

American and Hispanic communities—towards a life of public service. May this appointment deepen public trust and strengthen the Postal Service for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Maricela Luna, 42nd Postmaster of Los Angeles.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MASTER PATROL OFFICER DENNIS BEVENOUR

**HON. JOHN JOYCE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, May 1, 2025*

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Gettysburg Borough Master Patrol Officer Dennis P. Bevenour, who retired after serving the community with distinction for over 16 years.

Officer Bevenour joined the Gettysburg Police Department as a Patrolman in September 2008 and was promoted to Criminal Investigator, Intelligence Officer and Master Patrol Officer.

He entered law enforcement after a 27-year career in the United States Air Force. His impressive record of public service also includes roles as a volunteer firefighter and Probation and Parole Officer.

Officer Bevenour was widely respected by colleagues and supervisors for his expertise in criminal investigations. He was instrumental in securing grant funding to enhance the security of the borough building and to upgrade the police department's records management system.

Throughout the Borough of Gettysburg and beyond, Officer Bevenour's legacy of dedication, professionalism and community service will be forever respected and appreciated.

On behalf of everyone in Pennsylvania's 13th Congressional District, I express gratitude to Officer Bevenour for an extraordinary record of military and public service and offer fond wishes for joy and contentment in retirement.

RECOGNIZING CHRISTIAN SOLTIS ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, May 1, 2025*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Christian Soltis of North Ridgeville, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Christian's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Air Force Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

Christian brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending Elyria Catholic High School, he participated in National Honor Society, National Society of High School Scholars, Buckeye Boys State, and was on the honor roll. Throughout high school, Christian was involved in football, wrestling, and track and field, earning his varsity letter in all three. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Air Force Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Christian Soltis on his offer of appointment to the United States Air Force Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Christian will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins her service to our Nation.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF GADSDEN STATE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, May 1, 2025*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Gadsden State Community College. Gadsden State is currently under the leadership of President Dr. Kathy Murphy.

One of the initial founding institutions of Gadsden State is the Alabama School of Trades. It was established in 1925 as the first state-operated trade school in Alabama and the entire southern United States.

Classes began on September 16, 1925, with 42 students enrolled in the inaugural class. Four courses were available: printing, electricity, bricklaying and cabinetmaking. All students lived in the newly constructed dormitory equipped with modern conveniences such as steam heat and plumbing that featured hot and cold running water. Students helped government workmen lay bricks to build the school's first permanent two-story buildings.

The Alabama School of Trades continued to thrive as a training center for the area's technical industry with increasing student enrollment and course offerings. In 1942, courses were converted to War Training. At the close of World War II, new courses were added to help veterans re-enter the workforce such as: Radio, TV, Auto Mechanics, Machine Shop, Refrigeration, Drafting, Photography, Upholstery, Auto Body, Barbering, General Farm Dairy, Poultry and Heavy Equipment.

In 1973, the school's name was changed to the Alabama Technical College and began offering associate in applied technology degrees. In 1985, the Alabama Technical College merged with Gadsden State Community College and is now known as the East Broad Campus. It is home to many of Gadsden State's workforce development programs such as Precision Machining, Mechanical Design, Industrial Automation, Welding, Electrical, Electronic Technology, Salon/Spa, Court Reporting, Truck Driving, Skid Steer Training, Certified Nursing Assistant, Phlebotomy and Civil Engineering.

As a result of mergers and expansion of services, Gadsden State is now a sprawling Community College with five campuses including East Broad, Wallace Drive, Valley Street (HBCU), Ayers and Cherokee. Gadsden State serves Etowah, Calhoun, Cleburne, Cherokee and St. Clair counties in northeast Alabama. There are 70 programs of study offered to over 5,000 students.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing Gadsden State Community College a happy 100th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF BILL MATTHYS

**HON. MICHAEL CLOUD**

OF TEXAS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, May 1, 2025*

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Bill Matthys—a man whose life reflects a steadfast commitment to education, public service, and community.

Raised in rural Wharton County, Mr. Matthys graduated from El Campo High School in 1965, later earning degrees from Wharton County Junior College and the University of Houston, including a BA in English and Journalism and a master's in Curriculum and Instruction. In 1967, he married Pamela, his high school sweetheart, and together they built a loving family and a legacy of service.

Following college, Mr. Matthys served on active duty in the United States Army from 1970 to 1974, including time stationed in Germany, and later in the Army Reserve until his honorable discharge as a Captain in 1981. His service to our Nation was marked by integrity and continued through his 35 years dedicated to public education in Texas. He worked as both a teacher and administrator, with 16 of those years at Cuero ISD. After retiring from education, he continued serving the community through legal work as a certified paralegal at a local firm.

His civic involvement has been just as remarkable. He has served on the boards of the Cuero Chamber of Commerce, the Cuero Lions Club, the Cuero ISD Education Foundation, and the DeWitt County Habitat for Humanity. For 17 years, he represented the people of Cuero on the City Council, including 14 years as Mayor Pro-Temp.

Mr. Speaker, Bill Matthys represents the very best of servant leadership. His life is a testimony to the impact one person can make through quiet faithfulness, love for family, and a deep-rooted commitment to community.

May God continue to bless him, his family, and all those he serves.

RECOGNIZING JOHN PAUL GRAY ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

**HON. ROBERT E. LATTA**

OF OHIO  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
*Thursday, May 1, 2025*

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that

John Paul Gray of Findlay, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

John Paul's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2029. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of their lives.

