EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT KEVAN SIPLA

HON. JAKE ELLZEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. ELLZEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U.S. Army veteran, Sergeant Kevan Sipla of Ennis, Texas, with a Congressional Veteran Commendation. His unwavering commitment to our country and community is a shining example of honor and duty.

During his military service, Sergeant Sipla served as a Sniper Section Leader with Comanche Company, 1st Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment. His assignments included Fort Lewis, Washington, Germany, and his deployment to Iraq, where he participated in the Battle of Sadr City in the spring of 2008. As a sniper, Sergeant Sipla and his team were recognized for their expertise in countering improvised explosive device emplacement teams and their extensive knowledge of the area of operations. During combat operations in Sadr City, his team provided overwatch and suppressive fire in support of U.S. Navy SEALs. Sergeant Sipla's military decorations include the Purple Heart, two Army Commendation Medals, the Army Achievement Medal, and numerous other military honors and decorations.

Following his military service, he continued his commitment to serving others through leadership, financial mentorship, and efforts to combat food insecurity throughout Ellis County and surrounding communities. Under his leadership as Lead at Manna House Outreach in Midlothian, food waste decreased from approximately 50 percent to 2 percent, while the number of individuals served increased from just over 500 to more than 1,000 per month. These efforts helped Manna House become one of the top five food pantries among approximately 500 supported by the North Texas Food Bank. Sergeant Sipla also serves as a financial coach, helping individuals develop budgets, reduce debt, and build long-term financial stability. His community outreach extends through partnerships with organizations across the region, including The Heights, Cares Services in Waxahachie, North Ellis County Outreach, and the Midlothian Senior Center, among others

Sergeant Sipla's unwavering dedication to serving his Nation and community exemplifies the highest traditions of military service and civic leadership. I commend his remarkable contributions and extend my sincere appreciation for his steadfast commitment to our Nation, our veterans, and families throughout Ellis County and beyond.

HONORING THE ALPENA LIONS CLUB FOR 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO NORTHERN MICHIGAN AND THE WORLD

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize the Alpena Lions Club as they celebrate 100 years of dedicated service to the community of Alpena, Michigan and the humanitarian mission of Lions International.

The Alpena Lions Club's story is one of a community that has chosen, decade after decade, to show up for its neighbors. Since 1926, generations of volunteers have dedicated their time and effort to the club's mission of serving their community, meeting humanitarian needs, encouraging peace, and promoting international understanding. As a proud affiliate of Lions Club International, the global leader in community and humanitarian service, the Alpena Lions Club has demonstrated that the spirit of service knows no borders.

Currently led by President Audra Smith, the club has stayed true to their mission across all 100 years, working every day to improve the lives of Northern Michiganders. By providing free health screenings, organizing food drives, supporting the visually impaired, assisting families affected by childhood illnesses, and advocating for the responsible stewardship of our natural resources, the club embodies the Northern Michigan values of hard work, generosity, and looking out for your fellow man. From small acts of kindness to providing support in areas of disaster, the Alpena Lions Club is living proof that ordinary people can do extraordinary things, and that even one person, answering the call to serve, can make a difference.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Alpena Lions Club for a century of dedicated service to Alpena, to the country, and to the world. On behalf of Michigan's 1st Congressional District, I thank President Smith and all the club's members for their tireless efforts, and wish them continued success in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING PEYTON WEBB

HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

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

Peyton 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 Peyton, develop crucial skills and a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives. This award is a testament to Peyton's hard work, determination, and perseverance at Wheat Ridge High School and is clearly just the beginning of a bright and promising future.

It is my honor to congratulate Peyton Webb on achieving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award.

CONGRATULATING BRYN KROSSE ON WINNING THE PENNSYLVANIA GIRLS' GOLF STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2026

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bryn Krosse of York, Pennsylvania, and congratulate her on winning the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) Class 3A Girls' Golf State Championship.

The Dallastown Area High School freshman capped off an outstanding season with her victory at the PIAA Class 3A State Championship in State College. Bryn completed an impressive sweep of titles this season, winning league and district championships before claiming the state title. With her victory, she became York County's first PIAA golf state champion in seven years.

Despite being just a freshman, Bryn has spent much of her life around the game of golf. Inspired by her older brothers, who are also golfers, she developed a passion for the sport at a young age. Bryn credits their guidance and encouragement with helping her develop the determination and mental toughness needed to succeed on the golf course.

Bryn's accomplishments extend well beyond high school competition. She regularly competes in junior golf tournaments across the country, gaining valuable experience against some of the nation's top young golfers. This past summer, she won the American Junior Golf Association's Junior Chicago All-Star Championship in Aurora, Illinois, adding another impressive achievement to her growing list of accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Pennsylvania's 11th Congressional District, I congratulate Bryn on this remarkable achievement. Her state championship victory is a testament to her hard work, dedication, and commitment to excellence. I wish her continued success as she pursues her passion for golf and look forward to seeing all that she accomplishes in the years ahead.

● 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.