

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE LIFE OF DAVID L. MOORE

HON. ILHAN OMAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Ms. OMAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of David L. Moore (1936–2025), for his boundless dedication to servicing the Hmong-American community through scouting education. As a lifelong educator and recognized community leader, David exemplified the greatest qualities of Minnesotan character, offering compassion and welcome to a first-generation Hmong-American community.

As a native resident of Minneapolis, David exhibited strong academic and leadership qualities, carving a pathway from his alma mater of Southwest High School to the prestigious Yale University, earning a B.A. in History and an M.A. in Teaching, planting a strong foundation for what would become an extensive educational career, teaching at various schools, domestically and internationally, eventually returning to his hometown to teach at Edison High School, where he would become witness to an emerging Hmong-American community torn from their homes by a horrific regional conflict across Southeast Asia. Having already been the Director of Camp Ajawah and Troop 33 Scoutmaster for two decades, David decided to use his wealth of experience to foster a new scouting chapter, Troop 100, the first Hmong Scout troop in the Nation.

David also recognized the importance of preserving the history of his growing Hmong troopers and their families, prompting him to collect stories of the troopers' gruesome survival experiences escaping Pathet Lao occupied Hmong villages, serving as military operatives against Pathet Lao forces, living between refugee camps in Laos and Thailand, and so much more. These stories would later be compiled into a singular book—*Dark Sky, Dark Lands: Stories of The Hmong Boy Scouts of Troop 100*. He would continue documenting their progress in the book *Trustworthy Loyal Brave*, and the stories of local Hmong elders in a third book, *A Free People: Tracing Our Hmong Roots*. David even went as far as traveling to Thai refugee camps near Mekong River, a route used by Hmong villagers from Laos to escape oppositional forces, where many of his scouts lived during the Laotian Civil War.

David Moore's impact is listless and continues to resonate through the lives of thousands of Minnesotans even after his passing, his former scouts growing into respective leaders of their own communities in a plethora of different fields, surely influenced by the values instilled in their scouting days with David. Please join me in recognizing the life of David L. Moore.

RECOGNIZING 20 YEARS OF THE ICEBREAKER MACKINAW MARITIME MUSEUM

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the enduring legacy of the United States Coast Guard Cutter (USCGC) *Mackinaw* and to commend the Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum as it approaches the 20th anniversary of preserving the proud history of this legendary ship for future generations.

Constructed during World War II, the USCGC *Mackinaw* was built to support the Nation's war effort and meet the increasing demand for transporting critical war materials across the Great Lakes. As America's steel production became vital to victory overseas, the movement of iron ore, coal, and limestone to the Nation's steel mills became increasingly important. Recognizing the need to keep Great Lakes shipping lanes open during harsh winter conditions, Congress authorized the construction of the USCGC *Mackinaw* just ten days after the attack on Pearl Harbor.

Through her strength, innovative engineering, and the dedication of the crew, the USCGC *Mackinaw* was able to extend the shipping season into months where the Great Lakes had previously been covered in thick ice, ensuring the uninterrupted flow of vital materials. Following the war, she continued to faithfully serve the American people through icebreaking operations, search and rescue missions, patrol duties, and resupply operations for Coast Guard stations throughout the Great Lakes region.

In 2006, after an impressive 62-year career of distinguished service, the USCGC *Mackinaw* was decommissioned. Today she is permanently moored at the old railroad dock in Mackinaw City, where she continues to serve as the Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum. Through the dedication of its staff, volunteers, and supporters, the museum preserves an important chapter of Great Lakes and Coast Guard history.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Michigan's 1st Congressional District, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the United States Coast Guard Cutter *Mackinaw* and congratulating the Icebreaker Mackinaw Maritime Museum as it approaches this remarkable 20-year milestone of preserving history, honoring service, and inspiring future generations.

CELEBRATING THE HABCENTER OF BOCA RATON SENSORY ROOM RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

HON. JARED MOSKOWITZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Mr. MOSKOWITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Habilitation Center for the Handicapped, Inc. (HabCenter) of Boca Raton on the Sensory Room Ribbon Cutting Ceremony which took place on June 17, 2026.

