

that he supervised has been even greater and has endured even as his roles at CRS have changed.

As Adam retires to spend more time with his growing family, I know that his colleagues at CRS will miss him, and so will we. I thank and congratulate Adam on an outstanding career. He has made a positive difference for students in postsecondary education and has served our Nation well in his capacity as a manager, which is a testament to his hard work and dedication. I wish him a long, healthy, and happy retirement.

RECOGNIZING GAVIN MINICH ON HIS OFFER OF APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to an outstanding student from Ohio's 5th Congressional District. I am pleased to announce that Gavin Minich of Bloomdale, Ohio, has been offered an appointment to the United States Military Academy in West Point, New York.

Gavin's offer of appointment permits him to attend the United States Military Academy this fall with the incoming Class of 2030. Attending one of our Nation's military academies not only offers the opportunity to serve our country but also guarantees a world-class education while undertaking one of the most challenging and rewarding experiences of his life. Gavin brings a tremendous amount of leadership, service, and dedication to the incoming Class of 2030. While attending Elmwood High School, he participated in National Honor Society, Quiz Bowl, student government, debate club, and was on the honor role. Throughout high school, Gavin was involved in cross country, indoor track, and track and field, earning his varsity letter. I am confident that he will carry the lessons of his student and athletic leadership to the Military Academy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Gavin Minich on his offer of appointment to the United States Military Academy. Our service academies offer the finest military training and education available, and I am positive that Gavin will excel during his career at the Military Academy. I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to our Nation.

HONORING LAWRENCE E. "LARRY" STONE LIFETIME OF SERVICE

HON. SAM T. LICCARDO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Mr. LICCARDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise alongside my colleagues Congresswoman ZOE LOFGREN, Congressman JIMMY PANETTA, and Congressman RO KHANNA, to honor a widely-respected community leader, mentor, and friend. Lawrence E. "Larry" Stone served more than three decades as Santa Clara County Asses-

sor, among his 47 years in public office. As Santa Clara County's longest-serving elected official, we celebrate his contributions upon his recent retirement.

First elected to public office in 1975, Stone served on the Sunnyvale City Council for 16 years, including two terms as mayor. In 1994, voters elected him to the role of Santa Clara County Assessor. As Assessor, Stone supervised \$8 billion in property tax revenue and managed a roll of more than 500,000 properties, which incurred a 500 percent increase in value during his time in office. During his tenure, he returned \$35 million to the county's general fund while adding only one person to the payroll. For thirty years—through economic booms and downturns alike—he consistently delivered complete, on-time assessment rolls within budget, earning stellar audit results and strengthening confidence in the office's performance. His work ensured transformative funding for our region's schools and communities.

A tireless and deeply dedicated public servant, Stone was among the first to arrive at work and last to leave, often remarking that he preferred workdays to weekends. He instilled a strong sense of urgency within the office, pushing for efficiency, responsiveness, and customer service. In his final years in office, he modernized the Assessor's Office's outdated software and database, ensuring its ability to continue serving Santa Clara County into the future.

As a leader, Stone welcomed discussion on major decisions, but once resolved, he acted decisively and expected others to move with equal urgency. While relishing the independence of elected office and enjoying the political process—never losing an election in his decades of service—he remained grounded in results, believing that strong performance was the best campaign. He stood up publicly for good government and reliably spoke out when powerful figures misused resources or misled the public.

Among local elected officials, Stone is known as a political "godfather." Politicians routinely ask him for advice and for support, and he became the go-to leader on dozens of commissions, task forces, and nonprofit boards. In 1990, he convened Silicon Valley power brokers to help Bill Clinton learn about tech and the innovation economy, which transformed into support for Clinton's winning presidential campaign. Later, Vice President Al Gore drew inspiration for "reinventing government" from reforms that Stone helped implement in Sunnyvale.

Stone's forthrightness, quotable humor, and keen insights continue to attract reporters seeking someone who will say what nobody else has the courage to utter publicly. Stone and his gracious wife, Carmen, are sought-after guests at nonprofit events and generously support local causes, particularly the arts. Larry invests heavily in affordable housing projects throughout the region and repeatedly champions the region's efforts to build stadiums and land professional sports teams. Stone also continues to drive the Downtown San Jose Rotary Club, one of the largest and most actively philanthropic clubs in the Nation, where he served as a past president.

