

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING PHIL MURPHY

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 19, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Phil Murphy for his more than four decades of dedicated service to the Native Sons of the Golden West Parlor 53 and to our St. Helena community.

Mr. Murphy was born in San Francisco and graduated from San Mateo Junior College and San Francisco State University. After moving to our St. Helena community, Mr. Murphy joined the Native Sons of the Golden West Parlor 53 in 1983. The Native Sons of the Golden West, founded in 1875, is one of California's oldest fraternal organizations and was established as a tribute to the men and women of the Gold Rush era. Today, the organization serves as a charitable organization supporting local communities throughout California. Mr. Murphy's commitment to this organization spans more than 40 years. In 1986, he assumed the role of Hall Manager for the Native Sons Hall on Spring Street, a position he has held for nearly four decades.

As Hall Manager, Mr. Murphy has been the steadfast caretaker of the 110-year-old historic landmark. Under his leadership, the Hall remained open, maintained, and accessible to the public. Thanks to his vigilance and hands-on stewardship, the Hall has continued to serve as one of St. Helena's most important gathering places, hosting weddings, funerals, community fundraisers, holiday celebrations, civic meetings, dances, and countless local events. Buildings of this age do not remain standing, let alone thrive, without the type of constant care Mr. Murphy has provided for decades.

As President of Native Sons of the Golden West Parlor 53 and its long-serving Hall Manager, Mr. Murphy has been essential not only to the Hall's physical preservation but to the vitality of the organization itself. He has worked to keep membership strong through generational change, ensuring that new members feel welcomed, valued, and connected. His efforts have strengthened the organization's future while honoring its history.

Mr. Murphy's leadership extends beyond the Hall. He has consistently authorized donations and offered support for local educational programs, civic projects, and fire department initiatives, reflecting his dedication to improving and supporting our St. Helena community. Mr. Murphy and his wife, Andy, have raised three children: Molly, Amy, and Darren.

Mr. Speaker, for nearly 40 years, Phil Murphy has cared for this important community landmark. His stewardship has preserved local history, strengthened community ties, and served generations of St. Helena residents. It is fitting and proper that we honor him here today for his extraordinary leadership, service, and devotion to the Native Sons of the Golden West Parlor 53 and to the people of St. Helena.

HONORING SAVILLS NORTH  
AMERICA

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 19, 2025*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th district of the great state of Florida, I rise today to recognize Savills North America. I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation:

Whereas, Savills is one of the world's leading real estate service providers. For over 160 years, the company has offered outstanding property, specialist services and expert advice to clients, helping them with their property decisions and ambitions; and

Whereas, for over 160 years, Savills has been on the front-line helping people thrive through places and spaces. With more than 40,000 professionals dedicated to commercial and prime residential real estate across 70 countries with the expertise to bring their client's vision to life; and

Whereas, making a positive impact is at the heart of their partnerships. From the way they advise clients to the work that they perform in stellar quality and time; and

Whereas, Savills is committed to adding value while always honoring their responsibility to protect the environment, support local communities and foster an inclusive culture; and

Whereas, Savills, one of the largest commercial real estate brokerage firms in the world, has been operating in North America since 1954. Under the leadership of Wayne Lamb, Savills is leveraging its 160 years of excellence to build substantive communities and relationships that make our world and environment safer for generations to come. Savills has also pledged its dedication to the Jessica June Children's Cancer Foundation, providing security, love, and financial assistance to vulnerable families impacted by pediatric and terminal cancer. In 2025, Savills will make a sizeable financial contribution to support the foundation; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, FREDERICA S. WILSON, a member of the United States House of Representatives, representing the 24th Congressional District of Florida, do hereby recognize and celebrate Savills North America for their hard work and dedication to the community.

RECOGNIZING CHI OMEGA CHAPTER  
OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA

**HON. DONALD G. DAVIS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 19, 2025*

Mr. DAVIS of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a century of excellence by the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated Chi Omega Chapter located in Rocky Mount, North Carolina.

The Chi Omega Chapter was chartered under the leadership of Anna Easter Brown, one of the original 16 founders of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated.

The chapter is home of Ruth Anderson Smith, who has served as a member over 75 years and is 103 years old. She is a Chi Omega diamond. Three Chi Omega pearls, who have served over 65 years of membership. With 12 over 50 years, who are Chi Omega Golden members.

