

shape San Antonio. She will be greatly missed.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO PERMIT COMMERCIAL FILMMAKING AND PHOTOGRAPHY ON THE GROUNDS OF THE U.S. CAPITOL

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce a bill that would permit commercial filmmaking and photography throughout the grounds of the U.S. Capitol Complex. Currently, such filmmaking and photography is only authorized in Union Square. Film and television productions that involve the Capitol should not have to go to other cities or use a fake building.

This bill would allow commercial filmmaking and photography outside of the Capitol and congressional office buildings by permit, as long as neither chamber is in session. The policy allowing commercial filmmaking and photography in Union Square shows that the Capitol Police can handle commercial filmmaking and photography at the Capitol Complex, especially when Congress is not in session. However, the Union Square vantage point captures the least familiar view of the Capitol. Preventing commercial filmmakers and photographers from shooting throughout the Capitol Complex is neither business-friendly nor true to the Nation's democratic traditions. Encouraging commercial filmmaking and photography at the Capitol would help spread the story of democracy around the world.

This bill would give the Capitol Police complete discretion to issue a permit for commercial filmmaking and photography throughout the Capitol Complex under the same terms and conditions as those for commercial filmmaking and photography in Union Square. No policy or security reasons exist to justify limiting commercial filmmaking and photography at the Capitol Complex to Union Square, especially considering that permits are necessary. Visitors are regularly seen taking videos and pictures around the Capitol Complex, demonstrating the arbitrary nature of limiting commercial filmmaking and photography to Union Square.

This bill would provide the Capitol Police authority to charge fees to cover any costs incurred by the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) for permit approval. The fees would be deposited into the Capitol Trust Account, which was established to accept fees collected from commercial filmmaking and photography permits for Union Square. Amounts in the Capitol Trust Account would be available without fiscal year limitation for maintenance, improvements, and projects the AOC considers appropriate, subject to the approval of the Appropriations Committees.

Views of the Capitol are among America's most iconic. Limiting commercial filmmaking and photography of the Capitol, an important vehicle for telling the Nation's story, does not serve the American people. Commercial films and photographs of the Capitol, the seat of our democracy, are perhaps the best modern vehicles for telling the Nation's story and showcasing its democratic system of government.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRITTANY PETERSEN

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Ms. PETERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed one vote on January 13, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 23, final passage of H.R. 4593, SHOWER Act.

RECOGNIZING CYNTHIA TRICKETT

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th District of Texas. The 2025 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Lieutenant Colonel Cynthia Jean Trickett, United States Air Force, of Dallas, Texas, for her honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for her continued service to her community.

Lieutenant Colonel Trickett served with distinction in the United States Air Force, Air Force Reserves, and Texas Air National Guard for thirty three years. As a Physician Associate and Medical Officer assigned to the 149th Medical Group at Joint Base San Antonio, she provided exemplary clinical leadership and care in both peacetime and crisis operations. Her career included four major activations in support of disaster relief and public health emergencies including Hurricane Katrina in 2005, Hurricane Rita in 2005, Hurricane Harvey in 2017, and the Texas COVID-19 pandemic response from 2020 to 2021. She also deployed along the Rio Grande in 2002 and 2005 to deliver medical, dental, and humanitarian services to underserved communities. Her military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters, Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal with service star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal with service star, Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal, and Air Force Longevity Service Award with four oak leaf clusters.

Following her distinguished military career, Lieutenant Colonel Trickett has continued her lifelong mission of service through medicine, mentorship, and education. A nationally recognized Physician Associate in dermatology, she lectures and teaches across the country, advancing patient care and professional standards in her field. She was honored with the 2022 Society of Dermatology Physician Associates Service Award for her leadership, mentorship, and advocacy. In North Texas, she serves as a clinical instructor and preceptor for students from West Coast University, the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center, and the University of North Texas, shaping the next generation of

healthcare providers through compassion and excellence.

Lieutenant Colonel Trickett also remains dedicated to honoring fellow veterans through her volunteer work with Wreaths Across America, ensuring that the service and sacrifice of those interred at the Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery are never forgotten. Her service in uniform, in medicine, and in the community exemplifies the highest ideals of leadership, integrity, and compassion.