John Paul brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2029. While attending Findlay High School, he participated in Gliding Stars Ice Skating, Buckeye Boys State, High School Business club, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, John Paul was involved in track and field and cross country, earning his varsity letter in both. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating John Paul Gray on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that John Paul will excel during his career at the Military Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2025*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I was quarantining after testing positive for COVID-19 and was unable to vote on April 28 through May 1, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted Nay on the following bills:

Providing for consideration of the joint resolutions H.J. Res. 60, H.J. Res. 78, H.J. Res. 87, H.J. Res. 88, and H.J. Res. 89—Roll Call No. 105;

Providing for consideration of the joint resolutions H.J. Res. 60, H.J. Res. 78, H.J. Res. 87, H.J. Res. 88, and H.J. Res. 89—Roll Call No. 106;

Providing for congressional disapproval under chapter 8 of title 5, United States Code, of the rule submitted by the National Park Service relating to "Glen Canyon National Recreation Area: Motor Vehicles"—Roll Call No. 110;

Congressional disapproval, of the rule submitted by the EPA relating to "CA Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Heavy-Duty Vehicle and Engine Em Warranty and Maintenance Provisions; Advanced Clean Trucks; Zero Em Airport Shuttle; Zero-Em Power Train Cert.; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision"—Roll Call No. 111;

Congressional disapproval, of the rule submitted by the EPA relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine and Nonroad Engine Pollution Control Standards; The 'Omni-bus' Low NOX Regulation; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision"—Roll Call No. 112;

Congressional disapproval, of the rule submitted by the United States Fish and Wildlife

Service relating to "Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Endangered Species Status for the San Francisco Bay-Delta Distinct Population Segment of the Longfin Smelt"—Roll Call No. 113; and

Congressional disapproval, of the rule submitted by the EPA relating to "California State Motor Vehicle and Engine Pollution Control Standards; Advanced Clean Cars II; Waiver of Preemption; Notice of Decision"—Roll Call No. 114.

I would have voted Yea on the following bills:

Setting Consumer Standards for Lithium-Ion Batteries Act—Roll Call No. 103;

TAKE IT DOWN Act—Roll Call No. 104;

TICKET Act—Roll Call No. 107;

Youth Poisoning Protection Act—Roll Call No. 108; and

Informing Consumers about Smart Devices Act—Roll Call No. 109.

#### SUPPORTING UKRAINE

### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2025*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, Democrats will always be a friend to those fighting for their freedom—and the American people will always stand with Ukraine.

While ceasefire negotiations may be underway, Ukraine is not giving up, nor should they. Russia's offensives have stalled. European partners and allies are still committed to the struggle against aggression from Putin. And the Ukrainian people are speaking clearly, through their elected President Zelensky, that they are a sovereign Nation, and they speak for themselves. Only Ukraine can decide when it is done fighting—no one else.

It is our job in America to continue to support our ally. History teaches that aggressors never stop of their own accord. And they are never satisfied with appeasement. If Vladimir Putin's war is rewarded with Ukrainian land, he will try again for more.

I will continue to advocate for our ally Ukraine—for their defense, for the civilian and military resources they need, and for allowing them to control their own destiny. That is our obligation as an ally and as the world's strongest democracy.

It is my promise to them. As the lead Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee, I promise that I will never give up that fight. I will continue to support resources and funding for the Ukrainian people, and I urge them not to give up. We must all continue speaking out, for as long as it takes, until Ukraine is safe and free once more.

#### HOUSE REPUBLICANS SENSELESS ATTACKS ON PUBLIC HEALTH AND OUR ENVIRONMENT

### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 1, 2025*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, House Republicans just wasted another week in Washington with no legislation to show for it that

would address our shrinking economy or rising cost of living.

Instead, they launched a series of attacks on a national park, an endangered species, and the ability of states to set strong standards to protect the air that we breathe.

H.J. Res. 60 would prevent the National Park Service from regulating motor vehicle use in the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, where just 6 percent of the roads had safeguards put in place to restrict the damage that off-road vehicles had caused. This was a narrowly focused rule to target protections in sensitive areas for the cultural sites, native wildlife, and other natural resources that the Park contains.

H.J. Res. 87, H.J. Res. 88, and H.J. Res. 89 all attempt to misuse the Congressional Review Act (CRA) process to overturn decisions at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to reduce air pollution. Under the Clean Air Act (CAA), California can apply for waivers to set its own vehicle emissions standards, and other states can adopt California's exact regulations under certain circumstances. The law explicitly grants these states the ability to protect their citizens from air pollution and address climate change with stronger standards, and in doing so they are saving Americans \$89 billion in fuel costs through 2040.

These Republican resolutions would make the air dirtier, raise costs for drivers, and also violate the law. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) and the Senate Parliamentarian have already made it clear that CAA waivers do not qualify as a target for a CRA. These decisions are not rules subject to review, but House Republicans are ignoring the law to try to set a precedent for drastically expanding what other protections for the American people they can undermine with a CRA.

As if all this wasn't enough, Republicans wrapped up the week with an attack on an endangered species of smelt in the San Francisco Bay-Delta. Delisting a fish won't solve the water shortage problems of the West; it is a distraction from the real issues of climate change, outdated infrastructure, and competing water allocations. Furthermore, this smelt is a critical part of the foodweb in an ecosystem on the verge of collapse. H.J. Res. 78 would not only overturn the current listing of the longfin smelt but prevent it from ever being listed in the future, no matter how much the threat to this species and its estuary increased.

I voted against all five of the Congressional Review Act resolutions that were brought to the floor this week, and I urge the Republican House Majority to stop bringing these harmful and nonsensical attacks on our public health and the environment to the House floor. Stripping away protections for our wildlife, for our national parks, and for the very air in our lungs doesn't improve Americans lives.