Hundred years of mentorship, educational support, health advocacy, and a steadfast commitment to our HBCUs, and transforming lives and strengthening eastern North Carolina.

I congratulate everyone who came to celebrate this amazing celebration of 100 years, including the guest speaker, 30th International President, Dr. Glenda Baskin Glover, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Director Nadine Vargas Stewart, Charter President Davida Jones, and all the members of the Chi Omega Chapter.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND  
CAREER OF DENTON CARLSON

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 19, 2025*

Mr. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service and career of San Ramon Police Chief Denton Carlson.

Chief Carlson is retiring from the San Ramon Police Department after more than 27 years of service. Throughout his career, Chief Carlson has demonstrated his professionalism and his steadfast commitment to public service and community engagement. Chief Carlson began his law enforcement career in 1998 as a Deputy Sheriff, working in the City of San Ramon since 2002. He then joined the San Ramon Police Department at its inception in 2007. In the San Ramon Police Department, he has served as a Patrol Officer, Detective, Tactical Team Leader, SWAT Team Commander, and Public Information Officer. His leadership was instrumental in launching the Police Department's Community Resource and Crime Prevention Division and its social media and emergency communications systems.

He was promoted to Captain in 2017 and has also served as Director of the City's Office of Emergency Management from 2015 to 2022. In this role, he was instrumental in keeping residents safe and informed, and was recognized in 2016 as Employee of the Year by the San Ramon Chamber of Commerce for his work to promote public safety. In 2022, he became the 5th Police Chief of San Ramon. Chief Carlson has consistently shown his dedication to fostering a safe and secure community for San Ramon residents.

I thank Chief Denton Carlson for many years of service to our community and congratulate him on his well-deserved retirement.

● 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 PAUL V. WILSON, JR.

**HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 19, 2025*

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, from the 24th district of the great state of Florida, I rise today to honor Paul V. Wilson, Jr. for his philanthropic efforts on behalf of at-risk youth. I am proud to present him with a Congressional Award from the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project in acknowledgment of his exceptional contributions to our community.

Each year, a distinguished opportunity arises to be recognized as a Role Model Mentor. I extend my sincere congratulations to Mr. Wilson on his selection to join our esteemed mentors. The success of this program, which has thrived for over 32 years, relies heavily on contributions like his. His unwavering support has inspired me and highlights the profound impact of the 5000 Role Models of Excellence Project.

As the son of a Congresswoman, Mr. Wilson has embraced leadership and service, demonstrating a strong commitment to uplifting others. His involvement in various community initiatives and passion for mentorship exemplify the values of the 5000 Role Models Project, which empowers young men of color.

Mr. Wilson's engagement with youth and dedication to their growth are commendable. He illustrates the importance of perseverance and community service, serving as a true role model. I recognize his achievements with pride and express my gratitude for his commitment to our community.

I congratulate him on this well-deserved recognition, and I look forward to witnessing his future accomplishments.

HONORING RHONDA SEWARD

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 19, 2025*

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Rhonda Seward—a distinguished recipient of the Hoosier Women Hero Award and an extraordinary U.S. Army veteran, leader, and mentor who embodies the highest ideals of service to our Nation and our communities.

Rhonda enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1996 and served more than 20 years with distinction including deployment during Operation Iraqi Freedom. She is recognized for her leadership, integrity, and mentorship having excelled in the areas of logistics, public affairs, and soldier support. Following her retirement, she continued her mission as a Peer Support Specialist, Veterans Court Mentor, and advocate for homeless, disabled, and justice-involved veterans.

Rhonda has shaped veteran support networks statewide as Public Affairs Officer for AMVETS Post-99 and Commander of NABVETS Chapter 0133, all while advocating for veterans before the Indiana General Assembly. Her dedication also extends to civic engagement including participation in the FBI Citizens Academy, suicide prevention efforts, Wreaths Across America, and Special Olympics Indiana. In her role as Junior ROTC in-

structor, Rhonda is also a powerful role model for the next generation.

