

not punish the institutions. It will punish the students at those institutions who rely on federal student loans or Pell Grants to afford college. In my District and across the country, many low- and middle-income students rely on financial aid to afford a college education. Congress should be working to make higher education more affordable for students, not less affordable.

Rather than considering H.R. 4795, the House should take up legislation that would actually protect students on college campuses and condemn all forms of hate. Threats, harassment, and hate based on race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, or any other identity have no place in our communities, on our college campuses, or in our society. But this bill does not even attempt to address the recent rise in antisemitism, nor does it address the rise in Islamophobia. Instead, it does real harm to Jewish students by conflating antisemitism with criticism of the state of Israel.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to oppose the bill.

HONORING LIVING FAITH
CHRISTIAN CENTER

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Living Faith Christian Center, as we celebrate its service to the Baton Rouge community for several decades. Founded in 1986 and currently led by Bishop Raymond Johnson, Living Faith Christian Center has been unwavering in its mission to help people enjoy the life promised by Jesus in John 10:10. Grounded in the integrity of God's Word, the church believes that every Christian can live a victorious and successful life through faith.

The church has remained committed to serving, reaching, and touching lives with the message of hope and God's love. Each week their music ministry leads them into the presence of God. The ministry team, consisting of their deacon, ushers, ministers, greeters, TV crew, youth and nursery, and others work together to ensure that all have an opportunity to receive God's best. Bishop Johnson's unique teaching style reaches all generations, making Living Faith a dynamic church with a vision to see God's blessings realized for all.

Living Faith Christian Center's outreach extends far beyond its walls, serving the community through a variety of ministries. These include the Teaching of the Word, television and radio ministry, tapes and books, men's and women's fellowships, nursing home faith, prison ministries, LFCC Youth Ministry, marriage fellowships, singles ministry, and alcohol and drug ministry. The church's dedication to being a blessing to the body of Christ in each walk of life is evident in its compassionate service and commitment to sharing God's love.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to honor Living Faith Christian Center, Bishop Raymond Johnson, and the devoted members for their outstanding contributions to Baton Rouge. Their legacy of faith, hope, and service continues to inspire and uplift families throughout East Baton Rouge Parish, making a lasting difference in countless lives.

RECOGNIZING NASHELY LEON
MATOS

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nashely Leon Matos for earning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

Nashely has overcome many challenges along her journey to success, demonstrating perseverance at every step. Students who strive to make the most of their education, like Nashely, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Nashely's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Arvada West High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Nashely Leon Matos on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

HONORING COLONEL AMY S.
JOHANNSEN

HON. ERIC SORESENSEN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2026

Mr. SORESENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Amy S. Johannsen of Morrison, Illinois, to mark the conclusion of an exceptional 40-year career in the United States Air Force. As Commander of the 934th Maintenance Group, Minneapolis Joint Air Reserve Station in Minnesota, Colonel Johannsen has led 288 AGR, Reserve, and civilian personnel across 17 Air Force Specialty Codes, overseeing critical maintenance operations on eight C-130H aircraft on combat airlift missions.

Colonel Johannsen's service reflects the Air Force's "Aim High . . . Fly-Fight-Win" motto. She supported Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and multiple deployments throughout Southwest Asia, including operations in Qatar in support of the Global War on Terrorism. Freedom's Sentry, and Freedom's Sentinel. Her selection to the TFI AMC-led Tanker Task Force under Brigadier General Fountaine further underscores her exceptional expertise and trust within the service.

Colonel Johannsen's distinguished decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, the Air and Space Commendation Medal, the Air and Space Achievement Medal, the Joint Meritorious Unit Award, and the Air and Space Outstanding Unit Award with two oak leaf clusters.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Amy Johannsen's career reflects the highest ideals of service, leadership, and commitment to our country. I join her family, colleagues, and grateful Nation in congratulating her on her well-earned retirement and thanking her for four decades of selfless service to the United States.

