

As a county commissioner for 18 years, Paul has prioritized criminal justice reform, arts and culture, community development, rural advocacy, veterans services, and environmental stewardship.

Just this year he received the Public Leadership in the Arts Award at the 2025 National Association of Counties' Annual Conference, recognizing his community-driven approach to addressing rural population decline through strategic arts and culture investment.

The national award, presented by NACo and Americans for the Arts, celebrates county-elected officials who utilize the creative economy for community development.

Before serving as county commissioner, he worked as a newspaper reporter, an editor, corporate public relations manager, and as a freelance writer and historian.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Commissioner Heibel for his dedication to Potter County and rural America.

#### DENOUNCING THE ACTIONS OF ICE

(Mr. VASQUEZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

(English translation of the statement made in Spanish is as follows:)

Mr. Speaker, I stand today as a proud New Mexican living in the greatest country in the world, denouncing the actions of ICE, because in this country, we all have rights and we all have dignity.

ICE has used excessive and discriminatory force in its arrests. Agents have violently arrested fathers and mothers in front of their children in our schools, churches, and even in the very courts where legal residents go to pursue their legal cases.

But what isn't ICE doing? They aren't focusing on the violent criminals who pose the real threats in our communities. They no longer care.

I saw this firsthand when I visited a detention center in my district, when ICE confirmed to me that 80% of the people detained don't face criminal charges.

That's why my bill, the Humane Accountability Act, demands oversight and data on these arrests, detentions, and removals. In this country, we all have rights, and we cannot tolerate racial discrimination. Enough of these injustices.

Mr. Speaker, Me levanto hoy como un orgulloso Nuevo Mexicano que vive en el mejor país del mundo y que denuncia las acciones de ICE, porque en este país, todos tenemos derechos y todos tenemos dignidad.

ICE ha usado una fuerza excesiva y discriminatoria en sus detenciones. Agentes han arrestado a padres y madres violentamente frente a sus hijos en nuestras escuelas, iglesias y hasta en las mismas cortes donde residentes legales llegan a seguir el proceso legal.

¿Pero qué es lo que no está haciendo ICE? No se están enfocando en los criminales violentos que representan

las amenazas reales en nuestras comunidades. Ya no les importa.

Lo vi de primera mano cuando visité un centro de detención en mi distrito, cuando ICE me confirmó que 80 percent de las personas detenidas no enfrentan cargos criminales.

Por eso, mi proyecto de ley, el Humane Accountability Act—exige supervisión y datos sobre estos arrestos, detenciones y expulsiones.

En este país, todos tenemos derechos, y no podemos tolerar la discriminación racial. Basta con estas injusticias.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from New Mexico will provide a translation of his remarks to the Clerk.

#### HONORING SALT LAKE TEMPLE OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

(Mr. KENNEDY of Utah asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KENNEDY of Utah. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to highlight the Salt Lake Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Pioneers began constructing the temple in 1853. What they created over the course of 40 years is one of the most remarkable feats of engineering for its time. They had no cranes or modern-day machinery. Instead, they relied on grit, community, and a collective vision to make a building that would stand the test of time.

They accomplished this goal. The temple has foundation walls that are 16 feet thick and 16 feet deep and a spire of 210 feet topped by the famous 12-foot famous Angel Moroni statue. When it was dedicated in 1893, journalists were impressed with its infrastructure and facilities, including its impressive design, plumbing, heating, cooling systems, and electricity.

Beyond the temple's state-of-the-art infrastructure, the pioneers who built it showed exemplary sacrifice. For instance, a stonemason, John Moyle, walked 20 miles every morning from his farm in my hometown of Alpine to Salt Lake City to work on the temple. Even after his leg was amputated, he made himself a wooden leg so he could continue his long journey to work on the temple.

#### HEALTHCARE OPEN ENROLLMENT FOR OREGONIANS

(Ms. BYNUM asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. BYNUM. Mr. Speaker, the beginning of this month marked the start of open enrollment for healthcare. As Oregonians have started to select their plans, constituents of mine have been writing in. They are seeing plans that are hundreds, if not thousands, of dollars more.

Without subsidies, David from Bend's monthly health insurance costs will go

from \$50 to \$600 or \$700 a month, which would put healthcare out of reach for him. Annie, also from Bend, shared with me her costs could jump to almost \$1,700 per month.

There are countless more stories like these, Mr. Speaker, and that is unacceptable. No family should have to choose between getting the care they need and putting food on the table.

Mr. Speaker, I will keep fighting to protect healthcare, lower costs, and make life easier for my constituents.

#### HONORING NIGHTINGALE COLLEGE

(Mr. OWENS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nightingale College, headquartered in Utah, for the remarkable work they are doing to meet one of America's greatest needs: More nurses.

Nightingale isn't just teaching skills. They are shaping our Nation and our future. They are preparing men and women to serve with compassion, integrity, and resilience. The graduates are answering the call in Utah and across our country.

Their leadership could not come at a more urgent time. America is facing a shortage of more than 350,000 nurses by 2026. Last year, 65,000 qualified nursing applications were turned away simply because schools didn't have the space. This shortage is creating a true public health emergency. It is hitting rural communities and urban healthcare deserts the hardest.

Nightingale shows us what is possible. With innovation, collaboration, and a commitment to serve, we can rebuild the clinical workforce and ensure every American has access to high-quality care.

Mr. Speaker, we thank our nurses. We encourage Nightingale to keep leading, and I ask my colleagues to follow that example.

#### ADDRESSING THE HOUSING CRISIS

(Mr. STANTON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. STANTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with deep concerns about the Trump administration's policies that will increase homelessness in America.

Last week, in the middle of the funding cycle, HUD changed their Continuum of Care grant criteria, cutting funding for permanent support of housing by over 50 percent.