Larry Stone spent his career elevating public service, and local government. He leaves his own service to Santa Clara County knowing that he made his community stronger than

when he found it. His legacy of principled public service will benefit our community for generations.

RECOGNIZING MASTER SERGEANT RAYMOND STIER

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Master Sergeant Raymond Stier for his dedication to public service and his continued commitment to serving our Nation.

Raymond Stier, a member of the Richmond Board of Education and a veteran with decades of military experience, has faithfully served both his community and his country. Beginning his term on the Board of Education in 2025, Raymond worked to fulfill his responsibilities while deployed overseas with the United States Air Force, participating in meetings remotely whenever possible.

Even while serving in a combat zone, Raymond remained committed to the students, families, and educators of his district. His willingness to answer the call of duty while continuing to support his community reflects the highest ideals of public service, sacrifice, and patriotism.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and congratulating Raymond Stier for his dedication, sacrifice, and service to our Nation. We are grateful for his steadfast commitment and thank him for his contributions to our country.

RECOGNIZING GREG RISLOV'S 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Greg Rislov for an exceptional 50 years of dedicated service to the people of South Dakota through his work at the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

Since joining the Public Utilities Commission in 1976, Greg has played a vital role in ensuring reliable and affordable utility service for South Dakotans. Throughout his career as an analyst, division director, and advisor to the Commission, he has provided expertise on countless energy, telecommunications, and infrastructure matters.

Having served as a Public Utilities Commissioner, I had the opportunity to witness firsthand Greg's professionalism, institutional knowledge, and unwavering commitment to public service. For five decades, he has been a trusted resource to commissioners, staff, and stakeholders across South Dakota.

Greg's contributions have helped guide our state through significant changes in the utility industry while always keeping the interests of South Dakota consumers at the forefront. I thank Greg for his remarkable career and his lasting service to the people of South Dakota.

His dedication is worthy of recognition and appreciation from both the House of Representatives and the state he has faithfully served for 50 years.

HONORING MISS PRESLEY BENNETT MISS ARKANSAS' TEEN 2026

HON. BRUCE WESTERMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Mr. WESTERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Miss Presley Bennett of White Hall, Arkansas, on being crowned Miss Arkansas' Teen 2026. At just 17 years old, Presley has distinguished herself through her talent, leadership, service, and commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of others.

Competing as Miss Saline County's Teen, Presley impressed judges with a dynamic Michael Jackson-inspired tap dance performance and demonstrated exceptional poise and character throughout the competition. Equally noteworthy is her dedication to youth mental health advocacy through her community service initiative, Peaceful Places. Through this important effort, Presley works to promote mental health awareness and well-being in schools, encouraging students to prioritize emotional wellness and foster supportive environments for their peers.

I recently had the pleasure of meeting Presley during her visit to Washington, D.C., when she stopped by my office. It was a privilege to learn more about her accomplishments, aspirations, and dedication to serving others. Presley exemplifies the talent, character, and leadership that have earned her this distinguished title. Her accomplishments during the Miss Arkansas' Teen competition were extraordinary. She earned a total of \$13,750 in scholarships and awards, including recognition for Overall On-Stage Conversation, Preliminary Health and Fitness, the Sharon Evans Bale We Are More Award, and Overall Arrival. Her title as Miss Arkansas' Teen also includes a \$10,000 scholarship sponsored by Pafford EMS, further supporting her educational aspirations and future success.

As Miss Arkansas' Teen, Presley will spend the coming year serving as a statewide ambassador for the Miss Arkansas Scholarship Program, making appearances across Arkansas while promoting her platform and inspiring young people throughout our state. Her example of service, confidence, and leadership reflects the very best of Arkansas's next generation.

In September 2026, Presley will proudly represent the Natural State at Miss America's Teen 2027, to be held at the Palm Beach County Convention Center in West Palm Beach, Florida. There she will compete alongside delegates from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands for the national title.

The Miss Arkansas Scholarship Program, an official state preliminary to Miss America, has long been dedicated to empowering young women through scholarship, service, leadership, and personal achievement. Presley Bennett embodies each of these values and serves as an outstanding representative of this mission.

