

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### RECOGNIZING THE BLACK HERITAGE TRAIL OF NEW HAMPSHIRE FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2026*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire, in celebration of Black History Month.

Originally founded in 1994, the Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail, which has since grown into the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire, has fought to uncover and honor the often-overlooked Black history in the Granite State and southern Maine for more than 30 years.

The mission of the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire is to promote awareness and appreciation of African American history and life in order to build more inclusive communities today. The Trail shares stories of prominent African American figures from New Hampshire and southern Maine, and since becoming a statewide organization in 2016, has expanded its outreach efforts through tours, educational public programs, partnerships with schools, and markers in more than seventeen cities and towns. More recently, the Trail has begun enhancing its efforts to foster more inclusive and informed communities through augmented experiences, the first of which was unveiled at the African Burying Ground Memorial Park in Portsmouth in 2025. This information will soon turn sites across the state into a veritable outdoor museum of African American history.

Through events, discussions, conferences, publications, tours, and an ever-growing network of historical markers, the Trail provides opportunities for everyone in our state to learn these stories of encouragement and achievement. These experiences create a lasting impact as they highlight the critical role that African Americans have had in shaping our country. They help all of us to understand, confront, and overcome the challenges that we still face today in realizing the promise of our founding documents.

As we recognize the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire, I also want to highlight the organization's Executive Director, JerriAnne Boggis. Taking up the mantle of Portsmouth Black Heritage Trail founder Valerie Cunningham, Ms. Boggis has worked not only to preserve NH's African American history but has relentlessly advocated for its central place in American history. In doing so, she is helping to shape a better future for all of us.

The Black Heritage Trail helps confront the systemic racism, bias, and injustice that have festered in our country for too long. On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District, I thank Ms. JerriAnne Boggis, her staff, and the tour guides, volunteers, board members, sponsors, and supporters of the Black Heritage Trail of New

Hampshire for their commitment to bringing Black history to light and ensuring that these stories are never forgotten. I thank the Black Heritage Trail of New Hampshire for helping us learn about our history and working to create a stronger future for everyone.

### PRESIDENT TRUMAN'S WORDS STILL RING TRUE TODAY; THE FAILINGS OF THE STATE OF THE UNION

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2026*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today and include in the RECORD a portion of President Harry S. Truman's Address in St. Paul at the Municipal Auditorium on October 13, 1948. While this speech is over 50 years old, the sentiments still remain today, as highlighted by the President's recent State of the Union. Millions have lost access to much needed food assistance, while prices at the grocery store continue to rise. Daycare centers and rural hospitals are closing. Ill-considered tariffs have cost every hardworking family more than \$1,750 and caused untold inflation which is making everyday life unaffordable. We cannot pretend all is well when many of our fellow citizens know it simply is not. I hope that my colleagues across the aisle will join me in this pursuit, because all the people we represent surely need it.

Well, I have been studying the Republican Party for over 12 years at close hand in the Capital of the United States. And by this time, I have discovered where the Republicans stand on most of the major issues.

Since they won't tell you themselves, I am going to tell you.

They approve of the American farmer—but they are willing to help him go broke.

They stand four-square for the American home—but not for housing.

They are strong for labor—but they are stronger for restricting labor's rights.

They favor a minimum wage—the smaller the minimum the better.

They indorse educational opportunity for all—but they won't spend money for teachers or for schools.

They think modern medical care and hospitals are fine—for people who can afford them.

They approve of social security benefits—so much so that they took them away from almost a million people.

They believe in international trade—so much so that they crippled our reciprocal trade program, and killed our International Wheat Agreement.

They favor the admission of displaced persons—but only within shameful racial and religious limitations.

They consider electric power a great blessing—but only when the private power companies get their rake-off.

They say TVA is wonderful—but we ought never to try it again.

They condemn "cruelly high prices"—but fight to the death every effort to bring them down.

They think the American standard of living is a fine thing—so long as it doesn't spread to all the people.

And they admire the Government of the United States so much that they would like to buy it.

### RECOGNIZING EARL BRIGHAM

**HON. DANIEL WEBSTER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2026*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my friend, Earl Brigham, as he celebrates 50 years of dedicated service as a barber in Downtown Winter Garden.

Earl lost his hearing at around two years of age. When he was ten, his parents enrolled him in the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind in St. Augustine. There, he mastered American Sign Language, excelled in sports, and graduated in 1966. Following graduation, he was encouraged to learn a trade and immediately entered barber school, beginning a career that would span decades and impact generations.

