

achievement. Their story is further cemented into our Nation's collective memory through the 2024 American film, *The Six Triple Eight*, which honors the legacy of Mrs. Robertson and her fellow soldiers.

Mrs. Robertson lived over a century, and throughout it all, she exemplified service, humility, and quiet heroism. I am proud to say that Mrs. Robertson and her battalion's service is now secured in our Nation's law and tradition. Mrs. Robertson's life reminds us that the fight for justice does not cease, even when justice is long overdue.

Mr. Speaker, it is for all these reasons that I am deeply honored to pay tribute to this American trailblazer, Private First-Class Anna Mae Wilson Robertson. The people of the Fourth Congressional District, the State of Wisconsin, and the entire United States stand in gratitude for a lifetime of courage and selfless service. Her legacy will continue to inspire future generations, and her story will remain forever etched into the conscience of our Nation.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE PUBLIC INSPECTORS FOR SAFE INFRASTRUCTURE ACT

### HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 12, 2025*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the "Public Inspectors for Safe Infrastructure Act" with U.S. Representative JULIA BROWNLEY (D-CA) along with U.S. Representatives STEPHEN LYNCH (D-MA) and RASHIDA TLAIB (D-MI). Our bill builds upon the "Safety, Efficiency, and Accountability in Transportation Projects Through Public Inspection Act of 2019," introduced by former Congressman Jose E. Serrano (D-NY).

The "Public Inspectors for Safe Infrastructure Act" would require construction inspections for federally funded highways to be conducted by public employees. Our bill would allow State or local transportation departments lacking sufficient inspectors to contract privately employed inspectors temporarily. Our bill ensures public safety by requiring that all federally funded bridges, tunnels, and roadways are inspected objectively and thoroughly under the highest safety standards. This work can and should be done by skilled, qualified inspectors employed by state and local departments of transportation.

From the delays in building the carpool bridge connecting the San Diego (405) and Costa Mesa (55) freeways to the series of issues that delayed the Bay Bridge, there are numerous examples where outsourcing inspection work to private contractors has undermined public safety, delayed projects, and contributed to cost overruns. Our bill seeks to avoid these potential conflicts of interest, while also mandating public disclosure of any private inspection contracts used by state and local transportation departments when public inspectors are unavailable.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all Members to join us in cosponsoring the "Public Inspectors for Safe Infrastructure Act." As a senior Democratic member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, I filed this bill as amendments to the House's 2015, 2020, and 2021 Highway Bills.

#### HONORING TAYLOR SHERIDAN ON RECEIVING THE INAUGURAL "TEXAS MADE" AWARD

### HON. CRAIG A. GOLDMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 12, 2025*

Mr. GOLDMAN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Taylor Sheridan, an esteemed filmmaker and proud Texan, on being awarded the inaugural "Texas Made" award at the 2025 ATX TV Festival.

Mr. Sheridan, renowned for his co-creation of the critically acclaimed TV series "Yellowstone," is now showcasing Texas' rich culture and landscapes in his new production, "Landman." This new creation has captivated audiences and critics alike as it delves into the world of the West Texas oil industry.

"Landman" recently received the inaugural "Texas Made" award. The award, presented in collaboration with Media For Texas, celebrates productions that are deeply rooted in Texas. It honors those who contribute to our state's cultural and economic landscape through authentic storytelling and by creating tangible opportunities for Texans in the film and television industry. "Landman" is certainly worthy of recognition as it creates award-winning film productions in the heart of Fort Worth. This TV series not only highlights the city's vibrant culture, but also creates employment opportunities and stimulates the local economy.

Beyond his cinematic achievements, Mr. Sheridan's commitment to education and community development is evident. He has been recognized with honorary degrees from Texas Christian University and Texas State University, acknowledging his significant contributions to the arts and his efforts in mentoring the next generation of artists and creators.

On behalf of the 12th Congressional District of Texas, I am proud to recognize Mr. Sheridan for receiving this prestigious award. It serves as a testament to his remarkable contributions to both the entertainment industry and the state of Texas. His dedication to authentic storytelling and community engagement serves as an inspiration to many. I wish him and his crew all the best and continued success as they film "Landman" in the Fort Worth area.