HONORING FIRST LITTLE ROCK
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor First Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church, a historic African American congregation located on South 17th Street in the heart of South Baton Rouge, Louisiana. National Register documentation notes that Little Rock Church existed at the site as early as the 1910's, with the present church building reconstructed in 1963. First Little Rock has played a vital role in the spiritual and social life of South Baton Rouge for more than a century.

The church's impact extends far beyond worship, reflecting its deep commitment to community and civic engagement. During the segregation era, Reverend Willie K. Brooks, a distinguished pastor and leader, organized efforts to provide Black children with recreational opportunities, establishing the United Negro Recreation Association in 1945 and raising funds for a safe place to swim. This legacy of advocacy and service embodies the church's dedication to uplifting and empowering the Baton Rouge community.

Under the current leadership of Pastor Dr. James Riley, First Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church remains a steadfast anchor in South Baton Rouge. Its pastors continue to participate in civic and public events, ensuring the church's enduring presence in the wider community. Through more than a century of ministry, First Little Rock's history reflects the vital role that Black churches have played in shaping Baton Rouge's religious, social, and civic development.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to recognize First Little Rock Missionary Baptist Church, Pastor Dr. James Riley, and the dedicated congregation for their remarkable contributions to Baton Rouge. Their legacy of faith, service, and community leadership continues to inspire and uplift families throughout East Baton Rouge Parish, making a lasting difference for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING ROYAL FAMILY
KIDS ARVADA

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Royal Family Kids from Arvada, Colorado for winning the 2026 Golden Rotary Ethics in Business Award for a not-for-profit organization.

Royal Family Kids Arvada is a subchapter of For The Children, a national nonprofit that has served at-risk foster youth since 1985. In their unrelenting support for children who have experienced relational trauma in the foster care system or abuse, Royal Family Kids Arvada is driven by the mission to ensure every "kid from hard places" is treated well.

Their commitment to responsible stewardship, financial transparency, trauma-informed care, and long-term mentorship serves both their donors and the healthy development of

each child they serve. Supporting at-risk youth in our community is such critical work. As someone who faced many challenges growing up, I know my life is on a much different path because of the adults and teachers in Jefferson County who cared about me and invested in me as a teen.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to thank Royal Family Kids Arvada for all they do to support at-risk youth in Jefferson County.

**HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF ARMY SPECIALIST DAVID A.
WILKEY, JR.**

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Army Specialist David Anthony Wilkey, Jr., a native of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our Nation during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Specialist Wilkey was born in Norway, Michigan, and grew up nearby in Wilson. As a teenager, he moved to Elkhart, Indiana. After graduating from Jintown High School in 2003, David worked alongside his father at Plastic Components Inc. before answering the call to serve and enlisting in the United States Army. He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, based at Fort Riley, Kansas, and deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

On June 17, 2007, while traveling with a Humvee convoy in Baghdad, an improvised explosive device detonated near David's unit, leaving him with wounds that would claim his life the following day. On June 18, 2007, at just 22 years old, Specialist Wilkey gave his life in defense of our Nation and in service to his fellow Soldiers.

Those who knew David remember him as someone who was always willing to help others. He was the kind of person who was always ready to lend a hand, smooth out rough edges, and make a friend wherever he went. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, camping, traveling, sports, repairing things, shopping, and poetry. Most importantly, he was a devoted husband, father, son, and friend who remained deeply connected to his loved ones even while serving thousands of miles from home.

David was ultimately laid to rest in Powers, Michigan, near the Upper Peninsula community where he grew up. Though his military service took him far from home, he returned to the place that helped shape him and where his memory remains part of the community which he called home.

Mr. Speaker, may we always remember Specialist David A. Wilkey, Jr., honor his service, and never forget that the freedoms we enjoy were defended by brave Americans like him.

**HONORING ST. JOHN'S UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor St. John's United Methodist Church, located in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Since its founding in 1961, St. John's has been a beacon of faith and compassion for East Baton Rouge Parish and currently led by Reverend Lane Cotton Winn.

