

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### OPPOSITION TO H.R. 8790, THE FIX OUR FORESTS ACT

**HON. VAL T. HOYLE**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Ms. HOYLE of Oregon. Mr. Speaker, this week I voted against H.R. 8790. I support parts of this bill. For example, it would create a Community Wildfire Risk Reduction Program, in line with a recommendation from the non-partisan Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission. It would also increase tribal inclusion in forest management.

But I cannot overlook the unfunded mandates in H.R. 8790. For instance, I strongly support creating a Community Wildfire Defense Research Program within the Joint Fire Science Program (JFSP) to provide research that would improve the wildfire-resistance of structures and communities. However, JFSP is already oversubscribed and the bill ignores the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission's recommendation to significantly increase the program's funding. H.R. 8790 would greatly expand JFSP's responsibilities without a corresponding increase in funding, resulting in less applied research being provided to land managers. This is not the way to address the wildfire crisis.

I am also concerned about what is not in H.R. 8790. Over 100 recommendations from the Wildland Fire Mitigation and Management Commission were not addressed, including many recommendations to support and expand the workforce. You cannot talk about the wildfire crisis without talking about the firefighters who do body-breaking work to protect our forests and communities. It is unacceptable that Congress has not passed a permanent solution to the firefighter pay cliff. There should be no question that federal wildland firefighters deserve at least \$15 an hour and a daily pay supplemental when they are working on long-duration wildfires, prescribed fires, or deployed away from their duty station to a high-risk fire area. I am a cosponsor of bipartisan legislation, H.R. 5169, the Wildland Firefighter Paycheck Protection Act, which would finally ensure that these heroes are paid well for their work. This bill should have been included within H.R. 8790.

For these reasons, I do not believe H.R. 8790 is sufficient for the communities I represent that have been experiencing record-setting wildfire seasons and expect Congress to approach the issue with the seriousness it deserves.

I will be sending a letter urging Senate leadership to improve the bill and send it back for reconsideration in the House. I want to achieve a better outcome that can solve problems and make a difference in our forests. I stand ready to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to achieve that goal.

### PROCLAMATION IN HONOR OF THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNI- VERSITY OF MARYLAND EAST- ERN SHORE CLASS OF 1974

**HON. ANDY HARRIS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation in honor of the 50th anniversary of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore class of 1974.

Whereas, the University of Maryland Eastern Shore was established in 1886 as the Delaware Conference Academy and renamed several times since; and

Whereas, between 1948 and 1970 it was known as the Maryland State College; and

Whereas, in July of 1970 it was renamed to its current name as the University of Maryland Eastern Shore; and

Whereas, the class of 1974 was and is the first class to graduate under its new name; and

Whereas, on its 30th anniversary class reunion, the class of 1974 resolved to raise \$1,000,000 to be donated and contributed to the University of Maryland Eastern Shore and has since raised and donated \$650,000 which constitutes three-fourths of the resolved amount.

Now, therefore, I, Andy Harris, Member of Congress, do hereby proclaim and celebrate the class of 1974 of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore on its 50th reunion anniversary.

### RECOGNIZING THE MADERA COUN- TY HISTORICAL MUSEUM ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JOHN S. DUARTE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Madera County Historical Museum's 50th Anniversary on September 28, 2024.

The Madera County Museum was opened to the public on September 28, 1974. For fifty years, the Madera County Historical Society, volunteers, and local organizations have made the Madera County Museum a historic and informative destination in the Valley. I want to also recognize the efforts of the community for their donations and efforts to provide exciting events and learning experiences showcasing Madera County's rich history.

Through the efforts of the community, the Madera County Museum provides Madera County with educational school tours, holiday events, and weekly educational public visitation options. Madera County Museum gives back to the community by hosting mock trial and 4-H educational opportunities for students, holiday events to bring the community together, and supporting local law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the Madera County Museum's role in preserving the rich history of Madera County. I would also like to encourage every Valley family to visit the Madera County Museum and learn about our Valley's rich history.

### OPPOSITION TO H.J. RES. 136

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.J. Res. 136, the latest Republican attempt to put polluters over people and stifle innovation in cleaner transportation.

