

helped rebuild the McHenry Theatre, provided lighting for the Ryan Buss Zone Skate Park, supported baseball and softball leagues, and sponsored the McHenry Distinguished Warrior Graduate Program scholarship. Additionally, Buss Ford Lincoln created the "Buss Challenger League," a free program that gives children with disabilities the opportunity to learn and play baseball.

Known for its exceptional customer service and community engagement, Buss Ford Lincoln understands that giving back to the community is a key part of a successful business. By consistently investing its time and resources in Crystal Lake, it has made the community a better place to live, work, and play.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to represent the community of Crystal Lake, and I ask my colleagues to join me in acknowledging Buss Ford Lincoln for its impactful contributions to the community.

CONGRATULATING THE ORIGINAL
PROVIDENCE BAPTIST CHURCH
ON IT'S 163RD ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and pay tribute to the Original Providence Baptist Church on the occasion of its 163rd Anniversary.

One hundred and sixty-three years is a long time by any measurement of time; but to exist and remain functional through this period is exceptional and deserves special attention.

Original Providence is fondly known as the oldest Black Church on the Westside of Chicago and has been the primary place of worship for many of the communities, including citizens such as Aldermen, Democratic Committeeman and Church Trustee Issac (Ike) Carothers, his father Alderman and Democratic Committeeman William (Bill) Carothers, State Representatives, Church Choir Director and Soloist Sharon Marquette, former Pastor Dr. Edgar T. Thornton, the current Senior Pastor, Reverend Daniel E. Jones, and a host of others.

Original Providence is noted for being spirit filled, imbued with community service and unwavering faith; therefore, I extend to them my highest level of congratulations and thanks for the roles they continue to play in our community.

May the good Lord continue to bless their ministry and may it last forever.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RITCHIE TORRES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Mr. TORRES of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I was not present in the House Chamber due to my Congressional Primary being the same day. Had I been present, I would have voted unequivocally YEA on the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act. I'm thrilled to see the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act pass the House and head to the President's

desk. This is the most significant step Congress has taken on housing affordability in decades, and it carries the fingerprints of my team's work, sitting at the table through round after round of negotiations to get this right. While I could not be on the floor for today's vote, I am proud of what we got done and the historic win for the American people.

I also want to recognize the extraordinary leadership of Ranking Member MAXINE WATERS, Chairman FRENCH HILL, Ranking Member ELIZABETH WARREN, and Chairman TIM SCOTT. This legislation is the product of years of work, countless conversations, and a genuine commitment to finding bipartisan solutions to America's housing affordability crisis. Their leadership, persistence, and willingness to work across the aisle helped make this historic achievement possible. While members may have approached this challenge from different perspectives, they shared a common goal: expanding housing opportunities and making it easier for families across the country to find safe, affordable places to live.

Five provisions I authored or championed made it into the final package. We are cutting red tape so families can get bigger, more affordable apartments. We are protecting public housing residents from dangerous heat. We are helping families on Section 8 build savings and reach self-sufficiency. We are increasing oversight of failing public housing authorities. And we are giving HUD the tools to keep multifamily loan limits in step with the real cost of building housing. The housing crisis did not happen overnight, and it will not be solved overnight, but this bill is real, bipartisan progress, and the Bronx will benefit from it.

My provisions included in the final package are as follows:

Single Stair (Sec. 102): Directs HUD to issue best practices and technical guidance supporting greater use of single-stair buildings, allowing for more family-sized units and lower construction costs.

Temperature Sensors (Sec. 106): Establishes a HUD pilot grant program for public housing authorities and federally assisted housing owners to install temperature sensors, helping ensure compliance with heat and cold safety requirements.

Housing Affordability Act (Sec. 211): Authorizes HUD to increase multifamily loan limits to keep pace with housing market costs, restoring higher House-passed loan multipliers to support more affordable multifamily construction.

Helping More Families Save Act (Sec. 404): Creates a HUD pilot program letting up to 25 housing providers establish escrow savings accounts for as many as 5,000 families on Section 8 or public housing assistance, with funds accessible after self-sufficiency milestones or program participation.

