

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF HOWARD DOUGLAS "DOUG" WINSTEAD, JR.

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Howard Douglas "Doug" Winstead, Jr.

A talented member of the legendary Band of Oz, Doug tragically passed away on April 11, 2026, in an automobile accident while traveling between shows.

Doug was an integral member of The Band of Oz, renowned for its Carolina beach music that provided the soundtrack to many lives in the Carolinas and beyond. Born in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, Doug's love for music began at an early age. He quickly took to performing, learning to play the trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass, and piano. By the age of 18, Doug launched his musical career, performing with multiple bands before becoming a proud member of the legendary Band of Oz.

Doug's performances were truly one of a kind. His energy and joy were infectious, and he consistently created memorable experiences for his audiences. He also made a point to connect personally with fans, often taking time to thank them one-on-one for their support and attendance.

Doug leaves behind a lasting legacy in the music industry and in the lives of his family. He is survived by his wife, Deanna; his daughter, Amy; and his mother, Jill. While Doug left this world too soon, his talent and love for music will continue to resonate across generations.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in honoring Doug Winstead and the remarkable contributions he made to the world of music throughout his 67 years of life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, due to airline schedules, my flight was delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 138, and YEA on Roll Call No. 139.

ENSURING CHILDREN RECEIVE SUPPORT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 27, 2026

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise to include in the RECORD an exchange of let-

ters with the Foreign Affairs Committee on H.R. 6903

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,

Washington, DC, April 23, 2026.

Hon. JASON SMITH,
Chairman, House Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: Thank you for consulting with the Committee on Foreign Affairs on the text of H.R. 6903, the Ensuring Children Receive Support Act. I agree that Foreign Affairs may be discharged from further consideration of the bill so that it may proceed expeditiously to the House Floor.

This agreement is made with the understanding that it does not in any way diminish or alter the jurisdiction of the Committee on Foreign Affairs or prejudice our jurisdictional prerogatives on this measure or similar legislation in the future. I also request your support for the appointment of an appropriate number of Foreign Affairs conferees to any House-Senate conference that might occur on this legislation.

I would appreciate it if you could include this letter in your committee report on the bill or place it into the RECORD during Floor consideration. I look forward to continuing to work together as this measure moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

BRIAN MAST,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS,

Washington, DC, April 23, 2026.

Hon. BRIAN MAST,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN MAST: Thank you for your letter regarding the Committee on Foreign Affairs' jurisdictional interest in H.R. 6903, the "Ensuring Children Receive Support Act," and your willingness to forego consideration by your committee.

I agree that the Committee on Foreign Affairs has a valid jurisdictional interest in certain provisions of the bill and that the Committee's jurisdiction will not be adversely affected by your decision to forego consideration. As you have requested, I will support your request for an appropriate appointment of outside conferees from your committee in the event of a House-Senate conference on this or similar legislation should such a conference be convened.

Finally, I will include a copy of your letter and this response in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD during the floor consideration of the bill. Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

JASON SMITH,
Chairman.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RANDY JOE HOPPERS, JR.

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague, Representative

VINCE FONG, to honor the life and legacy of Deputy Randy Joe Hoppert, Jr. A Central Valley native, Deputy Hoppert dedicated his life to protecting the people of Tulare County with integrity, courage, and a deep sense of purpose.

On April 9, 2026, he made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty, leaving behind a legacy that will endure in the community he served and among all who knew him.

Deputy Hoppert was raised in Visalia, California, graduating from El Diamante High School before answering the call to serve in the United States Navy. As a Hospital Corpsman from 2010 to 2015, he provided critical care to sailors and Marines during two deployments.

After his service in the Navy, Deputy Hoppert reaffirmed his commitment to public safety by enrolling in the Tulare Kings Police Academy in 2019. A year later, he joined the Tulare County Sheriff's Office as a Deputy I assigned to the Patrol Division out of the Orosi Substation. He was quickly promoted to Deputy II and then reassigned in 2022 as a detective with the TACKETT Unit. In 2025, he was assigned to the Sheriff's office CATCH Unit and served as a SWAT medic, using his military medical expertise to ensure timely trauma care for officers and others during critical, high-risk operations. He will be sorely missed by both the Tulare County Sheriff's Office and the community he protected and served so valiantly.