Local housing organizations will owe landlords rent checks on January 1 with no guarantee they will have the funds. Mr. Speaker, 170,000 of our fellow Americans will risk falling back into homelessness.

Before I served as mayor of Phoenix, I chaired Maricopa County's Continuum of Care. We put our funding

where it made the biggest impact with proven and effective solutions like permanent supportive housing.

That model provides stability and access to support services while people get back on their feet. It helps some of our most vulnerable Americans, those with debilitating disabilities, keep a roof over their heads.

Mr. Speaker, behind every grant line item is a human being who has overcome great adversity to achieve stability. Trump's cuts will undo years of hard-won progress. These Americans deserve better from our government.

#### HONORING GASTON EMS PARAMEDIC MARY JOLLY

(Mr. MOORE of North Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MOORE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and the heroism of paramedic Mary Jolly of Gaston County, North Carolina, who tragically passed away at just 27 years old.

On November 15, Mary stopped along Interstate 95 in Florida to help a driver who had been struck by a vehicle. While rendering aid, she herself was hit by another car and critically injured. Mary, sadly, died exactly the same way she lived, which is serving others.

Since joining the Gaston County EMS in 2021, Mary distinguished herself as a highly-skilled and deeply compassionate paramedic and a member of the Swift Water and Surface Water Rescue team. She was named B-Shift Outstanding Paramedic in 2023, which is a reflection of her dedication and her professionalism.

Her colleagues described her as courageous and kindhearted to every patient she encountered. It is clear that her loss is felt across Gaston County and our greater region.

Mr. Speaker, we extend our deepest condolences and our prayers to her family, her friends, and her fellow first responders.

#### HONORING CONGRESSWOMAN CAROLYN CHEEKS KILPATRICK

(Mr. THANEDAR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THANEDAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay my respects to the late Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick.

Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick was a trailblazing figure who inspired many in Detroit. She represented Michigan's 13th Congressional District like I do.

She broke a glass ceiling, becoming the first Black woman to serve on the powerful House Appropriations Committee, where she brought critical Federal dollars back to Detroit and its surrounding communities. She also blazed trails as the second Black woman to ever serve in the House of Representatives from Michigan.

Mr. Speaker, she broke countless barriers to public service, helping to create a U.S. Congress that better reflects our Nation's great diversity. Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick improved the lives of all she served. May she rest in peace.

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#### RENEWABLE ENERGY MEANS LOWER ENERGY COSTS

(Mr. LATIMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LATIMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my disappointment. Last night, the House voted to task the oil and gas industry to report on the state of fossil fuel refining in the United States.

They would like to see how the United States Government can do more for their industry—drill, baby, drill—the claim being that our government needs this report to increase fossil fuel production with an implied promise, but no guarantee, of lower energy prices.

That would be like asking for a 1905 report from the Federation of Blacksmiths on how to better change the horseshoes on a horse instead of focusing on the rising future of transportation: the automobile.

So I wonder: When will Congress use its time to call for a report on the state of the future for renewable energy?

When will we be asking clean energy producers how the government can make it easier to bring renewables online and reduce greenhouse gases?

We know renewable energy can lower energy costs.

I will be waiting for Godot if I expect this majority to take that up. We can look to the future, or we can continue to reject the future and pander to the past.

#### HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. EDWARD COCHRAN

(Ms. ELFRETH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ELFRETH. Mr. Speaker, this past weekend, Howard County lost a giant: former county executive, Dr. Ed Cochran. A chemist by trade, he was a pioneer at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory where he contributed to our national security, but he was also a pioneer of our community.

As a member of the Howard County Board of Education, he worked to help end segregation in our schools. A scholar at heart, Dr. Cochran was instrumental in the founding of Howard Community College. As county executive, he took our county from rural to modern and laid the foundation for many parts of Howard County's government that we now take for granted.

His life and legacy will be felt deeply from the scientific innovation he laid the groundwork for at APL to the next generation of young minds and leaders at Howard County public schools and Howard County Community College. We are all better off because of Dr. Cochran's unwavering spirit of innovation and inquiry.

My thoughts are with his six children, his 23 grandchildren, and 13 great-grandchildren during this difficult time.

#### GIVE CONTROL TO THE DRIVER, NOT THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

(Mr. LAMALFA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LAMALFA. Mr. Speaker, this week, I introduced a bill called the ESSENTIAL Act, H.R. 6200, that removes the requirement to have those annoying devices in your car that shuts the engine off every time you come up to the stoplight for more than a few seconds. Now, it is supposed to be something that saves fuel, but at the end of the day, statistics show that on over 100,000 miles of the life of a car, you save two or three gallons of gas.

On the other side of that coin is the amount of maintenance that would potentially be required.

Around my farm we change a lot of starters, batteries, alternators, and cables. All of these are high-wear items, especially when we are stopping and starting the car.

I have taken Uber to get to events here, and at every stoplight the engine shuts off, turns back on, then hesitates. You can get rear-ended or one of those things might have glitches. There is nothing very good about it other than that EPA and others are trying to offer incentives if they put that stuff on there. They will be giving credits to auto manufacturers.

When will we appreciate the effort of Director Zeldin saying that we are not going to force this anymore?

So we need to back it up here in Congress so we don't have obnoxious requirements to make drivers worse and make maintenance worse on automobiles.

#### HONORING MICHAEL MUCCHETTI

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Michael Mucchetti, my chief of staff, for concluding 25 years of devoted service. Prior to coming to Congress, he worked with me at the Texas Supreme Court as a briefing attorney. Thereafter, he practiced law and then took his Texas know-how to the United Nations in Geneva before returning here to lead my congressional team.

Through shutdowns, wars, and so much history, including a record differently numbered congressional districts, Michael has been there as a