

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 2025 INDUCTEES TO THE FLORIDA INVENTORS HALL OF FAME

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the ten inventors who have been selected as the 2025 Inductees to the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame. Peers nationwide nominate inventors who then undergo and the scrutiny of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame Selection Committee. As a result, their innovations have been identified as significantly affecting the quality of life, economic development and welfare of their communities, my Tampa Bay neighbors and the United States.

The Florida Inventors Hall of Fame was founded in 2013 at the University of South Florida. It was recognized by the Florida Senate with Senate Resolution 1756, adopted on April 30, 2014. The Florida Inventors Hall of Fame catalyzes the cycle of discovery and innovation across the state of Florida by recognizing pioneering inventors, empowering future problem-solvers and change-makers and propelling the American legacy of innovation through transformative experiences and meaningful narratives.

Nomination to the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame is open to all Florida inventors, living or deceased, who are or have been residents of Florida. The nominee must be a named inventor on a patent issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The impact of the inventor and their invention(s) should be significant to society, and the invention should have been commercialized, utilized or led to important innovations.

The 2025 Inductees are the 11th class to be inducted into the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame. Their achievements underscore the critical role that innovation plays in driving progress and improving the quality of life for people in our state, our Nation and around the world. Their groundbreaking work not only advances scientific discovery but also strengthens the economy and enhances our global competitiveness. The 2025 Inductees collectively hold more than 460 U.S. patents and come from across industry and academia. Since its founding, the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame has inducted 87 inventors, who collectively hold over 5,700 U.S. patents.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my neighbors in Tampa Bay and the citizens of Florida, I am proud to honor the 2025 Inductees to the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame for this outstanding achievement. Innovation and invention are the building blocks of our Nation. I applaud these highly accomplished individuals and the organizations that support them in their quest to change the world in ways that truly benefit humanity. It is because of the perseverance of these inventors that future generations are inspired to reach beyond their limits and push the boundaries of innovation.

I include in the RECORD the 2025 Inductees:

Cleopatra “Cleo” Cabuz: Retired Vice President of Technology and Partnerships, in Honeywell’s Safety and Productivity Solutions, who is recognized for significant contributions to the field of Micro Electro Mechanical Systems (MEMS) and integrated systems for medical and industrial safety applications. Her innovations in miniaturized flow cytometry, including disposable cartridges, laid the foundation for the ImmuneIQ product line, enabling point-of-care diagnostics for immune diseases.

Michael Francis: CEO and founder of Asante Bio and Associate Professor of Orthopaedic Surgery and Sports Medicine at the University of South Florida, who is recognized for pioneering innovations and clinical translation of transformative medical devices and biologics across the fields of orthopedics and sports medicine via advanced regenerative medicine, biomanufacturing, additive manufacturing, biomaterials, collagen-based tissue engineering and electrospun nanofiber technologies.

Joseph Iannotti: Chief Research and Academic Officer and Lang Family Endowed Chair of Orthopaedic Research at the Cleveland Clinic Florida, and Professor of Surgery and Biomedical Engineering at the Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University, who is recognized for advanced discovery and innovation in shoulder surgery for preoperative planning software and patient specific instrumentation, soft tissue engineering, and implant devices and instrumentation.

Hari Kalva: Chair and Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science at Florida Atlantic University, who is recognized for pioneering innovations in video compression and multimedia communication, and video analytics that enable efficient digital video delivery across devices worldwide, transforming how the world experiences visual media.

Nasser Kutkut: Founder & CEO of Smart Charging Technologies LLC and Former CTO of Advanced Charging Technologies Inc., who is recognized for pioneering advances in industrial electric vehicle battery charging and the development and commercialization of novel fast charging and battery management technologies for motive power applications delivering substantial energy savings and reductions in carbon emissions.

Richard McCullough: the 16th President of Florida State University and former professor of materials science and engineering at Harvard University who is recognized for pioneering the discovery of regioregular polythiophenes, a revolutionary class of conjugated polymers that is foundational to printable electronic materials and organic semiconductors. He also discovered a new class of reactive metal inks.

Sumita Mitra: Partner and Co-Owner of Mitra Chemical Consulting, Retired Corporate Scientist at 3M Dental Products Division and Professor in the Institute for Advanced Discovery & Innovation at the University of South Florida, who is recognized for inventing the first dental filling material with nanoparticles, and revolutionizing restorative dentistry with stronger, more durable, and aesthetically advanced solutions that have benefited millions worldwide.

