

strategic planning. He commanded transportation battalions, served assignments at the Pentagon, and held senior leadership positions throughout the United States and Europe. Among his most impactful assignments, Jim served as Deputy Commander of the 7th Transportation Group during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, helping lead one of the largest transportation and logistics efforts in modern Army history. During Operation Restore Hope in Somalia, he commanded the 6th Transportation Battalion where he instituted vital humanitarian relief operations. These assignments, in addition to his position as the Deputy Chief of Staff of the United States Army Europe, offer just a glimpse of a career defined by his exceptional service to our nation. His many awards and decorations, including the Legion of Merit Award and seven Meritorious Service Medals, reflect the high regard in which he is held. Jim was nominated for this honor by Colonel (Ret) Ed Fortunato, and he received endorsements from Major General (Ret) David A. Whaley and Lieutenant General (Ret) Dan Brown. But of course, he couldn't have achieved this success without the support of his wife of 53 years, Sharon.

As Colonel Chalkley is inducted into the United States Army Hall of Fame, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his exemplary career and a legacy that will be felt throughout the United States Army for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING MT. OLIVETTE
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary celebration of Mount Olivette Missionary Baptist Church, a historic landmark, in Miami, Florida.

The church was founded on October 12, 1912, in the home of Nathaniel Sampson, Reverend Sampson's brother, who is named as one of the pioneers, along with Julia Dean, Remalia Ellis, Richard Johnson, Francis Smith, Albert Taylor and Ellen Ward. Reverend Sampson's 16-year-old daughter Irene was the recording secretary.

The congregation later moved to Mrs. Powell's schoolhouse on Avenue G and Woods Street, which is now Northwest 1st Street and 2nd Avenue. The church bell would ring from a pine tree to alert the congregation about Sunday services, deaths and funerals.

Mount Olivette Missionary Baptist Church relocated to its present site at 1450 Northwest 1st Court around 1915.

In 1952, tragedy struck and the church had to be re-built from the ground-up. Under the leadership of Reverend I.C. Mickens the new sanctuary was completed in 1959, and the mortgage was burned in 1963.

Now, under the leadership of Reverend R. Clark, since 1979, Mt. Olivette Missionary Baptist Church continues to be a spiritual, educational and cultural center for the people and community it serves.

Please join me in recognizing this historic church, one of the corner stones of Miami's Overtown community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL
CAPITAL REVITALIZATION AND
SELF-GOVERNMENT IMPROVE-
MENT ACT OF 1997 TECHNICAL
CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2026

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 Technical Corrections Act of 2026, which would address several retirement issues for current and former District of Columbia employees that resulted from the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (Revitalization Act). The Revitalization Act, among other things, transferred several categories of employees who were in the D.C. retirement system to the federal retirement system and transferred responsibility from D.C. to the federal government for funding pension benefits earned by D.C. teachers, police officers, firefighters and judges before 1997.

First, the Revitalization Act transferred several categories of employees, primarily related to D.C.'s criminal justice system, who participated in D.C.'s defined contribution plan from 1987 to 1997 to the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). However, these employees' service from 1987 to 1997 was not counted for purposes of creditable service or annuity amount in FERS. In 2009, Congress passed legislation counting this service for creditable service, but not annuity amount. This bill would allow these employees to buy into the FERS annuity amount for 1987 to 1997 by paying 1.3 percent of their base pay plus interest, essentially the employee contribution for this time, which would give them the full retirement benefit to which they should be entitled.

Second, this bill would address two benefit issues for employees in the D.C. teachers, police officers and firefighters pension plans, whose pre-1997 benefits are funded by the federal government. In 2018, D.C. enacted a law to provide domestic partner benefits for the police and firefighters pension plan, which mirrored a law already enacted for teachers. However, these domestic partner benefits apply only to service accrued after 1997, since the federal government funds pre-1997 benefits. This bill would make the domestic partner benefits available for pre-1997 benefits, too.

Finally, in 2012, D.C. enacted a law that reduced from 60 to 55 the age after which a surviving spouse can remarry without losing survivor benefits in the D.C. teachers, police and firefighters pension plans. However, these benefits apply only to service accrued after 1997, since the federal government funds pre-1997 benefits. This bill would bring those pre-1997 benefits in line with both the post-1997 benefits and the retirement benefits for federal employees in the Civil Service Retirement System and FERS and make an analogous change for D.C. judges, whose retirement benefits are funded by the federal government. In general, for federal retirees, 55 is the age after which a surviving spouse can remarry without losing survivor benefits.