Lieutenant Colonel Trickett's distinguished career and enduring commitment to others reflect the finest traditions of the United States Air Force and bring great credit upon herself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

COMMEMORATING 36TH ANNIVERSARY OF BLACK JANUARY

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 36th anniversary of the "Black January" killings, one of the most tragic events in Azerbaijan's history.

On the night of January 20, 1990, nearly 26,000 Soviet troops stormed the capital city of Baku, deploying tanks and armored vehicles against the civilian population. Soviet forces crushed innocent Azerbaijanis under heavy machinery and fired without restraint at peaceful demonstrators, including women and children. These brutal actions resulted in the deaths of 147 individuals, injuries to approximately 800 others, the arrest of 841 people, and the disappearance of five.

The Human Rights Watch report "Black January in Azerbaijan" states that "among the most heinous violations of human rights during the Baku incursion were the numerous attacks on medical personnel, ambulances, and even hospitals." I offer my thoughts and prayers to the families of the victims and to those who gave their lives to help their fellow citizens.

The United States was one of the first countries to recognize independence and fully established diplomatic relations on February 28, 1992. Today, the United States and Azerbaijan are still strategic allies and share common interests in the region and globally.

As the Co-Chairman of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I urge my colleagues to recognize the sacrifices of the Azerbaijani people in their steps towards independence and encourage a recommitment to the democratic values for which many Azerbaijanis sacrificed their lives.

HONORING THE LIFE OF THOMAS O. HICKS

HON. PAT FALLON

OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Mr. FALLON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Thomas O. Hicks of Dallas, Texas, who passed away on December 6, 2025.

Thomas O. Hicks was born in Houston, Texas, and raised between Dallas and Port

Arthur. He graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School and earned a bachelor's degree in finance from the University of Texas, followed by an MBA from the University of Southern California. A proud Texan, Mr. Hicks lived a life defined by service, leadership, and commitment to his community. He served his country as a paratrooper in the Army Reserves and later as a presidentially appointed Commissioner of the American Battle Monuments Commission.

Mr. Hicks won his professional career in banking with JPMorgan before returning to Texas, where he became a pioneer in private equity. In 1984, he co-founded Hicks & Haas and helped advance the leveraged buyout model through his "buy and build" strategy, most notably with the merger of Dr Pepper and 7UP. He later co-founded Hicks, Muse, Tate & Furst and served as chairman until 2004. Under his leadership, the firm became one of the most influential private equity organizations in the world, raising more than \$12 billion and completing over \$50 billion in acquisitions. In recognition of his contributions to business, Mr. Hicks was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame in 2022.

A lifelong sports enthusiast, Mr. Hicks purchased the Dallas Stars in 1996, leading the franchise to its 1999 Stanley Cup championship. He later acquired the Texas Rangers, who won consecutive American League West titles, and held ownership in Liverpool Football Club.

Mr. Hicks was deeply committed to the Dallas-Fort Worth region. He played a key role in the development of the American Airlines Center, contributed to the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge, and supported education initiatives across North Texas, including the land donation that became Thomas O. Hicks Elementary School. His dedication to the University of Texas included service on the Board of Regents and helping establish UTIMCO, now the largest public university endowment in the Nation.

I am honored to recognize Thomas O. Hicks for a life of service, leadership, and lasting impact on the State of Texas and our Nation.

HONORING THE 45TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARROYO VISTA FAMILY HEALTH CENTER

HON. JIMMY GOMEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Mr. GOMEZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the 45th Anniversary of Arroyo Vista Family Health Center located in Northeast Los Angeles.

In February of 1981, Arroyo Vista Family Health Center was established to ensure access to health services "for the community, by the community." Over the last 45 years, the non-profit community health center has become a trusted service provider, with a mobile clinic and four locations across Northeast Los Angeles. Every year, the center serves roughly 18,000 patients with a wide range of services such as family medicine, behavioral health, prenatal care, dental services, and pharmacy.