Subhra Mohapatra: Professor of Molecular Medicine at the University of South Florida

Morsani College of Medicine, Research Career Scientist at the James A. Haley Veterans Hospital, and Co-Founder of TransGenex Nanobiotech Inc., who is recognized for distinguished contributions and pioneering developments in cellular and molecular engineering and nanoscale drug delivery technologies, especially advancing detection and treatment of cancers and neurodegenerative diseases.

Edward Rosenthal: CEO and Co-Founder of Florikan ESA, who is recognized for pioneering staged nutrient release (SNR) encapsulated fertilizers that match plant growth cycles to optimize nutrient delivery while enhancing environmental stewardship and sustainable agriculture. Florikan’s SNR technology is now the sole fertilizer used on the International Space Station as part of NASA’s Veggie and Advanced Plant Habitat program.

W. Greg Sawyer: Chief BioEngineering Officer and Chair in the Department of Bio-Engineering at Moffitt Cancer Center, who is recognized for pioneering inventions in biomedical engineering, cancer engineering and tribology that have revolutionized medical devices, prosthetics and implants, contact lenses, cancer research and regenerative medicine while advancing Florida’s innovation ecosystem.

RECOGNIZING ALISON COHEN AND HER SERVICE TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Alison Cohen for two and a half years of outstanding service to the constituents of New York’s 12th Congressional District.

A native of Northern Virginia, Alison attended William & Mary University, where she received a bachelor’s degree in Global Governance and Community Engagement. After graduating, she joined the Teach for America program and moved to New Orleans to work as a middle school math teacher in a public school.

For the next three years, she served as a teacher and mentor for hundreds of students. I know she keeps in touch with some of her former pupils who still recognize the impact that she made on their lives. Alison’s skills from her time as a teacher can be seen during the many meetings that she has with student groups, where she is able to capture the attention of students and skillfully answer their questions in a thoughtful and accessible way.

Alison’s experience working in public education in Louisiana inspired her to enter policy work to help address the systemic inequities that she saw impacting her students’ lives. She began working as a legislative assistant for Louisiana State Representative Aimee Freedman. During her time working in the State Legislature, she worked on many issues impacting everyday Louisianans. One of her key accomplishments was helping shepherd

• 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.

Representative Freedman's bill to eliminate the "pink tax" on diapers and menstrual products and other goods, which unfairly disadvantages women and children. This legislation was signed into law in 2021 and is an example of Alison's longstanding commitment to helping support women and families through policy.

After working as a policy analyst for the Louisiana Budget Project, Alison returned to the D.C. area and began working as a Legislative Assistant for Congresswoman Elaine Luria (D-VA). In 2023, I was lucky to have her join my Washington, D.C. Office as a Legislative Assistant.

Over her two and a half year career in my office, Alison covered many issues, including Healthcare, Reproductive Rights, Education, and Social Security. During her time in my office, Alison held hundreds of meetings with stakeholder groups from across the district, serving as a representative for my office in many photos with groups. She always brought her knowledge and compassion to these meetings and often showed her unique talent of being able to quickly learn the names of everyone in her meetings.

Supported by her afternoon Diet Cokes, Alison assisted with many of my key legislative priorities over the past few years. She worked diligently to support the implementation of my Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, working to ensure it was protected in the appropriations process, and helping to organize an amicus brief supporting the bill.

She has also been a champion of my bill, the Living Donor Protection Act, which received 225 cosponsors in the 118th Congress due to Alison's hard work. Her steadfast and compassionate work with members of the organ transplant community has been inspiring to see.

Alison has also worked on many other health issues, including supporting my longstanding work to secure funding for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA). She has also worked closely with stakeholders in the district to support my longstanding work on the World Trade Center Health Program.

Alison serves as a key bridge between my office and the many hospitals, health centers, and stakeholders in our district.

While working in my office, Alison completed her master's in Health Law and Strategy from New York University, helping to expand her understanding of the healthcare system, especially in the legal context. Her ability to navigate both school and work demonstrates her flexibility and willingness to take on new challenges.

Alison has also been an active part of our office culture, helping to mentor many staff and interns; she was always available to offer support and feedback. I will miss her positive presence in the office, especially around birthdays and other celebrations.

