

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING DEPUTY FRANK COURTNEY

HON. ZACHARY NUNN

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Mr. NUNN of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Frank Courtney of the Polk County Sheriff's Office for his tremendous service to his community and to congratulate him for earning the 2024 Law Enforcement Professional of the Year award from the West Des Moines Elk Lodge.

A trusted and respected pillar of his community, Deputy Courtney is a model deputy. His commitment to protecting and serving the people of Polk County has had a positive impact on countless lives. As someone who was born, raised, and currently is raising a family in Polk County, it makes me very proud knowing we have great people like Deputy Courtney working to keep Polk County safe.

On behalf of Polk County, I thank Deputy Courtney for his service. May his example serve as inspiration to our future law enforcement officers.

RECOGNIZING THE LUNAR NEW YEAR CELEBRATION WITH THE DETROIT PISTONS

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 9th Community Wide Lunar New Year Celebration with the Detroit Pistons in association with the Michigan Alliance of Chinese American Organizations. This event is one of the most prominent Lunar New Year celebrations in the state and is a reminder of the immense contributions of members of the Asian-American community to our incredibly multicultural environment. As the celebration of prosperity and new beginnings, Lunar New Year serves as a time to recognize the positive cultural and economic impact Asian-Americans have had on the state of Michigan, making it an event worthy of commendation.

Home to one of the largest Asian-American communities in the Midwest, the celebration of Lunar New Year with the Detroit Pistons is a testament to the intercultural relations fostered by the Asian-American community over the decades. Their dedication to economic and social growth, prosperity, generosity, and service, is both admirable and deserving of recognition. 2025 is known as Year of the Wood Snake. In the Chinese Zodiac, The Snake symbolizes wisdom and knowledge, coupled with the element of Wood, synonymous with growth and innovation. This symbolism is a great representation of the contributions Asian-Americans have made to our communities throughout the state of Michigan.

I would also like to thank the Michigan Asian Pacific American Affairs Commission (MAPAAC) for their continued support of cultural awareness, diversity, and inclusion of the AAPI communities in the greater American society. From their Annual Legislative Advocacy Day in Lansing to the plethora of webinars, trainings, and roundtables that they host throughout the state, they are committed to promoting and advancing the issues that are most pressing to the AAPI community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in celebrating the 9th annual Community Wide Lunar New Year Celebration with the Detroit Pistons. These celebrations serve as excellent occasions to honor achievements, share traditions, and bring people together in the spirit of the Lunar New Year. I thank the Michigan Alliance of Chinese American Organizations and the extended community for their dedication to hosting this annual celebration, and we are thrilled to see the continued impact this celebration has on the state of Michigan.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GERALD "TOM" CLEMENS

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Gerald "Tom" Clemens, who passed away on December 26th at the age of 88. Mr. Clemens is remembered for his sophisticated legal background and as an overwhelmingly caring family member.

Mr. Clemens was born in Prices Fork, Virginia, on March 20, 1936. After a childhood spent in Montgomery County, Mr. Clemens stayed close to home and attended Virginia Tech in Blacksburg for his undergraduate degree. While a student at Virginia Tech, he was an active member of the Corps of Cadets.

Later, Mr. Clemens became a member of the U.S. Army and achieved the rank of Colonel. He then attended Washington and Lee University School of Law and received his Juris Doctor in 1960. In 1961, Mr. Clemens and his wife, Pat, moved to Salem, Virginia. Mr. Clemens joined a local law firm and continued his legal work for many years in the Roanoke Valley.

The Virginia General Assembly recognized Mr. Clemens' legal excellence, appointing him to the General District Court and later to the 23rd Judicial Circuit Court bench. I practiced law in front of him in both courts. He was always a thoughtful and learned Judge.

Once he retired from the bench in 1997, he practiced law with his son, Chris, at the Salem-based firm, Clemens and Clemens.

My mother taught Mr. Clemens' son, Chris, in school. One of her class activities involved asking her students to bring in political campaign buttons for extra credit or show. Judge Clemens told me on several occasions that

school assignment for Chris began his passion for collecting political memorabilia.