This bill would give these workers the retirement benefits they deserve. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT
OF SUMMIT HIGH SCHOOL LA-
CROSSE COACH JIM DAVIDSON

HON. THOMAS H. KEAN, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Mr. KEAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Coach Jim Davidson of Summit, New Jersey, upon his retirement from Summit High School men's lacrosse team.

Coach Davidson began his journey with Summit High School's lacrosse team in 1986 and became head coach in 1999. Drawing on his extensive athletic background in basketball and football, as well as his outstanding leadership capabilities, he transformed the program into a nationally recognized powerhouse. Throughout the past 27 years, Coach Davidson has led his team to 14 state titles, two Tournament of Champions crowns, and a remarkable 68-game winning streak, and most recently, a ranking as the top public school in the country for men's lacrosse.

While some may remember his tenure as the fourth most winningest men's lacrosse coach in state history, his true legacy lies in the foundation of what he built at Summit. Coach Davidson established a program rooted in repetition and structure. Preparation was exemplary and standards did not bend regardless of talent or age group. Coach Davidson played a pivotal role in growing and sustaining youth interest in the high school program, ensuring its lasting success.

By instilling discipline and fostering a culture of respect, he cultivated generations of dedicated student-athletes. While Coach Davidson's retirement marking the end of an era in New Jersey lacrosse, his influence extends beyond wins and losses. Coach Davidson is admired for his class, humility, and respect, earning recognition from coaches across the state for his significant contributions to the sport and his influence on countless young athletes.

Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate Coach Jim Davidson's enduring impact and legacy, I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring him for his steadfast commitment to Summit High School men's lacrosse team.

HONORING AND PAYING TRIBUTE
TO MRS. ORA B. BENDROSS

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of South Florida's most beloved citizens, the late Mrs. Ora B. Bendross, who was affectionately known by many as "Nana."

Mrs. Bendross was known throughout the Miami-Dade County community as the lady with an enormous heart, who never ever met a stranger. Many in the South Florida community have experienced her kindness and generosity, and her home, became a refuge for some of today's most well-known community leaders. Those who knew her best will remember her open invitation to "stop by and have dinner with my family."

Mrs. Bendross adored her children and taught each of them the importance of an education.

As a dedicated member of the Historic Mount Zion Missionary Baptist Church and later Bible Missionary Baptist Church, she served on several missionary boards, sang in the choir, served on an usher board and was fully committed to serving the Lord.

Mrs. Bendross is preceded in death by her husband of 63 years Mr. Willie J. Bendross, and three of her seven children; Donald Bendross, Dallas Bendross and Joyce Bendross Forchion. She leaves to carry on her legacy her children; Pinnie (Patricia) Bendross, James Bendross, Dr. Dorothy Bendross Mindingall, Bennie (Yvonne) Bendross and a host of grandchildren, great-great and great-great-grandchildren.

Please join me in honoring the late Mrs. Ora B. Bendross for her unwavering faith and commitment to her family and her community.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF TAMMIE BEBOUT

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Tammie Bebout, my Director of Constituent Services since I began in Congress in 2011. This month, Tammie is retiring from public service as a Congressional staffer after serving Members of Congress for more than 24 years.

Tammie's career in Congress first started in Virginia's 4th Congressional District. For years, she worked for Representative Randy Forbes of Virginia. Tammie made great strides, first as a Constituent Services Representative and then as a Senior Constituent Services Representative. Thanks to Tammie's efforts, she developed a precise understanding of casework and district office operations and issues that impacted her local community. She served as an excellent representative for Congressman Forbes' office.

The people of Virginia's 4th Congressional District and the office of Representative Forbes appreciated her dedication and service.

Tammie and her husband, Jim, then decided to move across the Commonwealth to Washington County, Virginia. Tammie so loved her work in Congressman Forbes' office that for some period of time she commuted across the State to continue her work for the 4th District.

They had settled in the Town of Damascus, a small rural town in Southwest Virginia of less than 1,000 people. Such towns make up a large portion of Virginia's 9th Congressional District, which spans over more than 9,000 square miles. Given the District's sparsely populated communities, there are unique challenges that people in our region face.

After being elected to serve these constituencies in Virginia's 9th Congressional District, I assembled a team in my district offices to tend to these challenges and our rural communities. Given her experience, my team considered it a godsend to be able to hire Tammie. We knew she would help to deliver an exceptional constituent services operation. And she did so.