H.J. Res. 136 would prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency from finalizing the proposed rule to further reduce harmful air pollutant emissions from light-duty and medium-duty vehicles starting with model year 2027. The transportation sector is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions, nearly one-third of total pollution. But the transportation sector has been innovating. Electric vehicles (EVs) do not produce any tailpipe emissions, and as such they are safer for our health and environment. The Biden administration is fighting to protect American's right to clean air and a safe climate by addressing dangerous pollution from the transportation sector.

I'm proud of the work Democrats did to pass the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the Inflation Reduction Act. These landmark pieces of legislation are already helping to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help consumers, businesses, and governments make the switch to low and no emission vehicles. Already, Minnesota has received \$68 million to build out an EV charging network, \$17 million to build out infrastructure for Metro Transit's fleet of low-no busses, and \$1 million to help school districts in Minnesota offset the cost of switching to low-no school busses. Not to mention, the tax credits Minnesotans have been able to claim for purchasing a new EV. All of these investments will help reduce climate pollution, improve public health, and save drivers money through reduced fuel and maintenance costs.

Every American deserves access to clean air, yet approximately 72 million Americans are exposed to higher levels of air pollution due to their close proximity to high-traffic trucking routes. These Americans are more likely to be low-income and communities of color. It is estimated that the EPA's new rule will lower respiratory illness, cardiovascular problems, and cases of childhood and adult asthma caused by exposure to dangerous pollution. I am proud of the historic investments Democrats made last Congress to develop cleaner, zero-emission technologies that will protect public health. Passing H.J. Res 136

• 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.

would abandon the progress we have made to address public health concerns and promote environmental justice in our nation's infrastructure.

Mr. Speaker, not only will H.J. Res. 136 harm our public health and contribute to climate pollution, but it would also block the Biden Administration, and any future administration, from taking meaningful action to curb dangerous NO<sub>x</sub> pollution light- and medium-duty vehicles.

It should be rejected.

CONGRATULATING THE NEW  
TRIER HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' SOC-  
CER TEAM

**HON. DARIN LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize New Trier High School girls' soccer team for winning the 2024 Class 3A state title.

The New Trier Trevians defeated the St. Charles North Stars in a thrilling state championship that ended in a 4–3 penalty kick victory. Just six minutes into the match, the Trevians took a 1–0 lead. Shortly before the halftime whistle, the North Stars answered with a goal of their own making the score 1–1. In the second half, both teams scored once again, sending the match into a dramatic extra-time period.

Incredibly, the extra-time period saw both teams score their third goals one after the other which therefore required a penalty shootout to determine the state champion. The Trevians' freshman goalie came up with a consequential penalty save to secure New Trier the 2024 Class 3A girls soccer state championship.

With this state championship, the New Trier girls' soccer program has achieved their seventh state championship title. All these championships have been won under the leadership of Coach Jim Burnside—who with 611 victories, is the winningest coach in IHSA girls soccer history.

The New Trier girls' soccer team has made all northern Illinois proud with their accomplishments this season, finishing with a 25–2–4 record. Each member's commitment to their team and their community is truly inspiring. Congratulations to Coach Burnside and the New Trier Trevians for their remarkable state championship win.

The Trevian players include: #0 Annie Fowler—Fr-GK; #1 Caroline Hague—Jr.-GK; #2 Kennedy Colegrove—Jr.-D; #3 Sybil Evans—Sr.-MF/F; #4 Abby Morton—So.-D; #6 Quinn Brahm—So.-F; #7 Maeve Driscoll—So.-MF; #8 Addy Randall—Fr.-MF; #9 Maria Petrakis—Sr.-MF; #10 Annie Paden—Sr.-MF; #11 Noa Boeing—Fr.-MF; #12 Clara Deliduka—Sr.-D/MF; #15 Charlotte Dellin—Sr.-F/MF; #16 Basie Shannon—Sr.-D/MF; #17 Christina Tobon—Jr.-D; #18 Josie Noble—Sr.-F/MF; #19 Eleni Kanellos—So.-MF/D; #20 Jaime Elias—Sr.-F/MF; #21 Bea Cirulis—Fr.-D; #22 Honor Dold—Jr.-D; #23 Claire Gallagher—Fr.-D; #24 Olivia Wilson—Jr.-D.

HONORING MANUEL MILANES

**HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Manuel Milanes Pizonero, a cherished friend of mine, constituent of Ave Maria, Florida, and a bold anti-communist voice within the Cuban American community in South Florida.