For 50 years, Earl has faithfully served customers at his barber shop on Plant Street in Winter Garden. What started as a profession quickly became a ministry of connection. His shop is more than a place for haircuts, it is a place of laughter, friendship, and community.

Along the way, Earl built a beautiful family. He and his wife, Robin, raised seven children and are now proud grandparents of nineteen grandchildren. They raised their children to be bilingual, fluent in both English and American Sign Language, reflecting Earl's lifelong role as a bridge between the deaf and hearing worlds.

In addition to his work as a barber, Earl has faithfully served the Lord. For more than 35 years, he has served as a pastor to the deaf community, including the past 17 years at West Orlando Baptist Church. Through both his ministry and profession, he has strengthened families, encouraged faith, and brought people together.

I join his family, friends, the City of Winter Garden, and his many local customers in celebrating 50 years of faithful service. Earl's steadfast faith, joyful spirit, and commitment to others make him a true pillar of our community. I am grateful to call him my barber and even more grateful to call him my friend.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DANIEL MEUSER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2026*

Mr. MEUSER. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call No. 72, I mistakenly voted Yes when I intended to vote No.

• 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.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAIGON BROADCASTING TELEVISION NETWORK

**HON. DEREK TRAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2026*

Mr. TRAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Saigon Broadcasting Television Network, otherwise known as SBTN. SBTN, the first 24-hour Vietnamese-language television channel specifically for overseas audiences, provides premier news coverage and entertainment programs to millions of Vietnamese people abroad. For 25 years, SBTN has served as an example of the importance of a free press and the strength of the Vietnamese diaspora community.

Headquartered in Garden Grove, California, SBTN was founded in 2001 by Trúç Hoò, a Vietnamese American musician, producer, and human-rights advocate. The network provided programming for the rapidly growing Vietnamese community in the United States, and it soon established itself in Southern California before spreading to cities such as Boston, Dallas, and Washington, D.C. This growth eventually led SBTN to expand internationally, becoming one of the primary television networks for Vietnamese audiences living outside Vietnam. Today, SBTN offers both original programming and acquired content, including news, dramas, movies, documentaries, variety shows, music, talk shows, kids' programming, and more.

What sets SBTN apart is its staunch support for free expression and democratic values. Since the network's founding, it has stood as a counter-narrative to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam's state-run media, refusing to air pro-

grams produced under the communist government's control. Rather than allow Vietnamese media to be dominated by an oppressive regime, SBTN has reported on human rights abuses and political dissent, providing critical coverage to millions of its international Vietnamese viewers. The network's belief system is deeply rooted in the experiences of the Vietnamese diaspora, as much of its original audience and leadership fled persecution from communist Vietnam in search of freedom and democracy. Amid ongoing repression and censorship by the Communist Party of Vietnam, SBTN remains essential in delivering trusted, independent reporting to Vietnamese-speaking audiences around the world.

I am thrilled to represent such an exemplary television network in my district, especially one whose accomplishments are so dear to my family's own experiences. The network's commitment to providing dependable news, preserving the Vietnamese language and culture, and enriching the lives and experiences of the Vietnamese community is commendable. I congratulate SBTN on its 25th anniversary and continue to be grateful for its invaluable service to our Nation.

HONORING DR. BRENDA KAYS

**HON. NATHANIEL MORAN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2026*

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Brenda Kays.

Since 2016, Dr. Kays has steadfastly served as President of Kilgore College. She brought more than three decades of experience in community college education to Kilgore. Dr.

Kays has always led with heart for students and a vision for the future of education in East Texas.

Dr. Kays served as the first female president in Kilgore College's history. In this role she worked to bring students' dreams to life. Under her leadership, our community saw innovative programs launched, new facilities built, partnerships strengthened, and enrollment reach record numbers.

At the heart of her work is the people. Dr. Kays worked tirelessly to help students discover their potential, assist faculty members to find new ways to inspire, and support the staff who made all of the details come to life.

For nearly a decade, she has led with integrity, vision, and an unwavering commitment to student success.

I am grateful for Dr. Kays' leadership, her dedication, and her forty-plus years of service to community college students. And, especially these last few extraordinary years with us.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES R. BAIRD**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 26, 2026*

Mr. BAIRD. Mr. Speaker, on February 24, 2026, I was unable to make it to the floor for three votes. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 71, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 6329; NAY on Roll Call No. 72, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass S. 2503; and YEA on Roll Call No. 73, On Ordering the Previous Question.