

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION ON THE BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 9, 2025*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, the Republican's Reckless Budget Scheme is back on the House floor today, proposing the same devastating cuts to our families and communities in exchange for massive tax breaks for Elon Musk, President Trump, and their billionaire buddies.

I am joining every Democrat in the House and Senate in opposing this resolution.

Apparently, Republicans weren't paying attention when Americans across the country took to the streets last weekend to tell them to keep their hands off our healthcare, our education, and food assistance for our children, our elders, and our neighbors in need. I was there speaking to my constituents, and I heard them loud and clear.

This is not the direction the American people want our country to go.

But despite that, House Republicans are using their majority to advance an agenda that serves the wealthiest Americans at the expense of our Nation's working families. The Republican budget is a framework that instructs the Energy and Commerce Committee to cut \$880 billion. That level of cut is impossible without decimating Medicaid. The Agriculture Committee will have to find at least \$230 billion in cuts, which threatens food assistance like SNAP even as food prices are rising.

Let's be clear: Republicans are using these cuts to our neighbors to offset their tax breaks for giant corporations and billionaires like Elon Musk. And even after all these cruel cuts, their budget will still burden Americans with trillions of dollars in new debt.

President Trump's 'Big Beautiful Bill' doesn't do anything to address the high cost of living or fix the economic mess created by the President's trade war. In fact, it adds more burden for Minnesota families who are looking for help with the rising cost of living.

Nearly 1.3 million Minnesotans—about one quarter of our state—are covered by Medicaid. A cut of this magnitude would have severe consequences for health care access for the families, seniors, people with disabilities, and especially children who rely on this coverage. That includes 172,000 of my constituents here in the Fourth District, 90,000 of whom are children on CHIP. In our district, 54,000 Minnesotans rely on SNAP to put food on the table. SNAP assistance is particularly important to children as well as many seniors on a fixed income. The health and well-being of our communities are under attack by this Republican majority.

Mr. Speaker, I am voting no on this betrayal of our values and our constituents, and I will

continue to oppose all Republican efforts to take away food, healthcare, and basic government services that Minnesotans rely on.

## HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF ROLLAND WADE "R.W." NELSON

**HON. ZACHARY NUNN**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 14, 2025*

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the incredible life and distinguished service of Rolland Wade "R.W." Nelson, who passed away at the age of 98 on April 8, 2025. Mr. Nelson is part of the Greatest co-founded Kemin Industries, a Des Moines-based human and animal health and nutrition company that employs more than 3,700 people worldwide. Mr. Johnson deserves recognition for his service to not only our district but also the billions of lives he has around the world his generosity touched.

Born in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1927, Nelson moved to Des Moines at the age of seven. He graduated from Dowling Catholic High School in 1944 and began studies at Drake University on a football scholarship, before being drafted into military service during World War II. Nelson served in the United States Army Air Corps from 1945 to 1947, attaining the rank of Corporal. He was deployed to the Philippines as a crew chief for B-29 bombers, earning several service ribbons.

After his honorable discharge, Nelson returned to Drake University, earning Bachelor of Arts degrees in biology and chemistry. In 1953, he married Mary Kelleher, and together they raised five children. In 1961, with \$10,000 in savings, they founded Kemin Industries, operating initially from their living room. Under Nelson's leadership, Kemin expanded into a global company offering over 500 specialty ingredients across various industries, with a presence in more than 120 countries.

Nelson held four patents and received numerous accolades, including the President's "E" Certificate for Exports from President Nixon in 1971 and the President's "E" Star Award for Excellence in Export from President Carter in 1978. He was inducted into the Iowa Business Hall of Fame in 2006.

Beyond his professional achievements Mr. Nelson leaves behind a beautiful family, his wife Mary; daughters Elizabeth "Libby," Janet and Molly and another son, David; 13 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in remembering Edward Johnson. His dedication to improving the lives of his fellow Iowans, particularly fellow veterans, will leave a legacy. May his memory inspire us all.

## RECOGNIZING BOBBY BRITE

**HON. TOM BARRETT**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 14, 2025*

Mr. BARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding American and true patriot, Mr. Bobby Brite, who was named Veteran of the Year for 2024 by the American Legion.

Bobby is a 26-year veteran of the United States Army who served our country with integrity, sacrifice, and quiet leadership. He served on active duty from 1990 to 1996 and again from 2003 to 2005, when his work as an infantry platoon leader during Operation Iraqi Freedom II earned him the Bronze Star Medal and the Combat Infantry Badge.

Following his retirement in 2023, Bobby rededicated his life to serving his brothers and sisters who also hung up the uniform. Today, he is Post Historian for American Legion Post 141 in Howell, Michigan, where he previously served as Post Commander, 1st Vice Commander, and Finance Officer.

He is also Secretary for the VFW Post 6464, President of the Howell Veterans Society, American Legion Department of Michigan Membership Committee Member, and a Post 141 Past Commanders Committee Member.

