

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF THE EQUAL TREATMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA UNDER THE RURAL HEALTH TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM ACT OF 2025

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Equal Treatment of the District of Columbia Under the Rural Health Transformation Program Act of 2025, which would make the District of Columbia eligible for funding under the Rural Health Transformation Program (Program). The \$50 billion Program was established by the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1). While the Program's title refers to rural health, H.R. 1 permits the Program's funds to be used for health care services, providers and technology outside rural areas.

Senate Republicans, who created the Program, made only the 50 states eligible for funding, likely depriving D.C. of hundreds of millions of dollars. D.C. is treated as a state for most federal programs because D.C. residents pay the same federal taxes as residents of states, and there is no reason D.C. should not be eligible for the Program's funds.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE URBAN LEAGUE OF NWI AND THE SERVICE OF DR. VANESSA ALLEN-MCCLOUD

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Mr. MRVAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with sincere admiration that I rise to recognize the 80th Anniversary of the Urban League of Northwest Indiana (NWI) and its invaluable contributions to our region.

I also congratulate Dr. Vanessa Allen-McCloud on 15 years of service as President and CEO of the Urban League of NWI. Leaders and community members will gather to proudly celebrate these milestones at the Oak Jubilee Celebration at Indiana University Northwest in Gary, Indiana, on August 21, 2025.

On June 25, 1945, the Urban League of Gary was founded with the commitment to strive for equal opportunities for all citizens. As an affiliate of the National Urban League, the organization was established to remove racial barriers that prevented African Americans from enjoying equal opportunities in housing, employment, education and the many other facets of American life. The Board of Directors later reorganized in 1970 as the Urban League of NWI Inc. to better reflect their service to communities in Lake, Porter, and

LaPorte Counties. For 80 years, the Urban League of NWI has promoted, encouraged, and enhanced services to improve social, educational, and economic conditions for African Americans and other minority groups across Northwest Indiana. The Urban League of NWI has played a pivotal role in the lives of countless residents, including advancing educational opportunities for low-income students through its annual scholarship fair at Indiana University Northwest.

The Urban League's grand impact on the Region would not be possible without its dedicated staff and the exceptional leadership of Dr. Vanessa Allen-McCloud. Her contributions as President and CEO over the past 15 years exemplify her commitment to civil service, education, and her community, serving as an inspiration for all in our region. Dr. Allen-McCloud holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Organizational Leadership, a Master of Education, and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership and Administration. She incorporates her rigorous academic background each day to maximize the support that the Urban League provides to its surrounding residents. Dr. Allen-McCloud has received many prestigious awards for her work in the community and these, along with her numerous accomplishments leading the Urban League of NWI during the past 15 years, are a testament to her commendable character and work ethic.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring the Urban League of NWI and Dr. Vanessa Allen-McCloud on these two notable milestones. Throughout the years, the dedicated staff and leaders of the Urban League of NWI have worked diligently to expand the opportunities offered to minority groups to promote fair access to a successful future, and they deserve great recognition for their contributions and commitment to communities across Northwest Indiana.

HONORING JOAN GROWE ON HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. ANGIE CRAIG

OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Ms. CRAIG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great Minnesotan, Joan Growe, ahead of her 90th birthday on September 28, 2025.

Born Joan Ruth Anderson in 1935, Joan was introduced to public service early in her life. Her father, Arthur Anderson, served as mayor of her hometown of Buffalo, Minnesota, where she would later graduate from Buffalo High School. She then went on to earn a teaching degree from St. Cloud State University and spent the following years giving back to her community as a teacher and a homemaker.

In 1972, Joan launched a bid for an open seat in the Minnesota State Legislature. While critics mocked her "Housewives Campaign",

she embraced the network of women she'd met through the League of Women Voters. She met people where they were, attending coffee parties, book clubs, and PTA meetings. This coalition carried her to victory, and she spent her time in the Minnesota House fighting for election integrity and voting access. She championed Minnesota's same-day voter registration law, the first of its kind in the Nation.

Her election as secretary of state in 1974 made her the first woman in Minnesota's history to win a statewide election without prior appointment. Her 24-year tenure also made her the second longest serving secretary of state in our state's history. During this time, she found creative ways to encourage voter participation, from voter education campaigns to friendly contests between cities. As a result, Minnesota was named the Nation's "Votingest State" under her watch—beginning a legacy of strong voter turnout that continues to this day.

