

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF REPRESENTATIVE RAÚL GRIJALVA

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2025

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, Raúl Grijalva.

We served together in this body for over 20 years. And we sat next to each other for many years on the Committee on Education and Workforce. I could always rely on him for a sense of optimism and humor while in the midst of some of the toughest legislative fights.

In addition to being a proficient and talented doodler, he was a champion for his constituents. And as the former Chairman on the House Natural Resources Committee, he fought for environmental justice for all. He was a fierce defender of unions and civil rights in the workplace. He was powerful advocate for universal education and child nutrition, and he also pushed to expand funding to support English as a Second Language (ESL) programs and students with disabilities.

I know I speak for many when I say he will be sorely missed in this chamber. I send my deepest condolences to his family, staff and everyone impacted by his loss.

HONORING DESARAE NICKELL

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Desarae Nickell of Morehead, Kentucky who is two-time medalist in the Special Olympics after her champion-level performance in the winter games in Italy.

Desarae recently won the prestigious gold medal in the Super G snow skiing event and a bronze medal in the Giant Slalom.

It is nearly every competitive athlete's dream to stand at the top of an Olympic awards podium, as a champion representing the United States of America. I am incredibly proud that Desarae Nickell is not only from Kentucky, but a mountain athlete from Kentucky's Appalachian region, who has overcome a rare genetic disorder to achieve greatness. Rather than allowing her disorder to obstruct her dreams, she has used it to empower her determination to learn new skills and to advocate for those with special needs to follow her lead. In fact, she helped initiate a proclamation designating March 29 as "3q29 Deletion and Duplication Awareness Day" Her courage of conviction to uplift and support others with special needs, is the mark of a true champion.

In 2023, Desarae also earned a gold medal in the NASTAR National Champion Alpine Ski

Competition, but her achievements are not limited to the ski slopes. She also previously earned a black belt in karate and was crowned the Kentucky Miss Amazing and Senior Miss Queen at a regional pageant in Indianapolis. The resiliency and fortitude that Desarae Nickell continues to display throughout her life, should serve as an inspiration to us all.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TRAIN NOISE AND VIBRATIONS REDUCTION ACT OF 2025

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Train Noise and Vibrations Reduction Act of 2025, which would direct the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to submit a report to Congress containing recommendations on how to reduce train noise and vibrations near homes, as well as estimates of the costs and benefits of each such recommendation. The report would include recommendations regarding modifications to trains, tracks and maintenance procedures, speed limits, mitigation measures between tracks and homes, the distance between tracks and homes, limits on the number of trains and the number of cars on trains, limits on hours of operations, building noise insulation and modifications to soil conditions. The report would be due to Congress no later than one year after the enactment of this bill.

I hear from District of Columbia residents frequently about the negative impact of train noise and vibrations on their lives. The noise and vibrations can harm health and quality of life and can even damage the structural integrity of homes. As a senior member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure and as the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, I have been committed to reducing transportation noise pollution. I have convened community meetings with the Federal Railroad Administration, the D.C. Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration to examine how to reduce train noise and vibrations. A GAO report on reducing train noise and vibrations can help us identify viable, long-term solutions for communities.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING LISA G. CARREÑO

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Representative MIKE THOMPSON, to recognize the enduring work of

long-time community leader, Lisa G. Carreño, as she concludes her tenure as Chair of the Board of Los Cien.

Lisa is a founding member of Los Cien and has been a guiding force since its inception in 2009. She served three terms on the board of directors, making her its longest-serving member. Throughout her tenure, she has been instrumental to serving the organization's mission of amplifying Latino voices.

Born and raised in Tampa, Florida, Lisa is the descendant of Cuban and Sicilian immigrants. From a young age, Lisa was inspired by the stories of her grandmother and grandfather, helping lay the foundation for her distinguished career in community advocacy. After graduating cum laude with a degree in Latin American history from the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C., Lisa earned her JD from the Columbus School of Law. As a member of both the Maryland and California bar, Lisa has built her career around leading non-profit organizations and championing social justice.

In addition to her work with Los Cien, Lisa has served the extended region through professional contributions to YWCA Sonoma County, 10,000 Degrees, and United Way of the Wine Country. An authentic trailblazer, Lisa has frequently been the first Latina and/or woman in many leadership positions, both in her professional and volunteer service. She was the first woman and Latina to serve as CEO and President of United Way of the Wine Country, the first Latina to chair the Sonoma County Fair Board, and the first community member appointed to the Press Democrat Editorial Board.

As a volunteer, she has also served on numerous boards, including Forget Me Not Farm Children's Services, LGBTQI Giving Circle Steering Committee, Sonoma County Secure Families Steering Committee, Rebuild North Bay Foundation, St. Joseph Health Sonoma Community Benefit Committee, Sonoma County Health Action Partnership Council, Cradle to Career Operations Team, and Congressman MIKE THOMPSON'S Immigration Advisory Group. Mr. Speaker, it's clear that Lisa G. Carreño is an extraordinary leader, making meaningful contributions to the community through both her professional and volunteer work. Therefore, it is fitting that we honor her legacy of accomplishments for Los Cien and the community and extend to her our best wishes on her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to airline schedules, my flight was initially cancelled and a second flight was delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 84, and YEA on Roll Call No. 85.

• 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.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF RIDE ON CENTER FOR KIDS (ROCK)

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the 20th anniversary of the ROCK On Veterans program, a pioneering initiative of the Ride On Center for Kids (ROCK) in Georgetown, Texas. Since its founding in 2005, this program has provided equine-assisted services to more than one thousand veterans, offering healing and support to those who have served our Nation.

