

RECOGNIZING KATHY QUIGLEY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2025

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Kathy Quigley as she retires from the South Shore YMCA. Kathy is a true community leader, who has tirelessly advocated for disadvantaged communities in Quincy and the South Shore throughout her remarkable 30-year career. Whether during her time with the South Shore YMCA, Quincy Community Action, or DOVE, she has dedicated her career to working for the betterment of her community.

In 2007, Kathy oversaw the old St. Boniface Church's transition into the new Germantown Neighborhood Center in Quincy. Kathy then went on to lead the center, which serves over 2,000 people annually, including hundreds of young people.

Under Kathy's leadership, the Neighborhood Center became a beacon of hope for the Germantown community. Today, the center is home to a food pantry, music studio, countless youth activities, and women's empowerment programs.

Throughout her career, Kathy relentlessly pursued funding to support her community, including working with private industry to secure college scholarships for Germantown High School seniors.

Kathy's list of accomplishments range from grand gestures—like in 2011, when she raised the necessary funds to allow the annual Quincy MLK breakfast to continue—to what may be seen as more minor acts of kindness—such as helping an elderly neighbor keep their lights on or a family receive groceries for the week. Kathy has always made sure that no one goes without during the holidays, ensuring that thousands of families in Quincy and the South Shore receive gifts and food during the season.

On March 30, 2025, Kathy will retire from the YMCA. Over the last 30 years, Kathy has dedicated her life to the betterment of others. We are deeply grateful for her service. The world could use a few more Kathy Quigleys.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Kathy Quigley, and I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing her extraordinary career and thanking her for her years of service to the Quincy and South Shore community.

HONORING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEADERSHIP METRO RICHMOND

HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2025

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 45th anniversary of Leadership Metro Richmond (LMR), an organization that has been a cornerstone of leadership development and community engagement in the Richmond region since its founding in 1980.

For 45 years, LMR has worked to cultivate diverse, collaborative, and effective leaders who are committed to strengthening the Great-

er Richmond community. Through its signature Leadership Quest program, LMR has empowered thousands of individuals from various backgrounds, industries, and sectors to build meaningful relationships, engage in critical dialogue, and drive positive change.

LMR's alumni include public servants, business leaders, nonprofit executives, and community advocates who have contributed to the progress of Central Virginia. By fostering civic engagement and cross-sector collaboration, LMR continues to shape the future of the region, ensuring that leaders are equipped with the knowledge, networks, and skills necessary to address pressing challenges and seize opportunities for growth.

As we celebrate this milestone, we recognize LMR's commitment to inclusivity and the power of collective leadership. The organization's dedication to uniting diverse perspectives and fostering a spirit of service has had a profound impact on Richmond and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Leadership Metro Richmond for 45 years of service, inspiration, and transformative leadership. May LMR continue to thrive and empower generations of leaders for years to come.

HONORING DELTA FOUNDATION, INC.

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the remarkable contributions and enduring legacy of the Delta Foundation, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3) community development corporation dedicated to transforming the Mississippi Delta region.

The genesis and vision for the Delta Foundation began in the late 1960's, during a time when many towns in the Delta, with memorable names such as Sledge, Alligator, Beulah, Nitta Yuma, Darling, Bobo, and Midnight, remained trapped in economic hardship. In these communities, the Great Depression's effects seemed never to have fully lifted. Tarpaper shanties and stick houses marked rural Hoovervilles, lacking indoor plumbing or paved roads. Open sewers, disease, and overcrowding were harsh realities faced daily.

In 1969, a coalition of local community organizations resolved to transform this persistent despair into hope. Their vision took shape through the creation of the Delta Foundation—a development vehicle dedicated to building real assets, generating income, and cultivating human capacity within minority and economically underprivileged communities. The Foundation was designed to establish a solid foundation for long-term economic growth in the region.

Through the representation of 14 civil rights and community organizations working in Mississippi, the Delta Foundation was formally chartered. Its core purpose was, and remains, the creation of businesses and jobs for its primary constituents: minority and economically disadvantaged residents of its target areas. Central to the Foundation's mission is the creation of for-profit enterprises aimed at increasing control and ownership of resources by the poor.

For over forty years, the Delta Foundation has faithfully honored the vision of its founders. It has persistently supported economic growth and development across the Mississippi Delta and extended its reach to incorporate community development directly or through strategic partnerships. By challenging the enduring poverty of the region, the Delta Foundation has replaced hopelessness with hope, idleness with productive jobs, and reliance on welfare with financial independence.