Since leaving public office, Joan has worked tirelessly to ensure that all elections remain accessible and secure. She has been selected to serve as an official election observer in various foreign elections and served on the advisory committee for the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota. Her expertise in voting and elections is known worldwide, and she continues to make our state proud wherever she goes.

I thank Joan for everything she has done for our shared democratic values, for every glass ceiling that she's broken, and for being such a dear friend. I wish her a Happy Birthday.

RECOGNIZING THE LAND OF MAKE BELIEVE, THE WORLD'S GREATEST AMUSEMENT PARK

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Land of Make Believe being named the "World's Greatest Amusement Park" by the nationally televised "World's Greatest! . . ."

Located in Hope Township, New Jersey, the Land of Make Believe has provided lasting entertainment and fun in the Northern New Jersey area for over seven decades. Since its founding in 1954 by Herman Maier, the park has remained family-owned and operated, with the Maier family upholding the same high standards of excellence and service that have defined it from the beginning. These high standards also earned the Land of Make Believe the award of "Best Theme Park in New Jersey" by MSN.com earlier this summer. Christopher Maier, Herman's son and the park's current owner, credited its most recent achievement to the park's enduring commitment to affordability, safety, and family-centered fun.

As we celebrate this accomplishment, I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring this

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

beloved institution and its legacy. I look forward to seeing it continue to bring joy to generations of families for years to come.

HONORING MRS. MONZOLA
RANDLE ROSS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a lifelong educator, community matriarch, and steadfast servant leader, Mrs. Monzola Randle Ross of Cruger, Mississippi.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. once said, "Longevity has its place." That truth finds a shining example in the remarkable career and impact of Mrs. Ross, who faithfully served 41 consecutive years with Central Mississippi, Inc. Head Start, shaping the lives of more than 2,400 children across Holmes County.

Mrs. Ross began her journey in early childhood education as a part-time secretary at the Holly Grove Head Start Center. Through her dedication and love for children, she rose to become a teacher, then head teacher, and eventually center manager. Even after the closing of Holly Grove, her commitment never wavered. She continued to serve with excellence at the Goodman Head Start Center until her recent retirement.

More than an educator, Mrs. Ross was a life-mentor. From her handmade brown-paper-bag puppets "Mr. Do" and "Mr. Don't," to the life lessons she instilled in every classroom, she taught not only ABCs and 123s, but discipline, respect, and purpose. Her former students have gone on to become teachers, entrepreneurs, ministers, realtors, health professionals, farmers, public servants, and even Head Start managers themselves. In every one of their stories, her legacy endures.

She holds a national Child Development Associate credential and has received numerous awards throughout her career. Yet, her greatest reward came from the joy of watching children grow, thrive, and succeed—and from the unwavering support of her late husband, Mr. Albert Ross, her daughters Rose Berry, Lawanda Ross, and Pamela Wiley, and her beloved grandchildren.

Even in retirement, Mrs. Ross remains a pillar of the Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church in Lexington, Mississippi, where her celebration drew nearly 100 well-wishers—friends, family, and former students who came from as far as the West Coast and Chicago. The event featured touching tributes, musical performances, and reflections from those whose lives she touched most deeply.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating Mrs. Monzola Randle Ross for her extraordinary devotion to early childhood education, her love for her community, and her enduring legacy of compassion, excellence, and service. Mississippi is better because of her.

HONORING MARC SALTZBERG

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the remarkable life and legacy of my friend Marc Saltzberg. He passed away peacefully on June 27, 2025, surrounded by his loving family following a prolonged battle with cancer.

After his retirement from a successful career in information technology, Marc dedicated himself to political activism. He became an integral member of local advocacy organizations, tirelessly supporting causes that he was passionate about. More than just a supporter, Marc sought to create spaces for open and thoughtful civil and political discourse within his community, fostering engagement at the grassroot level in ways that uplifted those around him.

