

RECOGNIZING THE PASSAGE OF
THE WOUNDED KNEE SACRED
SITE AND MEMORIAL ACT

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend the unanimous passage of the Wounded Knee Massacre Memorial and Sacred Site Act in the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate.

This legislation represents an important step toward preserving one of the most tragic and painful sites in our Nation's history, as we prepare to commemorate the 135th anniversary of the Wounded Knee Massacre on December 29, 1890. The land at Wounded Knee bears witness to the massacre of hundreds of Lakota men, women, and children on December 29, 1890. For generations, this ground has held deep spiritual and historical significance for the Lakota people, and it deserves to be protected and honored accordingly.

In 2023, I had the opportunity to visit the site of the Wounded Knee Massacre, where I met with descendants of survivors and saw firsthand the remnants of that tragic day, including the bloodstained floorboards of St. John's Church where the wounded were treated. That experience underscores the responsibility we share as a Nation to acknowledge our past wrongdoings and ensure that such a tragedy is never forgotten.

This bill was developed in close partnership with the Oglala Sioux Tribe and the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, whose leadership and guidance were essential in shaping legislation that respects tribal jurisdiction and the sacred nature of the land. I am grateful to President Frank Star Comes Out of the Oglala Sioux Tribe and Chairman Ryman LeBeau of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe for their continued collaboration and advocacy to preserve the memory and legacy of their ancestors.

Mr. Speaker, on the 100th anniversary of the massacre, Congress issued a formal apology, expressing deep regret for the actions of the federal government and acknowledging the historical significance of this event. As descendants prepare to remember the lives lost on the 135th anniversary, the House and Senate have reaffirmed our commitment to reconciliation and remembrance by passing the Wounded Knee Massacre Memorial and Sacred Site Act unanimously, and I was honored to lead this legislation that preserves the sacred ground and respects the legacy of the Lakota people.

HONORING MASTER SERGEANT
JEREMY D. SMITH

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to congratulate Master Sergeant Jeremy D. Smith upon the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force after more than 33 years of service to our Nation.

Master Sergeant Smith entered the USAF in April 1992, completing Basic Training at

Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. He initially trained as a Munitions Systems Specialist and served in various roles and locations, including missile technician, munitions material handling crew member, and munitions inspector, in Hawaii, North Carolina, and Florida. From 1999 to 2002, he transitioned to the Air Force Reserve, continuing as a Munitions Systems Specialist. In 2002, he cross-trained into the C-130 Loadmaster career field with the 193d Special Operations Squadron (SOS), Pennsylvania Air National Guard, and qualified on the C-130E, EC-130E, C-130J, EC-130J, HC-130J, and MC-130J variants. He served as an EC-130J instructor and evaluator, and held positions in Current Operations, the Formal Training Unit, Squadron Training, and the Squadron Tactics office.

At the time of his retirement, Master Sergeant Smith serves as an MC-130J Special Missions Aviator/Tactician assigned to the 193d SOS in Middletown, Pennsylvania. As a Special Missions Aviator Tactician in the Squadron Tactics office, he advises squadron aviators on the tactical employment of the MC-130J and related mission sets, ensuring mission readiness. His duties include managing the Drop Zone Control and Malfunction offices and the Joint Airdrop Inspectors program that monitors all airdrop inspections and supplies for mission success.

Master Sergeant Smith has deployed in support of myriad missions, including Operations Southern Watch, Desert Strike/Desert Fox, Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, New Dawn, Unified Response, Unified Protector, Odyssey Dawn, Inherent Resolve, and Freedom's Sentinel.

Throughout his illustrious career, Master Sergeant Smith has earned a multitude of awards and decorations, including, but not limited to the: Air Force Air Medal (w/2 OLC); Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon (w/Gold Border and 2 OLC); Air Force Good Conduct Medal (w/7 Devices); Pennsylvania Keystone Freedom Medal (w/7 Devices); Pennsylvania 20-Year Service Medal (w/1 Device); Major General Thomas R. White, Jr. Medal; and the General Thomas J. Stewart Medal (w/3 Devices).