Mr. Clemens was also very proud of his children and grandsons. He collected records of their achievements. Some of his grandsons have played water polo with my family and many others from Salem during the summer. Needless to say these experiences gave me a close-up look at Judge Tom Clemens and, Mr. Speaker, let me assure you he was a very fine man and a true southern gentleman. He set a high standard as an example for his family and all of us to strive to achieve.

Mr. Clemens was preceded in death by his parents, Jack and Clairmont Clemens; and his brother, Fred Clemens. He is survived by Pat, his cherished wife of 64 years; and children, Cindy (Marcy), Chris (Meg), and Charles (Whitney); four grandsons, Luca, Christopher, Will, and Grant; and his niece and nephews.

Mr. Clemens was a respected lawyer and judge whose service to his clients and the Commonwealth was outstanding. His profound love for his family and community was evident to many. I thank Mr. Clemens for his friendship, and wish his family peace during this difficult time.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CODE RETURNING CITIZENS COORDINATION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Code Returning Citizens Coordination Act, which would require the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) to provide information to the District of Columbia on individuals convicted of felonies under D.C. law in BOP custody. Currently, BOP provides no information to D.C. on these individuals, even immediately before release, which inhibits reentry, increases recidivism and harms public safety. In the 117th Congress, the Committee on Oversight and Reform passed this bill.

Federal law requires BOP to incarcerate individuals convicted of felonies under D.C. law. As of December 29, 2023, there were 3,200 such individuals in BOP custody, and they are in BOP facilities throughout the United States. This unique custody arrangement creates several obstacles to successful reentry, including information sharing among agencies.

BOP asserts that federal privacy laws prohibit it from providing any information to D.C. on these individuals, which prevents D.C. from having services ready for them when they return from prison. Yet, studies consistently show the importance of health care, housing, education, job training and substance use disorder treatment for successful reentry.

This bill would require BOP to provide D.C. two types of information on individuals convicted of a D.C. Code felony in BOP custody.

• 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.

Every 90 days, BOP would provide the name, age, Federal Register Number, facility where housed and the scheduled release date. Upon D.C.'s request, BOP would provide D.C. the same information that BOP provides to the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA) on these individuals, such as their release plan. CSOSA is a federal agency that provides community supervision for individuals convicted of D.C. crimes.

D.C. would be allowed to provide the biographical information only to counsel for the individuals, and to organizations that provide legal representation to individuals in criminal or post-conviction matters, or in matters related to reentry. D.C. would not be allowed to provide any of the other information, and D.C. law enforcement agencies would not have access to any of the information.

The overwhelming majority of people in prison return home. I hope all my colleagues agree on the importance of successful reentry. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE LEGACY AND SERVICE OF BILL HOSE

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired Sheriff William "Bill" Hose for his legacy of service to the York community.

Mr. Hose spent 29 years as a York City Police Officer, advancing to the Chief of Police in his last 11 years of service. He then served as York County Sheriff between 1996 and 2007, finishing a 37-year-long career in law enforcement, protecting the York community.

Mr. Hose's impact extends beyond his professional career. In his spare time, he has volunteered with crime prevention and youth services nonprofits in York County. He is also a U.S. Air Force Veteran, having been stationed in Berlin during the Berlin Crisis.

For his impactful record of service, the community thanks and honors Sheriff Bill Hose. York County residents should be proud to have such an outstanding model of selfless service in their community.

OPPOSITION TO H.R. 28, PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS IN SPORTS ACT

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise. I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 28, the misnomered "Protection of Women and Girls in Sports Act." Regrettably, without strong language banning demeaning, unclad body searches, this legislation will not prevent perverted personalities from developing reprehensible "show me your private" rules. This legislation requires that "sex shall be recognized based solely on a person's reproductive biology and genetics at birth." However, it is sadly silent as to how that requirement shall be validated. As numerous women's and girls'

rights organizations have noted, the lack of guidance in this legislation could lead schools to adopt intrusive and humiliating examination practices to verify students' sex. Due to the lack of protections against invasive examinations of students' private areas, I oppose this legislation.