On August 22, 2024, Manuel faced a life-altering situation few ever encounter in their lifetimes and made a heroic split-second decision even fewer choose to. As Manuel sat at home in his living room, a sudden loud sound like a crash broke the silence outside his home. Knowing his son had just stepped outside to take out the trash, Manuel immediately rushed out, fearing the very worst. Stepping onto the scene, he saw a man approaching a car in what appeared like a move to assist the family inside. As Manuel moved closer in an attempt to provide help, the man outside the car quickly asked him for a tool to break the car window, leading Manuel to go back inside to retrieve the appropriate device.

Upon returning, however, the situation rapidly shifted when one of the passengers stuck inside the car cracked the window open begging Manuel not to break the window. The passenger quickly revealed that the man outside the car was armed and threatening to kill the mother and her four children inside. Manuel, demonstrating an incredible measure of bravery did not hesitate to act but began pleading with the assailant, even while unarmed, to stop, attempting to deescalate the situation and fervently insisting that he not act on his impulses and harm the family.

At this, the man turned his weapon on Manuel, placing him directly in the line of fire, and instructed him to return to his home and stay out of it—yet Manuel refused to back down. Running back to his home, he grabbed his own gun, and quickly returned outside to help. However, in that short amount of time, the assailant managed to shatter the car window and force his way inside the car with the family. In seeing this, Manuel immediately stepped in to subdue him, once more placing himself in harm's way in the hopes of disarming the shooter. Refusing to drop his firearm, the man turned the gun on Manuel once more, firing at him and hitting him in the left shoulder and chest, shattering his clavicle and causing severe blood loss. Despite being shot at two more times, Manuel held his ground, ready to protect the mother and her children as the shooter fled the scene. It took one instant and Manuel single-handedly changed the course of events in the lives of a mother and her four children, choosing selflessly to place their wellbeing before his own. Manuel narrowly escaped the ordeal with his life, with his heart stopping a total of 3 times mid-emergency surgery and requiring over 30 liters of transfusions. Though he faces a long road to recovery and subsequent surgeries, Manuel maintains that he would do it all over again if necessary. Since his successful discharge from the hospital, the community of Ave Maria has coalesced in a show of solidarity and pride around him, offering their prayers and support.

Manuel Milanes is the preeminent example of the very kind-hearted, God-fearing and free-

dom-loving immigrant our country has long thrived as a result of. Originally from Cuba, Manuel made the United States his home in 2017 after living in the Dominican Republic, where he met his loving wife, Kenia Rodriguez. Together, they set down roots in the Ave Maria community, building a family and a successful business. He notes that it is his Christian faith that has guided him in choosing a business that serves others, while also providing generously for the families of his 50 employees.

Beyond his business pursuits, Manuel is a passionate anti-communist freedom fighter who has never forgotten his Cuban roots or the mission of achieving true democratic freedom for Cuba. Turning his convictions into action, Manuel created a YouTube channel dedicated expressly to denouncing the brutal Castro regime's human rights abuses and raising funds to support political prisoners and their families in Cuba. To this day, he remains blacklisted by the regime for speaking out against the ruthless dictatorship.

Through his efforts, he has successfully provided medicine, food, and financial support to those still fighting for freedom, both in the opposition and those wrongfully imprisoned under the regime's oppressive hand.

Exemplary citizens like Manuel Milanes are the very reason I remain hopeful for the future of our Nation and remain convinced the American Dream is yet alive and well today. His unrestrained willingness to risk his life for others, his unwavering commitment to freedom, and his deep faith make him a true patriot and a living example of the values we cherish in this great Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Manuel Milanes Pizonero, a hero who represents the best of America. We remain forever grateful to him and his family for their selfless contributions to our community and our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday September 25, 2024, I was unavoidably detained and unable to cast my vote on Roll Call No. 454. Had I been present, I would have voted NO.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. A. DREW FERGUSON IV**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained off of the House floor. Therefore, I was unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 452; YEA on Roll Call No. 451; NAY on Roll Call No. 453; YEA on Roll Call No. 454; YEA on Roll Call No. 450; YEA on Roll Call No. 455; and YEA on Roll Call No. 449.

RECOGNIZING LOIS LANGER THOMPSON FOR HER DEDICATED SERVICE TO OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES

**HON. SUZAN K. DeIBENE**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank Ms. Lois Langer Thompson for nearly 40 years of invaluable service to our public library systems. Since 2018 Lois has passionately led Sno-Isle Libraries as Executive Director, which provides service to over 800,000 residents across Snohomish and Island counties. Prior to moving to Washington, she served the Hennepin County Library.