CAT Act (Sec. 805): Requires struggling public housing authorities to provide annual status notices and assessments to HUD, disclose contract information publicly, and directs the HUD Inspector General to review housing conditions and the performance of receivers, monitors, and private partners.

YEA on Roll Call No. 223, and YEA on Roll Call No. 224.

RECOGNIZING THE LEADERSHIP
AND PIONEERING OCEAN CON-
SERVATION EFFORTS OF JULIE
PACKARD

HON. JIMMY PANETTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Mr. PANETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of Ms. Julie Packard on her retirement after forty-two years as the founding Executive Director of the globally renowned Monterey Bay Aquarium. She enters retirement as an international leader in the field of ocean conservation and as a leading voice for science-based policy reform in support of our oceans.

Ms. Packard's commitment to the ocean began on California's Central Coast as an undergraduate at the University of California, Santa Cruz. After earning degrees in biology, she emerged as a leading voice for science-based ocean policy, translating research and advocacy into meaningful conservation outcomes. Her leadership guided the creation of the internationally recognized Seafood Watch program, supported California's network of marine protected areas, advanced efforts to end shark finning, and strengthened global action against plastic pollution. The Aquarium's field research has illuminated the conservation challenges facing sea otters, white sharks, and bluefin tunas in the wild.

Since the Aquarium's opening in 1984, Ms. Packard set a standard of excellence that has influenced aquariums across the Nation and around the world. Under her leadership, the Aquarium has hosted more than 73 million visitors, and nearly 3 million students and teachers have benefited from its free educational programs. With its pioneering exhibits of living kelp forests, open-ocean displays, and extensive deep-sea galleries, the Aquarium has become a defining landmark in California's 19th Congressional District and a beloved gem for tourists and locals alike.

Beyond the Aquarium, Ms. Packard has advanced deep-ocean science and philanthropy on an international scale through her role serving local impactful organizations. She is a tireless advocate for equity in science, supporting scholarships for underrepresented students and programs empowering young women and gender-fluid youth in STEM fields.

Her contributions have earned her some of the most esteemed honors in conservation, including the Audubon Medal, the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation's Lifetime Achievement Award, the California Coastal Commission's Coastal Hero Award, and the 2026 Peter Benchley Ocean Hero Award. In 2019, she became the second woman in the marine sciences and conservation to be the subject of a commissioned portrait for the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in honoring and celebrating Ms. Packard as she transitions from her executive role. May her legacy of leadership, integrity, and unwavering commitment to our ocean continue to guide conservation efforts for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING DEPUTY SOLICITOR
JACOB LYNN GODWIN ON RE-
CEIVING THE ORDER OF THE
PALMETTO

HON. RUSSELL FRY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Mr. FRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Deputy Solicitor Jacob Lynn Godwin of Hartsville, South Carolina, upon receiving the Order of the Palmetto, our State's highest ci-

vilian honor. This distinguished award reflects Mr. Godwin's life of service, integrity, and dedication to justice, as well as his deep commitment to the people of the Pee Dee and the State of South Carolina.

A lifelong resident of Hartsville, Mr. Godwin has served his community through an accomplished legal career, including roles as a law clerk, assistant solicitor, judicial law clerk, public defender, private attorney, and now Deputy Solicitor in Dillon County for the Fourth Circuit Solicitor's Office. In each capacity, he has earned the respect of his colleagues and community through his professionalism, compas-

sion, and commitment to fairness under the law. Beyond the courtroom, he has generously supported organizations such as Cypress Adventures, the Hartsville YMCA, and the Pee Dee Coalition, while also mentoring young attorneys and law students.

Mr. Speaker, Jacob Lynn Godwin's receipt of the Order of the Palmetto is a fitting tribute to a servant leader whose impact reaches far beyond any title. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating Deputy Solicitor Godwin on this well-deserved honor and in thanking him for his outstanding service to South Carolina.