

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF CARL FOX HAAS

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Carl Fox Haas, whose passing on January 25, 2026, marked the loss of a respected Mississippian, devoted family man, and influential leader in business, conservation, and community life.

Born on August 20, 1930, in Mobile, Alabama, Fox overcame significant health challenges early in life and went on to graduate from Mississippi State University, where he met his wife, Evelyn. Together, they built a life rooted in faith, family, integrity, and service in West Point, Mississippi, raising three children and investing deeply in their community.

Fox devoted his entire professional career to Bryan Foods, retiring as Vice President of Procurement. He was widely respected for his leadership, steady judgment, and commitment to conducting business with honesty and trust. A lifelong outdoorsman, Fox was deeply passionate about conservation and land stewardship, contributing to wildlife restoration efforts in Mississippi and later helping shape the culture and growth of Mossy Oak as its Chief Financial Officer.

Fox's influence extended well beyond his professional achievements. His legacy lives on through conservation initiatives, charitable events, and awards that bear his name, as well as through the many individuals and organizations he mentored and supported. Through his family, his community, and the causes he championed, his impact will continue to be felt for generations to come.

Fox is survived by his wife, Evelyn; his daughter, Shurley (Bill) Sugg; his son, Toxey (Diane) Haas; his daughter, Nina (Page) Davidson; his grandchildren, Sara Frances Haas Stubbs (Vandy), Daniel (Caroline) Haas, Neill (Hillary) Haas, Bill Sugg (Elvita), Gregory Sugg (Jessi), Anne Peyton Sugg, Jessie Davidson Virgin (Kevin), Ellie Davidson Stevens (John Willis), and Jack Davidson; and seven, soon to be eight, great-grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING THE CALIFORNIA POLYTECHNIC STATE UNIVER- SITY, SAN LUIS OBISPO

HON. SALUD O. CARBAJAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Mr. CARBAJAL. Mr. Speaker, this year marks 125 years since the founding of Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. From its inception, Cal Poly has been a pillar of the San Luis Obispo community embodying the spirit of its motto "learn by doing".

In the past 125 years Cal Poly SLO has educated more than 230,000 individuals who have gone on to be everything from astronauts to iconic football players, and even world-famous musicians.

The university's partnerships with local communities, industry and government exemplify the vital role public higher education plays in advancing opportunity, innovation and regional prosperity.

The university has been a constant over these past 125 years in providing high quality education throughout various fields of study, earning its place for the past several decades as one of the top public universities, not only in California, but in the entire Nation.

Cal Poly SLO consistently ranks higher year after year in the top 500 public and private not-for-profit universities in the United States, coming in 55th place just last year. In the state of California, Cal Poly SLO has continued to climb, ranking 12th overall for two consecutive years.

The university has already established an unforgettable legacy for its longstanding commitment to academic excellence, innovation, and public service. Cal Poly has distinguished itself as a national leader in hands-on education, preparing generations of students to contribute meaningfully to all aspects of their communities.

Cal Poly's emphasis on practical learning, research, and community engagement has produced graduates who serve as leaders across engineering, agriculture, business, education, public service and the sciences.

I commend Cal Poly San Luis Obispo for its enduring impact on the Central Coast and the State of California, and for its continued dedication to student success and service to the public good. May the next 125 years be as great as the last.

HONORING THE LIFETIME OF SERVICE AND LEGACY OF DR. CRYSTAL BONDS

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Crystal Bonds, an extraordinary educator and leader retiring after more than 27 years of distinguished service to the New York City Department of Education and to the students and families of Southeast Queens.

Dr. Bonds began her remarkable career in education as a teacher and mathematics coach in District 29, where she quickly established herself as a passionate advocate for student achievement and instructional excellence. As her career progressed, she assumed a number of critical leadership roles within the New York Department of Education, including Assistant Principal, Principal, and

Master Ambassador Principal. Her success led to her appointment to Superintendent of District 29.

As Superintendent, Dr. Bonds provided visionary leadership to 36 K–8 schools, serving approximately 17,000 students. Her work was shaped by a profound personal connection to District 29, due to her own children attending schools within the district. This connection manifested loyalty to the community that supported her family and inspired her to drive positive change, growth, and equity across the district.

Throughout her career, Dr. Bonds advocated for public education locally, nationally, and internationally for more than two decades. Her leadership as a K–12 educator consistently focused on promoting equitable education, experiences, and outcomes for all students, making her not only respected beyond New York, but revered.

Under her leadership, the High School for Math, Science, and Engineering became the highest achieving public high school in New York City and New York State. Her devotion and dedication manifested numerically in the high school's rank rising from 30th to 1st during her tenure. From the classroom to the Superintendent's office, Dr. Bonds' championship of targeted support for educators directly closed the opportunity gaps students faced, leading to improvements in student achievement and expanded programs in the district.

In addition to her dedicated public service, Dr. Bonds founded Changing Norms, Inc., extending her lifelong commitment to uplifting underserved communities. Her experience across elementary, middle, and high school levels bolsters her track record of excellence and lasting impact on education.

Dr. Crystal Bonds' outstanding dedication, leadership, and years of exemplary service will continue to inspire those who follow in her footsteps. I proudly honor her lifetime of service and wish her continued success and fulfillment in all that lies ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 5, 2026

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, on February 2, 2026, I was recorded as "Not Voting" on rollcall Vote No. 50. During the vote, I remained present in the House Chamber after voting on rollcall No. 49, and I attempted to cast my electronic vote on rollcall Vote No. 50. I then departed the House Chamber, though my attempted vote apparently was not recorded. Had my vote been recorded without error, I would have voted "Yea" on rollcall No. 50.

• 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.