I first met Lois in 2019 at the former Lake Stevens Historical Society and Museum, when she told me about her plans to expand Sno-Isle's library system in Lake Stevens with a new, larger library for the community. Since then, I have had the pleasure of working with her and watching her cultivate a thriving library community in Washington's First Congressional District and beyond.

Under Lois' leadership, Sno-Isle Libraries has embedded equity across the organization, built a capital strategy to connect everyone to their local library, completed three library construction projects in Darrington, Edmonds, and Mill Creek, invested in digital equity, launched a commitment to sustainability, expanded the Foundation Board of Directors, strengthened community collaboration, and supported the formation of the first collective bargaining unit for employees. Lois also guided the organization through a pandemic, while adopting new services to allow Sno-Isle to continue providing essential resources to our communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Langer Thompson and wishing her the best in her retirement. We are grateful for her contributions to the community and will cherish her legacy of service and commitment to creating inspiring, welcoming spaces.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND ENERGY STUDY INSTITUTE (EESI)

**HON. CHRISSE HOULAHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Ms. HOULAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Environmental and Energy Study Institute (EESI) on 40 years of working with Congress and providing policymakers with educational resources about climate, clean energy, and environmental topics.

To address climate change, we need durable policies that support impactful climate solutions that withstand the ups and downs of Washington. That requires us to work across the aisle and craft bipartisan legislation. Thankfully, there is more common ground on combatting climate change than ever before, and the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus is providing a unique space for Members who share my interest in paving the way forward together.

EESI also understands the value of finding common ground and has been a true partner to the Caucus in helping to educate members on a multitude of topics, including the advancement of climate solutions in the Farm Bill, natural climate solutions, carbon sequestration, community resilience, and climate negotiations on the international stage during the U.N. Conference of Parties.

During my time in Congress, I have always appreciated EESI's ability to deliver timely, nonpartisan, science-based educational resources in formats that my staff and I can use to serve the constituents of the Sixth District of the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. EESI's partnership has directly supported the educational efforts that the bipartisan Climate Solutions Caucus has facilitated for its Members and staff. Building bipartisan collaboration around data-driven climate solutions will keep the United States on a course to meet its climate goals while revitalizing the economy, safeguarding energy security, and providing cost-effective, cleaner power for everyday Americans.

EESI has a long history of working on climate and environmental issues regardless of which party is in the White House. EESI's predecessor organization dates back to the time of Richard Nixon, and EESI itself was established as an independent nonprofit organization during Ronald Reagan's first term. The organization began its work on climate change under the George H.W. Bush Administration and, more recently, it has extensively tracked the historic climate investments passed by the House and Senate during the Biden Administration. This history exemplifies EESI's commitment to facilitating constructive, bipartisan dialogues around how to best combat climate change.

Congratulations to EESI on 40 years of working alongside Congress and promoting durable, bipartisan climate solutions. I wish EESI all the best for the next 40 years of advancing solutions, fostering bipartisanship, supporting rural communities, and cultivating young leaders.

HONORING RICHARD "TURK" BAIRAM FOR BEING NAMED HOOKSETT LIONS CLUB CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. PAPPAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Hooksett Lions Club Citizen of the Year Richard "Turk" Bairam. For over 25 years, Turk has been dedicated to supporting Hooksett in any way he can. He continues to volunteer in his community to make Hooksett an amazing place to live and raise a family.

A lifelong resident of Hooksett, Turk owned and operated his own auto repair shop for 36 years before retiring in 2006. A former member of the Hooksett Police Commission, Turk currently serves as Sewer Commissioner, Chair of the Central Hooksett Water Precinct, as a member of the Town Recycling and Transfer Committee, and on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

In addition to his volunteer work, he has also dedicated his life to his family. Turk and

his wife of 62 years, Mary, have raised their children, grandchildren, and now great grandchildren in Hooksett. It is because of the hard work and dedication of community leaders like Turk that the Town of Hooksett continues to thrive.

On behalf of the constituents of New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I congratulate Turk for being named the Hooksett Lions Club 2024 Citizen of the Year. I wish Turk and his family all the best in the years to come as they continue to work to make Hooksett a better place.