Mr. Speaker, I'm honored and privileged to recognize Master Sergeant Jeremy D. Smith upon his retirement after more than 33 years of service to our Nation in uniform. His tireless, selfless, and honorable dedication to his fellow Airmen, the United States Air Force, and the United States of America set the standard by which all should be judged.

RECOGNIZING THE PLAYING OF
THE MONTANA SUPER BOWL AS
DELIVERED TO WAKE UP MON-
TANA ON NONSTOP LOCAL

HON. TROY DOWNING

OF MONTANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Mr. DOWNING. Mr. Speaker, in November, Montanans gathered in Missoula for the 124th Brawl of the Wild, a legendary matchup between the University of Montana Grizzlies and the Montana State University Bobcats.

On Saturday, December 20, Montanans across the country will be tuning in for what many are calling the Montana Super Bowl.

This is Brawl 2.0, and this time, it means more. With a spot in the FCS National Championship on the line, the stakes could not be higher.

For the first time in Montana history, the Grizzlies and Bobcats will face off in the FCS semifinals at Montana State University in Bozeman, placing our state in the national spotlight.

Montana's competitive spirit always shines on game day, and this weekend will be no exception. From living rooms to watch parties to packed stadium seats, Montanans will be united by pride, passion, and rivalry.

I thank Bradley Warren, "Touchdown" Tommy Mellott, and Marcus Welnel for covering the Montana Super Bowl. I'm looking forward to an electric game and wish both teams the best of luck.

CELEBRATING PRESTAR PACK-
AGING OF CHRISTIANSBURG,
VIRGINIA

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Prestar Packaging of Christiansburg, Virginia, on achieving the top honor in the 2025 Virginia Manufacturing Cup. This accomplishment has earned their product, the Pop-Up Gift Card Box, the honorary title of "The Coolest Thing in Virginia." The Virginia Manufacturers Association celebrates the passion and innovation that drive Virginia's manufacturing sector forward. Part of the foundation of a strong manufacturing sector depends on creative ideas that businesses like Prestar Packaging bring to the market.

Such creative ideas can lead to critical partnerships. Interest in Prestar Packaging products includes the likes of popular brands such as Under Armour, Coca-Cola, and even the United States Congress.

I was impressed to hear that Prestar Packaging has operated for three decades. It takes strong leadership, principled discipline and fantastic genius to sustain such a successful business.

Moreover, family-owned businesses like Prestar Packaging contribute to the manufacturing backbone of local economies, create job opportunities and highlight the power of American manufacturing.

Thanks in part to the great success of Prestar Packaging, Montgomery County continues to deliver in the manufacturing space.

I join Southwest Virginia communities in wishing a most sincere congratulations to Prestar Packaging.

May they use this success to fuel them in their future activities and endeavors.

RECOGNIZING THE MEMBERS OF
THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL
SERVICES, EMS PROFESSION

HON. BRAD FINSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Mr. FINSTAD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the members of the emergency

medical services (EMS) profession who dedicate their lives to providing often lifesaving medical care and transport services to patients as well as entire communities. These health care professionals are on the frontlines of providing vital emergency 9–1–1 and interfacility ambulance services.

Every year, the dispatch of an ambulance is the first response to millions of medical emergencies. Often, the survival of a patient is enhanced by the prompt medical attention provided by paramedics and emergency medical technicians (EMTs) prior to the arrival at an emergency department. As a result of the selfless acts of these courageous and devoted professions, the lives of thousands of Americans are saved each year. While these professionals do not expect to receive recognition for their work, they deserve our outmost gratitude.

I would like to highlight a very special group of EMS professionals or “Stars of Life” who were recently honored by the American Ambulance Association. This year, the American Ambulance Association is recognizing 147 Stars of Life—by far the largest number of Stars of Life in the over 25 years of the program.

The American Ambulance Association honors each year those paramedics, emergency medical technicians, dispatchers and other ambulance service personnel who exemplify what is best about the EMS field. The American Ambulance Association has appropriately designated these individuals as “Stars of Life”. Past Stars of Life have included paramedics and EMTs who were part of evacuation and response efforts to natural disasters, acts of terrorism and public health emergencies. Members of this year’s Stars of Life program are no different and were involved with exceptional acts such as stabilizing an expecting mothers in medical distress and saving the life of both the mother and newborn baby and using quick thinking and their medical skills to save individuals involved in vehicle crashes.

