

hosts events, workshops, and educational programs that celebrate the blues and foster a sense of community among musicians and fans.

Joe Bonamassa's legacy extends far beyond his accomplishments as a musician. Through his advocacy work with the Keeping the Blues Alive Foundation, he has become a champion for the blues, ensuring that its rich legacy endures for future generations. His passion, talent, and generosity have earned him the respect and admiration of fans and fellow musicians alike, cementing his status as one of the genre's most influential figures.

As we celebrate Joe Bonamassa and his contributions to the blues community, we are reminded of the power of music to unite, inspire, and uplift. Through his music and his philanthropy, Bonamassa has touched the lives of countless individuals and left an indelible mark on the world of blues music. As we look to the future, we are confident that his legacy will continue to shine brightly, keeping the blues alive for generations to come.

Mr. Speaker, Joe Bonamassa's dedication to the blues and his efforts with the Keeping the Blues Alive Foundation have had a profound impact on the music community. Through his music, advocacy, and philanthropy, Bonamassa has helped to preserve the legacy of the blues while also ensuring its continued relevance in the 21st century. As we honor his contributions, we are reminded of the importance of supporting music education and nurturing the next generation of blues musicians. Joe Bonamassa's legacy will undoubtedly continue to inspire and uplift for years to come.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2026

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 3, 2025*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, Minnesotans are feeling the heat, literally. The Twin Cities have experienced 10 days over 90 degrees this summer, and wildfire smoke has resulted in 18 air quality alerts, nearing the record of 22 days in 2023. This is not a fluke. It's a sign of a worsening climate crisis that threatens our life, health, safety and economic security.

Instead of investing in solutions to this crisis, the Republican majority in Congress is advancing legislation that would raise energy costs for American households and businesses, make us less competitive and weaken our national security.

Last month, the House Appropriations Committee passed H.R. 4553, the fiscal year 2026 Energy and Water Appropriations bill. As the only Minnesotan on the Appropriations Committee, I will vote against advancing this bill. Its cuts will harm Minnesota and our Nation.

Our global competitors like China are investing hundreds of billions of dollars in clean-energy development, but Republicans are choosing to cut U.S. investments that create high-wage jobs, drive innovation and lower energy bills for Americans. Republicans' bill slashes energy efficiency and renewable energy programs at the Department of Energy by \$1.6

billion, a staggering 47 percent cut. For Minnesota, this cut means we'll lose over \$6.7 million in federal funding if Republicans' Energy and Water bill becomes law.

If that wasn't bad enough, Republicans on the Appropriations Committee voted for a 44 percent cut to the Weatherization Assistance Program, which helps low-income households lower their utility bills by improving home energy efficiency. This program helps roughly 1,200 Minnesotans weatherize their homes each year, saving families about \$372 annually on their energy bills. While most U.S. households spend 3 percent of their income on energy costs, low-income households often spend 15 percent or more. Under the MAGA Republican plan, many senior citizens and families would be forced to choose between buying groceries or cooling their homes during record-breaking heat.

It could get even worse for these families. President Donald Trump has proposed eliminating funding for the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). Trump calls LIHEAP "unnecessary," but for thousands of Minnesotans, it is a lifeline that helps to keep the heat on during our brutal winters.

As House Republicans' Energy and Water bill increases Minnesotans' energy costs, their funding cuts will have a chilling effect on clean-energy jobs—a sector that has been growing five times faster than Minnesota's overall job growth. More than 62,000 Minnesotans work in clean energy, and more than 44,000 of them work in energy efficiency. More than 300 local contractors alone work on projects directly supported by the Weatherization Assistance Program.

Since taking office, Trump has been jeopardizing clean-energy jobs in Minnesota by terminating clean-energy incentives in his so-called "One Big Beautiful Bill," canceling grants and illegally withholding funds from state, local and tribal governments. These actions are stalling clean-energy projects and eliminating high-wage jobs.

The Trump administration is also attacking workforce development for clean energy. In May, the Department of Labor shut down Job Corps, closing the doors of the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center in St. Paul. For 44 years, Job Corps provided job training, education and housing for thousands of low-income, at-risk youth, preparing Minnesota's workforce to meet the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century, including jobs in renewable energy and efficiency.

We cannot afford to abandon these investments during a worsening climate crisis. American families are already struggling with high energy bills. But the need to develop our own homegrown clean and sustainable energy isn't just a matter of economic security; it's also about our national security.