To put it simply, Bobby Brite is a pillar in the veteran community—offering support, building friendships, and fighting to ensure that no veteran is left behind. Whether it's helping a fellow veteran navigate the VA system, organizing community events, or just being someone to lean on, Bobby is always there. His efforts exemplify the very spirit of the American Legion—"For God and Country"—and I could think of no one more deserving of this tremendous honor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating my good friend, Bobby Brite, on this incredible achievement. Our community, the state of Michigan, and the United States of America are grateful for his continued service to our Nation and its heroes.

## CELEBRATING EDUCATION AND SHARING DAY IN HONOR OF THE REBBE, RABBI MENACHEM MENDEL SCHNEERSON

**HON. DUSTY JOHNSON**

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 14, 2025*

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Rabbi Menachem Mendel Schneerson, known as the Rebbe, a spiritual leader whose impact on faith, education, and morality continues to inspire millions.

Born in 1902, the Rebbe endured the horrors of Russian communism and evils of Nazi Germany before arriving in the United States

• 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.

in 1941. From here, he led efforts to rebuild Jewish life, promoting values of kindness, education, and service to others.

He sent rabbinical students across the country, including to South Dakota, to reach Jews in isolated communities. His vision led to the Chabad-Lubavitch movement becoming the world's largest Jewish educational organization, now active in all 50 states and 109 countries.

The Rebbe believed education must include ethics and character, not just academics. His message resonated far beyond his faith, earning him the Congressional Gold Medal and recognition through Education and Sharing Day, proclaimed annually by U.S. Presidents since 1978.

Education and Sharing Day represents an excellent opportunity for us to reflect on the Rebbe's vision and leadership. May we carry forward the Rebbe's legacy by choosing kindness, living with purpose, and working toward a more compassionate world.

**OPPOSING H.R. 1048 DETERRENT  
ACT AND AMENDMENTS 5 AND 6**

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 14, 2025*

Ms. McCOLLUM, Ms. Speaker, I voted in opposition to H.R. 1048 because, if enacted as written, it would place burdensome, duplicative, and potentially harmful requirements upon our Nation's institutions of higher education, without significantly improving our national security.

My colleague Congresswoman TLAIB offered two amendments to this legislation that raised her concerns with how we identify countries and investments of concern. We discussed these valid and serious issues, but I could not support the amendments as written because one failed to protect due process and the other omitted definitions.

I voted against amendment number 5 from Rep. TLAIB of Michigan because the identification of foreign countries of concern should not be based solely on alleged violations or war-rants. Due process is important, and the way

this amendment was drafted would impose restrictions on a nation based upon allegations, not convictions.

I voted present for amendment number 6 from Rep. TLAIB of Michigan because I share my colleague's serious concerns about entities who facilitate state violence and violations of international law and human rights. However, this amendment would authorize the Secretary of State to make those determinations without the definitions necessary to make Congressional intent clear. I worry that, absent those definitions, this authority could be used in a politically punitive manner by the administration. But I hope in the future we can revisit this effort to address the serious issue of international human rights violations.

My district has many institutions of higher education, and it is important to my constituents that I take seriously the impacts of legislation on college and university students in my district, and the institutions serving them. The DETERRENT Act does contain some proposals that have my support and the support of our higher education community, like making reporting requirements annual and better aligning definitions like "countries of concern" across federal agencies.

However, in the name of increasing oversight of foreign influence, this bill would actually make oversight less effective and create confusion and security vulnerabilities. It would require the Department of Education to vet contracts between institutions and foreign entities for security risks. With the Trump administration attempting to eliminate the Department of Education, it is unclear how the Department would take on these extra responsibilities.

I voted against this legislation because it creates more problems than solutions.

**RECOGNIZING THE HEROIC AC-  
TIONS OF MR. DANNY WELLS OF  
PECULIAR, MISSOURI**

**HON. MARK ALFORD**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, April 14, 2025*

Mr. ALFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a heroic resident of Missouri's

Fourth Congressional District, Mr. Danny Wells.

Mr. Wells is a team leader for the public works department in the city of Peculiar. Earlier this year, middle Missouri was in the grips of a historic cold front with temperatures well below freezing and wind chills regularly hovering in the single digits.

On January 24th, with temperatures in the twenties, Danny was driving down State Highway YY. Out of the corner of his eye, he spotted a young child in a ditch—barely clothed and shivering in the cold. Mr. Wells jumped into action. After searching for any adults nearby, he pulled over and literally gave the boy the coat off his back and that hat off his head. Danny then put the boy in the truck, cranked up the heat, and began rubbing his feet to warm them.

Danny immediately radioed the proper authorities to get this boy the medical care he desperately needed. With temperatures so low, the risk of catastrophe was imminent. Peculiar Police Chief Don Shepard, who was on the scene, said the boy "was near hypothermic and might well have died had Danny not found him."

Danny is an Army Veteran and having served in Iraq and Afghanistan, he is no stranger to perilous situations. And this specific situation was personal to him. "I've got grandkids about the same age, so it just hit pretty close to home. Serving the public is what we're here for; it is what we do. I hope anybody in that situation would have done the same thing," Mr. Wells said.

On behalf of the Fourth District, we thank Mr. Wells for his service to our Nation and the community of Peculiar. His actions makes clear, he has a servant's heart and takes his work seriously. We applaud his heroic actions to prevent disaster on that January afternoon.