The impact of the Delta Foundation has been profound. Entire communities have been transformed, and the lives of thousands of individuals have been permanently changed. The Foundation has created ladders of opportunity where only poverty and dependency once existed.

Today, the mission of the Delta Foundation is to provide community, social, human, and economic development activities to underserved, predominantly minority families, businesses, and communities. This mission is pursued tirelessly to eliminate poverty and build a future of opportunity and prosperity for the people of the Delta region.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary accomplishments of the Delta Foundation, Inc. and its unwavering dedication to uplifting the Mississippi Delta and its residents.

SALUTING THE SERVICE OF DR. GARY L. GOSNEY

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2025

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great appreciation that I present Dr. Gary L. Gosney, U.S. Army Veterinary Corps with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. Dr. Gosney embodies service and compassion through his commitment to the people and cherished animals of his community.

Dr. Gosney began his military career as a Captain in the U.S. Army Veterinary Corps in August 1968. While stationed in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970, he cared for animals and injured soldiers until they could be medically evacuated. During his deployment, he served selflessly as a Zoonosis Control Officer, cared for the animals of the 4th Infantry Division, became the veterinarian for the 25th Infantry Division, and volunteered at a Catholic leper colony outside of Saigon. His bravery and patriotism in Vietnam earned him numerous commendations, including the Bronze Star Medal with a "V" for Valor.

Upon returning to Texas, Dr. Gosney continued his dedication to service. He opened his own veterinary practice in Temple, Texas in 1970 and was voted the top veterinarian in Central Texas for 17 years in a row. Beyond his veterinary work, Dr. Gosney has made significant contributions to his community. A past president and longtime member of the Temple Founder Lions Club, he has raised thousands of dollars to support local charities. Additionally, as an avid supporter of the arts, he has contributed to over 100 Temple Civic Theater productions and served as its president for seven terms.

Dr. Gosney is a shining example of service and a valued member of the community. I

proudly join Dr. Gosney's friends, family, and colleagues in saluting his contributions to the Army and to the Central Texas community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF TIMOTHY BOWEN

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2025

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the extraordinary career of Timothy Bowen as he prepares for his retirement from E.O. Smith High School at the end of the 2024–2025 school year.

Tim's remarkable 26-year career as a social studies teacher and student mentor at E.O. Smith will be long remembered by his unwavering diligence, inspiring pedagogy, and the profound impact he had on the lives of countless students. Throughout his distinguished tenure Tim did so much more than teach social studies; he embodied the very essence of the subject—he fostered critical thinking, civic engagement, and a deep understanding of the human experience within his students.

Tim's dedication extended far beyond the traditional classroom setting. The innovative and engaging activities he meticulously planned for his students epitomize what it truly means to be an educator in the 21st century. He cultivated a dynamic learning environment where history comes alive, government becomes relevant, and the complexities of society are explored with curiosity and intellectual rigor.

In 2007, Tim initiated the cherished annual tradition of a farewell celebration for students on the last day of school, a heartwarming display of faculty and staff unity that sets a positive tone for the summer ahead. Similarly, his establishment of a welcoming event for students on the first day of classes in 2015 demonstrates his proactive approach to fostering a supportive and inclusive school climate. His thoughtful recognition of the school cafeteria workers underscores his appreciation for the contributions of all members of the E.O. Smith family. Furthermore, his regular participation as a faculty player in the annual Unified Staff vs Student Basketball Game highlights his commitment to student engagement and inclusive activities. Tim's consistent presence as a chaperone for extracurricular events and his enthusiastic attendance at student performances further illustrate his deep investment in the holistic development of E.O. Smith students.

A cornerstone of Tim's impact lies in his tireless efforts to promote civic education. He established an annual Voter Registration Drive in 2010, and coordinated visits from locally elected officials, providing students with invaluable opportunities to engage directly with their government. Tim initiated another annual tradition in 2007 when he invited me as the Congressman for eastern Connecticut for a "Student Town Hall" to engage in a question and answer dialogue on a wide range of issues. Over the many years I participated in their visits, I am still deeply impressed by the thoughtful, well informed comments and questions students posed to me. It was obvious to me, that Tim's teaching plans and skills were instrumental in shaping and forming future citi-

zens, voters and activists in our region. Tim also has been a regular chaperone on field trips to Washington, D.C., where he organized meaningful itineraries in our Nation's capitol for students that brought the principles of American democracy to life. Locally, his coordination of field trips to the Connecticut State Capitol and Rockville Superior Court ensured that all levels and branches of our republic were included in his curriculum, which is essential to a lifetime of healthy citizenship.