Of equal importance, this program also pays tribute to those ambulance service personnel whose heroic acts or community service activities may not have made the news, but were just as meaningful to the people they aided. They are truly America’s health care safety net.

I am especially proud of the four Stars of Life from Minnesota being recognized this year who serve Minnesota with pride. They are John Harding, Stacy Jensen, Daniel McIntosh and Daniel Rohe. I had the opportunity to meet with John Harding with Mayo Clinic Ambulance from North Mankato, Minnesota and can tell you he is a first-class EMS professional who deeply cares about his community and his patients.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the names, organizations and hometowns of the 2025 American Ambulance Association Stars of Life honorees:

2025 AMERICAN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION STARS OF LIFE

Jennifer Aguilar, Superior Mobile Health, San Antonio, Texas; Kayla Alderman, Sunstar Paramedics, Largo, Florida; Mark Allen, EMSA, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Zoe Allison, Metropolitan EMS, Little Rock, Arkansas; Anthony Arrigo, Priority Ambulance, LLC, Utica, New York; Domingo Barboa, Cascade Ambulance, Bellingham, Washington; Carlos Bautista, EagleMed, Dodge City, Kansas; Emma Beaupre, Armstrong Ambulance Service, Arlington, Massachusetts; Jonathan Bell, Metropolitan EMS, Little Rock, Arkan-

sas; Kathleen Benoit, Cataldo Ambulance Service, Somerville, Massachusetts; Cortney Bloxham, Pafford Medical Services, Inc., Stigler, Oklahoma; Scott Bodien, Mecklenburg EMS Agency, Charlotte, North Carolina; Kandice Bogatz, Northwell Emergency Medical Services, Syosset, New York; Andre Joel Bower, Priority Ambulance, LLC, Fredericksburg, Virginia; Robert Brengartner, Hall Ambulance, Bakersfield, California; Richard Byerwalters, Mohawk Ambulance Service, Schenectady, New York; Alison Cagle, Acadian Ambulance, Lafayette, Louisiana; Nathan Cagna, Huron Valley Ambulance, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Jeremy Capps, Hall Ambulance, Bakersfield, California; Larry Christian, Priority Ambulance, LLC, Indianapolis, Indiana; Timothy Clark, Rescue, Inc., Brattleboro, Vermont; Hugh Coley, Northwell Emergency Medical Services, Syosset, New York; Jason Cooke, Priority Ambulance, LLC, Anderson, South Carolina; Chris Crawford, American Medical Response, Portland, Oregon; Naomi Crittendon, Olympic Ambulance, Tacoma, Washington; Talitha Crowe, American Medical Response, Temple, Texas; Nathanael Day, EagleMed, Wichita, Kansas; Krystal Daymonde, Hartford HealthCare EMS, Network, Meriden, Connecticut; Courtney De Weese, Life EMS Ambulance, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Trish Dickerson, Pafford Medical Services, Inc., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Sergey Dobrinin, Bell Ambulance, Inc., Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Rudy Drago, River Medical, Lake Havasu City, Arizona; Aaron Durette, American Medical Response, West Hartford, Connecticut; Arianne Emling, Air Evac Lifeteam, Marion, Illinois; Jimi Estrada-Velazquez, American Medical Response, Riverside, California; Tom Felter, Superior Air-Ground Ambulance Service, Hebron, Indiana; Marc Flores, Air Evac Lifeteam, Abilene, Texas; Tyler Ford, REACT EMS, Shawnee, Oklahoma; Kara Fox, Ute Pass Regional Ambulance District, Woodland Park, Colorado; Neil Frame, Metro-Area Ambulance Service, Mandan, North Dakota; Eric Friedell, Northwell Emergency Medical Services, Syosset, New York; Will Gardam, Spirit EMS, Greenville, Ohio; Rusty Gilbert, Pafford EMS of Louisiana, Ruston, Louisiana; Kenny Glimme, REACH, Oceanside, California; Aaron Goodloe, American Medical Response, Kansas City, Kansas; Alex Gossett, Priority Ambulance, LLC, Rockman, Georgia; Dylan Graves, American Medical Response, Keizer, Oregon; Terry Gray, American Medical Response, Puyallup, Washington; Rachelle Hallett, Superior Air-Ground Ambulance Service, Milwaukee, Wisconsin; John Harding, Mayo Clinic Ambulance, Rochester, Minnesota; Carol Harper, Priority Ambulance, LLC, Fremont County, Wyoming; Jeanine Hasenkopf, Mohawk Ambulance Service, Schenectady, New York; Jayeah Haske, Life EMS Inc., Enid, Oklahoma; Shelby Hawkins, Southern Paramedic Services, Brinkley, Arkansas; Brian Heisz, Gunderson Tri-State Ambulance, La Crosse, Wisconsin; Charles Henley, Pafford Medical Services, Inc., Quitman County, Mississippi; Connor Holt, Priority Ambulance, LLC, Jefferson County, Alabama; Athena Hopkins, Pafford Medical Services, Inc., Rogers County, Oklahoma; Ryan Horowitz, Falck USA, Orange, California; Julie Humes, Air Evac Lifeteam, Macomb, Illinois; Braxton Impson, East Baton Rouge Parish EMS, Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Zachary Jahnke, Life EMS Ambulance, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Jeremy Jaime, Falck USA, Orange, California; Louann Jarreau, East Baton Rouge Parish EMS, Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Stacy Jensen, M Health Fairview/HealthEast, St. Paul, Minnesota; Christopher Jerrell, Mecklenburg EMS Agency, Charlotte, North Carolina; Jeff Kaufman, PatientCare EMS Solutions, Sioux

