

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DISAPPROVING THE ACTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COUNCIL IN APPROVING THE D.C. INCOME AND FRANCHISE TAX CONFORMITY AND REVISION TEMPORARY AMENDMENT ACT OF 2025

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2026

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 142, which would override a tax reform made by D.C.'s elected City Council. The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) runs out of funding in less than ten days. Republicans should be using this valuable time to negotiate a bipartisan deal to see an end to DHS's violent tactics in the Twin Cities and Minnesota at large. But what pressing issue does the Republican Majority want to tackle instead? They want to waste more of the American people's time by debating and overturning local laws of the District of Columbia.

Mr. Speaker, none of us ran for or were elected to serve as D.C. City Council members. I have been a city council member. It is a very different job, with a direct line of responsibility to the residents who elect you to deal with everything from potholes to public safety. That local representation and local responsiveness is a key part of our democracy, and Republicans are proposing to strip that local self-governance away from the residents of the District of Columbia.

All Members of Congress are sent here by our constituents to represent their interests, and to vote on matters of federal importance. We are not sent here to rule on specific local ordinances or decisions made by the cities and counties in any of our districts. Yet Republicans have brought H.J. Res. 142 to the floor to do exactly that. Republicans want to tell the District of Columbia's 700,000 residents that the laws and policies they have voted for, and that were crafted by their local elected officials, are null and void.

D.C. residents deserve the same right to govern themselves as we enjoy in the 4th District. That is why I urge my colleagues to reject H.J. Res. 142, which would overturn local tax credits designed to reduce child poverty and support families facing economic hardship. Congress should never prevent a municipality from using its own locally raised funds to strengthen their community. Today, I will vote to defend the rights of the residents of D.C.—as I would my own constituents—to ensure Republicans do not override these important budgetary decisions enacted by the D.C. City Council. I will not vote for these attempts to decide those issues for a single district at the local level, whether in the District of Columbia or in the districts of any Member of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, I respect the will of D.C. residents to shape their local government through

their local elections, and that is why I will not support H.J. Res. 142. I urge my colleagues in the majority to focus on issues of national importance, like negotiating a bipartisan deal to rein in the Department of Homeland Security, and leave the governing of D.C. to their city council.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAN MARINO CITY CLUB

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 9, 2026

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to include in the Record the following proclamation recognizing the distinguished San Marino City Club on their 100th Anniversary:

Whereas, in 1926, the San Marino City Club was founded with the mission to secure the residents of the San Marino Unified School District the best civic, educational, and cultural services and facilities; and

Whereas, for a century, the San Marino City Club has promoted the belief that higher education holds an important role in shaping the future of our country and therefore must support the intellectual and ethical foundations that our democracy depends on; and

Whereas, the San Marino City Club encourages the highest standards of citizenship by sponsoring public forums and debates before city-wide elections, including city council, school board, and local bond-financing elections. They also offer regular monthly dinner meetings for members to connect with distinguished speakers to discuss local, regional and national topics; and

Whereas, each year, the San Marino City Club awards financial support to selected community projects. From donating to the San Marino High School Girls and Boys Athletics to the San Marino Public Library, their funding allows our local schools, civic support groups, and local charitable organizations to thrive and prosper; and

Whereas, as one of the leading civic organizations in San Marino, their membership includes distinguished members of the community, including present and past city council members, school board members, and local business owner; and

Whereas, the 100th anniversary of the San Marino City Club is a moment to honor the legacy and achievements of the organization and its members, and its ability to foster a stronger, more vibrant San Marino by providing services that enrich the lives of our community and embrace civic and cultural traditions; and

Now, therefore, be it resolved that I, Congresswoman JUDY CHU, representing California's 28th Congressional District, do hereby recognize and commend the San Marino City Club on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary, and extend sincere appreciation for their

enduring contributions to the people of San Marino and beyond.

RECOGNIZING MEL VERNON AS NOVEMBER 2025 CONSTITUENT OF THE MONTH

HON. MIKE LEVIN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 9, 2026

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mel Vernon as my November 2025 Constituent of the Month.

Mel Vernon is an example of what it looks like to dedicate ourselves to community engagement and cultural preservation. For more than 15 years, he has worked with teachers and educators across Southern California to ensure the history of the Luiseño people is not forgotten. Mel is committed every day to increasing awareness. I'm proud to support the work of Mel and so many others who serve our community. It is an honor to recognize his accomplishments and service thus far.

