

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING U.S. BORDER PATROL
AGENT TRAVIS W. SALO

HON. MICHAEL BAUMGARTNER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2025

Mr. BAUMGARTNER. Mr. Speaker, behind every badge is a story, a family, and a heart committed to service. I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the life of Border Patrol Agent Travis W. Salo, who tragically passed on April 25th in an off-duty vehicle accident near Metaline, in Pend Oreille County. He was just 36 years old—a life full of promise, commitment, and courage, taken far too soon.

Agent Salo was more than just a dedicated public servant—he was a protector of our Nation’s borders, a proud member of the U.S. Border Patrol’s Spokane Sector, and a valued agent assigned to the Metaline Falls Station. He carried out his duties with integrity, honor, and quiet strength. Those who served alongside him remember him not only for his professionalism, but for the kindness, loyalty, and sense of duty he brought to every shift.

His sudden passing is a painful reminder of the risks and sacrifices that the men and women in law enforcement face—both on and off duty. Agent Salo’s story is one of dedication, bravery, and selflessness.

Today, we pause not only to mourn his loss, but to celebrate his life and express our gratitude. He leaves behind a legacy of service that will not be forgotten.

To his family, friends, and fellow agents, I extend my most heartfelt condolences. May they find comfort in knowing that his life made a difference, and that his memory will continue to inspire us all.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DIANE
RAULSTON

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2025

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and service of

Diane Raulston, a devoted public servant, community leader, and advocate for education in Prince William County, Virginia.

Diane Raulston served the residents of the Neabasco District with distinction on the Prince William County School Board from 2015 to 2023. Throughout her years of service, she was a passionate and determined advocate for public education, promoting efforts to raise teacher pay, close opportunity gaps, and create a more equitable, student-centered school system.

Under Diane Raulston’s leadership, the school division made meaningful strides: graduation rates rose, access to pre-kindergarten expanded, and Career and Technical Education programs grew significantly. Her steady support helped guide the opening of nine new schools to meet the demands of a growing student population, ensuring that every child had a safe and welcoming place to learn.

Beyond her official role, Diane was known for her kindness, determination, and unwavering belief in the power of public education to uplift communities. She listened, she acted, and she made a difference in countless lives. Her legacy is not only visible in the buildings and programs she helped establish, but also in the spirit of service she inspired in others.

As we remember Diane Raulston, we celebrate a life lived in service to others, a life marked by integrity, compassion, and impact. Her passing is a profound loss for our community, but her contributions will endure for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Diane Raulston’s remarkable life. May her legacy of service and her devotion to educational equity continue to inspire and guide our efforts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 9, 2025

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I was otherwise detained off the floor. Had

I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 119.

DHS RESTRICTIONS ON CONFUCIUS
INSTITUTES AND CHINESE ENTITIES
OF CONCERN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2025

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 881, the DHS Restrictions on Confucius Institutes and Chinese Entities of Concern Act.

H.R. 881 is a solution in search of a problem. In 2018, Congress passed provisions prohibiting the Department of Defense from providing funds to any U.S. institution of higher education that hosts a Confucius Institute, unless that institution receives a waiver from the Department. Since its passage, no waivers have been issued, and the number of Confucius Institutes in the United States has declined from a peak of 118 in 2017 to fewer than five today. The current protections against Chinese intellectual property theft through Confucius Institutes have worked, and Congress should not place additional burdens on our colleges, universities, and their students.

Mr. Speaker, instead of addressing the harms of the President’s on-again-off-again tariffs, or working to address rising costs for American consumers, Republicans used this week to negotiate their Reckless Budget Scheme and rename a body of water. My constituents do not want Congress to give trillions of dollars of tax cuts to billionaires. They do not want cuts to SNAP or Medicaid, vital lifelines in my home state of Minnesota. It’s time Congress starts working to address the real issues—starting with passing full year appropriations bills. I am ready to get to work.

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