Falls, South Dakota; Daryl Kennedy, Advanced Life Systems, Spokane, Washington; Joseph Ketcham, MedicWest, North Las Vegas, Nevada; Stacy Kohn, Friendswood EMS, League City, Texas; Eric Korneffel, Northwell Health, Syosset, New York; Jason Lambeth, Sinor EMS, Butler, Oklahoma; Katie Leland, Ute Pass Regional Ambulance District, Woodland Park, Colorado; Josh Lewis, Life EMS Ambulance, Grand Rapids, Michigan; Antony Lockwood, Regional Ambulance Service, Rutland, Vermont; Paul Lopez, Falck USA, Orange, California; P.J. Lowe, American Medical Response, Jackson, Mississippi; Matt Magiera, Medstar EMS, Summerdale, Alabama; Samantha Mahan, Cataldo Ambulance Service, Somerville, Massachusetts; Dave Martens, Gunderson Lutheran MedLink AIR, La Crosse, Wisconsin; Matthew Matouk, Superior Air-Ground Ambulance Service, Elmhurst, Illinois; Eva Matyus-Bailey, Pafford EMS of Mississippi, Brandon, Mississippi; Caleb McDougal, Southern Paramedic Service, Brinkley, Arkansas; Beau McFarlin, Air Evac Lifeteam, Marion, Illinois; Daniel McIntosh, Lakes Region EMS, North Branch, Minnesota; Alyssa McMullen, Mohawk Ambulance Service, Schenectady, New York; Alexander Megquier, American Medical Response, West Hartford, Connecticut; Osvaldo Michel, Hall Ambulance, Bakersfield, California; William Miles, Hall Ambulance, Bakersfield, California; Douglas Milks, American Medical Response, Angola, New York; Ashley Miranda, Hartford HealthCare EMS Network, Meriden, Connecticut; Dillon Misenheimer, East Baton Rouge Parish EMS, Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Edmund Moreshead, North East Mobile Health, Scarborough, Maine; Magen Morris, MedicWest, North Las Vegas, Nevada; Jon Mullaly, Armstrong Ambulance Service, Arlington, Massachusetts; Gheorghe Munteanu, Action Ambulance Service, Inc., Wilmington, Massachusetts; Holly Nasello, Life Line, Prescott, Arizona; Andrew Natoli, Medic Ambulance Service Inc., Sonoma, California; Daniel Norfleet, Priority Ambulance, LLC, Clarksville, Tennessee; Thomas Elliot Owen, Priority Ambulance, LLC, Forest, Mississippi; John Pagonis, Northwell Emergency Medical Services, Syosset, New York; Shrey Patel, Hall Ambulance, Bakersfield, California; Aaron Pearce, Sunstar Paramedics, Largo, Florida; Jonathan Penick, EMSA, Tulsa, Oklahoma; Trey Phillips, Air Evac Lifeteam, Snellville, Georgia; Mark Powers, Community Care Ambulance Network, Ashtabula, Ohio; Tarun Prajapati, MedEx Ambulance, Skokie, Illinois; Rick Pringle, American Medical Response, Temple, Texas; Julie Purick, American Medical Response, Rochester, New York; Gerardo Ramirez, Falck USA, Orange, California; Emma Reyes, Action Ambulance Service, Inc., Wilmington, Massachusetts; Dana Rhoades, Action Ambulance Service, Inc., Wilmington, Massachusetts; LeAnn Riley, American Medical Response, Modesto, California; Ryan Rizen, American Medical Response, Evansville, Indiana; Katelyn Roberts, REMSA Health, Reno, Nevada; Jess Robins, Medic Ambulance Service Inc., Vallejo, California; Darrell Rohe, Lakes Region EMS, North Branch, Minnesota; Daniel Rooney, Priority Ambulance, LLC, Maricopa County, Arizona; Samantha Sabol, American Medical Response, Temple, Texas; Joannie Sanchez, Acadian Ambulance, Lafayette, Louisiana; Sara Sanders, Mohawk Ambulance Service, Schenectady, New York; Missy Satterfield, Air Evac Lifeteam, Abilene, Texas; Joseph Sisneros, Del Norte, Ambulance, Crescent City, California; Jamon Smith, Gold Cross Services, Salt Lake City, Utah; Christopher Spilde, Woodburn Ambulance Service, Woodburn, Oregon; Mark Staley, Pafford

