

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## ONE BIG BEAUTIFUL BILL ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 21, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, we are here in the dark of night because President Trump has one goal: to pass massive tax cuts for billionaires by cruelly stealing healthcare away from millions of Americans.

H.R. 1, the "One Big Ugly Bill," isn't about securing the border, and it never has been.

The bill recklessly throws an enormous amount of taxpayer money at the border to buy the votes of Republicans who are reluctant to support the GOP tax scam and devastating Medicaid cuts.

Just tonight, Republicans snuck into the bill a \$12 billion "Lonestar Kickback" to give Texas Governor Greg Abbott a handout for his unconstitutional border security operations.

The "One Big Ugly Bill" gives the Trump administration billions to ramp up mass detentions and deportations, including American children with cancer, and deny due process to whomever they can, including those in the country legally.

The "One Big Ugly Bill" spends \$46.5 billion on Trump's failed border wall—which Trump originally said Mexico would pay for.

That amount is nearly four times what Trump originally promised the wall would cost, and it is ten times what the bill spends on Customs and Border Protection personnel.

The "One Big Ugly Bill" allows the Homeland Security Department to create a slush fund that will enable the worst impulses of the Trump administration, like private jets for the Secretary and securing the President's many multi-million-dollar golfing vacations at his branded properties.

Mr. Speaker. I urge all my colleagues to reject the "One Big Ugly Bill."

## HONORING DR. PUXIAO CEN FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL FLORIDA DURING ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 23, 2025*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Dr. Puxiao Cen is a board-certified cardiologist whose distinguished career in medicine and public service reflects a lifelong dedication to the health, dignity, and enrichment of her community. Born in Guangzhou, China, and immigrating to the United States in 1992, Dr. Cen completed her internal medicine residency at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York City and a cardiology fellowship at Temple University Hospital in Philadelphia. In 2001, she settled in Orlando, Florida,

where she joined the Florida Hospital, which was later re-named AdventHealth, and has since played a vital role in advancing cardiovascular care across Central Florida.

In addition to her clinical expertise, Dr. Cen holds a Master of Science in Medical Ethics and has served on the Medical Ethics Committee of AdventHealth Altamonte Springs since 2018. She is particularly known for her advocacy on behalf of the underserved, including the Asian American community and those facing end-of-life care. She drafted the plan for the heart failure program at AdventHealth Hospice to ensure compassionate care for the terminally ill—one of the many contributions for which she was honored with the AdventHealth Service Standards Award in 2019.

Dr. Cen is also an educator, serving as an assistant professor at the University of Central Florida College of Medicine. She has extended her outreach through public health talks in senior centers and long-term care facilities.

Her civic engagement includes being a founding member of the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts, membership in the McKean Society of Central Florida Public Media, support for United Arts, donations to Asia Trend, and the annual CHARGE Dragon Boat Race. Her own artwork celebrating cultural diversity has been featured in the Mills 50 Art Box Project.

Dr. Cen's legacy is one of compassion, leadership, and service—a model of the contribution immigrants bring to the United States in both medicine and civic life.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 23, 2025*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, due to unavoidable delays in travel, I missed votes on Monday, May 19, 2025.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 132 and YEA on Roll Call No. 133.

## HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ORDER OF GRANADEROS Y DAMAS DE GÁLVEZ

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 23, 2025*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez, an esteemed organization dedicated to honoring the rich historical legacy of Spain's contributions to the shaping of the United States.

Founded in 1975 in San Antonio, the Order emerged from a collaboration between local leaders and the Spanish consulate during preparations for the U.S. Bicentennial. Their vision was to ensure that Spain's role in our national story—particularly through the leadership of General Bernardo de Gálvez—would be recognized, preserved, and celebrated.

Since then, the Order has expanded across Texas, the Gulf Coast, and even into Spain, with active chapters engaged in educational outreach, historical research, and cultural exchange. Through lectures, reenactments, school presentations, and partnerships with academic institutions, the Order brings history to life and fosters deeper understanding of the transatlantic bonds that helped shape our nation.

