

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF SUE BAUER

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2026

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Sue Bauer, who tragically passed away on March 22, 2026.

Ms. Bauer dedicated her life to public service. Her legacy will live on in the hearts of all whose lives she's changed and in the generations of leaders she fostered over her decades of work in Glendora and across the San Gabriel Valley.

In 1994, Ms. Bauer became Mayor Pro Tem of the City of Glendora. Three years later, she became the second female mayor since the city's founding in 1887, serving her city with compassion and integrity.

As mayor, Ms. Bauer responded to the growing need for additional recreation programs for youth by establishing the Mayor's Youth Task Force. She researched gaps in existing services, created a master plan for Glendora's families and youth, and secured voter approval for \$ 1.4 million in funding to build the Timothy Crowther Teen & Family Center at Dawson Park, a site that has continued to grow over the years.

Ms. Bauer played an essential role in strengthening Glendora's finances and overseeing the development of the Glendora Marketplace, now home to several businesses and retailers. Because of Ms. Bauer, the Marketplace has become a cornerstone of the Glendora community, generating millions of dollars annually for the city.

Ms. Bauer also served on many boards and commissions, continuing her involvement by serving as Chairperson of the Glendora Planning Commission, Glendora Delegate to the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, and Regional Council Member for District 33 of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Her leadership demonstrated a lifetime dedicated to public service and her deep love of Glendora.

A champion of women's rights, Ms. Bauer served as president of the Glendora League of Women Voters and was a longtime member of the Glendora Women's Club, where she also served as president. As a member of the Glendora Historical Society and the Friends of the Library, Ms. Bauer recognized the importance of learning and the arts to her community.

Ms. Bauer was born in Alaska and moved along the West Coast throughout her childhood because of her father's career with the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA). She moved to Glendora in the late 1950s and graduated in 1961 from the newly built Glendora High School, becoming part of its first class to attend all four years. She later attended and graduated from Citrus College and the University of Southern California (USC).

Sue Bauer's resilience, humility, and unwavering commitment to public service inspired

everyone who had the privilege of knowing her. I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating her life and recognizing her incredible legacy.

REMEMBERING SARAH MILGRIM AND YARON LISCHINSKY

HON. SHARICE DAVIDS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2026

Ms. DAVIDS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in somber recognition that May 21, 2026, will mark one year since the tragic and senseless killing of Sarah Milgrim and Yaron Lischinsky outside of the Capital Jewish Museum in Washington, D.C.

Sarah grew up in Prairie Village, Kansas, a community where I have the honor of serving in Congress. She graduated from Shawnee Mission East High School and the University of Kansas. She was a devoted member of Congregation B'nai Jehudah and was dedicated to fostering understanding and connection not only between Israel and the United States, but between Israel and the Palestinian people. Her partner, Yaron, shared that commitment.

In the aftermath of the October 7, 2023, Hamas terrorist attack, Sarah advocated for the release of Israeli hostages and worked closely with survivors who had experienced gender and sexual based violence. Those who knew Sarah say that her gentle, calm, and compassionate disposition made her the perfect fit for such a difficult role.

Yaron, an employee with the Embassy of Israel, worked to forge stronger ties between Israel and its neighbors in the Middle East. Yaron's loved ones say that he always had a smile on his face and a welcoming presence.

We must continue Sarah and Yaron's legacy of peacebuilding and stand strong against increasing threats of antisemitism—recommitting ourselves to a world where no one fears for their safety just because of who they are. Antisemitism has no place in our communities, and we all must all stand up against the hatred and bigotry that threaten to divide us.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEE SHORT-TERM DIS- ABILITY INSURANCE ACT OF 2026

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2026

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the Federal Employee Short-Term Disability Insurance Act of 2026, which would make short-term disability insurance available to federal employees. Employees would be responsible for 100 percent of the premiums and would receive benefits for up to one year. In-

surance companies would be prohibited from excluding federal employees, or charging them higher premiums, based on preexisting conditions. Many private-sector employers make available disability insurance to their employees.

