

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING REVEREND DR. TODD GRAY'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY AS PASTOR OF FIFTH STREET BAPTIST CHURCH IN RICHMOND, VIRGINIA

**HON. JENNIFER L. McCLELLAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2025*

Ms. McCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the Reverend Dr. Todd Gray's 30th anniversary as the pastor of Fifth Street Baptist Church in Richmond, Virginia. For three decades, Reverend Gray has provided unwavering spiritual leadership, compassionate guidance, and steadfast service to his congregation and the greater Richmond community.

Since answering the call to lead Fifth Street Baptist Church in 1994, Reverend Gray has embodied the principles of faith, humility, and service. Under his leadership, the church has grown both spiritually and numerically, expanding its ministries and deepening its outreach to meet the evolving needs of its members and the surrounding community.

Throughout his tenure as pastor, Reverend Gray has remained committed to preaching a message of hope and justice, empowering individuals to live lives rooted in faith and purpose. His passion for education, economic empowerment, and social equity has been evident not only in the pulpit, but also in his civic engagement and community partnerships. He has mentored young leaders, supported families in crisis, and spoken out boldly for those whose voices often go unheard.

Reverend Gray's leadership has been a stabilizing force and a source of inspiration. His devotion to his congregation and community knows no bounds. I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Reverend Dr. Todd Gray for his 30 years of outstanding leadership at Fifth Street Baptist Church.

HONORING SHERIFF MARIO MAGSBY, SR.

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2025*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated service and efforts of the Sheriff of Coahoma County, Mississippi, Mario Magsby, Sr.

Sheriff Magsby is a lifelong resident of Coahoma County and a first-generation law enforcement officer. Raised by his parents, Eddie and Frankie Magsby, he learned early the values of hard work, integrity, and dedication to community—principles that have guided him throughout his distinguished career in public service.

Sheriff Magsby began his law enforcement journey in February 1998 with the Jonestown

Police Department, serving as a Patrol Officer. He completed training at the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers' Training Academy in November 1998. In May 1999, he was hired by former Sheriff Andrew Thompson, Jr., and over the years served with distinction in multiple capacities, including the Uniform Patrol Division, Criminal Investigation Division, Narcotics Division, Special Response Team, as a Firearms Instructor, and as Chief Deputy.

He is a proud graduate of Coahoma Agricultural High School and holds both a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice and a Master of Science in Criminal Justice Research. Sheriff Magsby has consistently demonstrated leadership, professionalism, and a steadfast commitment to the safety and well-being of the citizens of Coahoma County.

Sheriff Magsby is a dedicated member of both the Mississippi Sheriffs' Association and the National Sheriffs' Association. Beyond his professional life, he is a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, who enjoys spending time with his family and engaging in outdoor pursuits, such as hunting and fishing.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sheriff Mario Magsby, Sr. for his exemplary service and leadership over the past year as Sheriff of Coahoma County. We commend his dedication to public safety and his steadfast commitment to justice and community. We wish him continued success in the years ahead, as he serves the people of Coahoma County with honor and integrity.

HONORING THE LIFE AND  
MEMORY OF SAMUEL BIGLER

**HON. LLOYD SMUCKER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2025*

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the life of Mr. Samuel Bigler of Millersville Borough, who passed away on July 1, 2025, at the age of 78.

Mr. Samuel Bigler, known as Sam, was a father to Evan and a husband to Cindy. He was a strong presence in the Lancaster community as a veteran, an Olympic weightlifter, a teacher, a business owner, a volunteer, and much more.

A 1965 graduate of Columbia High School, Sam enlisted in the U.S. Army and served between 1966 and 1969. Having lifted weights since a young age, Sam continued this passion and won numerous national and international titles and awards, culminating in a spot on the 1976 U.S. Olympic Weightlifting team in Montreal, Canada and a tenth-place finish.

Sam attended Millersville State College and received a bachelor's and master's degree in education. He then served as a reading specialist at Thaddeus Stevens College for 33 years. During this time, Sam began a rental property business with his wife, Cindy.