Deputy Hoppert is survived by his wife, Ashley; his sons, Austin and Everhett; his unborn son, Levi; his mother, Stacy Schwab; his father, Randy Hoppert, Sr.; and countless loved ones who will carry on his memory.

Mr. Speaker, Representative VINCE FONG and I ask our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in honoring the life and legacy of Deputy Randy Joe Hoppert, Jr. His courage, sacrifice, and unwavering commitment to others will never be forgotten.

HONORING RICHARD DALE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Dale, whom I have named California's 4th Congressional District's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year for Sonoma County, in recognition of his leadership in strengthening our community's commitment to a sustainable future.

Born in San Francisco, California, Mr. Dale graduated from the University of California, Santa Cruz, where he earned his bachelor's degree in environmental studies. After graduation, he worked in Washington, D.C. on the Alaska Lands Bill, which protected over 157 million acres of land in Alaska. Following the bill's successful passage, Mr. Dale moved to Sonoma County where he went on to co-found

• 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.

the Sonoma Ecology Center (SEC) in 1990, later becoming its Executive Director in 1992.

Through his tenure as Executive Director, the SEC has developed into a locally driven, regionally respected agency working through extensive partnerships to conduct technical research, education, and restoration to enhance ecological health at the watershed scale. He has worked for years with partners to preserve thousands of acres of ecologically significant open space and to establish the regionally significant Sonoma Valley Wildlife Corridor. In 2012, he led a unique partnership of local nonprofits to reopen and manage Sugarloaf Ridge State Park in Kenwood, California. He helped found the North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative and the Sonoma Environmental Education Collaborative (SEEC). After the 2017 fires, he helped establish Sonoma Valley Collaborative, a partnership of economic, social service, and environmental interests to build a cross-sector framework for resolving complex, interrelated issues. He has served as Vice President on the Sonoma Valley Chamber of Commerce, cofounded the Sonoma Valley Executive Directors Round Table, and currently serves on the steering committee for Sonoma Valley Collaborative.

Mr. Dale is a staple of Sonoma Valley's ecological community, helping associations across the county thrive under his leadership. In 2017, he was the recipient of Sonoma County's Jefferson Award for Public Service and the Sonoma County Economic Development Board's Spirit of Sonoma Award. In 1997, he received the John Muir Conservation Award. Mr. Dale is also a frequent contributor to the Sonoma Index Tribune and other publications.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Richard Dale has helped transform Sonoma County and preserve the natural beauty that it is known for. Through his leadership and vision, our community has become a better place to live. For these reasons and more, it is fitting and proper that we recognize him today as Sonoma County's 2026 Climate Crisis Champion of the Year.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF RABBI BARUCH J. COHON

HON. JUAN CISCOMANI

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. CISCOMANI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the 100th birthday of Rabbi Baruch J. Cohon.

Rabbi Cohon has led a remarkable life. Over the years, he has been a world-class Cantor, served in the U.S. Navy as a sonarman during World War II, worked as a TV producer and composer, and served as an ordained Rabbi, among many other pursuits. He truly has an exceptional legacy.

In his time in television, he worked as a producer and writer for well-known shows like *Sea Hunt* and *Cisco Kid* and taught Gene Wilder how to pray in the traditional Jewish style for the film, *The Frisco Kid*.

Rabbi Cohon has also been a concert artist, choir conductor and arranger, recording artist, published author and editor, a university and seminary professor, philanthropist, and held leadership roles both locally and nationally.

His published article on the structure of Jewish music remains the standard for understanding it on an academic level.

Rabbi Cohon moved to Southern Arizona in 2019, having previously served as a visiting rabbi and teacher at several Southern Arizona congregations throughout many visits over the years.

He is a highly respected figure in the Jewish community here who is still very much active, regularly assisting in leading services and reading the Torah nearly every Shabbat and festival.

Additionally, Rabbi Cohon established the Cohon Memorial Foundation in memory of his own parents, which provides a large annual gift to those whose work benefits the Jewish community as a whole.