From their role in the successful campaign for General Gálvez's honorary U.S. citizenship to supporting historical monuments and public performances, the Granaderos and Damas have made invaluable contributions to civic life. Their efforts ensure that Spain's lasting impact—military, cultural, and diplomatic—is neither overlooked nor forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez for five decades of service, and for strengthening the ties of heritage, history, and friendship between our nations.

## HONORING CHIEF RYLEIGH CARR

**HON. RUDY YAKYM III**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 23, 2025*

Mr. YAKYM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Ryleigh Carr, School Resource Officer at Culver Community Schools in Indiana, for her exceptional dedication and service to her school and community.

Chief Carr has recently been sworn in as Chief of the Community Police Department, becoming the first female to hold that position in the department's history. Her appointment marks a milestone in leadership and public service in the town of Culver. This new role only amplifies her impact on the community she has long served with distinction.

She has also been awarded the Regional Exceptional Service Award for Region 5—which includes Indiana, Missouri, Kansas, Illinois, and Iowa. This prestigious honor, presented at the national level, recognizes individuals who demonstrate sustained and extraordinary service to their school communities, going above and beyond the expectations of their roles.

In addition to her duties as School Resource Officer and now Chief of Police, Chief Carr also serves as a coach and as President of the Culver Community Athletic Boosters. Her multifaceted engagement speaks to a deep and ongoing commitment to fostering a safe, supportive, and enriching environment for students and families alike.

• 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.

Chief Carr's outstanding service will be formally recognized at the 2025 National Association of School Resource Officers' National School Safety Conference this July in Grapevine, Texas.

I thank Chief Carr for her leadership, service, and for exemplifying the highest standards of community and public safety.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL PUBLIC WORKS WEEK MAY 18–24, 2025, AND THE CITY OF OXFORD'S PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 23, 2025*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Public Works Week, which takes place from May 18–24, 2025, and to offer a special greeting to the City of Oxford Public Works Department.

Our public works professionals dedicate their time and talent to maintaining the infrastructure and facilities essential to public health and our quality of life. In Oxford, that work is carried out under the capable leadership of Rusty Gann who oversees a dedicated team of 73 employees.

Without the efforts of the Public Works Department, essential services we all rely on, like safe roads, clean public spaces and functional public buildings—simply could not be provided. The Oxford Public Works team works every day to rebuild, improve and safeguard our transportation systems, structures and facilities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing National Public Works Week and thanking the City of Oxford's hardworking Public Works professionals, engineers, managers and employees for their unwavering commitment to help maintain our city's health, safety and advancing the quality of life.

HONORING HELEN HYDEN ADAMS FOR HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO CENTRAL FLORIDA DURING ASIAN AMERICAN & PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

**HON. DARREN SOTO**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 23, 2025*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Helen Hyden Adams was born to a Korean mother and a father in the U.S. Army. She always knew she would serve in the Army and followed in her father's footsteps. She is a product of the JROTC program and graduated from Fort Knox High School in 1986 and served in the U.S. Army Dental Corps from 1986 to 1990. Her last station of duty was at Fort Wainwright, Alaska. Helen joined the Disabled American Veterans in 1994 and was elected the first woman commander of the DAV Department of Alaska in 2000. She continued to serve in various leadership roles within the organization, including a run for national office in 2008.

Realizing that many veterans and their families were still struggling to navigate the VA

system, she and her husband, John Adams, a U.S. Army veteran, founded Connecting the Dots for Veterans, a veteran-focused nonprofit that educates, engages, and empowers veterans and their families. Helen is affectionately called Dottie by everyone.

As a service-connected disabled veteran since 1994, she shares her journey with others so that they may be successful in navigating the VA process. She educates, engages, and empowers veterans and their families. Ultimately, her program of Connecting the Dots for Veterans is a suicide prevention program. It offers veterans and their families hope, but more importantly, a step-by-step process that is proven to work in successfully navigating the complexities of the VA system.

To continue assisting transitioning military members, she founded Operation Connecting the Dots and serves as its CEO.