Sam was also impactful in his volunteer capacity. He served on the Millersville Zoning

Board, the local Republican committee, and was a mentor to individuals participating in the Lancaster County Veteran's Court program.

Sam's impact on the community cannot be understated, and I am glad to have known him. As we celebrate the life of Sam Bigler, we offer our prayers of comfort to his family during this time.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT MAJOR HAROLD M. WATTS, III SERVICE TO THE NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU

**HON. PAT HARRIGAN**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2025*

Mr. HARRIGAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express profound gratitude to Sergeant Major Harold M. Watts, III, Senior Enlisted Leader for the National Guard Bureau's Office of Legislative Liaison. From his start as an Armor Crewman in the North Carolina Army National Guard, he has risen to serve as the principal legislative advisor to the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chief of the National Guard Bureau.

Nearing 30 years of distinguished service, Sergeant Major Watts served with valor in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom, earning the Bronze Star Medal and Combat Action Badge. A graduate of the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy with advanced degrees, he exemplifies unwavering commitment to excellence. As a legislative liaison, he has expertly bridged the National Guard and Congress, leveraging his military construction expertise to advance our Nation's security.

As he transitions to his next assignment, I honor his exemplary service and wish him, his wife Crystal, and their daughters well. His legacy endures.

HONORING DONALD R. DWIGHT

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2025*

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and mourn the passing of Mr. Donald Dwight of Holyoke, Massachusetts. Mr. Dwight was a Marine, newspaper executive, and dedicated public servant. Born in Massachusetts, he attended Deerfield Academy and Princeton before serving as an active-duty Marine where he earned the rank of captain. A man dedicated to his country, Mr. Dwight held multiple public offices, including serving as the 64th Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts. As Lieutenant Governor, he worked behind the scenes to serve his state and always stood up for what he felt was right.

After leaving public office, Mr. Dwight led newspapers in Minneapolis and New England

• 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 was responsible for printing seven separate publications. He was dedicated to local, independent journalism and never hesitated to follow a difficult story.

Outside of his public life, Mr. Dwight was a loving husband, father, and grandfather. To those who knew him, he was endlessly curious, and never afraid to try new things. He always knew how to ask the right questions and was driven by unflinching dedication to the common good. The mark he left on his community, state, and country will never be forgotten, and for that, we are forever grateful.

#### HONORING LOVE THY CITY DAY IN TYLER, TEXAS

### HON. NATHANIEL MORAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2025*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Love Thy City event held in Tyler, Texas, a community-wide initiative that reminds us that service to our neighbors doesn't start in Washington, it starts in the heart and in the home as it extends to every corner of this earth.

Organized by local citizen-leaders, churches, nonprofits, and volunteers of all ages, Love Thy City is a day of service to others rooted in the great command to love our neighbors. That's a principle that transcends politics and parties. It transcends race and gender and every difference between us. It is our shared responsibility to care for everyone around us just as the Good Samaritan did—not because Government would tell us to, but because the Love of Christ propels us to.

Whether it's cleaning up a park, helping a neighbor in need, or simply showing kindness to a stranger, Love Thy City challenges us to use our active faith to lead by example and invest in our communities—not just with words, but with action.

This is what makes East Texas strong; faith, service, and a deep love for God and for one another. I'm proud to honor this effort today and to recognize all those who give their time to love their neighbor.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2025*

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, on July 14, 2025, I was not recorded on Roll Call Nos. 191 and 192. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call Nos. 191 and 192.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BECCA BALINT

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2025*

Ms. BALINT. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present on July 14, 2025, due to weather-related travel delays. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 191;

YEA on Roll Call No. 192; and YEA on Roll Call No. 193.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE GUN SAFETY INCENTIVE ACT

### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 17, 2025*

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Gun Safety Incentive Act, a commonsense and life-saving measure to address one of the most urgent crises facing our Nation: the epidemic of gun violence, particularly as it affects our children.

I am proud to be joined in this effort with my co-leads—Representatives ROBIN KELLY and LUCY MCBATH—who, like me, believe that protecting children, families, and veterans should be above politics.