As Alison moves to her new position in Federal Affairs at Callen-Lorde Health system in New York, I am glad to know she will continue to serve the people of the 12th District. I look forward to seeing where her career will take her and thank her for her excellent service.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE COLORADO DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Colorado Dragon Boat Festival, a vibrant and family-friendly event that has become one of our state's most treasured cultural traditions. This year's festival commemorated the Year of the Wood Snake, bringing together people of all backgrounds to highlight Colorado's rich Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander community.

The Colorado Dragon Boat Festival began in 2001 at Sloan's Lake Park in Denver, the dream of leaders in our AANHPI community who sought to create a space to showcase the culture, diversity, and contributions of Asian American communities. That vision has grown into something extraordinary. From 16 teams and 16,000 attendees in its first year, the festival now welcomes nearly 200,000 visitors annually and has become the largest dragon boat festival in the United States.

The event embodies its mission of building bridges of awareness, knowledge, and understanding between diverse AANHPI communities and the broader public. With nearly 50 racing teams, over 30 food vendors, a bustling Asian Marketplace, Dragonland for children, and more than 60 performances ranging from traditional dances and martial arts to contemporary Asian American music, the festival reflects both the depth and vitality of Colorado's cultural landscape.

Dragon boat racing itself is a tradition rooted in over 2,000 years of history, commemorating the poet and warrior Chu Yuan, whose followers honored his legacy with paddles, drums, and unity on the water. Today, that same spirit of remembrance, resilience, and cultural pride lives on in Sloan's Lake every summer.

The Colorado Dragon Boat Festival is a testament to the lasting power of cultural celebration and community building. For 25 years, it has been a place where families gather, traditions are shared, and the stories of AANHPI communities are uplifted for all to see. I commend the organizers, volunteers, and community members who have made this milestone possible, and I look forward to many more years of dragon boat racing, cultural exchange, and unity in Colorado.

RECOGNIZING HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH AND THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY HISPANIC AFFAIRS ADVISORY BOARD

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Hispanic Heritage Month and to commend the extraordinary work of the Miami-Dade County Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board.

Each year, our Nation honors the history, culture, and countless contributions of His-

panic Americans. Today, Hispanics and Latinos represent the largest minority in the United States, accounting for more than 19 percent of our population and nearly 70 percent of the residents of Miami-Dade County.

The Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board has long served as a strong advocate for our Hispanic community. It leads countywide efforts to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month and to promote cultural unity across our diverse community.

This year, Miami-Dade County's 2025 Hispanic Heritage Month Kickoff Celebration will bring together elected officials, more than 30 Consuls General and international diplomats, as well as community leaders from across South Florida. This celebration reflects the multicultural richness that defines both our county and Nation.

I am proud to recognize the Miami-Dade County Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board for its leadership, dedication, and tireless service. Their work not only highlights the invaluable contributions of Hispanic Americans but also reminds us that cultural unity strengthens the very fabric of our communities.

HONORING CLAIRE'S CORNER COPIA ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, in my hometown of New Haven, on the corner of Chapel and College Streets, there is an eclectic, gourmet vegetarian restaurant that is among the most popular and beloved in the city. Today, Claire's Corner Copia marks its 50th Anniversary—an outstanding milestone for this one-of-a-kind culinary treasure. I am proud to rise today to join the many family, friends, patrons, and community leaders who have gathered in extending my heartfelt congratulations to its owner, Claire Criscuolo, and her exceptional team on this very special occasion.

Love and family have always been at the heart of Claire's Corner Copia. Claire and her late husband, Frank, opened the restaurant as a way to spend more time together and focused on bringing the essence of the recipes Claire used for her home-cooked meals to their customers. That sense of family extended not only to those who came to eat but, most importantly, to those who worked for them. Unlike most in the industry, instead of making her employees rely on tips, Claire pays her staff a fair wage, provides health benefits, and paid time off. By investing in her employees, Claire has created a unique work environment, built on mutual respect and trust. It is why so many have stayed with her for more than a decade, weathering even the worst of economic trials with her. They are not just people who work for her, they are family. That is the secret of the success of Claire's Corner Copia.

What is it, you may ask, that makes Claire's Corner Copia so popular? Perhaps it is the mismatched furniture placed throughout the dining area. Maybe it is the menu artfully scrawled in multicolored chalk across a series of blackboards. It could be the charm of the immersive dining experience—waiting in line