Tim's passion for storytelling is evident in the way he empowered students to explore civic issues in-depth in a Civic Documentaries independent study, culminating in notable achievements such as the Quiet Corner Film Festival Award in 2017 and multiple accolades at the same festival since.

Tim's dedication to service extends to the veteran's community. His deep care for those who have served our Nation is evident in the holiday card drives he and his students coordinate at veteran's hospitals and coffeehouses throughout eastern Connecticut. He understands the importance of honoring our troops and made a point to let his students witness the Veteran Stand Down Day at the Rocky Hill Veterans Home and Hospital each year, fostering empathy and a sense of responsibility in them. His impactful work with and for veterans earned him a commendation and thank you from the commissioner of the Connecticut Veterans Affairs in 2024. His coordination of grave cleaning and flag placement on local veterans' graves for Memorial Day further underscores his dedication to connecting students with the veteran community.

Finally, Tim's commitment to student wellbeing is demonstrated in his coordination of student presentations of weekly Star Card drawings—an initiative to promote positive student behavior. As a member of the faculty Wellness Committee he helped to establish a "Wellness Corner" in classrooms—complete with reminders to help students know they are not alone in their daily struggles.

For his unwavering dedication, innovative spirit, profound impact on students, and exceptional contributions to E.O. Smith High School and the wider community, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the inspirational career of Timothy Bowen.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PRAMILA JAYAPAL

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2025

Ms. JAYAPAL. Mr. Speaker, I missed Roll Call Vote No. 77 on March 27, 2025. Had I been present, my vote would have been: Nay on Roll Call Vote No, 77.

INTRODUCTION OF THE
SUSTAINABLE BUDGET ACT

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2025

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to focus attention on one of our most pressing crises: our rapidly deteriorating federal budget, crippled

by unsustainable annual deficits and accelerating overall debt. While most prefer to deny or explain it away, we all recognize it, and we all must address it.

Our federal budget operates on principles no different from those of a business or family budget. Revenues come from taxes and fees, and expenses from government operations. When revenues exceed expenses, the government runs a surplus. When expenses exceed revenues, the government runs a deficit.

The federal budget operates on a fiscal year, meaning surpluses and deficits are calculated annually. When the government runs a deficit in any given year, it must borrow money to cover the shortfall. This is done primarily through issuing government bonds. Additionally, we borrow from intragovernmental sources such as the Social Security Trust Fund, which must eventually be repaid in order to fund Social Security benefits.

We also pay interest on the money we borrow. The total amount borrowed, largely to cover accumulated net deficits over time, constitutes our national debt.

Much like a family or business, it is ideal to avoid deficits and debt. However, some level of debt can be acceptable so long as it is not chronic, not an excuse for irresponsible spending, and remains proportionate to our overall budget and our gross domestic product (GDP).

Sadly, none of these sound budgetary principles has been followed for a full generation now. The last time the United States had a balanced budget was in 2001. Since then, we have run deficits every year, and our total debt and annual interest on that debt have ballooned.

The highest recorded annual deficit was in 2020 during the COVID–19 pandemic, reaching \$3.1 trillion. Since then, the deficit has remained high, with the current year's deficit at approximately \$1.9 trillion. If we continue on this path, the annual deficit is projected to reach \$2.9 trillion by 2034.

Our national debt has reached unprecedented levels as well. In 2004, the total debt was \$7 trillion. By 2014, it had increased to \$18 trillion. In 2019, it stood at \$23 trillion. Today, our total debt has surpassed \$36 trillion.

Our gross debt-to-GDP ratio is now 124 percent, the highest it has been since the final years of World War II, when it peaked at 126 percent. If left unaddressed, this ratio is projected to reach 134 percent of GDP by 2034, with total debt climbing to \$57 trillion.

Additionally, we are now spending more on interest payments on our national debt than any other federal program except for Social Security, so including even defense or Medicare. Interest will rise from \$881 billion in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 to \$1 trillion by FY 2026.

Failing to address our mounting debt and deficits has severe implications. It crowds out other critical spending in both defense and non-defense areas; reduces fiscal flexibility especially in times of crisis; contributes to inflationary pressures; slows economic growth; increases pressure to raise interest rates; creates national security risks, particularly as adversaries hold significant portions of our debt; discourages responsible budgeting practices on an international scale; and fuels arguments made by our adversaries in particular the People's Republic of China for replacing the U.S. dollar as the world's reserve currency.