I began examining how we could provide federal employees with short-term disability insurance at group rates and with guaranteed coverage after learning that many of them buy such insurance in the individual market, which can have high premiums and exclude those with preexisting conditions. Although federal employees have good health insurance, health insurance benefits do not replace lost income. Moreover, while federal employees may have available sick or annual leave, they may not have enough such leave to pay the bills if they cannot work for an extended period, such as following surgery. Although the federal government provides disability benefits to federal employees who become permanently disabled, federal employees do not qualify for these benefits until they have worked for the federal government for at least 18 months. The Office of Personnel Management would contract with insurance companies to provide short-term disability insurance.

According to the Social Security Administration, a 20-year-old worker has a one-in-four chance of becoming disabled by retirement age. The majority of disabilities are not caused by major accidents, but by injuries or illnesses, according to the Council for Disability Awareness.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING HANNAH HARPER

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2026

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary talent and achievement of Hannah Harper of Willow Springs, Missouri, a proud daughter of the Ozarks who has captured the hearts of Americans across the country on American Idol.

Hannah's journey to the national stage began in Bunker, Missouri where she grew up performing bluegrass gospel music in her family band. Hannah was raised with the values of faith, hard work, and community that define Missouri's 8th Congressional District. Those values have been on full display through her remarkable run on American Idol, where she has advanced from the top 20 to the top 3, earning her place at every stage through undeniable talent and authenticity.

Her performances have resonated with audiences far beyond the Ozarks. During Holy Week, Hannah moved viewers across the Nation with her moving rendition of "At the Cross"—a testament to the deep faith that has guided her and so many families through life. That performance said as much about where Hannah is from as it did about where she is going.

● 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.

Week after week, Hannah has proven that rural Missouri produces world-class talent. She has made the Ozarks proud, and she has reminded a national audience of the strength, faith, and character that define the people of this region. I have no doubt that the best is still ahead for Hannah, and Missouri is rooting for her every step of the way.

It is my great privilege to recognize Hannah Harper's extraordinary accomplishments today before the United States House of Representatives and officially proclaim May 6 as Hannah Harper Day.

RECOGNIZING TRICIA STEVER
BLATTLER

HON. DAVID G. VALADAO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2026

Mr. VALADAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues Representative FONG and Representative COSTA to recognize the Tulare County Farm Bureau's Executive Director, Tricia Stever Blattler, for her successful career and outstanding service to Tulare County.

A lifelong native of Exeter, California, Tricia has dedicated her life to strengthening and advancing agriculture in the Central Valley. Her passion for the industry began early through her involvement in FFA and 4-H programs, and she went on to earn two degrees in agriculture from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. She started her career as an educator, teaching high school agricultural science before becoming a program coordinator for the California Foundation for Agriculture in the Classroom, where she served as a vital link between state and county organizations.

From 2007 until her departure in 2026, Tricia served as Executive Director of the Tulare County Farm Bureau, representing more than 1,800 members. During her tenure, she provided steady leadership, overseeing daily operations while advocating for the needs of Central Valley farmers and ranchers. Under her direction, the organization earned the Outstanding Large County Farm Bureau Award four times and was twice inducted into the California Farm Bureau's Golden State Hall of Fame.

Beyond her work with the county, Tricia is heavily involved with several agricultural organizations, including multiple local FFA chapters, agricultural leadership programs, and numerous agricultural boards. Her commitment has helped shape the next generation of agricultural leaders and strengthen the industry across the region.

Mr. Speaker, Representative FONG, Representative COSTA, and I ask our colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in recognizing Tricia Stever Blattler for her outstanding service and lasting contributions to the Central Valley.

HONORING CHARLES VICTOR
LAMPE, MD, FACC

HON. LANCE GOODEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2026

Mr. GOODEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the distinguished career and accomplishments of Dr. Charles Victor Lampe, a devoted cardiologist and respected leader in the Dallas, Texas community. A Fellow of the American College of Cardiology, he now serves with Texas Health Heart and Vascular Specialists at multiple locations across the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex, specializing in electrophysiology and cardiovascular disease.