On behalf of the people of Arkansas, I congratulate Presley Bennett on this remarkable achievement and commend her for her dedication to service, academic excellence, and advocacy. I join her family, friends, and community in wishing her continued success as she represents Arkansas on the national stage and inspires others through her leadership and example.

RECOGNIZING ANGEL REINS

HON. TOM EMMER

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Mr. EMMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a special occasion and the impactful work being done in Minnesota's 6th Congressional District.

Minnesota's 6th District is home to many great organizations. One such organization is Angel Reins, which not only provides a loving home for rescue horses, but provides veterans, survivors of human trafficking, and others suffering from PTSD, depression, anxiety, and grief with a peaceful place to relax and heal. The horse-human connection that Angel Reins fosters helps survivors heal and experience meaningful change.

In commemoration of Flag Day, it was an honor to recognize Angel Reins at the dedication of their new facility, the Rescue Ridge, commonly known as "The Ridge." On Flag Day, June 14, 2026, The Ridge was officially dedicated with a Flag Raising Ceremony. This new cabin will serve as a gathering place for all those served by Angel Reins. I am thrilled that both the American flag and the old Minnesota flag were proudly flown. They will continue to fly proudly day after day.

To the Combat Veterans who raised the flag they so bravely fought for and defended, I thank them. Their service and sacrifice do not go unnoticed.

The partnership between Angel Reins, the St. Cloud VFW, the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, and others is truly making a difference in the lives of Minnesota's veterans.

It was great to see so many people come together in our district to support this noble cause. The community engagement on this was truly inspiring to see. From local business leaders and project sponsors to community partners and our veterans, the hope and healing that Angel Reins brings is something only patriotic Minnesotans could come together to accomplish.

In the 250th year of our great Nation, it is an honor to recognize Angel Reins and its partners' dedication to our veterans and others in need.

INTRODUCTION THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS JUDICIAL VACANCY REDUCTION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Courts Judicial Vacancy Reduction Act, which would expedite

the appointment of local D.C. judges. Senator CHRIS VAN HOLLEN is introducing the companion bill.

The longstanding judicial vacancy crisis in the local D.C. courts has existed regardless of which party controls the presidency and the Senate because the president and the Senate are, understandably, more focused on nominees to the federal courts and the executive branch than to the local D.C. courts. The sole purpose of this bill is to protect public safety and promote justice by ending the judicial vacancy crisis in the local D.C. courts, which delays the resolution of criminal and civil cases. This bill has nothing to do with D.C. statehood or home rule. Although D.C. will control the local D.C. courts when it becomes a state and Congress can—and should—give D.C. control over the local D.C. courts now, this bill would not give D.C. any new authority over the local D.C. courts.

Under the D.C. Home Rule Act, D.C. has no control over the organization or jurisdiction of the local D.C. courts, including the nomination and appointment of judges. A seven-member commission, which is comprised of federal, D.C. and private-sector appointees, submits to the president a list of three persons for each vacancy on the local D.C. courts. The president must nominate, and, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint one person from the list. If the president fails to nominate one of the persons from the list within 60 days, the commission must nominate, and, with the advice and consent of the Senate, appoint one of the persons from the list.

This bill would not change the role of the president or the commission in the appointment of local D.C. judges. Instead, it would apply the current congressional review process for bills enacted by D.C. to the appointment of local D.C. judges. Upon nomination, local D.C. judges would be appointed after the expiration of a 30-day congressional review period, unless a resolution disapproving of the appointment was enacted into law during the period.

Local D.C. judges are non-Article III judges. The Constitution only requires Senate approval of Article III judges—that is, judges on the federal district courts, the federal appeals courts and the U.S. Supreme Court. Congress has the discretion to decide how non-Article III judges will be appointed, and it has chosen to subject some non-Article III judges to Senate approval, but not others. For example, Congress has not given itself any role in the appointment of bankruptcy or administrative law judges. This bill would strike a middle ground. Congress would retain authority to block the appointment of local D.C. judges, but it would only have a limited period to do so.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING RAIZ FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

HON. VERONICA ESCOBAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Ms. ESCOBAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Raiz Federal Credit Union as it celebrates its 90th anniversary of service to the people of El Paso.

Founded in 1936 by seven visionary educators as the El Paso Teachers Federal Credit