With Tammie's background and leadership, my office's casework operations hit the ground running in 2011. We were ahead of many freshman offices thanks to her institutional knowledge of constituent services.

Tammie's leadership in my Abingdon office helped navigate various challenges for constituents. Such issues included federal natural disaster relief, federal agency help, veterans' assistance, and legislative correspondence, among other matters. In 2025 alone, Tammie helped with my office casework operations by contacting 40 federal agencies, completing more than 1,100 cases, and securing more than \$1.685 million from federal agencies.

Whether out in the field or in the office, Tammie always acted in her role with the utmost professionalism, integrity, and respect.

My office mission statement highlights the importance of responsible leadership, principled representation, and exceptional constituent services for the people of Virginia's 9th District. I am proud to say that Tammie will be remembered for carrying out these principles with true class, heart, and skill.

Tammie exceeded well beyond all expectations as a constituent services leader. Moreover, her warmth, kindness and faith always resonated with those we helped. I am honored that Tammie could call herself a representative of my office.

I congratulate Tammie on an extraordinary career. On behalf of Virginia's 9th Congressional District and my staff, I offer her well wishes.

SUPPORTING H.R. 7757, THE KIDS INTERNET AND DIGITAL SAFETY (KIDS) ACT

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 7757, the Kids Internet and Digital Safety (KIDS) Act, the first step towards delivering long-overdue privacy protections for children and teens online.

Social media companies use mass data collection and algorithms to drive adults, teens, and children towards harmful content, misinformation, and targeted ads that line the profits of Big Tech companies. H.R. 7757, the KIDS Act, would safeguard minors from these harmful practices.

The KIDS Act is a package of 14 online safety bills, including revised provisions from the Kids Online Safety Act and the Children and Teens' Online Privacy Protection Act, that would require social media companies to protect the personal data of our children and teens and prevent the promotion of harmful content like eating disorders and suicide. Specifically, the KIDS Act will mandate safeguards, parental tools, and policies to keep kids safe when using social media, video games, chatbots, and more. These safeguards will limit addictive design features, restrict sharing the geolocation of minors, limit adult users from communicating with minors, restrict personalized recommendation systems, and more.

I have had real concerns with provisions in the Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA) that could harm members of my community. The version

of KOSA that was included in the KIDS Act includes a major change that removes the "duty of care" provision. This provision could have been weaponized by President Trump's politically motivated Federal Trade Commission (FTC), which has already made it its mission to attack gender-affirming care every chance it gets. Removing that provision from the final bill will safeguard against politically motivated censorship online.

Additionally, I have heard from constituents expressing their concerns with online age verification that could be required by the KIDS Act. I agree with those I have heard from; if age verification is required across all online platforms, it could create additional privacy concerns for our children and teens. However, the only age verification requirement that is mandated by the KIDS Act is for pornographic websites. For these websites, the bill does not require government identification to verify age. The bill also contains provisions to ensure data collected or used for age verification on pornographic websites complies with strict data minimization and security measures.

HONORING AND PAYING TRIBUTE TO MS. ESSIE MCCRAY

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2026

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor one of South Florida's most respected and admired educators, the late Ms. Essie McCray.

Ms. McCray's passion and desire to help people led her to pursue her dream of becoming a teacher and a social worker, and in doing so, she always encouraged others to live out and pursue their dreams.

Her first teaching position was at Ada Merritt Middle School in Miami, Florida, where she nurtured and guided many young students eager to learn. Ms. McCray's career as an educator would span decades, leading her to become an Assistant Principal at Miami Northwestern Senior High School before her retirement. However, her penchant and desire to help others did not end with her retirement from the public school system but continued throughout her life and extended well beyond the classroom.

Ms. McCray's countless acts of kindness and her overflowing generosity live on within all those who know and love her, especially her children: her daughter Kim McCray, her son James McCray and her mother Mrs. Minnie Robinson. Her extended family includes her brothers, James A. Bostic, Larry Young and William Robinson; her sister Patricia Canada and a host of aunts, uncles, loving nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

Essie McCray was born on May 12, 1944, in Brunswick, Georgia to Minnie Robinson and the late James Bostic, Senior. Ms. McCray was educated within the Miami Dade County Public School System. Her studies continued at Florida A&M University, and she earned her Master of Science Degree in Social Work from Florida International University.

Please join me in honoring the late Ms. Essie McCray for her unwavering faith and commitment to her community, family and friends.