Dr. Lampe began his medical journey in 1994 at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, one of the Nation's premier institutions. He went on to complete his internship at Rush University in Illinois before returning to UT Southwestern to complete his residency in internal medicine, his fellowship in cardiovascular disease, and his fellowship in clinical cardiac electrophysiology. Dr. Lampe is further distinguished through academic contribution, authoring a paper on the mechanism of supraventricular tachycardia, which underscores his commitment to advancing our understanding of complex cardiac conditions.

Physicians like Dr. Lampe often serve without public recognition, yet their work profoundly shapes the vitality of our communities. It is my privilege to formally acknowledge his many contributions to the people of East Texas and to the field of cardiology.

HONORING "CANTO A LA
LIBERTAD" AND THE MISSION
OF THE SANTUARIO DEL COBRE

HON. CARLOS A. GIMENEZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2026

Mr. GIMENEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the "Canto a la Libertad" concert and the inspiring mission it supports—the Santuario de la Virgen de la Caridad del Cobre in Santiago de Cuba.

This effort, led by faithful members of our South Florida community, reflects the deep spiritual bond between the Cuban people and Our Lady of Charity, the patroness of Cuba and a symbol of hope, resilience, and freedom.

At the Santuario del Cobre, Father Rogelio Dean Puerta and his team serve some of the most vulnerable, providing nourishment, care, and spiritual guidance to children, the elderly, and families in need. Despite the challenges facing the Cuban people, this sanctuary continues to stand as a beacon of faith and compassion.

The "Canto a la Libertad" concert is a powerful act of solidarity. It brings together our exile community and supporters of freedom to provide direct assistance to those on the island who need it most, while keeping alive the call for a free and democratic Cuba.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the organizers, supporters, and all those contributing to this noble cause. Their

generosity and faith are making a real difference in the lives of many. May we continue to stand with the Cuban people, support those working to alleviate suffering, and never waver in our commitment to freedom.

HONORING JOSÉ NOE MENDEZ

HON. VICENTE GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2026

Mr. VICENTE GONZALEZ of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the remarkable life and service of José Noe Mendez, who recently celebrated his 101st birthday. A proud veteran, dedicated mechanic, and important pillar of our community, Mr. Mendez's life reflects a legacy of service.

At just 17 years old, Mr. Mendez pursued an education in aircraft engine mechanics in Corpus Christi, Texas, quickly proving himself as one of the top students in his program. He was soon drafted into service during World War II and deployed to the front lines in Germany where he served in the 1st Infantry Division.

Mr. Mendez served with exceptional courage during some of the most difficult battles, including the Hürtgen Forest and the Battle of the Bulge. For his bravery, he earned the Purple Heart. Following the war, Mr. Mendez was honorably discharged in 1947 with the rank of Technical Sergeant after serving as a guard during the Nuremberg Trials.

Upon returning home, Mr. Mendez remained deeply committed to his community. He helped organize the Freedom Party in Benavides, Texas, and led the creation of a vocational school for veteran focused on mechanics. Later, he settled in Corpus Christi, where he owned and operated Mendez Automatic Transmission for 47 years.

Alongside his professional and civic accomplishments, he built a loving family, sharing 62 years of marriage with his wife.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Texas's 34th Congressional District, I am proud to recognize José Noe Mendez for his extraordinary life of service, sacrifice, and resilience. His continued dedication inspires all those around him.

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS
ON NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 11, 2026

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate National Police Week and honor the brave men and women who wear the badge.

Across the Commonwealth and our Nation, police officers put on their uniforms each day knowing they may face danger and spend long hours away from their loved ones, all in an answer to a call of duty to protect and serve their community.

To everyone who has volunteered to serve in law enforcement, I thank them.

Over the past 15 months, Congress has taken action to back the blue. Last year, I was