Medical Services, Inc., Chicot & Drew Counties, Arkansas; Morgan Stanley, American Medical Response, Independence, Missouri; Jason Staszko, Bell Ambulance, Inc., Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Jonathan Stocker, Superior Mobile Health, San Antonio, Texas; Doug Struble, Mercy Ambulance Service, Inc., Savannah, Georgia; Sarah Stump, Spirit EMS, Greenville, Ohio; Samantha Sukel, Emergent Health Partners, Ann Arbor, Michigan; Tristan Tomlins, Medic Ambulance Service Inc., Vallejo, California; Jonathan Tseng, Falck USA, Orange, California; Corey Tucker, Century Ambulance, Orange Park, Florida; Stone Volkmer, Community Care Ambulance Network, Ashtabula, Ohio; Julianna Wadsworth, Olympic Ambulance, Poulosbo, Washington; Adam Wagh, Superior Mobile Health, San Antonio, Texas; Parker Wallace, Mecklenburg EMS Agency, Charlotte, North Carolina; Michelle Walsh, Superior Air-Ground Ambulance Service, Lancaster, Ohio; April Weisler, Southern Oklahoma Ambulance Service, Ardmore, Oklahoma; Alisha Welicki, Superior Air-Ground Ambulance Service, Sterling Heights, Michigan; Melissa White, Metropolitan EMS, Little Rock, Arkansas; Dustin Williams, Superior Air-Ground Ambulance Service, Schaumburg, Illinois; Dustin Wilson, American Medical Response, Stockton, California; Ryan Zavada, Advanced Medical Transport, Peoria, Illinois; and Brannen Zilka, American Medical Response, Concord, California.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I missed the first vote during the second voting series on December 17, 2025, as I was detained in a time-sensitive meeting at that time.

Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 345, H. Con. Res. 61.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DR. MIKE JENKINS

HON. NATHANIEL MORAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Dr. Mike Jenkins of Kilgore, Texas, whose passing is deeply felt across the Kilgore College community and throughout East Texas.

Dr. Jenkins faithfully served Kilgore College for 35 years and most recently held the role of Executive Vice President of Internal Collaboration and Strategic Initiatives. Throughout his long career, he impacted countless students, educators, and staff members with a positive, encouraging spirit and a deep commitment to the mission of education.

Those who worked alongside Dr. Jenkins consistently describe him as a leader who used his influence for good, offered grace and guidance to others, and created a culture of care, kindness, and support. He was known as a mentor, a trusted colleague, and a steady presence who lifted people up and made them feel valued, regardless of title or circumstance.