RECOGNIZING KIM RAGLIN'S SERVICE TO HER COMMUNITY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Captain Kimberlee Raglin of the Ypsilanti Township Fire Department in Ypsilanti, Michigan, on the occasion of her retirement.

Kim joined the Ypsilanti Township Fire Department in 1996. She was promoted to Lieutenant in June 2016 and promoted to Captain in December 2023, the first woman in the history of the Ypsilanti Township Fire Department to hold either position. Members of her crew praised her for her depth of knowledge about firefighting techniques and dedication to educating new and young firefighters. Kim has also been devoted to providing fire safety education to the children of the area's public schools, teaching kids "stop, drop, and roll" and "Fire is a Tool, Not a Toy" programs. Kim has personally saved the lives of her community members while on the front lines, rescuing people from burning buildings and offering life-saving emergency medical attention in her role as an EMT. Over the course of her career, she has shown herself to be a dedicated, committed, and brave protector of her community. Kim demonstrates the Ypsilanti Township Fire Department's diligence in all aspects of fire safety. Public servants everywhere could learn from Kim's enthusiasm and steadfastness in her job, and I am proud to have had such an admirable individual leading the Ypsilanti Township Fire Department.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Captain Kimberlee Raglin for almost 30 years of exemplary service. She has selflessly worked for the benefit of Ypsilanti Township in her role as a Captain of the Ypsilanti Township Fire Department, and her heroic legacy will continue to inspire our community for decades to come. I sincerely thank Captain Raglin for 29 years of dedication to the safety of her community, and join with her family, friends, and colleagues in extending my best wishes to her in her well-deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING THE LIMA NOON OPTIMIST CLUB'S ANNUAL YOUTH APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, I always appreciate the opportunity to share positive news about young people from Ohio's Fourth Congressional District. Today, I am pleased to commend to the House thirteen high school students who are being honored for their outstanding leadership skills and volunteerism.

On February 5, the Noon Optimist Club of Lima will recognize Shyanna Fugatt, Caiden Garlock, Hale Hensley, Kaiya Hinebaugh, Bailey Hoover, Emma Hunley, Emily Long, Jadin Miller, Carder Orr, Cara Schwartz, Moriah Szuch, Lane Wildermuth, and Diego Williams at its annual youth appreciation luncheon. These students were each nominated by their schools for being good role models for their peers.

I thank the Optimists for their efforts to celebrate the many achievements of these students and am proud to join in the accolades to them. They have my very best wishes for continued success in their lives in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Mr. DUNN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to a previously scheduled medical procedure, I was unable to be in D.C. on Monday, January 13, 2025. Had I been present, I would have voted: YEA on Roll Call No. 8, H.R. 192, the Amtrak Executive Bonus Disclosure Act, and YEA on Roll Call No. 9, H.R. 152, the Federal Disaster Assistance Coordination Act.

RECOGNIZING THE RED STAR SERVICE BANNER AND THE RED STAR FOUNDATION

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2025

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, in my office on Capitol Hill hangs a service banner—14 inches high by 8.5 inches wide, with a blue border, a white center, and a red star in the center. Given to me by its designers and fellow Marines Jerry Shaffer and Sergeant Major Gene Overstreet, this banner is used to recognize the service of a Veteran or service member who has died by suicide. It is my honor today to recognize the Red Star Service Banner and the Red Star Foundation.

Each year, nearly 8,000 Veterans die by suicide in the United States—including over 500 active, reserve and guard deaths. Since 2001, more Veterans have died by suicide than have been killed in action since 1950. Despite greater focus and investment being placed both within the Department of Veterans affairs and outside to address this suicide crisis, tragically, little to no real progress has been made.

For each suicide, at least 6 surviving family members and loved ones are directly impacted leaving over 1 million people in the United States to cope with the pain and loss of a loved one. A new service banner specifically for Veteran and military suicides would serve several essential purposes:

1. Recognition: it would provide a visible and enduring acknowledgment of the sacrifice made by those who lost their lives to the struggles of mental health and post-traumatic stress disorder. These battles are just as real, just as honorable, and just as deserving of remembrance as those faced in the field of combat.