tax incentives. At the same time, Congress extended the national empowerment zone program, and the program was last extended through 2025. Under this bill, low-income neighborhoods in D.C. would be treated as an empowerment zone as long as the national empowerment zone program remains in effect.

Congress has long recognized that the benefits of tax incentives for investment in low-income communities outweigh the costs, as it has continuously extended the national empowerment zone program.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed all the votes in the vote series on December 3, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 312, final passage of H.R. 1005, Combating the Lies of Authoritarians in School Systems (CLASS) Act; YES on Roll Call No. 311, final passage of H.R. 4305, DUMP Red Tape Act; and NAY on Roll Call No. 310, final passage of H.R. 2965, Small Business Regulatory Reduction Act of 2025.

COMMENDING MAYOR JOE TAYLOR FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO LANGHORNE BOROUGH

HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Mayor Joe Taylor of Langhorne Borough, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, a devoted public servant whose life's work reflects unwavering commitment, integrity, and the highest ideals of civic leadership.

Since making Langhorne Borough his home in 2010, Mayor Taylor has never simply lived in the community—he has poured his heart into it. Over twelve years as Mayor, he has provided thoughtful, measured, and dependable leadership. He has been a steady hand through times of growth and challenge, always guided by what is best for the families and officials who rely on Borough government each day. His strong support for the Langhorne Borough Police Department, his responsiveness to residents, and his collaborative approach to governing have made a lasting and positive impact on the borough he loves.

Mayor Taylor's distinguished tenure in elected office is only one chapter of a lifetime spent protecting and serving others. In 1972, he answered the call to join the Langhorne Fire Department, beginning a fifty-year journey of volunteer fire service that continues to this day. Over those five decades, he has served in numerous vital capacities including Firefighter, Chief, and currently Deputy Chief. Today, he continues his active service, contributing as a member of the Apparatus Committee, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Vice President of the Langhorne Firemen's Relief Association, all while still responding to emergency calls and supporting daily operations.

Mr. Speaker, the measure of a true leader is not found in titles alone, but in the lives improved because they cared. Mayor Taylor has responded to emergencies in the middle of the night, helped families in their moments of greatest need, and ensured that Langhorne's government remained responsive, compassionate, and responsible. His legacy is built on countless acts of service which are many unseen, but all deeply felt.

Today, we express gratitude not only for his public accomplishments, but also for the humility, kindness, and character that have defined his service. He has lived a life that reflects a simple but powerful principle: when you love your community, you show up. And Joe Taylor has always shown up.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's 1st District and the United States House of Representatives, I express my deepest appreciation to Mayor Joe Taylor for his service, his patriotism, and his enduring love of community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Mayor Joe Taylor for his exemplary leadership and for more than fifty years of dedicated

● 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.

service to the people of Langhorne Borough and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. We extend our best wishes to him and his family as they embark on this next chapter, knowing that his impact will continue to shape Langhorne for generations to come.

HONORING LIEUTENANT GENERAL
JOSEPH RYAN

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lieutenant General Joseph Ryan on his appointment as Commanding General of the U.S. Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), one of the most critical and consequential leadership positions in the armed forces.

Lieutenant General Ryan brings to this role an exceptional record of service, distinguished by years of operational experience, thoughtful leadership, and an unwavering commitment to the Soldiers and families of the U.S. Army. He has led at every level, from company through division, including service as the Commanding General of the 25th Infantry Division and as Chief of Staff of the XVIII Airborne Corps. Most recently, he served as the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff, responsible for overseeing operations, plans, and training across the entire force.

As he assumes command of FORSCOM, Lieutenant General Ryan takes responsibility for the Army's largest component and is charged with preparing our Soldiers to rapidly deploy and win our Nation's wars. This role demands clarity of purpose, humility, strategic foresight, and a steadfast dedication to the mission. Lieutenant General Ryan has demonstrated each of these qualities throughout his career, particularly during multiple combat deployments and in senior leadership posts that shaped Army policy, modernization, and global operational posture.

As Fort Bragg's Congressman, I am proud to welcome Lieutenant General Ryan back to Fayetteville. Now more than ever, our Nation faces evolving security challenges and increasing demands on our force. I am confident that under the leadership of Lieutenant General Ryan, we will rise to meet those challenges.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in congratulating Lieutenant General Ryan and wishing him success as he leads the men and women of the U.S. Army Forces Command.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND
CAREER OF NELDA OLIVO

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the career and contributions of Nelda Olivo, a dedicated public servant and the Director of Government Affairs for the Port of Corpus Christi, who has spent more than three decades advancing the economic and strategic interests of South Texas.