#### RECOGNIZING ALAN SOWERBY

### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 12, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to recognize Mr. Alan Sowerby for his service at Withlacoochee River Electric Cooperative (WREC) and his remarkable role in the Light Up Navajo Project. In May, a courageous team of 16 WREC employees traveled over 1,800 miles to the remote, rugged terrains of Arizona and New Mexico, where they spent two weeks installing vital electrical infrastructure for Navajo families who have lived without power for generations. Their efforts brought light, safety, and hope to communities long overlooked, allowing children to

study after dark, families to preserve food, and elders to live with greater comfort. Despite daunting challenges and limited equipment, the WREC team completed a demanding project in just eight days—far ahead of expectations—demonstrating professionalism, humility, and unwavering commitment to this life-changing mission. The impact of WREC's work goes far beyond electricity; it represents a bridge to connection, opportunity, and the return of future generations to their ancestral homes. The emotional moment when power was turned on for the impacted families—bringing tears of joy and renewed hope—is a testament to the profound difference this project made. WREC's participation in the "Light Up Navajo" initiative reflects not only their technical expertise but also their heart and respect for the people they serve. Their dedication has energized ten homesteads and countless lives, creating a legacy of service that embodies the true spirit of cooperative values. The WREC team's journey inspires us all, proving that with compassion and teamwork, even the most daunting challenges can be overcome to light up lives and communities. I commend the entire team for their efforts on this worthwhile endeavor and for their ongoing service to our local community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LORI TRAHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 12, 2025*

Mrs. TRAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for votes on June 10, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 162 and NAY on Roll Call No. 163.

#### RECOGNIZING AVA MOORE

### HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 12, 2025*

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor a tremendous young woman from the Texas 24th Congressional District, Ava Moore.

Ava was an exceptional individual. She was a leader, a patriot, and a bright light in our North Texas community. From the first time we reviewed her application to the U.S. Air Force Academy, it was clear she was destined for greatness. Her academic excellence, leadership, and dedication to serving our nation stood out. That's why I nominated her not once, but twice to the Air Force Academy. The Academy itself recognized her potential and asked her to attend the U.S. Air Force Preparatory School.

Ava successfully completed that program this May, and she was home for just a short break before heading off to basic training and beginning her next chapter at the Air Force Academy. Our staff had spoken with her about her abbreviated summer break and could hear in her voice how excited she was to start a career in service to her beloved country.

While kayaking with friends on Grapevine Lake, Ava's life was taken in a senseless, preventable tragedy. Our entire office is heartbroken about her loss and grieved for Ava's

family, friends, coaches, and teammates. I am grateful local and federal law enforcement took swift action to apprehend those responsible, as that was the bare minimum we owe to Ava and to every American family trying to raise children in peace and safety.

I had the privilege of speaking with Ava's father, a man of great faith, kindness, and forgiveness. Even in the face of unimaginable loss, he told me he was remaining hopeful and positive, because, in his words, "that's how Ava would have wanted it." That tells you everything you need to know about the kind of young woman Ava was, and the family who raised her.

They chose to honor her life not with sorrow, but with a coming home memorial, a celebration of how she stood as an incredible example for all those around her. This past week, Ava was laid to rest with full military honors, as family and friends gathered to celebrate her grace, dignity, character, and strength.

Our Nation is at a loss with Ava's passing. She was leading a life of service as a young woman whose dream was to protect and defend the very freedoms we enjoy in this country today. She was taken far too soon.

May we honor Ava by remembering the incredible young woman that she was and may God bring peace to her family knowing that though her time on earth was cut short, her legacy and her example will last with all of us. We ask the Lord to bless and receive His servant, Ava Moore. She has come home.

RECOGNIZING AMANDA BARLOW  
ON HER RETIREMENT

**HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 12, 2025*

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Amanda Barlow, for the 30 years of service she has given to the Federal Government at the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families.

Ms. Barlow has been with ACF since 1994, when she joined the agency as a presidential management intern, and then as a budget analyst. She became the Director of Budget in 2009 and has served as the Director of the Office of Legislative Affairs and Budget since 2017. Ms. Barlow has also served in an acting capacity for several of ACF's executive leadership positions, including the acting ACF Commissioner from January to November 2021, and the acting Assistant Secretary for ACF from February to May 2017.

Through her work overseeing a budget of more than \$70 billion for ACF, Ms. Barlow has played a key role supporting the programs and services that provide critical assistance to vulnerable populations, including Head Start and Child Care services for millions of children and families, and the heating and cooling of millions of households through the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program. Over the last 30 years, these programs have helped millions of children and families achieve prosperity and independence.

