

CONGRATULATING SOUTH DAKOTA'S DALLAS GOEDERT AND THE EAGLES ON SUPER BOWL LIX WIN

### HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 12, 2025*

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate South Dakota's own Dallas Goedert and the Philadelphia Eagles on their Super Bowl LIX win on February 9, 2025. Dallas Goedert was born and raised in Britton, South Dakota. After graduating from Britton-Hecla High School, he was recruited by South Dakota State University's football program.

As a Jackrabbit, Goedert had 198 receptions for 2,988 yards and 21 touchdowns, including two straight 1,000-yard receiving seasons. Goedert's collegiate career at South Dakota State saw him as a two-time first-team Football Championship Subdivision All-American.

After an impressive collegiate performance at South Dakota State, the Philadelphia Eagles selected Goedert in the second round and 49th overall of the 2018 NFL draft. As of the end of the 2024 season, he has accumulated an impressive 349 receptions for 4,085 yards and 24 touchdowns while being challenged with injuries. Despite being placed on injured reserve on December 7, 2024, he returned for the playoffs and contributed to the Eagle's victory in the Super Bowl LIX, recording two receptions for 27 yards in a 40-22 win over the Kansas City Chiefs.

I am proud to recognize Dallas Goedert's outstanding perseverance and his impact as a role model for athletes and individuals across the nation. He is an inspiring reminder of the strength found in determination and hard work. I congratulate Goedert and the Eagles on their remarkable victory.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 12, 2025*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I regrettably missed votes on February 11, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted: Nay on Roll Call No. 38, On Ordering the Previous Question on H. Res. 122. No on Roll Call No. 39, On Agreeing to the Resolution H. Res. 122.

REMEMBERING JEROME H. KERN: A CHAMPION OF THE ARTS, PHILANTHROPY, AND PUBLIC SERVICE

### HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 12, 2025*

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Jerome H. Kern, a remarkable leader whose passion for the arts, philanthropy, and public service law

made a significant impact on Denver and beyond.

Jerry was a man of immense intellect, unwavering commitment, and profound generosity. He was a force of nature, a sharp legal mind, a tenacious leader, and an advocate for the arts, business, and public service.

Born in Brooklyn in 1937, Jerry graduated cum laude from the New York University School of Law, where he was a Root Tilden Scholar and managing editor of the New York University Law Review.

After law school, Jerry had a distinguished legal and business career. He initially worked as a senior partner at Baker & Botts, LLP, where he was the senior corporate lawyer in the New York office. For over 20 years, he served as the principal outside legal counsel to Tele-Communications, Inc. (TCI) and Liberty Media. He later became vice chairman and a board member at TCI and played a key role in major media mergers, including the AT&T/TCI merger and the Time Warner/Turner Broadcasting merger.

Jerry used his success in life to fulfill his true calling—relentless advocacy for the public good. As a trustee of NYU School of Law, he learned that the Root-Tilden Scholarship that had helped him get a start in life was being limited by severe budget deficiencies. He not only donated \$5 million to the program but also led a \$30 million endowment effort that resulted in the program's renaming as the Root-Tilden-Kern Scholarship. His dedication to public interest law has paved the way for countless students to pursue careers in service of the greater good. Since his efforts, more than 450 public interest lawyers have gone out to serve their own communities.

After Jerry and his wife, Dr. Mary Rossick Kern, moved to Denver, he learned that the Colorado Symphony was facing financial ruin. Not only did he save the symphony, but agreed to give a sustainable future by becoming CEO and President of the Board and leaving behind an \$88 million endowment that secures its place as a cultural cornerstone for generations to come. His advocacy for a world-class concert venue continues to shape the future of Denver's performing arts scene.

Beyond the arts, Kern's philanthropic contributions extended to public service and health care. He founded and chaired the Institute for Children's Mental Health, endowed a research chair at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center, and worked tirelessly with Volunteers of America Colorado, sponsoring the construction of the Michael Kern Kitchen, which provides Meals on Wheels to those in need. In 2002, Jerry and Mary were honored with the Volunteers of America Humanitarian of the Year Award.

As a Root-Tilden scholar myself, I dedicated my career to public service—and Jerry was a strong model of how to make this happen.

His life was one of service, vision, and relentless advocacy for the arts and public good. His legacy will undoubtedly continue to inspire those who believe in the transformative power of culture, philanthropy, and law. I extend my deepest condolences to his family, friends, and all who were fortunate enough to know him. His memory will remain a guiding light for those who seek to make a meaningful impact in their communities.

REMEMBERING APOLINARIO "ARIO" YSIT, JR.

### HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 12, 2025*

Mr. SWALWELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Apolinario Ysit, Jr., a dedicated community leader, loving husband, father, and grandfather, on the occasion of his passing on Saturday, January 18, 2025, at the age of 87.

Born in Sacramento, California, on January 18, 1938, Apolinario, "Ario," grew up on his family's 13-acre ranch, where he learned the values of hard work and service. In 1948, he moved with his family to Niles, California, where he attended Niles Elementary and Washington High School while actively participating in the Boy Scouts of America.

In 1955, he met the love of his life, Joyce, while she was working at the Niles Movie Theater. They married two years later at the Little Brown Church of Sunol and built a beautiful life together, raising their children, Victoria and Jeffrey, in their Kilcare Road home.

Ario proudly served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1955 to 1957 before embarking on a successful career as a general contractor.

Even in retirement, he remained deeply engaged in public service, serving on numerous boards, including the Alameda County Planning Commission, where he was named Commissioner of the Year in 2003, the Alameda County Fair Board of Directors, and the Alameda County Fire Commission.

His passion for his community earned him the title of the "unofficial Mayor of Sunol," as he worked tirelessly to secure funding and resources for local projects. His leadership helped establish the Sunol Depot Gardens Park, and his dedication to civic engagement included work with the Citizens Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.), the Sunol Business Guild, and the Sunol Community Advisory Committee, among many other organizations.

Ario's unwavering commitment to Sunol and Alameda County will be remembered for generations. He was more than a leader—he was a friend, mentor, and advocate who embodied the spirit of service. His legacy of generosity, dedication, and love for his community lives on in all who had the privilege of knowing him. May his memory continue to inspire us all.

### RECOGNIZING HARRY L. CHANDLER

### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 12, 2025*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and legacy of Harry L. Chandler—a revered veteran, esteemed member of our community in western Massachusetts, and a national hero.

Harry L. Chandler was born on March 6, 1921, in Holyoke, Massachusetts, to Louis and Ida Cohen. From an early age, Harry demonstrated a love for service and commitment to his community. He attended Holyoke Public Schools, leaving just short of graduation in

1939 to enlist in the United States Navy. Sworn into the Navy in July 1940, Harry chose to become a Corpsman, a role that perfectly melded with his gentle, caring nature.

On December 7, 1941, Harry witnessed the attack on Pearl Harbor. His bravery and service during that day, rescuing fellow sailors amidst chaos, stands as a testament to his courage and dedication. Throughout World War II, Harry served in various capacities and earned numerous commendations, including the Asiatic-Pacific Area Theater Medal with two stars, the WWII Victory Medal, and the Naval Reserve Meritorious Service Medal. He retired as a Senior Chief (HMCS) in 1981 after 40 years of service to the United States Navy and Naval Reserve.

Beyond his military service, Harry was a successful businessman, co-owning Highland Upholstery Co. in Holyoke, Massachusetts, with his brother Martin. He was a respected member of many fraternal organizations, including the Mount Tom Lodge of Masons, the Melha Shriners Hospital, and the Submarine Veterans of WWII.

Harry was a devoted husband to Anna McMahon, and together they raised a loving family. He is predeceased by his beloved wife Anna, daughter Patricia Russotto, sisters Rose Hendel and Eve Salwitz, brother Martin Cohen, and long-time companion Muriel O'Conner. He is survived by his daughters Kathleen Fahey and Carole Anne Cowles, his eight grandchildren, 17 great-grandchildren, and five great-great-grandchildren. His life was a testament to love, dedication, and service.

Harry Chandler emulated what it meant to be a part of the Greatest Generation—selflessly serving his Nation without hesitation and without want for recognition. His actions on that fateful day on December 7, 1941, are forever etched in our Nation's history. The heroics he demonstrated—rescuing fellow sailors while witnessing the tragic fate of the USS *Arizona* and USS *Utah*—are a stark reminder of the price he and his fellow servicemembers paid to protect our freedom. His legacy is an inspiration to us all and will live on for eternity.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you to join me in recognizing Harry L. Chandler, not only as a veteran of World War II, but as a pillar of strength, resilience, and humility. His legacy is an inspiration to us all and will undoubtedly continue to influence our community for generations to come.

My thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time. I join a grateful Nation in mourning the loss of Harry Chandler—a true American hero.

#### RECOGNIZING DANIEL L. RITCHIE

##### HON. JASON CROW

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 12, 2025*

Mr. CROW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Daniel L. Ritchie. Former Chancellor of the University of Denver, Ritchie was beloved in our community for his commitment to the University, to philanthropy, and to his role as a civic leader in Denver.