As Interim President, Dr. Staci Martin shared, Dr. Jenkins truly had a servant's heart

and will be greatly missed. I join the Kilgore College family and the broader East Texas community in offering condolences to his loved ones and honoring a life devoted to service, faith, and education.

HONORING GARY ACOSTA

HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gary Acosta for his many contributions to our community.

Gary is an entrepreneur, investor, and advocate for the Latino community, and the co-founder and CEO of the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals (NAHREP), whose mission is to advance sustainable Hispanic homeownership.

Under Gary's leadership, NAHREP has grown to be the largest Latino business organization in the Nation with more than 58,000 members and 100 local chapters, and created the Hispanic Wealth Project, a non-profit committed to increasing household wealth in the Latino community.

Gary is a founding partner of L'ATTITUDE Ventures, the largest venture capital fund in the Nation that invests exclusively in Latino-led startups and has also launched and led several companies in real estate, mortgage, and technology.

Additionally, Gary founded both AVANCE Sports and the National Hispanic Construction Alliance (NHCA), business organizations focused on advancing the professional and economic mobility of Latinos in these industries.

Gary has been recognized by REALTOR as one of the 25 Most Influential People in Real Estate and by Latino Leaders Magazine as one of the 101 Most Influential Latinos in America.

Gary originally studied chemistry at the University of California, San Diego and Pomona College, worked at the Scripps Institute of Oceanography in San Diego, and became a junior underwriter at a community bank, where he learned firsthand about real estate and finance.

I am glad to recognize Gary for his countless accomplishments and commend him for his exemplary efforts as one of the most influential Latino leaders in the country.

HONORING COMPTROLLER GENERAL GENE DODARO

HON. ROBERT GARCIA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Mr. GARCIA of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Honorable Gene Dodaro, the eighth Comptroller General of the United States and head of the Government Accountability Office, Congress's nonpartisan investigatory arm. Mr. Dodaro's fifteen-year term as the Comptroller General ends on December 29 and his service to GAO, Congress, and our Nation has been remarkable.

Mr. Dodaro began his career at GAO more than fifty years ago. During his time as the

head of GAO, Mr. Dodaro has adapted the agency to meet Congress's needs in a time of extraordinary technological change. While maintaining GAO's stringent quality assurance standards, Mr. Dodaro expanded GAO's work to examine how changes in science and technology affect our government's ability to make sure every federal dollar is spent as Congress intends.

A stalwart commitment to GAO's core values of accountability, integrity, and reliability have defined Mr. Dodaro's tenure. During his term as Comptroller General, GAO's work has led to over one trillion dollars in financial benefits.

Mr. Dodaro has testified before Congress more than 200 times. A cornerstone of his work is GAO's "High Risk List," which highlights specific challenges in programs that involve substantial resources and provide critical services to the public.

GAO's real value, however, goes far beyond what any dollar amount can tell us. GAO's value derives from its ability to independently report the facts and speak truth to power.

I ask my colleagues to please join me in thanking Mr. Dodaro for his more than 50 years of service in helping us perform the Constitutional duties of the legislative branch and in wishing him well as he completes his term.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF MR. STEVE BACHMANN FROM THE BOEING COMPANY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 18, 2025

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Steve Bachmann for his many years of dedication to our country, both through his military service in the United States Air Force and through his time at The Boeing Company.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering from the University of Virginia, Steve became an officer in the United States Air Force. During this time, he earned a Master of Science in Mechanical Engineering from the U.S. Air Force Institute of Technology. In 2006, after twenty years of military service, Steve went on to join The Boeing Company as Vice President for Legislative Affairs. Throughout his time at Boeing, Steve was known as a dedicated mentor who always made the time to share his knowledge and expertise. An honest and forthcoming friend, Steve brought humor and lightheartedness to tough conversations. After retirement, Steve plans to spend time with his grandkids and enjoying traveling in his RV. It has been a pleasure to work with him for the past twenty years and I wish him all the best.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Steve Bachmann for a lifetime of service to the United States of America and to his community. His legacy will not be forgotten.