Mel is a great community leader, author, and musician. His preservation efforts remind us that, as a community, we benefit from learning about and celebrating the Indigenous population that has lived on this land for countless generations. I admire his devotion to preservation and am grateful we have people like Mel in our district who are dedicated to educating our communities about the great Luiseño people.

HONORING DESOTO HIGH SCHOOL FOR THEIR HISTORIC ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

HON. JASMINE CROCKETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 9, 2026

Ms. CROCKETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding students, faculty, and staff of DeSoto High School for their historic athletic excellence and the pride they continue to bring to our community and the State of Texas.

This past December, DeSoto High School once again demonstrated why it stands among the most elite athletic programs in Texas. The DeSoto Eagles captured the UIL Class 6A Division II State Championship, delivering a decisive victory on one of the largest stages in high school sports. This championship was not simply a win, but a continuation of a standard of excellence that DeSoto High School has built over generations.

With this title, DeSoto secured its third state football championship in four seasons, a historic accomplishment that reflects sustained dominance, discipline, and teamwork. At a time when consistency is rare, DeSoto has proven that excellence is not accidental, it is intentional.

• 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.

Under the leadership of Head Coach Claude Mathis and a dedicated coaching staff, DeSoto student-athletes have shown what is possible when high expectations are matched with strong mentorship and community support. These young men excel not only on the field, but also in the classroom and throughout their community, embodying the values of hard work, accountability, and perseverance.

DeSoto High School's athletic program has long been a source of pride, producing not only elite competitors, but young leaders prepared to succeed beyond athletics. This achievement reflects the commitment of student-athletes who balance rigorous academics with demanding training schedules, as well as the coaches, educators, and families who support them every step of the way.

I congratulate the students, coaches, faculty, staff, and families of DeSoto High School on this historic achievement, and I wish the Eagles continued success in every season ahead.

CONGRATULATING PRIME
MINISTER SANAE TAKAICHI

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 9, 2026

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, with elections yesterday in our valued ally Japan, it is reassuring for Peace Through Strength that Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi has been re-elected. American allies across the Indo-Pacific region are building defenses to deter Chinese Communist Party aggression. We all support stability for all citizens of all nations, including China, for peace and prosperity. This achievement deserves recognition. I include in the RECORD the following editorial from *The Wall Street Journal*:

TAKAICHI ROLLS TO A LANDSLIDE VICTORY IN JAPAN

Who says every political leader in the free world is unpopular? Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi defied that stereotype on Sunday by leading her Liberal Democratic Party to a sweeping victory in the lower house of Parliament.

Returns show the LDP on a path to win a comfortable majority on its own, which amounts to a landslide. The party had lost support in recent elections and needed a coalition partner to form a government. With her new coalition partners, Ms. Takaichi will have a two-thirds majority that will be able to overrule opposition in the weaker upper house.

The result is in part a personal victory for the 64-year-old Ms. Takaichi, Japan's first female Prime Minister, who has a 67% approval rating that buoyed the rest of the party. It's true she faced weak opposition, but her recent LDP predecessors weren't able to capitalize as she now has.

Credit also goes to Beijing, which has tried to punish Japan with export and tourist bans after Ms. Takaichi told the truth by saying publicly that a Chinese takeover of Taiwan would threaten Japan's security. Beijing's bullying backfired again, as it previously has in Taiwan and Australia. President Xi Jinping could send his wolf-warrior diplomats to his infamous reeducation camps, except they were probably taking orders from him.

Ms. Takaichi comes out of the LDP's conservative, pro-American wing. She favors more defense spending, which is urgently

needed given China's vast military buildup. So far she has managed President Trump's unpredictable behavior as well as anyone can. She'll try to stabilize trade ties, and Mr. Trump would be wise to make that happen instead of treating the country as a zero-sum trade adversary.

Less certain is whether her agenda will address the frustrations of the Japanese public on inflation. She has called for a two-year moratorium on Japan's 8% consumption tax on food. But the roots of Japan's inflation are monetary, as the Bank of Japan attempts to normalize its policy after years of negative interest rates.