The church's impact goes far beyond its sanctuary, with its Shepherd's Market food pantry launching in 2012 and quickly becoming a lifeline for families facing hunger. Within its first two years, Shepherd's Market served 1,421 families and distributed over 430,000 pounds of food, eventually expanding to serve about 420 families each month. In addition to food distribution, St. John's provides ESL classes and assistance with Medicaid applications, empowering neighbors to overcome barriers and access vital resources.

During the devastating Baton Rouge floods of 2016, St. John's Family Life Center transformed into an emergency base for disaster-response teams including Team Rubicon, IsraAID, AmeriCorps, FEMA Corps, and Team Canada. The church played a critical role in coordinating relief efforts and offering refuge to flood victims, demonstrating its unwavering commitment to serving the community during times of crisis.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to honor St. John's United Methodist Church for its outstanding service, leadership, and compassion. Its legacy as a resource, refuge, and place of worship continues to make a lasting difference in Baton Rouge, inspiring generations to serve others and uplift their neighbors.

**RECOGNIZING THE COLORADO
PASSPORT AGENCY**

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2026

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Colorado Passport Agency on its 20th anniversary.

Since opening on September 29, 2005, the Colorado Passport Agency has been assisting constituents in Colorado, Nebraska, and Wyoming with their urgent travel needs. The Colorado Passport Agency serves as a vital lifeline for travelers facing urgent situations. Since 2023, the Colorado Passport Agency has processed nearly 1.3 million passport applications on-site through 2025.

During the unexpected surge of passport applications in 2023, our office relied heavily on the Colorado Passport Agency, and they worked tirelessly to assist our constituents and my team. Through my office alone, the agency has assisted hundreds of constituents—helping them attend weddings abroad, reunite with loved ones, and navigate unexpected travel emergencies with confidence and peace of mind.

On behalf of the people of Colorado's 7th Congressional District, it is my honor to con-

gratulate the Colorado Passport Office on its 20th anniversary and thank them for their contribution to our community.

**RECOGNIZING TEXAS-24
HOMETOWN HERO VITO DEFINO**

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2026

Ms. VAN DUYN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our Texas-24 Hometown Hero, Bedford resident and World War II veteran, Vito Defino. Vito was drafted for World War II only one month after graduating high school. When given the choice between the Army Air Corps or Navy, he chose to fly, serving at various bases across the country as a right wing gunner on the B-29 Superfortress.

Throughout his time, Vito was promoted to Corporal and then Sergeant in only 14 months. During WWII, he met Mary, his future wife, who was working in military intelligence, and they were both honorably discharged on the same day.

Following WWII, Vito earned his degree in education, while working evenings at General Electric. Throughout his career, Vito poured into the students with various roles as a math teacher, physical education coach, and later a vice principal for 30 years.

Vito is currently 100 years old and lives in Texas with his daughter, Dee, and her family. I thank Vito Defino for his service to our Nation and for being an inspiration to those around him.

**HONORING SACRED HEART OF
JESUS**

HON. CLEO FIELDS

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 4, 2026

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sacred Heart of Jesus, an extraordinary church in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Founded as a mission in 1924 and established as a parish in 1928, Sacred Heart of Jesus has played a pivotal role in the spiritual life of the city's Italian immigrant community, providing them with a welcoming place to worship in their native language under the guidance of its first pastor, Father Dominic Blasco, a native of Sicily.

Sacred Heart of Jesus made history in 1929 by opening Baton Rouge's first parochial school built by a church parish, laying the foundation for a legacy of Catholic education that continues to shape generations. In 1942, the parish dedicated its magnificent present church, a testament to the generosity and resilience of its parishioners during World War II. The church is renowned for its Byzantine- and Sicilian-inspired architecture, stunning murals by Benedictine monk Dom Gregory DeWit, and exquisite stained glass crafted by Emil Frei Glass Studios.

Today, under the leadership of Reverend Joshua D. Johnson, Sacred Heart of Jesus stands as a cherished Baton Rouge landmark and a symbol of unity, cultural heritage, and faith. Its enduring presence continues to inspire and uplift families throughout East Baton