Recently, Rhonda earned gold medal at the 2025 National Veterans Creative Artists Festival for her poetry, exemplifying both the impact of military service and the healing power of creative expression. Her life reflects the highest ideals of service, courage, and empathy. Rhonda openly shares her challenges to inspire and support others, offering hope and healing to veterans and the broader community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Rhonda Seward for her outstanding service to our country and her unwavering dedication to her fellow veterans. I thank Ms. Seward, for making Indianapolis a stronger and more compassionate community through her diligent service.

HONORING NHAN LE

**HON. JUAN VARGAS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 19, 2025*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nhan Le as our Constituent of the Month for his work at Outdoor Outreach.

Outdoor Outreach is a local nonprofit that connects young people to the transformative power of the outdoors. The organization provides opportunities for students to access parks and beaches, teaches them to bike, surf, rock climb, kayak, hike and more, and connects them with peers and mentors who believe in their potential.

Nhan first encountered Outdoor Outreach as a student at Hoover High. As an Outdoor Outreach participant, he learned how to mountain bike, completed a five-day backpacking trip in the Eastern Sierras, and gained valuable life skills.

Nhan was inspired by his experience with Outdoor Outreach and decided to apply for their Leadership Program. He completed 300 hours of instruction and is now a Youth Programs Assistant. In this role, Nhan has the opportunity to show students the power of the outdoors and provide the same outstanding mentorship he once received.

Nhan works hard every day to give back. As an immigrant from Vietnam who overcame hardship, he is now a role model for so many students and a strong advocate for improved access to outdoor spaces.

Nhan's efforts have made our communities a better place, increasing chances for people to explore, grow, and find themselves, and I am honored to recognize him.

HONORING ROBERT "BOBBY" P. KOCH

**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 19, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Congressman DAN NEWHOUSE, to honor Mr. Robert "Bobby" P. Koch, as he retires after 33 years of dedicated service and commitment to Wine Institute and our American wine commu-

nity. As Co-Chairs of the Congressional Wine Caucus, we have seen firsthand his many contributions to the long-term success and growth of American grown and produced wine.

Bobby graduated from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor of Arts in Government and Politics. Before joining Wine Institute, Bobby held senior positions in Congress with former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and former House Majority Whip Tony Coelho, bringing valuable legislative experience to his work in the wine community. He is married to Doro Bush Koch, and they have four children and two grandchildren.

Bobby's service on behalf of wineries throughout California, Washington, and wine regions all over the country spans more than three decades during which the wine sector experienced significant growth while facing numerous challenges. He joined Wine Institute, the only organization advocating for American wine at the state, federal, and international levels, in 1992 as Vice President of Federal Government Relations. Bobby later became Senior Vice President in 1996 and was appointed President and CEO in 2003, a position he has held for 22 years. Under his leadership, Wine Institute has grown to represent more than 1,000 California wineries and businesses responsible for over 80 percent of U.S. wine production and more than 95 percent of American wine exports. Wine Institute also doubled its membership, and the organization built a best-in-class staff dedicated to protecting and promoting the wine community.

Throughout his tenure, Bobby's leadership has been guided by his unwavering belief in the positive impact of wine as one of America's most highly value-added agricultural products. He has rightfully been recognized for his ability to bridge the interests of small and large wineries in policy debates, leading Wine Institute and the broader wine community with a unified voice. Major achievements during his tenure include expanding direct-to-consumer wine shipping to 48 states and the District of Columbia, defeating wholesaler monopoly protection legislation in numerous states, and securing passage of the Craft Beverage Modernization Act, which has enabled American wineries to reinvest over \$600 million to grow their businesses since 2018. Bobby also secured Congressional affirmation in the 21st Amendment Enforcement Act and preserved the balance of federal and state authority in alcohol regulation.

Bobby's leadership extended to sustainability and international market development. Under his direction, Wine Institute positioned America as a global leader in wine quality, innovation, and sustainability. Today, 90 percent of California wine is produced in certified sustainable wineries, and 65 percent of the state's vineyard acreage is certified sustainable, demonstrating the community's commitment under Bobby to environmental stewardship, economic vitality, and community engagement. He increased American wine exports with dedicated marketing programs in more than 40 countries and serves as a member of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Policy Advisory Committee for Trade, as well as on the board of directors of the California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance.

Mr. Speaker, we thank Mr. Robert "Bobby" P. Koch for his more than three decades of dedication, service and leadership on behalf of our American wine community. Therefore, it is