The program began as a collaboration between Lt. Colonel Scott Schule of the 1st Cavalry Division Horse Detachment at Fort Cavazos (formerly Fort Hood) and ROCK, with the goal of supporting wounded veterans recovering at Brooke Army Medical Center Under ROCK's leadership and with the expertise of team members such as Dr. Priscilla Lightsey, Joan Cutler, Heidi Darning, and Dr. Nancy Krennek, the program has grown significantly over the past two decades.

Today, ROCK On Veterans offers a no-cost, 24-week curriculum proven to reduce PTSD and anxiety while enhancing overall quality of life. In addition to its equine services, the program now includes the Sport Clips Heroes Arena, the H-E-B Serving Kitchen, and the expanded Patti Colbert Learning Center. It also benefits from valuable partnerships with Texas A&M University and Parsons Mounted Cavalry.

This milestone reflects ROCK's unwavering commitment to those who have worn the uniform. The organization's work is a powerful testament to the impact of community, innovation, and compassion in the lives of our veterans.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I commend the Ride On Center for Kids for 20 years of exceptional service to our veteran community and thank them for their continued dedication to healing through horsemanship.

HONORING MR. NEVILLE SMITH

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Neville Smith of Manchester, Kentucky, who is retiring just before his 94th birthday from his stalwart law practice, where he has dedicated approximately 47 years of service in Eastern Kentucky.

Neville was born to Charles and Sallie Smith on May 1, 1931. By the time he was 24 years old, he had graduated from Law School, married his lovely bride Betty Sue Cornett, and enlisted in the U.S. Army. Shortly after completing basic training, he was recruited to the prestigious Army Intelligence Service, where he valiantly served this great Nation in the midst of the Cold War era.

In 1957, he proudly returned to his hometown of Manchester, Kentucky to raise a family and build a highly respected law practice.

Over the years, he served as general counsel to some of Eastern Kentucky's largest employers, providing wise counsel to the local school board, highly productive coal companies, non-profit organizations, insurance companies, and other businesses across the Commonwealth. His expertise and advice have been highly coveted by leaders across Kentucky, including Kentucky Senate President Robert Stivers, a fellow Clay County native who considers Neville to be among his most admired mentors.

Outside of his legal practice, Neville has been a long-time champion of the conservative principles of the Republican Party, serving as chairman of his county party for more than 20 years and encouraging others to stand firm on their values. I personally appreciate Neville for being one of my earliest supporters and shaming his savvy political acumen about Kentucky's Appalachian region. Neville has also been a faithful member of the First Baptist Church of Manchester, where he and his late wife Betty raised their family.

Although Neville was born as part of the "Silent Generation," defined by their focus on securing stability and immense hard work, his lifetime of success has spoken volumes in southeastern Kentucky. Neville's incredible life of service to his beloved country, his family and his community serve as a true inspiration to us all.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK AND THE UT SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH SAN ANTONIO

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Public Health Week and the UT School of Public Health San Antonio. It is an honor to shed light onto a mission devoted to strengthening our communities, improving quality of life, and ensuring that everyone has equal access to quality health and wellness services.

Health extends beyond clinics and hospitals. It is the cornerstone of a strong nation. By engaging our communities, public health workers address health care disparities and implement competent wellness programs that provide essential services to diverse communities.

The opening of the UT School of Public Health San Antonio—the newest addition to the UT Health San Antonio system—underscores the dedication to implementing tools that lead to a healthier life. The institution is a step forward in addressing the challenges faced by communities in San Antonio and South Texas. Through cutting edge-research, the new generation of public health workers will drive our nation forward.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize and bring attention to this special celebration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK TAKANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to be

present for votes on Monday, March 31, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 84 and YEA on Roll Call No. 85.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REPRESENTATIVE RAÚL GRIJALVA

SPEECH OF

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 31, 2025

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Congressman Raúl Grijalva.

Raúl was one of was one of my dear friends in Congress and someone who I looked up to as a model for what real progressive leadership looked like.

He was a legend for the Chicano activism of his youth, and a trailblazer who started his career in public service as a community organizer and activist.

From his time on the school board to the County Board of Supervisors to the halls of Congress—Raúl was always a voice for the voiceless.

He left such a profound legacy on Tucson's school board that an elementary school was named after him years before he ever got elected to Congress.

He was a fighter for working families his entire life and used every ounce of grit to deliver for his beloved community every day he was in office.

He was a fighter for working families his entire life and used every ounce of grit to deliver for his beloved community every day he was in office.

He was an uncompromising champion of the environment, of bilingual education, of the rights of immigrants, and of the rights of Native Americans.

He was also a genuine human being to the very last, committed to what he believed in, who never let the petty politics of the day make him cynical, or hard, or mean.

I am grateful for his commitment and unwavering courage that he used to make our country better.

I will miss him greatly.

I am sending love and light to his family, Ramona, Adelita, Marisa, and Raquel, his staff, and all who loved him.

HONORING FALLEN U.S. DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION AGENT ENRIQUE "KIKI" CAMARENA

HON. TROY E. NEHLS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2025

Mr. NEHLS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the memory of Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, a true American hero who gave his life fighting the drug trafficking operations of Mexican cartels. As a former law enforcement officer and Army reserve officer, I am deeply moved by Kiki's bravery and sacrifice.

Kiki's remarkable career with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration took him from the