

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF BERNARD J. MCCULLOUGH

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Bernard J. McCullough, better known as “Bernie Mac” by his fans. Born on the south side of Chicago on October 5, 1957, Bernie would go on to become a singular comedic talent who spent his entire career in show business, bringing laughter and joy to his audiences.

To his fans and a world that adored him, he was comedian Bernie Mac. But his real name was Bernard Jeffery McCullough born October 5, 1957 as the second child of Mary McCullough and Jeffery Harrison, who had already made their life transition. Bernard, or “Bernie”, as he was affectionately named, grew up in the gang-ridden Englewood Community of Chicago. Always a leader and not a follower, he gained the respect of most of the gang members without ever joining. He was forever the clown and always known for making people laugh. He accepted Jesus Christ at a young age and attended Burning Bush Missionary Baptist Church.

His big break came in 1990 when he won first place with a remarkable performance in the Miller Lite Comedy Search. From that point, his popularity spread, and he garnered attention prompting Russell Simmons to give him a spot on his groundbreaking show *Def Comedy Jam*. Bernard’s first stage appearance was so well received that he was invited back to perform a second time. From that moment on, the Mac Man was a phenomenon. He would soon go on tour as the opening act for Chaka Khan, Barry White, the Whispers and many other performers.

Bernie made his film debut with the release of *Mo’ Money* in 1992. His breakthrough performance, however, came in his role as Pastor Cleaver in Ice Cube’s hit movie, *Friday* (1995).

Bernie Mac’s comedy was raw, honest, and fearless. His stand-up often revolved around his personal experiences, delivered with his signature raspy voice and bold stage presence. He gained widespread recognition as one of the four comedians in the 2000 standup film *The Original Kings of Comedy*, where his set stole the show with its hilarious takes on family and discipline. The Bernie Mac Show, his self-titled sitcom, was a groundbreaking hit, blending humor with heartfelt moments as he played a fictionalized version of himself raising his sister’s kids. The show earned multiple awards and cemented his place in TV history. Bernie transitioned seamlessly into acting, appearing in films like *Ocean’s Eleven*, *Mr. 3000*, and *Guess Who*. His charisma made him stand out in every role he took on.

Even after his passing in 2008, Bernie Mac remains a beloved figure in comedy. His fearless approach and unique comedic style con-

tinue to influence comedians today, impacting hundreds of lives still. Bernie launched The Bernie Mac Foundation in Chicago, Illinois in 2005 as Founder and Chairman of the Board to bring awareness to sarcoidosis and build a bridge between awareness and a cure. He dedicated his mission to informing the community on the impact of sarcoidosis to patients and transform the opinions of treatment. Bernie used his celebrity to support the Bernie Mac Sarcoidosis Translational Advanced Research (STAR) Center at the University of Illinois Health Sciences System to provide patients with outstanding care. He was also passionate about patients receiving evaluations in a timely, compassionate and courteous manner for all forms of sarcoidosis.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring the life and legacy of Bernard J. McCullough.

CONGRATULATING THE MANHEIM CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL BOYS’ VOLLEYBALL STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the Manheim Central High School boys’ volleyball team on winning the PIAA Class 2A State championship on Saturday, June 14, 2025.

The Manheim Central Barons cruised through the regular season, the District Three championship, and state playoffs to end up exactly where they had been the previous year: in the PIAA Class 2A championship match against the same opponent. Manheim Central came up just short with a silver medal in last year’s championship match against Meadville but avenged their past loss this season. The Barons played with determination and delivered a commanding 3–1 victory over their previously undefeated rivals on June 14 to capture the gold.

Contributing to the Barons’ state championship was their cast of talent, which included six District Three 2A all-stars. This included senior setter and leader Dylan Musser, who was named as the Pennsylvania Volleyball Coaches Association’s “Mr. Volleyball of Pennsylvania”—among other accolades—and was instrumental in their championship with 43 assists. Also integral to their success was veteran coach Craig Dietrich, who was awarded District Three coach of the year.