Dearly devoted to his family, Rabbi Cohon spends as much time as he can with his four children, seven grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

I thank Rabbi Baruch J. Cohon for his decades of service in so many different capacities. I wish him a very happy 100th birthday.

COMMEMORATING ARMED FORCES DAY AND THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO SERVE IN THE UNITED STATES MILITARY

HON. NICHOLAS A. LANGWORTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Mr. LANGWORTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service of our brave men and women for Armed Forces Day, May 16, 2026. Armed Forces Day is a 76-year tradition to thank all of those who are currently serving, as well as those who have served and sacrificed to defend our freedom. As we celebrate the 250th birthday of the United States of America, it is my privilege to recognize the contributions our active military members continue to make to our great Nation. Freedom was never free, and the men and women who stand up with valor and courage must always be held in the highest regard.

As we speak, the Western New York Armed Forces Committee is preparing to recognize fourteen service members at its 63rd Military Ball, and it is my honor to include in the RECORD their names as a tribute to their service, and the service of their brothers and sisters in arms:

SSG Owen Silver—United States Army
SFC Ashley Blake—United States Army Reserve
SPC Trevor Lock—New York Army National Guard
Sgt. Jonathan D. Rieth—New York Guard
SSgt. Kelsey Trevino—United States Marine Corps
Cpl. Keane Kistner—United States Marine Corps Reserve
MA1 Jordan Costello—United States Navy
MA1 Amanda Paine—United States Navy Reserve
Cpl. Wilyin Gao—New York Naval Militia
SSgt. Danny Garrett—United States Air Force
SSgt. Cameron Swick—United States Air Force Reserve
TSgt. Gary Buchanan—New York Air National Guard
MST1 Martin Mueller—United States Coast Guard

MST2 Krishnan Muthaiah—United States Coast Guard Reserve

Western New York and the Southern Tier are home to many proud service members and veterans, and our community has a long and proud tradition of military service. It is my honor to recognize their bravery. On behalf of the United States Congress and the constituents of New York's 23rd Congressional District, I thank these men and women for their service and all those who continue to serve with them.

HONORING YUSEF MGENI

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2026

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of an extraordinary man and revered community leader, Mr. Yusef Mgeni. Yusef passed away on April 7, 2026, at age 77, following a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Iva Jean Mgeni; his son, Victor Mgeni; and his daughter, Aisha Mgeni.

Born Charles Anderson to parents Charles Crane Anderson, a shoe cobbler, and Theresa Agnes Baker Anderson, Yusef is a son of Saint Paul's Rondo neighborhood, a predominantly African American community, most of which was demolished to make way for Interstate 94 in the late 1950s. The grandnephew of former slave and civil rights leader Frederick McGhee, Minnesota's first Black attorney and founder of the state's first Black Catholic church, Yusef was keenly aware of and extremely proud of his lineage.

In the early 1970s, Yusef changed his name from Charles Anderson to Yusef Mgeni in an African naming ceremony and later in a court of law. Yusef, a Yoruba name meaning "God increases" or "a person seeking wisdom to benefit others," and Mgeni, a Swahili word meaning "guest," "visitor," or "foreigner," were aptly chosen, foreshadowing the path that would define his life's work.

Yusef graduated from Metropolitan State University in 1974 with a degree in journalism. He began producing programming for the University of Minnesota's radio station, KUOM, and later helped expand Minneapolis-based KMOJ, which began broadcasting in 1976 to serve Black residents of public housing in North Minneapolis. Over time, the station broadened its reach while continuing to provide community-centered programming led by Black residents.

A brilliant historian, educator, community organizer, and activist, Yusef joined the Saint Paul NAACP in 1988, where he eventually became Vice President and Branch Parliamentarian. Yusef played a key role in landmark negotiations with the Saint Paul Police Department, resulting in a mediated agreement addressing racial profiling. Years later, Yusef successfully negotiated for body-worn cameras to be worn by officers, which became an amendment to this agreement.

As a scholar and educator, Yusef was Director of the Office of Educational Equity for the Saint Paul Public Schools from 2006 to 2012. He was a champion for ethnic studies in Minnesota schools, believing that ethnic studies are American history and not a supplement to it—a way for everyone to see themselves reflected in what they are learning.