Her civic affiliations are as follows: Congressman DARREN SOTO's Veteran Advisory Board, American Legion Post 10, DAV Chapter 148, VFW Auxiliary Unit 3227, Amvets Post 33, Osceola County Veterans Council (OCVC) Vice Commander, OCREC Veterans Advisory Board.

RECOGNIZING THE "GAINESVILLE NINE"

**HON. KAT CAMMACK**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 23, 2025*

Mrs. CAMMACK. Mr. Speaker, today we recognize and celebrate the legacy of a group of individuals whose passion for the game of baseball helped lay the foundation for college athletics at Santa Fe College in Gainesville, Florida.

In the 1970–71 academic year, at what was then known as Santa Fe Junior College (SFJC), a group of players formed a baseball club—one of the earliest steps, along with other club sports, that would eventually lead to the college becoming a recognized National Junior College Athletics Association (NJCAA) member in 1973. They were known as the "Gainesville Nine."

The baseball club, which predates the Northwest Campus, the largest of Santa Fe's seven locations across Alachua and Bradford counties, played other club and college teams from across the North Florida region. The bonds formed among the players showed that athletic participation and physical activity not only enrich the campus experience, but also foster a sense of perseverance and belonging that support a college-going culture.

Santa Fe College's Athletic programs have since grown in stature both regionally and nationally. The Northwest Campus gymnasium was built in the late 1970s and the baseball and softball fields were added in the early 1980s. Over the college's illustrious history, multiple NJCAA sports were offered including track, cross country, tennis, and slow pitch softball. Currently, the college offers five sanctioned intercollegiate teams in volleyball, men's and women's basketball, softball, and baseball.

Today, we honor the legacy of the 1970–71 SFJC club baseball team, the "Gainesville Nine" and celebrate their place in the rich history of Santa Fe College and its athletic programs.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHRISTOPHER "KIT" BOND

**HON. ANN WAGNER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 23, 2025*

Mrs. WAGNER. Mr. Speaker, few people in Missouri politics have had more of a positive influence on our state and the Nation than Senator Kit Bond. A true statesman seemingly from a bygone era in today's divisive world, Kit Bond devoted his life to public service, working with others to find the best ways to lift up Missouri and the nation, to make it a better place for those he was so honored to serve. He was a cheerful warrior who always had an encouraging word and a smile on his face, even in challenging times.

After leaving elected office, Kit continued to advocate for our state and the policies he fought for throughout his career. My happiest phone calls in recent memory were from Kit and Linda inviting Ray and me to dinner. Sharing stories about Missouri politics, both past and present, spanning three decades, was always the highlight of the evening, and something I will miss dearly.

At a time when it was hard for women to break into politics, Kit was a forward-thinking visionary who worked to promote and advance the careers of many women entering public service. I was so honored to serve as Missouri Republican Party Chairman alongside Kit's incomparable female Chief of Staff Julie Dammann and Speaker of the House Catherine Hanaway, advancing strong conservative policies that benefitted our state.

Ray and I are heartbroken to hear of his passing and our prayers are with his wife Linda, who took such incredible care of him and supported him always, as well as his son, Sam, and the entire Bond family. Kit was a dear friend, a mentor, and I would not be where I am today were it not for his friendship, advice and support. I will miss him every day.

RECOGNIZING ASSOCIATED BUILDERS & CONTRACTORS INSTITUTE APPRENTICESHIP COLLEGE'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 23, 2025*

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Associated Builders & Contractors Institute Apprenticeship College (ABCI) on the event of its 50th anniversary. A proud institution in Florida's 23rd Congressional District, ABCI provides apprenticeship training for the construction industry across our region. They collaborate directly with builders, contractors, and educators for a quality, hands-on apprenticeship education and construction trade program that helps drive our economy from South Florida all the way up Florida's Eastern coast.

We're particularly proud that ABCI has become the largest single provider of apprenticeship education and training in the state of Florida. It is a leader in innovative apprenticeship programs for the construction workforce—including in some of the most high-demand