For nearly five decades, the HabCenter has served as a beacon of opportunity, empowerment, and inclusion for adults with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities throughout Palm Beach County and South Florida. Its story began in the early 1970s when families in Boca Raton and surrounding communities recognized the need for accessible vocational and support services closer to home. In 1973, the Palm Beach County Commission donated twelve acres of land on Boca Rio Road, laying the foundation for what would become one of the region's most impactful nonprofit organizations.

Through the generosity of families, community members, and government partners, the HabCenter opened its doors in October 1978 with a mission that remains unchanged today: to equip individuals with the knowledge, skills, and behaviors needed to lead useful and productive lives with dignity, respect, and independence.

Today, the HabCenter provides comprehensive, client-centered services for adults with lifelong developmental and intellectual disabilities. Through vocational training opportunities, supported employment programs, behavioral health services, educational enrichment, arts and recreation initiatives, and community engagement activities, the organization empowers individuals to maximize their potential and achieve greater independence.

The HabCenter's innovative programs, including HabCo Manufacturing and the HabCenter Plant Nursery, provide meaningful vocational experiences while helping participants develop valuable workplace skills and confidence. Through its comprehensive Programs in Education, Arts, and Recreation (P.E.A.R.) and dedicated Social Services Department, the organization offers a fully integrated approach that enhances quality of life and fosters personal growth, friendship, and fulfillment.

I would also like to thank HabCenter's Chief Executive Officer, Sherry A. Henry and her team for their commitment and for guiding the organization's continued growth and success. I thank them for all the work they have done. Our community would not be the same without their dedication.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Florida's 23rd Congressional District, I ask our colleagues to join us in congratulating the HabCenter on this significant milestone and in recognizing its extraordinary contributions to individuals with disabilities, their families, and the broader South

• 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.

Florida community. We look forward to its continued success and impact for many years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE AFFORDABLE YOUTH ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT

HON. SHOMARI FIGURES

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Mr. FIGURES. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced the Affordable Youth Enrichment Opportunities Act to provide a federal tax deduction for parents who work hard to provide enrichment opportunities for their children, only to find those opportunities increasingly expensive and out of reach.

Whether it is academic tutoring, youth sports, or training in the arts, such as music, theater, or dance, families are facing growing costs to help their children gain the valuable lessons and benefits of extracurricular activities. Sports teach teamwork, discipline, and leadership. Academic and artistic programs foster creativity, critical thinking, communication skills, and intellectual curiosity. Together, these experiences help children build confidence, develop important life skills, and prepare for future success.

Yet access to these opportunities is often determined by a family's financial circumstances rather than a child's needs, passions, abilities, or potential. While federal tax law provides slight tax relief for certain childcare and school expenses, families receive no comparable federal tax deduction for the costs of youth sports, arts, or academic enrichment activities. My bill will change that.

The Affordable Youth Enrichment Opportunities Act allows eligible taxpayers who itemize their deductions and pay out of pocket expenses for qualified academic, athletic, and enrichment activities for their children to claim a tax deduction not to exceed \$5,000 per taxable year. Eligible taxpayers may claim the deduction provided that their modified adjusted gross income for the taxable year does not exceed the applicable threshold amount, which ranges from \$100,000 to \$200,000, depending on filing status.

Every child deserves the opportunity to pursue activities that help them reach their full potential. By helping families afford extracurricular enrichment activities, we can ensure that more children have access to activities that shape character, build skills, and prepare them for future success.

I encourage my colleagues to support and cosponsor the Affordable Youth Enrichment Opportunities Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOSEPH D. MORELLE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Mr. MORELLE. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed Roll Call Votes No. 223 and No. 224 on June 23, 2026. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 223, and YEA on Roll Call No. 224.

RECOGNIZING SECOND CLASS PETTY OFFICER ERIC WILLIAM TOTH AS JUNE 2026 VETERAN OF THE MONTH

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Mrs. McCLAIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Second Class Petty Officer Eric William Toth for his honorable service in the United States Navy and his continued dedication to supporting veterans in our community. It is my privilege to honor him as our June 2026 Veteran of the Month.