Born in Chicago, Marc's journey took him to Carleton College, where he met his beloved wife, Nancy. Their shared passion for travel led them to countless adventures as a couple. In their youth, they hiked in Nepal, explored Turkey, and cycled in France. In later years, they returned to Turkey with their three children, Jenny, Alex, and Maria, as a testament to their lifelong sense of wonder and curiosity.

Marc's contributions to his community and to the causes he held dear are a true testament to his character. His commitment to the betterment of society was unwavering, and he and his family were committed to supporting organizations serving communities in need and environmental causes. Some of these organizations included Planned Parenthood, the American Civil Liberties Union, Doctors Without Borders, the Monterey Bay Aquarium and many more. These causes reflected Marc's enduring belief in justice, compassion, and a better future for all.

Marc is survived by his wife Nancy, his children Jenny, Alex, and Maria, and his grandchildren. May his contributions to serving people in need live on through the people and organizations that he touched throughout his life.

Marc was a proud father, grandfather, and dedicated activist. His legacy of service and engagement will continue to inspire and guide many after him. May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF FORMER FIRST LADY, MRS.
ROSALYNN CARTER

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

Mr. BISHOP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of a former First Lady of the United States, former First Lady of Georgia, a devoted wife, loving mother, proud grandmother and great-grandmother, tireless advocate, and dear friend, Mrs. Rosalynn Carter. Mrs. Carter transitioned from this life on November 19, 2023. On August 18, 2025, a wreath was laid at her burial site in Plains, Georgia to commemorate her birthday and all she did to serve humankind.

Rosalynn Carter was born and raised in Plains, Georgia to the union of Wilburn Edgar

Smith and Frances Allethea "Allie" Murray Smith. She graduated as valedictorian of Plains High School and then attended Georgia Southwestern College—now Georgia Southwestern State University—in Americus, Georgia where she served as Vice President of her class and graduated in 1946. In 1945 she began dating James Earl "Jimmy" Carter, Jr., also from Plains and whose family farmed peanuts. Jimmy was attending the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, at the time. Jimmy and Rosalynn married in Plains on July 7, 1946, and they would go on to spend seventy-seven cherished years together.

In 1953, following the death of President Carter's father, the Carters returned to Plains and Mrs. Carter assumed responsibility for bookkeeping at the family peanut farm and established herself as an essential part of the business. After Jimmy was elected to the Georgia State Senate in 1962, Rosalynn's role on the peanut farm grew, especially while he traveled to Atlanta for legislative sessions.

In 1970, Senator Jimmy Carter launched his campaign for governor and Rosalynn took a leading role on the campaign trail. In addition to handling most of her husband's political correspondence and meeting with constituents, Mrs. Carter began to travel across the state of Georgia to campaign on his behalf. From 1971 to 1975, as First Lady of Georgia, she was an equal partner and close advisor to Governor Carter and dedicated herself to improving mental health services, serving on the Governor's Commission to Improve Services for the Mentally and Emotionally Handicapped where she formally began working on one of her foremost initiatives: improving and breaking the stigma surrounding mental health.

Before returning to Plains, Jimmy had already announced he was running for President in the 1976 election. Rosalynn was by his side, as always, and hit the road to talk with voters across the country. She told people why she believed this soft-spoken, Georgia peanut farmer should become president. In November of 1976, Jimmy Carter became President-elect of the United States and Rosalynn followed him to the White House where she would make her own mark in defining what it meant to be America's First Lady.

As First Lady of the United States from 1977 to 1981, Mrs. Carter attended Cabinet meetings, worked on domestic policy, and served as Honorary Chair of the President's Commission on Mental Health. In 1979, she testified before a U.S. Senate subcommittee in support of the Mental Health Systems Act, becoming the first First Lady since Eleanor Roosevelt to testify before Congress.

After leaving the White House, Mrs. Carter remained active in humanitarian work. She and President Carter devoted decades to Habitat for Humanity, where they built and repaired homes in communities around the world. In 1982, they founded the Carter Center, a nonprofit human rights organization, which has since become famous for its work to eradicate disease, strengthen democracies, and alleviate human suffering all around the world. In 1987, she established the Rosalynn Carter Institute for Caregivers at Georgia Southwestern State University, which continues to support those caring for loved ones with chronic illnesses or disabilities.

Over the course of her life, Rosalynn received numerous awards and honors, including being inducted into the National Women's