I include in the RECORD the following individuals contributed to the Manheim Central Barons’ 2025 boys’ volleyball championship:

Players: Reagan Miller, Cole Arter, Dylan Musser, William Meyers, Daniel Becker, Colin Rohrer, Weston Longenecker, Christopher Neiles, Caleb Groff, Gavin Longenecker, Wyatt Buckwalter, Ryder Buckwalter, Bryan Fahnstock, Asher Ulrich, Landon Mattiace, Jay Hollinger

Coaches: Craig Dietrich, Katrina Thomas, Brandon Musser, Kevin Groff

As Manheim Central boys’ volleyball team crowns a fantastic season with a gold medal, I sincerely congratulate each player and coach that made their success possible. The Barons have earned their place as state champions, and I look forward to seeing what these players accomplish next.

REMEMBERING FRED SMITH

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in solemn tribute to Frederick W. Smith, the founder of FedEx and a visionary business and civic leader who revolutionized global commerce. Mr. Smith passed away on Saturday at the age of 80. Mr. Smith took an idea for express package delivery that he wrote about in a 1965 college term paper and turned it into a multinational corporation worth billions, employing more than 500,000 people at 2,000 locations worldwide. Mr. Smith’s father, James Frederick Smith, the founder of the Toddle House restaurant chain and the Dixie Greyhound bus line, died when he was 4 and he and his brother, Richard, were raised by their mother. Mr. Smith attended Yale University, where he was a fraternity brother of future president George W. Bush. He later served as a Marine officer and platoon leader in Vietnam, where he received the Silver Star, the Bronze Star and two Purple Hearts. Mr. Smith founded Federal Express in 1971 in Little Rock, Arkansas, and moved it to his hometown of Memphis in 1973, where it grew exponentially through acquisitions. A visionary leader who never forgot his roots, Mr. Smith became a dedicated civic booster, helping bring the NBA’s Grizzlies to Memphis where they play at the FedEx Forum and supporting the FedEx-St. Jude Championship charity golf tournament since 2009. Mr. Smith was a relentlessly loyal supporter of the University of Memphis, from the FedEx Institute of Technology to the athletic programs and his personal commitment to refurbishing Liberty Stadium, the home of the football Tigers. He was also a strong supporter of the Memphis Zoo, bringing pandas from China aboard a FedEx plane, and supporting the Teton Trek exhibit which displays nature photography taken by his late daughter, Woodland Smith Rice, who passed in 2005. Mr. Smith was a legendary business leader who often testified before Congress as a representative of the Business Roundtable.

I extend my profound condolences to Mr. Smith’s wife, Diane Davis Smith, and nine children: Laurie, Stacey, Richard, Kathleen, Molly, Arthur, Rachel, Samantha and Buchanan; his brother, Richard Gary Smith; and grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, and his first wife, Linda Grisham, as well as friends and the extended FedEx community around the world. His drive, intellect, wise counsel

• 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.

and integrity made him one of the greatest businessmen of his generation. He led a remarkable life, and he will be greatly missed.

CELEBRATING THE 74TH BIRTHDAY OF ERIC L. THOMPSON, SR.

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 74th birthday of Eric L. Thompson, Sr. Born on April 3, 1951 in Chicago, Illinois, Eric has been a lifelong resident of Chicago and a beloved member of our community.

As a young man, Eric was inspired by the civil rights advocacy of his parents, who frequently worked with my father, Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, Sr. to advance civil rights through Operation Rainbow PUSH.

Eric attended Augustana College and later went on to start his own businesses, T&T Food Service, and Eridor Food Service, Inc., named in honor of his sons, Eric and Dorian. Through his hard work and keen business skills, Eric has grown his businesses into the preeminent food service providers in the Chicago area.

In addition to being an accomplished businessman, Eric is also known for his friendly spirit and kindness. To know Eric is to know a friend. As Eric looks back on 74 wonderful years, I hope he is able to rest on his laurels and enjoy celebrating his accomplishments with his family and friends. I wish him many more years of good health.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating this momentous occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on June 23, 2025, due to unforeseen and severe travel delays during my trip to Washington, D.C., on Amtrak, I was unable to vote during Roll Call votes No. 172, No. 173, and No. 174 on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call votes No. 172, No. 173, and No. 174.

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF NATIONAL CAPACD, EMPOWERING LEADERS, MOBILIZING COMMUNITIES

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the founding of the National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development, or National CAPACD. In 2000, 16 local civil rights leaders

came together to form National CAPACD, harnessing the transformative power of a dynamic coalition of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) community-based organizations. Today, National CAPACD represents and supports more than 160 community-based organizations working in low-income AANHPI communities.

