

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, May 17, 2025

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 128 (H.R. 2243) and YEA on Roll Call No. 129 (H. Res. 352).

HONORING DOMINICAN AUTHOR WEEK

HON. PABLO JOSÉ HERNÁNDEZ

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, May 17, 2025

Mr. HERNÁNDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride to recognize and celebrate the extraordinary contributions of Dominican writers during the official observance of the Casa Dominicana Week of the Dominican Author, to be held from May 12 to May 17, 2025. This historic celebration is made possible through the joint efforts of the Dominican Ministry of Culture, Dominican Consulate in Puerto Rico, UNESCO Dominican Republic, and PEN International Dominican Republic. It is also thanks to the collaboration of the Senate of Puerto Rico, House of Representatives of Puerto Rico, and the Municipal Legislature of San Juan.

The written word is among the most powerful expressions of a person's soul. Through literature, authors preserve memory, provoke

thought, and illuminate the human condition. Dominican literature in particular stands as a vibrant testament to the cultural richness, resilience, and creativity of a people whose stories transcend borders and generations. Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic share a deep connection and culture. Our common Spanish language reflects a historical struggle. Literature serves as a testament to our history and the relationship we have shared between both countries for centuries.

This week, as the representative of Puerto Rico in Congress, I join the Dominican Republic to honor a distinguished group of Dominican writers, both from the homeland and the diaspora, who have made exceptional contributions to the arts and the global literary community. In addition, the Dominican community makes essential contributions to Puerto Rican society as business owners, athletes and great citizens. Today, I am pleased to recognize the contributions of the following Dominican honorees to the Caribbean and global literature:

Carlos Roberto Gómez Beras, Miguel Ángel Fornerin, Eugenio García Cuevas, Doris Melo, Antonio Nelson Soto, Miguel Patiño, Ramón Darío Jiménez.

Sebastián Robiou Lamarche, Ana A. Marchena Segura, Giovanni di Pietro, Israel Mercedes, Romelinda Grullón, Nelson del Castillo, Dulce Elvira de los Santos.

Grace Peña, Rosario Guzmán, Pamela Bernal, Dorothy Bell Ferrer, Rafael Méndez Tejada.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I commend these distinguished authors on their well-deserved recognition, and I wish them continued success in their future endeavors.

REMEMBERING CHAIRMAN BO MAZZETTI

HON. DARRELL ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, May 17, 2025

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Bo Mazzetti—a veteran, a veteran statesman, and a relentless champion for tribal sovereignty and the people of the Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians.

For over two decades, Bo not only led his own tribe but also helped lead California's Native nations into a more prosperous future. Known for his steady hand, quiet dignity, and unmatched resolve. Bo was most importantly a leader who never failed to listen. From San Diego County, to Sacramento, and all the way to the halls of Congress—he made historic changes to advance tribal sovereignty. Be it tribal water rights, infrastructure modernization, or unjust gaming compacts. Bo brought common sense solutions to difficult problems.

A Vietnam veteran, Bo remained devoted to leadership and service from the time he enlisted in the Navy. And to those of us who had the honor to serve and work alongside him—he was a friend.

Bo's legacy will live on in the lands he protected, the institutions he built, and the generations he empowered. My prayers are with his wife, Mary, his children, and the entire Rincon community,

● 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.
