

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING MORGAN JAY
BUCHANAN

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Morgan Jay Buchanan, who recently retired after nearly ten years as President of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), Local Union 68.

President Buchanan dedicated his life to service. He served honorably for 17 years in the U.S. Army before enrolling in the Denver Joint Electrical Apprenticeship program, and went on to become Vice President of IBEW 68 and eventually President.

As a part of Local Union 68, he worked tirelessly to ensure his fellow electricians had safe, rewarding careers. President Buchanan embodies the qualities essential to being an effective leader. His union brothers and sisters benefited from his hard work and commitment to creating a better future for all, and his absence will be felt by the community he served so well.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to thank President Buchanan for his hard work and dedication to serving his country and his community.

RECOGNIZING HENRY PADRÓN-
MORALES

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic American Heritage Month to pay tribute to a distinguished community leader from Rochester, New York, Padrón-Morales.

As co-founder of Hipocampo Children's Bookstore, Henry Padrón-Morales has created a space that celebrates culture, diversity, and the power of literacy. Rooted in his Puerto Rican heritage, his vision and leadership have fostered a love of reading while amplifying voices that too often go unheard. Through this work, Henry has become a trusted advocate for inclusivity and cultural pride in our community.

Henry's commitment to justice and community leadership began at an early age and has remained a guiding force throughout his life. He helped establish organizations such as the Puerto Rican Youth Development and Resource Center and the Spanish Action Coalition, and he was involved in the first Puerto Rican Festival in Rochester, New York. At the heart of his activism has always been a dedication to ensuring that marginalized voices are heard and that his community has a meaningful seat at the table.

Alongside his advocacy, Henry devoted 34 years to the Rochester City School District, most of them as a beloved kindergarten teacher. In his dual-language classrooms, he cultivated environments where children of all backgrounds could learn together, honor one another's cultures, and see themselves reflected in their education. Through his teaching, Henry inspired countless young people to embrace their identities and take pride in their heritage.

It is with great pride and admiration that I recognize Henry Padrón-Morales this Hispanic American Heritage Month. His steadfast dedication to youth empowerment and cultural celebration uplifts Rochester and serves as an enduring inspiration for future generations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable, and I missed the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 265; and YEA on Roll Call No. 266.

RECOGNIZING EDMUND GOOD ON
THE OCCASION OF HIS 100TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride and admiration to recognize the extraordinary life and milestone of Mr. Edmund Good, a lifelong public servant and respected member of the Michigan community, as he celebrates his 100th birthday.

For three decades, Mr. Good faithfully served as the Township Clerk for Brookfield Township, where he carried out his duties with integrity, diligence, and a steadfast commitment to his neighbors. His leadership and service helped ensure that local government remained accountable, transparent, and responsive to the needs of the people.

Mr. Good's dedication to his community was matched by his unwavering commitment to his country's political life. He was honored to serve as a delegate for Presidents Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan, playing a meaningful role in advancing their principles and vision during pivotal moments in our Nation's history. His decades of support demonstrate not only his loyalty to the values he holds dear but also his deep belief in civic duty and citizen involvement in democracy.

Turning 100 years old is itself a remarkable achievement, a milestone reached by few and deserving of the highest recognition. Yet, what

makes this occasion truly special is not only the years Mr. Good has lived, but also the example he has set for all of us through his service, dedication, and lifelong commitment to faith, family, and community.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to recognize Edmund Good on the occasion of his 100th birthday. His life reflects the very best of American perseverance, patriotism, and service. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this extraordinary man and wishing him continued health and happiness in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING THE UNIVERSITY OF
CALIFORNIA, MERCED

HON. ADAM GRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. GRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the University of California, Merced, as it celebrates 20 years of firsts.

The University of California Board of Regents, working to meet long-term enrollment demand in the San Joaquin Valley and increase access to the UC system, selected the Merced site in 1995 for the system's 10th campus.

The first undergraduate class arrived in the fall of 2005, officially marking the campus's opening. In 2009, UC Merced celebrated its first full graduating class with First Lady Michelle Obama delivering the commencement address. The University received its initial regional accreditation from WSCUC in 2011, and in 2015, UC Merced is the youngest university to earn national recognition for community engagement with a Carnegie Research Classification.

UC Merced was the first public research university in the Nation to reach verified operational carbon neutrality in 2018, and in 2020, completed its "UC Merced 2020 Project" which was the largest social-infrastructure public-private partnership in U.S. higher education at the time. This project doubled the campus footprint, adding new classrooms, research labs, housing, student wellness facilities, recreation and more. Eleven UC Merced 2020 project buildings earned LEED platinum certifications.

The first-ever comprehensive campaign "Boldly Forward" in 2022 raised funds to support UC Merced's first medical education building to support the new Bachelor of Science to Medical Doctorate pathway, developed in partnership with UC San Francisco and UCSF-Fresno.

Two years later, the UC Board of Regents held their first-ever full meeting at UC Merced, and UC Merced was accepted into NCAA Division II to elevate and enhance intercollegiate athletics and the student experience.

Today, UC Merced is the only university in California's Central Valley to attain the Carnegie Classification R1: Very High Research

• 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.

Activity, cementing its role as a driver of discovery, talent and economic mobility. As the first American research university founding in the 21st century, UC Merced continues to be a top-100 research university and the fastest-growing public university in the Nation, supporting high achieving and dedicated students from the underserved Central Valley and throughout California.