LISA P. RIMLAND: NEWLY RETIRED COURT-APPOINTED RECEIVER FOR NURSING HOMES WILL BE MISSED

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD an op-ed by Lisa Rimland for recognizing Tim Colburn's career of courage, compassion, and care for those who are most in need and often forgotten.

I have known Tim Colburn all my life. We grew up together in a federal housing project called Mayberry Village, named after the legendary Dr. Franklin Mayberry of East Hartford. We jokingly referred to it as the 'Cardboard City.' Tim was then always caring, compassionate, and competitive—excelling at everything he did. In sports, he was probably the best all-around athlete in the Village and in the town we grew up in; he especially excelled at track and field, which require individual athleticism.

His love of people, with special attention to the underserved and the underdogs, is legendary. It was an honor for me to know and count Tim as a true friend. I stand in awe of his selfless leadership and accomplishments. He was never concerned about taking credit and always did the right thing because that is how he was raised and what he valued.

Lisa Rimland's op-ed in the *Hartford Courant* confirms what the world should know about Tim. They attest to Tim Coburn's contributions to his family, his friends, his community and associations, and the state and Nation he loved.

One of the hardest-working people in Connecticut, who has spent virtually his whole life doing good, retired recently. What he accomplished should be shouted from the rooftops but few people know his name because the world in which he worked is not a world that is spoken about often. In many ways it is not that well-known, yet it affects most of us intimately and inevitably.

The man is Timothy Coburn, and for decades he has functioned as a court-appointed "receiver," a person who goes into nursing homes and other care facilities that are in trouble, financially and/or otherwise, and tries to save them. In these situations, the human stakes are very high. If the problems in a home cannot be fixed or the home cannot be sold, the home may have to be closed, resulting in transfer trauma risks for frail residents and patients and the loss of jobs for countless employees.

The world of nursing homes has recently become better publicized because of the COVID pandemic. With what they have gone

through, these homes are now firmly in mythological territory, as is Mr. Coburn. I first became aware of Mr. Coburn and his world in July of 2012 when the care home I was living in was put into receivership by the Superior Court due to various problems. I was living in the care home because after I was declared disabled in 2004, I could not find housing assistance in Mansfield.

On the evening of July 18, 2012, after Mr. Coburn had just been appointed receiver of the home in which I lived, a quick but violent thunderstorm knocked out the power, and the generator failed. I called and reported the situation to Barbara Cass of the Department of Public Health, and within an hour a truck arrived hauling a new generator which was hooked up to restore power. Mr. Coburn had rented the generator. This is only one example of Mr. Coburn's constant generosity. If a home that he was in charge of needed something, he would go out right away and buy it with his own money, then later get reimbursed by the court. If anyone living in one of his homes had exceptional needs or circumstances, he accommodated them. He was always available to lend a helping hand, a listening ear, or a ride to dialysis.

Skilled-nursing facilities have been his specialty. A nursing home receivership usually lasts about two years, but Mr. Coburn's last one ran through the pandemic and is approaching four under another receiver. Miraculously, he remained healthy through most of the pandemic. Few of us can imagine what he and all those responsible for running the homes went through during the pandemic. But if you visit the homes now, and even more so if you live in the homes, you can see and feel the pandemic's mark, almost as if you were visiting a country where a terrible war was fought: the bodies of the casualties are gone, but you can feel their presence everywhere. It is quiet and peaceful, yet with echoes of an unspeakable past, and the words "God willing" are appended to every plan.

This is the world that Mr. Coburn left, having served the frailest citizens of our state during both peace and metaphoric wartime. It was in these homes that the most helpless of the pandemic's victims died, and that many of the most courageous of the healthcare workers fought to save as many as they could, and to save themselves. Many people shun the world of these homes even if they have family members living in them. This is a tragedy in many ways, because there are lessons to be learned in the homes that cannot be learned from books, lessons for the heart as well as the mind, lessons in compassion and even keys to the mysteries of war and peace. Eventually, most of us will occupy a bed in one of these homes. Why wait until then to visit?

If more people embraced the homes with the love, compassion and enthusiasm of Mr. Coburn, it would be a better world for all of us, both inside and outside the homes. If there is one sure lesson that can be learned from the pandemic and the homes, this is it.