In addition to overseeing the 60-plus programs ACF administers, Ms. Barlow has also served as ACF's liaison to the Committees on

Appropriations. She has been an indispensable resource to the Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education. Her budgetary expertise and round-the-clock responsiveness has helped the Subcommittee to draft annual appropriations bills and emergency supplementals—for which I am deeply grateful.

In 2024, Ms. Barlow earned the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Service, one of the most prestigious awards in the Federal career civil service, which recognizes members of the Senior Executive Service for a sustained record of exceptional professional achievement. It was aptly awarded and richly deserved.

I thank Ms. Barlow for her tireless public service—which often included long days, evenings, and weekends—as she worked to ensure that critical economic and social services programs funded through the agency had the necessary resources to serve millions of children and families in communities across the country. Her talents and contributions will be sorely missed.

I congratulate Ms. Barlow on a distinguished career and wish her the best in her upcoming retirement. I hope her retirement gives her more time with family, including her husband and two children, and much success with her community garden plot.

HONORING THE 130TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE INDIANAPOLIS RECORDER  
NEWSPAPER

**HON. ANDRÉ CARSON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 12, 2025*

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize an extraordinary institution in American journalism and Black history as the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper celebrates its 130th anniversary.

Founded in 1895 by George P. Stewart and Will Porter as a two-page church bulletin, the Recorder has grown into one of the most enduring African American newspapers in the United States. It has served as a vital platform for truth, justice, and community empowerment, particularly for Black Hoosiers, for over thirteen decades.

From its early advocacy against lynching and for voting rights, to its courageous coverage during the Civil Rights Movement, to dedicated coverage of issues impacting the Black community and all Hoosiers, the Recorder has always championed fairness and equal representation for all. It has lifted up local Black institutions like Crispus Attucks High School and the Madam Walker Manufacturing Company, while promoting civic engagement and public health.

In recent decades, the Recorder has continued to evolve under visionary leadership. From William G. Mays' preservation of its legacy to Shannon Williams' modernization of operations, and now under Robert Shegog, the Recorder has expanded its reach through digital innovation, multimedia platforms, and award-winning journalism—earning over one hundred honors in just the past few years.

Today, with more than 120,000 weekly readers, the Recorder is not just a newspaper—it's a living institution. Through initia-

tives like Recorder Charities, the JAWS youth journalism program, and the Minority Business Review, it continues to invest in the future of media and enrich civic life in Indiana.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Indianapolis Recorder Newspaper on its 130th anniversary. May the Recorder's legacy of truth, service, and advocacy continue to inspire and inform for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING TYRA YOUNGBLOOD

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 12, 2025*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions that Ms. Tyra Youngblood has made to our community in the aftermath of Hurricane Milton. In addition to providing countless hours of direct support to neighbors and flood victims, she helped coordinate the collection and distribution of emergency supplies, meals and donated services to help those who needed help. A truly selfless leader, Ms. Youngblood was a strong advocate for bringing in government and non-profit resources to aid in the recovery process.

It is clear that Tyra Youngblood has made a profoundly positive impact on our community, and I am grateful for her service. May we all strive to serve our communities with the same dedication and humility.

RECOGNIZING E.J. BASLER CO.

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 12, 2025*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize E.J. Basler Co. in Schiller Park, Illinois.

E.J. Basler Co., a family-owned manufacturing company, has been based in Schiller Park since 1957. The company was built on the core values of quality and customer service, founded by Erv and Anne Basler, children of immigrants. Now in its third generation of family leadership, E.J. Basler Co. is run by Dennis and Brian Basler. Their ongoing commitment to responsive service and high-quality manufacturing has supported strong, long-term relationships with clients and vendors in Illinois' fifth district and across the globe. E.J. Basler Co. has achieved lasting success by staying true to its original values while evolving with current times.

E.J. Basler Co. offers precision machinery services that leverage different techniques, cutting-edge technology, and expertise to create the most cost-effective solutions for customers. They manufacture from iconel, brass, steel, plastic, and copper. Manufacturing is crucial to the global economy, and E.J. Basler Co. delivers high-quality solutions across industries, working with the best of agriculture, plumbing, automotive, industrial, defense, and medical companies. The close proximity to E.J. Basler Co. and its valuable services offer companies in Illinois' fifth district a competitive advantage and drive economic development within the district.