The Department of Defense considers climate change to be a top national security concern. Climate change is making nations around the world more unstable and less safe. It's also hurting our military readiness here at home, with sea-level rise and extreme weather flooding our bases. Permafrost thaw is making Alaskan runways unusable. Radar stations are at risk of falling into the sea.

Mr. Chair, we don't have the luxury of ignoring the very real effects of climate change happening around us—especially when they're affecting our lives and livelihoods and our national security. Future generations will pay the highest costs of Republicans' failure to act.

As a Minnesota representative, I will fight to defend these critical investments because Minnesotans deserve better. The children deserve better.

RECOGNIZING SADIE PIREZ, CHEVROLET PLAY BALL PLAYER OF THE MONTH

**HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2025*

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sadie Pirez of Readington, New Jersey, who has been recognized nationally as a Chevrolet Play Ball Player of the Month by Major League Baseball. This program highlights outstanding young athletes across the country who demonstrate exceptional talent, sportsmanship, and dedication to the game. Sadie has achieved remarkable success both on and off the field. She has been a part of three championship teams over the past three seasons and was selected for the Branchburg Recreation Spring 2025 All-Star Team. Sadie led her travel team to the Parkway League Spring Division Championship and was team leader in runs scored and RBI's, carrying an impressive .521 batting average and .662 on-base percentage this past spring.

Off the field, Sadie is a two-time Hunterdon Art Museum Young Artist Award recipient and has been featured in the Holland Brook School Bobcat Bulletin. She also maintains straight A's in all core subjects. I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring Sadie and her remarkable achievements, and I look forward to seeing Sadie continue to be successful both on and off the field for years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DAVID ROUZER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2025*

Mr. ROUZER. Mr. Speaker, I missed the Roll Call vote on H.J. Res. 106. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 225.

HONORING PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. JASMINE CROCKETT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2025*

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among American men, with one in eight men receiving diagnosis in their lifetime. This disease also affects African American men at higher rates. Yet through early detection and effective medical treatment, many men can lead fulfilling lives. This month emphasizes the importance of regular doctors' visits and testing as well as reminds us of the need to normalize open and honest conversations with our loved

ones about their health. We can eradicate this deadly disease through continued awareness, elevating stories, and supporting innovative research for the men we hold dear in our lives.

While the fight is far from over, it is incumbent upon us to do our part. As the daughter of a brave survivor of prostate cancer, recognizing September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month is a small token of appreciation for all that have taken part in this fight against this disease. Today, I uplift my father, Joseph Crockett, and all prostate cancer survivors who are living testimonies of overcoming one of life's most challenging experiences. I also honor all we have lost, knowing their deaths are not in vain, but instead strengthen our resolve for finding a cure. Their tenacious spirit lives within all of us.

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HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF JENNIFER FUHS

**HON. RUSS FULCHER**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2025*

Mr. FULCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Jennifer Fuhs, a beloved mother, grandmother, and fighter from Lewiston, Idaho, who is courageously facing the final stages of her battle with cancer.

Jennifer dedicated her career as a compassionate defense attorney, advocating for individuals in Lewiston who faced uncertain life circumstances. She approached her work with empathy and conviction, always seeking fairness and justice for those in need.

Beyond her professional service, Jennifer is a devoted mother to her five children and a proud grandmother to her four grandchildren, whom she adores deeply. She is witty, organized, hardworking, and spunky, and she carries a spirit of generosity that inspires everyone around her. She loves to laugh, spend time with her friends and family, and she lives each day with purpose and joy.

Her strength and grace in the face of illness is a source of inspiration, not only to her loved ones but to her entire community. She embodies the very best of the American spirit—resilience, compassion, and unwavering love for others.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Jennifer Fuhs for the life she lives, the example she has set, and the legacy she continues to build. May she be surrounded with peace, comfort, and the knowledge that her impact will endure for generations.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MORGAN LUTTRELL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2025*

Mr. LUTTRELL. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, July 14, 2025, I was unable to vote on Roll Call Nos. 191, 192, and 193. Had I been present, I would have voted as followed: YEA on Roll Call No. 191; YEA on Roll Call No. 192; and YEA on Roll Call No. 193.

HONORING PHILADELPHIA COUNTY  
REVOLUTIONARY WAR MILITIA  
LIEUTENANT COLONEL JACOB  
REED

**HON. BRIAN K. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2025*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the National Society Daughters of American Revolution (NSDAR), Towamencin Chapter, which is an organization in my district. The NSDAR was founded in 1890 to promote Historic Preservation, Education, and Patriotism across the United States. Members seek to honor their heritage as daughters of Patriots who supported the Revolutionary War while making a difference in their communities.