Firearms are now the leading cause of death for children and teenagers in the United States. Every year, more than 2,500 young lives are lost to gun violence. For children under the age of 13, these deaths most often occur inside the home. In 2021, firearms accounted for nearly 19 percent of all childhood deaths—a staggering 50 percent increase since 2019.

Disturbingly, three out of every four children under the age of 10 live in a household with a firearm. More than a third of these children have reported personally handling an unsecured gun in the home.

We can and we must do more to prevent these tragedies. The Gun Safety Incentive Act takes meaningful, practical steps to promote responsible firearm storage and protect our children.

First, the bill provides a 10 percent federal tax credit through 2030 for individuals who purchase certified firearm safes and secure storage devices. This incentive directly supports gun owners who take steps to store their firearms safely—an action proven to reduce the risk of accidents, suicides, and theft.

Second, the legislation directs the Department of Justice to develop and promote voluntary best practices for secure firearm storage, making this information readily accessible to the public both online and in print.

Third, the bill requires clear labeling on all handgun, rifle, and shotgun packaging, stating: "Safe Storage Saves Lives." These labels will also direct consumers to DOJ's storage guidelines, ensuring that every gun owner receives trusted, research-based information on how to keep their weapons out of the wrong hands.

Finally, the bill authorizes funding for Safe Firearm Storage Assistance Programs—community-based efforts that promote secure storage practices through education, outreach, and local partnerships. These programs meet people where they are and empower them to be part of the solution.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is not about politics—it is about prevention. It is about using the tools at our disposal to keep guns away from children and out of the hands of those who might harm themselves or others. The Gun Safety Incentive Act is a reasonable, measured, and life-saving response to an ongoing public health emergency.

I urge all my colleagues—Democrats and Republicans alike—to join me in supporting

this critical legislation. Let us stand together to protect America's children from senseless, preventable tragedy.

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

SPEECH OF

### HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 16, 2025*

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Chair, I want to commend the managers of the House Department of Defense Fiscal Year 2026 Appropriations bill for including my amendment, No. 269, to provide a \$24.1 million increase within the RDT&E-Defense Wide Account, to the Industrial Base Analysis and Sustainment Program's (IBAS) Fan-Out Wafer level packaging program in the en bloc package.

Semiconductors support nearly all Department of Defense (DoD) activities. Ensuring secure access to leading-edge semiconductors, however, is a challenge. The pandemic exposed the challenges associated with the global supply chain, the changing global semiconductor industry, and the sophistication of U.S. adversaries, who might target military electronic components.

IBAS is dedicated to ensuring that the DoD is positioned to effectively address industrial base issues and support the National Security Innovation Base. This includes strengthening and protecting the domestic semiconductor supply chain to provide access to leading-edge capabilities to accelerate innovation. One of the next generation semiconductor technologies that IBAS is focusing on is called Advanced Packaging.

Advanced Packaging essentially removes the green circuit board, and connects each component chip onto each other, like how individual Lego pieces can be stacked on top of each other to form a Lego set. This next generation process fully integrates all component chips into a single, advanced packaged, chip. Currently, 98 percent of these advanced packaging, integrated processes, are done in Asia, where foreign entities can insert malicious processes into these integrated chips in a way that is not easily identifiable. IBAS is working to provide secure, credible, and reliable domestic advanced packaged semiconductor manufacturing capability.

Fanout wafer level packaging technology is a critical leading-edge advanced packaging technology, providing a high degree of size, weight, and power performance improvements over traditional packaging processes. My amendment will allow the DoD to leverage existing public-private-partnerships to quickly expand domestic U.S. based semiconductor manufacturing development platforms for critical advanced semiconductor system integration, including fan-out wafer level packaging technology.

U.S. global leadership in semiconductors depends on U.S. owned firms operating at the leading-edge of advanced packaging technologies. The next generation of electronic devices will require significantly greater functional density, in other words, packing chips together even more tightly than current technology allows. This requires technical leadership in semiconductor advanced packaging