Petty Officer Toth enlisted in the United States Navy in 1974, becoming the fourth generation of his family to serve in the Navy. Born on a Navy base in Virginia, he followed a proud family tradition of military service. After completing boot camp in California, Petty Officer Toth attended A School for Culinary Arts in San Diego, where he trained as a cook. Following graduation, he and his class were sent to Camp Pendleton, California, where they prepared meals for 25,000 Vietnamese refugees.

Shortly thereafter, he was assigned to the USS *Independence*, where he served for four years. During his service aboard the *Independence*, Petty Officer Toth worked in every phase of the ship's food service operation, gaining extensive experience in leadership, logistics, and operations. He also crossed the Equator multiple times, earning Shellback status, and crossed the Arctic Circle twice, earning the distinction of Blue Nose.

Following his honorable military service, Petty Officer Toth built a successful career in the private sector, where he established himself as a respected business professional. In retirement, encouraged by his wife of thirty years, ConnieSue, he dedicated himself to supporting fellow veterans. He serves on the Board of Directors for the Holly Area Veterans Resource Center and as Second Vice Commander of American Legion Post 149 in Holly, continuing his lifelong commitment to service.

In addition, Petty Officer Toth volunteers with the Holly American Legion and VFW Joint Honor Guard, performing military honors at Great Lakes National Cemetery and at local funeral homes and cemeteries. His dedication to honoring those who served reflects his deep respect for veterans and their families.

Mr. Speaker, Second Class Petty Officer Eric William Toth's distinguished service in the United States Navy, his entrepreneurial achievements, and his unwavering commitment to supporting veterans and honoring their sacrifices reflect great credit upon himself, his family, and our community. It is my great honor to recognize his service and accomplishments by naming him our June 2026 Veteran of the Month.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAS INSTITUTE INC.

HON. DEBORAH K. ROSS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Ms. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the 50th anniversary of

one of North Carolina's most notable business success stories, the SAS Institute.

Headquartered in Cary, SAS has exemplified the very best of American innovation, entrepreneurship, and commitment to excellence. Founded in 1976 by Dr. James Goodnight and John Sall, SAS began as a modest project to analyze agricultural data for the U.S. Department of Agriculture and has since grown into one of the world's largest privately held software companies. What started as a statistical analysis tool has evolved into a global enterprise serving customers in more than 140 countries, including every major department of the federal government and nearly every Fortune 100 company.

SAS's impact on our economy, our workforce, and our technological leadership cannot be overstated. It is one of North Carolina's largest employers, and its reputation for workplace excellence is second to none. From pioneering on-site childcare in the early 1980s to offering comprehensive healthcare services on its campus, SAS has long been recognized as a model employer whose people-first approach has influenced workplaces around the world.

SAS also serves a prominent role across industries and the public sector. In financial services, SAS helps banks around the world detect fraud and protect consumers from financial harm. In health and life sciences, SAS has helped bring life-saving treatments to patients by supporting clinical research and regulatory review. In education, SAS has provided tools to help educators measure student growth and improve outcomes, while its academic programs have helped prepare generations of students, educators, and researchers for careers in analytics, data science, and AI.

As SAS celebrates its golden anniversary, we honor not only its remarkable achievements but also the values that have guided its journey: innovation, integrity, and a steadfast belief in the power of data to improve lives. I salute the SAS Institute and the thousands of dedicated employees who have made this company a North Carolina institution, a global leader, and a beacon of excellence for 50 years.

Here's to the next 50.

HONORING PAUL SINGLETON FOR A LIFETIME OF SERVICE TO THE FORT WALTON BEACH COMMUNITY

HON. JIMMY PATRONIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Mr. PATRONIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly remarkable American, Mr. Paul Singleton, as he celebrates two extraordinary milestones: his 93rd birthday and his 2,000th event as a Chamber Ambassador for the Greater Fort Walton Beach Chamber of Commerce.

For many in Okaloosa County, Paul is a familiar face at community gatherings and Chamber events. Behind that familiar face, however, is a lifetime defined by service, leadership, and an unwavering commitment to others.

Paul served our Nation with distinction for 32 years in the United States Air Force, rising