The Towamencin Chapter, NSDAR has collaborated with the William G. Pomeroy Foundation in their initiative to celebrate the semiquincentennial of our Nation in 2026. This program offers grants to commemorate historical points of interest significant to the Revolutionary War period. The Towamencin Chapter, NSDAR, along with the assistance of the Hatfield Historical Society and Museum, were grateful that one of the historical sites chosen belonged to Lieutenant Colonel (Lt. Col.) Jacob Reed, a Patriot from Hatfield, Pennsylvania.

Lt. Col. Jacob Reed was born on July 6, 1730, in Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania. He died on November 2, 1820, in New Britain Township, Pennsylvania. He married Magdalena Leidy and had 9 children together. Jacob Reed came from a very patriotic family with his father paying the Supply Tax in 1781 in Hatfield Township and all his brothers and brothers-in-law participating in the Revolutionary War. Two of his sons also fought in the Revolutionary War.

Lt. Col. Jacob Reed resided in Hatfield from 1770 to 1793, having secured a 215-acre land warrant from the sons of William Penn. His original log home, built in the 18th century, still stands today as part of the current farmhouse on the property.

A respected farmer, church elder, and public servant, Jacob Reed's legacy is deeply embedded in the fabric of Hatfield's history. During the Revolutionary War, he served as Lieutenant Colonel of the 1st Battalion, Philadelphia County Militia, making him the highest-ranking military officer from Hatfield at the time. He played critical roles in the Battles of Germantown and Brandywine, and was later elected Major of the 5th Battalion, Pennsylvania Troops, continuing his service until the war's end.

His unwavering faith in the American cause had brought attacks on Reed's life and home. Yet, Jacob Reed never swayed. Reed's intimate knowledge of the region's terrain and demographics proved to secure him as an invaluable asset to General George Washington.

Additionally, the Forst family who are members of our district, were instrumental in saving this property from development. Bill Forst bought the property and then used his own funds and time to restore the property to what it is today. The property has now passed to his daughters, Wendy Forst Ferrell and Fay Forst Younger, who allowed the Towamencin

Chapter, NSDAR to install the marker on their property as well as hold a dedication ceremony recognizing the contributions of Lt. Col. Jacob Reed and his willingness to fight for his beliefs.

Through these acts of endless patriotism and dedication, the Forst family, Daughters of the Revolution, Towamencin Chapter, William G. Pomeroy Foundation, and the Hatfield Historical Society demonstrated their unwavering commitment to serving the Pennsylvania's 1st Congressional District community.

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HONORING THE SERVICE OF  
TERESA BOWEN

**HON. MARK DeSAULNIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, September 8, 2025*

MR. DESAULNIER. Mr. Speaker I rise today to recognize Terry Bowen as she retires from her role with Gray-Bowen-Scott.

Teresa Bowen has worked tirelessly to bring transportation and development initiatives to life throughout the Bay Area. She graduated from U.C. Berkeley with a degree in Civil Engineering and began her career with Contra Costa Public Works Department, where she served as a Senior Civil Engineer. In 1986, Terry joined what is now known as Gray-Bowen-Scott as the organization's fourth employee. Throughout her tenure with Gray-Bowen-Scott, she has lent her expertise in local government to help countless clients navigate the system to make their projects a reality. Terry has fostered relationships with key partners such as Caltrans, the Federal Highway Administration, the California Transportation Commission, and other regional transportation agencies. She prides herself on the strong relationships she's built with these stakeholders and her work has helped to deliver transportation and land development projects for our community for over forty years. Additionally, Terry was instrumental in the Sunol Grade Express Lane Project in Alameda County. Throughout this project, Terry worked closely with environmental groups, advocated for necessary state legislation, and secured funding to help complete the first express lane project in the Bay Area. Her work on this has set a precedent for how these projects are handled throughout the region. Terry's approach has demonstrated collaborative, creative problem-solving to address complex transportation issues.

Beyond her work at Gray-Bowen-Scott, Terry previously served as Chair of the East Bay Leadership Council, where she further demonstrated her commitment to improving quality of life for Bay Area residents and bolstering our region's economy. Outside of her professional accomplishments, Terry enjoys seeking out new learning opportunities, a good red wine, dancing, and spoiling her four-legged friends. Terry's work has been critical in shaping our region and her leadership has left an indelible impact on our community.

Please join me in congratulating Terry Bowen on her retirement after decades of dedicated service and wishing her well as she begins this new chapter.