National CAPACD has been a steadfast partner to the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus since its founding. Through convenings, administering subgrants, and supporting small businesses, National CAPACD has been fearless champions in advancing community development and establishing thriving neighborhoods for AANHPI communities. In 2024, National CAPACD served over 300 small businesses and over 4,000 constituents.

I applaud the leaders, advocates, and allies from across the country who have made this milestone anniversary of empowerment and community-led change possible. On this important milestone, we celebrate the transformative impact National CAPACD has made and will continue to make within AANHPI communities.

HONORING MR. DONALD WAYNE HANSEN

HON. SUHAS SUBRAMANYAM

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Mr. SUBRAMANYAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary member of our community, Brigadier General Donald Wayne Hansen, U.S. Army (Retired), on the occasion of his 92nd birthday, celebrated on June 4, 2025. This milestone marks a lifetime of extraordinary military service, leadership, and dedication to our Nation.

General Hansen's nearly three-decade career began after graduating from the University of Colorado in 1956 and commissioning as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's Corps. During the Vietnam War, he served as Assistant Staff Judge Advocate for the 1st Infantry Division, the legendary "Big Red One," and later as Staff Judge Advocate for the United States Army Support Command in Saigon.

His service continued in Europe with the 3rd Armored Division and in senior legal roles across the Army, including Chief of the Criminal Law Division, Commander of the U.S. Army Legal Services Agency, and Chief Judge of the U.S. Army Court of Military Review. In 1985, he was appointed Assistant Judge Advocate General of the U.S. Army, capping a distinguished career characterized by integrity, valor, and commitment to military justice.

Among his memorable acts of bravery was his inspection of a collapsed tunnel in Vietnam's Iron Triangle, which demonstrated courage under uncertainty.

I celebrate not only General Hansen's 92nd birthday but also his enduring legacy of patriotism and exemplary service that continues to inspire our Nation.

HONORING ZAIRE TOBAR OF DYETT HIGH SCHOOL

HON. JONATHAN L. JACKSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate an extraordinary achievement by a remarkable young man from my district, Zaire Tobar, a vital member of the Walter H. Dyett High School for the Arts boys' basketball team, the Eagles. This team achieved a historic victory, winning the 2024–2025 Illinois High School Association (IHSA) Class 2A State Championship with a decisive 52–41 win over Althoff Catholic High School on March 15, 2025.

This championship is more than just a win on the court. It is a profound testament to the resilience, determination, and unity of the Dyett High School community and the vibrant Bronzeville neighborhood. A decade ago, Dyett faced the threat of closure, but through powerful community advocacy and unwavering commitment, its doors remained open. Today, the Eagles' triumph, in which Zaire Tobar played a crucial role, symbolizes the incredible potential that flourishes when a community invests in its youth and its institutions.

Zaire Tobar, along with his teammates, demonstrated exceptional skill, discipline, and teamwork throughout their season, navigating challenges and competing at the highest level. His hard work and dedication were integral to the team's success, culminating in this well-deserved championship that brings immense pride and joy to his school, family, and the entire community.

I also extend my deepest gratitude to Head Coach Jamaal Gill, whose visionary leadership and guidance steered the team to this historic victory, and to Assistant Coaches Kimani Harris, Pierre Adams, and Nathan Townsen, Jr., whose mentorship was vital to the players' development.

Mr. Speaker, Zaire Tobar's contribution to the Dyett Eagles' journey from near closure to state champions is an inspiring narrative for us all. It underscores the critical importance of supporting our public schools and investing in programs that empower young people to achieve their fullest potential. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Zaire Tobar and the entire Dyett High School boys' basketball team on their momentous achievement and in honoring them for the inspiration they provide to communities across our Nation.

RECOGNIZING OFFICER JOHN CHANDLER

HON. BETH VAN DUYNE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 24, 2025

Ms. VAN DUYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Officer John Chandler for his 20 years of dedicated service to the Grapevine Police Department and to our North Texas community.

A native Texan, Officer Chandler graduated from L.D. Bell High School in Hurst, Texas, and continued his education at the University