Please join me in honoring UC Merced as it continues its journey toward many more firsts.

RECOGNIZING FIRE CHIEF DAVID RAMOS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fire Chief David Ramos of Broomfield, Colorado, on his retirement after 41 years of service with the North Metro Fire Rescue District.

Chief Ramos joined the North Metro Fire Rescue District in 1984, and his many years of exemplary service earned him the position of Fire Chief. While in this position of leadership, he did a commendable job modernizing and expanding North Metro Fire, and he improved collaboration for emergency services in surrounding communities.

Chief Ramos honorably served this community for decades through numerous challenges, and he has been widely regarded as a mentor and a friend to many. Throughout his career, he was a visionary leader who always put people first, and his lifesaving leadership across Colorado will not be forgotten.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to congratulate Fire Chief David Ramos for his more than four decades of service with the North Metro Fire Rescue District and sincerely thank him for his contributions to the Colorado community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF LUIS EDUARDO RUMBAUT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Luis Eduardo Rumbaut. Luis was a longtime resident of the District of Columbia and a pillar of D.C.'s Latino community. He died on June 28, 2025.

Born in Cuba, Luis moved to D.C. in 1972 to study at Antioch Law School. As a law student, Luis was a founding member of Ayuda, where he provided legal assistance to low-income immigrants. After leaving Ayuda, Luis began a career in the D.C. government, working for the Office of Corporation Counsel. After two decades of service in the D.C. government, Luis worked as the Director of the Latin American Folk Institute and published a bilingual online newsletter, "La Alborada," five times a week.

Luis was very active in the D.C. music scene. A talented musician who played the tres and the cuatro, Luis and his bands regu-

larly performed in the Adams Morgan and Columbia Heights neighborhoods, as well as in regional events.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Luis Eduardo Rumbaut.

WELCOMING ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW OF CONSTANTINOPLE TO WASHINGTON, D.C.

HON. MICHAEL A. RULLI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. RULLI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew of Constantinople to Washington, D.C. A true beacon of peace, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew leads 250 million Orthodox Christians.

Elected in October 1991, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew has continuously shown his desire for peace, even in the face of attacks and persecution. He has championed international peace conferences, bringing together Christians, Muslims, and Jews for the purpose of alliance and understanding.

His efforts across multiple realms have been recognized by the United States Congress, the United Nations, and the European Union. His influence extends beyond the Orthodox Christian community and has been instrumental in promoting global unity and harmony.

Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew continues to stand as a symbol of hope. I am very pleased to welcome the Ecumenical Patriarch to Washington, D.C. as he meets with President Trump.

Invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in welcoming Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to Washington, D.C.

RECOGNIZING ORLANDO ORTIZ

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hispanic American Heritage Month to recognize an outstanding business and community leader from Rochester, New York, Orlando Ortiz.

Serving as President, Orlando Ortiz has played a pivotal role in shaping and leading the Puerto Rican Festival for over 15 years. He has worked tirelessly to honor Puerto Rican heritage and create a welcoming space where thousands of residents and visitors gather each year. Under his leadership, the festival has become more than an event, it is a unifying force that strengthens community bonds and promotes cultural pride.

A native of Cayey, Puerto Rico, Orlando moved to Rochester in 1991 and has carried his heritage with him throughout his life and work. Alongside his leadership of the festival, he has built a distinguished career as Real Estate Investor and Property Manager for RocOn Property Management. In 2019, his impact was recognized when the Rochester His-

panic Business Association named him Hispanic Business Person of the Year.

Orlando's commitment to service extends well beyond his professional accomplishments. In 2020, he was honored with the Minett Professorship at the Rochester Institute of Technology, recognizing his leadership and dedication to education and community engagement. The year before, he and his wife, Denishea, were named the NextGen Rochester Young Philanthropists of the Year, a testament to their shared commitment to giving back. Across these roles and recognitions, Orlando has exemplified a steadfast devotion to advancing our community and preserving cultural heritage.

It is with great pride and admiration that I recognize Orlando Ortiz during Hispanic American Heritage Month. His professional achievements and civic service have left a lasting mark on both the Hispanic community and the Greater Rochester region.

WELCOMING ECUMENICAL PATRIARCH BARTHOLOMEW

HON. NELLIE POU

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Ms. POU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to welcome His All-Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to the United States. On behalf of the many Eastern Orthodox Christians who call New Jersey home, including my constituents at St. George Greek Orthodox Church in Clifton, I offer my heartfelt congratulations and express deep admiration to His All-Holiness for his ongoing efforts to foster peace, understanding, and stewardship of our shared planet.

Leading the church since 1991, His All-Holiness serves as a spiritual guide for more than 300 million faithful Orthodox Christians around the world. His commitment to engaging with communities and governments around the globe, regardless of faith, has made him one of the most recognizable and respected religious figures of our time.

While in the United States, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew will be awarded the prestigious Templeton Prize for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of science and spirituality. He will join the company of other spiritual leaders like Mother Teresa and the Dalai Lama. I am honored to add my voice to the chorus of others who welcome the Ecumenical Patriarch to the United States and honor him for his lifetime of incredible service and work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN H. RUTHERFORD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 23, 2025

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable, and I missed the following Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 272; YEA on Roll Call No. 273; YEA on Roll Call No. 274; YEA on Roll Call No. 275; and NO on Roll Call No. 276.