Ms. Olivo joined the Port in 1993, and since that time she has played a vital role in strengthening one of our Nation's most important energy and commerce gateways. She is responsible for developing, implementing, and managing the Port's government affairs program, serving as a trusted liaison with local, state, and federal legislators, governmental agencies, and community organizations. Her work has helped build broad support for key port initiatives that enhance regional mobility, security, and economic development.

Throughout her career, Ms. Olivo has demonstrated deep expertise in pursuing government funding across appropriations, transportation, homeland security, and critical grant programs. She is known for identifying emerging issues affecting ports nationwide and for leading new initiatives that strengthen the Port of Corpus Christi's role as a global leader in energy exports and maritime commerce.

Her leadership extends well beyond the Port. Ms. Olivo serves on multiple national, state, and regional committees, including the American Association of Port Authorities Government Relations Committee, Gulf Ports Association of the Americas Government Affairs Committee, Texas Ports Association, the United Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee, the Coastal Bend Council of Governments, and the Port Industries of Corpus Christi. Her efforts have helped shape policy discussions and strengthen collaboration across the maritime industry.

Before joining the Port, Ms. Olivo served the City of Corpus Christi in its Housing and Community Development Department, contributing to programs that improve quality of life and community resilience. A proud native of Corpus Christi, she is a graduate of the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, where she earned a Bachelor of Applied Arts and Sciences.

Mr. Speaker, Nelda Olivo's decades of commitment, expertise, and outstanding public service have made a lasting impact on the Port of Corpus Christi and the entire Coastal Bend region.

I commend her for her distinguished career and thank her for her unwavering dedication to advancing South Texas's economic vitality and national security interests.

HONORING SHERIFF SCOTT FOSTER FOR OVER 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sheriff Scott Foster for his 31 years of outstanding service in law enforcement and his commitment to the safety of the Fredericksburg community.

Sheriff Foster began his career in 1994, advancing from the rank of Deputy to Captain. On September 15, 2022, he was appointed Sheriff of the City of Fredericksburg by the Honorable Gordon F. Willis, Circuit Court Judge, and was sworn in shortly afterwards.

Since taking office, Sheriff Foster has worked to improve the Fredericksburg Sheriff's Office by updating operational plans, building policies and procedures, and improving train-

ing and record-keeping. Under his leadership, he also established a Career Development Program to support employee growth and recognize professional excellence within the department.

Beyond his leadership duties, Sheriff Foster has remained active in the community helping with school safety, participating in the D.A.R.E. program, and supporting mental health transports. He has also worked closely with Fredericksburg City Public Schools by attending safety board meetings and school events. I want to personally congratulate and thank Sheriff Foster for his endless dedication to ensuring our Fredericksburg communities stay safe and have access to the resources they need.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the City of Fredericksburg and its residents, I extend our deepest gratitude to Sheriff Foster for his unwavering service and dedication. His impact on our community will be felt for years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF COACH AL
FRACASSA

HON. HALEY M. STEVENS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Ms. STEVENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable life of Coach Al Fracassa, a Michigan high school football coach that shaped generations of young men in Metro Detroit. Coach Fracassa began his career as a professional athlete in 1951, playing for Michigan State University in the National Championship and the Rose Bowl. Shortly after graduating, Al decided to use his skills to uplift future generations and began coaching football at various high schools around Metro Detroit. He served as head football coach at Royal Oak Shrine and Brother Rice High School, coaching over 40 seasons of high school football and leading his teams to nine state championships. He was more than a football coach, he was a guiding figure for his players, encouraging them to reach their full potential and pushing them to success. Known for his high expectations, Coach Fracassa consistently urged his players to "do things better than you've ever done them before." Over the course of his career, Coach Fracassa sent over 300 players to college and 13 players to the NFL.

Beyond his contributions to the athletic world, Fracassa was a devoted husband, married to his high school sweetheart, Phyllis. Together, they raised four children, seven grandchildren, and six great-grandchildren. He left his mark on the world in more ways than one, from his military service in 1956 to building up Brother Rice High School shortly after its formation. While he will be deeply missed, his legacy and love live on in the many lives he touched.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply honored to recognize the life and contributions of this great titan, Coach Al Fracassa, who dedicated his life helping hundreds of young men find their place in the world. Please join me in celebrating this incredible individual and the lessons he shared with us.