Ritchie wore numerous hats in his professional career, but he was always guided by values he called his "cowboy ethics." These values included:

Live each day with courage.  
Take pride in your work.  
Always finish what you start.  
Do what has to be done.  
Be tough, but fair.  
When you make a promise, keep it.  
Ride for the brand.  
Talk less and say more.

Remember that some things aren't for sale.

Ritchie lived by these principles, but he was also a person who was quick to demonstrate empathy, to lift up others, and to listen to those people and those causes in need of attention. He served the University community as Chancellor from 1989 to 2005, and helped raise over \$400 million in investments to university infrastructure and facilities, including tens of millions of dollars of his own money. The University's athletics complex, the Daniel L. Ritchie Center for Sports & Wellness, bears his name and thousands of Coloradans walk through its doors each year to watch Division I teams compete in college athletics.

A passionate supporter of athletics, Ritchie also knew that well-rounded students benefited from diverse perspectives. He created the Cherrington Global Scholars program at the University, a program designed to facilitate participation in study abroad programs and grow a student body prepared for "global citizenship."

Daniel L. Ritchie was a steady force of nature and a leader who earned the respect of those he represented. His contributions to our state, whether through positions at the University of Denver, Denver Center for Performing Arts, Daniels Fund, Denver Art Museum Foundation, Temple Hoyne Buell Foundation, or one of his many other commitments to our community, are a legacy we're grateful he leaves behind.

I honor these achievements, send my gratitude to his loved ones, and thank the "Cowboy Chancellor" for his service to our state.

#### HONORING DR. STEVEN PACKER, PRESIDENT AND CEO OF MONTAGE HEALTH, FOR HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO HEALTHCARE AND MONTEREY COUNTY

##### HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 12, 2025*

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Steven Packer, whose dedication to healthcare has profoundly transformed the well-being of individuals and families across Monterey County. Dr. Packer has served as President and CEO of Montage Health since 1999, spearheading the growth and innovation of this integrated, nonprofit healthcare network. Under his stewardship, Montage Health has evolved from its origins as Community Hospital of the Monterey Peninsula to become a national model for community-centered healthcare.

Dr. Packer has expanded access to high-quality care for countless residents of California's Central Coast. Through the creation of urgent care clinics, wellness centers, physician practices, community health programs, and Monterey County's first Medicare Advantage program. He prioritized the growth of Monterey County's healthcare workforce, forging part-

nerships with Monterey Peninsula College and California State University, Monterey Bay, to create career pathways for nursing and physician assistant students. His efforts have resulted in Montage Health's position as the largest private employer in Monterey County and a leading healthcare resource for the region.

Beyond these achievements, Dr. Packer has dedicated his time and expertise to numerous boards and community initiatives. As former chair of the California Hospital Association and a board member of Stevenson School, Vizient West Coast, and NORCAL Mutual Insurance Company, he has consistently demonstrated a commitment to both local and industry-wide progress.

I want to commend Dr. Packer's legacy of leadership, innovation, and compassion, as he retires from his role as President and CEO of Montage Health. His contributions extend far beyond bricks and mortar; they embody a deep compassion and unwavering dedication to improving lives. From his early days as a pulmonologist and ICU medical director, to his role as a visionary CEO, Dr. Packer has exemplified excellence, service, and innovation in every facet of his work.

I know he will continue to be a voice for care, compassion, and community connection as he embarks on his next chapter of service.

#### HONORING THE 300TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE KING WILLIAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE

##### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 12, 2025*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 300th anniversary of the King William County Courthouse, which stands as the oldest courthouse building in continuous use in the United States.

The King William County Courthouse was constructed in 1725 and was the heart of local self-government and much of the social, economic, and communal life of King William County. The Courthouse was used during the colonial period to elect members of the House of Burgesses, and it served as the designated polling place when the governor deemed other elections were necessary. During the early stages of the American Revolution, local patriots forming the county committee convened in the King William County Courthouse, where Carter Braxton, committee chair and future signer of the Declaration of Independence, received the news of the Battles of Lexington and Concord.

The King William County Courthouse is considered the best preserved of the Commonwealth's remaining colonial court buildings. The building was listed in the Historic American Buildings Survey in 1959, the Virginia Landmarks Register on November 5, 1968, and the National Register of Historic Places on October 1, 1969. The King William County Historical Museum and the King William Virginia 250 Planning Committee will hold a celebration on April 12, 2025, commemorating the 300th anniversary of the historic King William County Courthouse.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I ask that you rise with me in honoring The King William County