For more than four decades, Arroyo Vista Family Health Center has cemented its status

as a pillar for accessible, high-quality health care services for all. As our Northeast Los Angeles communities continue to grow and transform, Arroyo Vista Family Health Center remains committed to addressing the current and future health needs of residents through access to comprehensive health services. The impact of their efforts can be felt in every corner of Northeast Los Angeles, where residents no longer have to travel long distances for care and instead receive affordable, quality services from trusted providers.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Arroyo Vista Family Health Center on their 45th Anniversary.

HONORING THE 41ST ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. YOUTH ORATORICAL

HON. EUGENE SIMON VINDMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Mr. VINDMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 41st Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest, hosted by the Prince William County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

For more than four decades, the members of the Prince William County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. have hosted this community event in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day. This year marks the 41st anniversary of this distinguished program, one of the oldest and largest celebrations of Dr. King's legacy in the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

The event brings together students in grades six through twelve from Prince William County Public Schools and surrounding areas, offering them a unique opportunity to research, write, and deliver original orations honoring the life, leadership, and vision of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

This year's speech topic: "Awakening the Dream: Breaking Barriers in the Fight for Justice and Unity," "is inspired by the enduring legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., whose calls for justice, unity, and an equitable future continue to resonate today."

I want to personally congratulate the following contestants in the 41st "Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest: Middle School Contestants: Brianna McGlawn—Manassas Park Middle School; Daniella Odom—Rippon Middle School; Jasraj Saini—Benton Middle School; Salima Lankford-Diallo—Manassas Park High School; Beulah Sarsah—C.D. Hylton High School; and Ryqah Shaikh—Gainesville High School.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Prince William County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for its unwavering commitment to uplifting our youth and preserving Dr. King's legacy.

I also congratulate these talented students for using their voices to advance the ideals of justice, unity, and equality. Let us learn from this next generation and consider how we may honor Dr. King's legacy by continuously seeking justice and leading with light in our own communities.

RECOGNIZING MARK JOHNSON

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of a grateful Nation and the citizens of the 24th District of Texas. The 2025 Congressional Veteran Commendation is hereby presented to Specialist Mark Alan Johnson, United States Army, of North Richland Hills, Texas, for his honorable service in the Armed Forces of the United States of America and for his continued service to his community.

Specialist Johnson served honorably in the United States Army from 1974 to 1976 with Company C, 122nd Signal Corps, 2nd Infantry Division, stationed at Camp Casey, South Korea. As a Radio, Teletype, and Morse Code Operator, he was recognized as one of the most skilled and dependable communications specialists in his unit. During the heightened alert that followed the 1976 "Korean Axe Murder Incident," he played a vital role in maintaining morale and operational readiness as U.S. forces prepared for potential escalation. His dedication and leadership earned him the rank of Specialist 4 and the respect of both peers and superiors. His military decorations include the National Defense Service Medal and the Korean Defense Service Medal.

Following his military service, Specialist Johnson dedicated four decades to civil service with the Federal Highway Administration, General Services Administration, and Federal Aviation Administration, where his work in information technology helped streamline processes, save taxpayer dollars, and support thousands of federal employees nationwide. Stationed at Tinker Air Force Base in Oklahoma, he played a key role in the recovery and support efforts for coworkers who survived the 1995 Murrah Federal Building bombing, providing both technical and personal assistance in the aftermath of the tragedy.

Beyond his career, Specialist Johnson has remained deeply engaged in community service and charitable work. As a member of the Gold Wing Road Riders Association and the Iron Butt Association, he has helped raise funds for organizations including The Salvation Army, Scottish Rite Children's Hospital, and programs supporting children in foster care. His compassion and generosity extend back to his service in South Korea, where he volunteered at a local orphanage for deaf children.

Specialist Johnson's lifelong dedication to service across military, civil, and community spheres reflects the highest traditions of the United States Army and brings great credit upon himself, the State of Texas, and the United States of America.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RICK GARCIA

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 20, 2026

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Rick Garcia—an LGBTQ+ rights leader, community organizer, and above all, a man who knew how to create