Ms. Takaichi also campaigned on a new burst of government spending, a Keynesian remedy that has failed in Japan many times in the past. A non-defense spending burst is also riskier in the current environment of high global government debt. Investors may raise their asking price to finance Japan's rising debt load.

Japan's economic problem isn't a lack of demand. It's on the supply-side, in a dearth of animal spirits and domestic competition. Ms. Takaichi's mentor, the late Shinzo Abe, pursued some deregulation that has helped growth, and that is the policy avenue the prime minister can best pursue.

The best news is that the clear LDP majority will give Ms. Takaichi running room to govern with a mandate. The U.S. and the free world need a strong and confident Japan as an ally against the Chinese Communist Party's imperial ambitions.

CELEBRATING BALLAST POINT EL-
EMENTARY SCHOOL'S 100TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 9, 2026

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th Year Anniversary of Ballast Point Elementary School in Tampa, Florida. For 100 years, Ballast Point Elementary has educated students and provided the foundation of success in life.

Ballast Point Elementary was originally housed in a small, three-room wooden building with each grade level of students seated in a single row. A new Ballast Point Elementary School was opened at the beginning of the 1925 to 1926 school year amidst the significant population growth and development of the 1920s. The talented educators, custodians, nutrition experts, counselors, the Parent Teacher Association and South Tampa neighbors have provided dependable support throughout the years in lifting the school and students every step of the way.

Under the leadership of Mrs. Glenn Hinson, Ballast Point Elementary's first library opened in 1963 with a collection of approximately 12,000 books, providing roughly 11 books per student. As Principal Hinson noted, "We have a good community interest and a strong PTA support." In addition to the PTA's donation of several hundred dollars worth of books, the school board also granted \$1,500 to the library. This early development proved Ballast Point Elementary's unwavering commitment to its mission: fostering a learning environment where students feel valued, challenged, and inspired.

Tampa is a patriotic community, and Ballast Point Elementary has served many students

from nearby MacDill Air Force Base military families through the years. It is a true point of pride.

Ballast Point Elementary has a distinguished record of achievement, receiving both the Florida 5-Star School Award and the Golden School Award for the past 14 consecutive years, along with recognition as a Grade "A" Florida School for 16 consecutive years. Ballast Point Elementary's inclusive goal of a minimum of one year's growth for all students aligns with the Hillsborough County School's overarching vision of preparing students for life. Ballast Point Elementary embodies an educational institution that allows students to thrive and feel inspired.

Mr. Speaker, I am incredibly proud to support the high-quality public schools and talented teachers in Tampa and Hillsborough County. On behalf of my neighbors who value high quality education and talented teachers, I celebrate Ballast Point Elementary on 100 years of educating thousands of young students in a community that loves the spirit of a Ballast Point Bulldogs.

INTRODUCTION OF THE BAYARD
RUSTIN STAMP ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 9, 2026

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Bayard Rustin Stamp Act. This bill would direct the United States Postmaster General to issue a forever stamp to commemorate the life and work of Bayard Rustin. Representative RITCHIE TORRES is co-leading this bill.

Born in 1912, Rustin became one of the most important leaders in the 20th century civil rights movement. At a young age, Rustin learned the values of nonviolence and peacekeeping from his grandparents' Quaker faith, and he would continue to build these values into his life as a civil rights movement leader.

Rustin attended City College of New York, where he joined a progressive club that aimed to remedy racial issues during turbulent times. His time with the club was short-lived, but it inspired him to join the Fellowship of Reconciliation, an organization that became a champion for labor rights, equity and world peace.

Rustin's time with the Fellowship of Reconciliation led him to become a leader in the 1947 "Journey to Reconciliation," where white and Black people across the South rode buses together to challenge segregation laws, a precursor to the Freedom Rides.

Rustin was an advisor in Martin Luther King, Jr.'s inner circle as King advocated pacifism and nonviolence for achieving equal treatment for African Americans. Rustin applied his brilliant strategic mind to execute aggressive, peaceful action in the civil rights movement and throughout his life as an activist.

Rustin's most important role was as the chief organizer of the historic March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom, the largest demonstration ever organized at the time, in which a quarter of a million people turned out to demand civil rights for African Americans.

In the years after the civil rights movement, Rustin, a gay man, inspired others to advocate for and achieve rights for LGBTQ+ people. He