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 Trúc Hoồ, 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 programs 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.