TRIBUTE TO DR. PAUL GOTHOLD,  
SAN DIEGO COUNTY SUPER-  
INTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

**HON. SARA JACOBS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Ms. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an individual whose unwavering dedication to education has transformed

countless lives and communities: Dr. Paul Gothold. Throughout his distinguished career, Dr. Gothold has epitomized the values of equity, inclusivity, and excellence in education, ensuring that every child has access to the opportunities they need to thrive.

Dr. Gothold's journey in education began over three decades ago as a teacher, where he worked tirelessly with adjudicated, probation, and expelled youth in Los Angeles. From these early experiences, he developed a deep understanding of the challenges facing underserved communities and a steadfast commitment to addressing them.

As he advanced in his career, Dr. Gothold continued to demonstrate exceptional leadership and innovation. As Superintendent of Lynwood Unified in Los Angeles, he led the district to remarkable achievements, including increasing graduation rates from 58 percent to 90 percent at all comprehensive high schools. Under his stewardship, Lynwood Unified was honored as the College Board District of the Year, a testament to its success in expanding AP participation and passage rates for underserved populations.

Beyond his role as district leader, Dr. Gothold has also made a significant contribution to educator preparation and professional development. As an adjunct professor at the University of Southern California, he has mentored and coached numerous aspiring and sitting superintendents, shaping the next generation of education leaders.

In 2017, Dr. Gothold assumed the role of San Diego County Superintendent, where his impact has been nothing short of transformative. His visionary leadership has led to the creation of groundbreaking initiatives and partnerships that have enriched the educational experiences of students across the county.

One of Dr. Gothold's key accomplishments has been his commitment to ensuring school safety and addressing the needs of vulnerable populations. Through partnerships with the San Diego District Attorney's office, he developed county-wide school safety protocols and training to prevent human trafficking. Additionally, he spearheaded initiatives to support foster, homeless, and adjudicated youth, including the creation of innovative programs and pathways to success.

Under Dr. Gothold's leadership, San Diego County has become a beacon of educational innovation and excellence. From pioneering programs in drug prevention and awareness to establishing the first HBCU satellite program in California, his initiatives have set new standards for educational equity and access.

Furthermore, Dr. Gothold's dedication to equity and inclusion has been recognized through numerous awards and accolades, including the ASCD California Instructional Leadership Award and the California County Superintendents Superintendent of the Year award. His tireless advocacy for marginalized communities has earned him the respect and admiration of colleagues and stakeholders across the state and Nation.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Paul Gothold for his extraordinary contributions to education and his unwavering commitment to ensuring that every child has the opportunity to succeed. His legacy will continue to inspire generations of educators and serve as a guiding light for the pursuit of educational equity and excellence.

HONORING JOHN DAVID LOGAN  
FOR EXCELLENCE AND EX-  
TRAORDINARY SERVICE

**HON. MARK E. GREEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John David "JD" Logan for his eminent service and dedication to the people of Tennessee's Seventh District.

Four and a half years ago, as Capitol Hill was wrestling with how to serve our constituents during the early days of the COVID-19 pandemic, JD joined our team in his last semester of college. He was instrumental in helping us respond to the unprecedented increase in correspondence and casework requests. Amidst these challenges, JD distinguished himself as a highly capable staffer with uncommon character.

Since then, JD has been instrumental in countless projects and held numerous positions. He rose quickly in our office, from Legislative Correspondent to Legislative Assistant, and most recently, to Senior Legislative Assistant. Because of his skill set and reliability, he has taken on many projects outside his portfolio, including building our very successful internship program. As a testament to his leadership, we have hired multiple former interns to join our staff full-time.

JD has served Tennessee's Seventh District with commitment and distinction in every way. He has covered a wide swath of legislation, committee work, constituent services, correspondence, operations, and communications over his years on our team, and we are beyond grateful for his hard work and devoted service. In all that he does, he excels with diligence, and humility.

Most recently, he has been invaluable to my work on the House Foreign Affairs Committee and a host of policy areas. His dedication to applying the principles of our founding to complex issues facing the Nation today has served our district—and our Nation—well.

During his time on my team, our country has gone through much. All along, we have been grateful for his steadfast discipline and hard work. He tirelessly pursues truth and is a constant source of encouragement to all he encounters. As a staffer and as a leader, he carries himself with integrity and courage. It is difficult to fully express our deep appreciation for his faithful service to our office and our Nation. As a staffer, as a man, and as an American, he is of the highest quality.

We are profoundly grateful for JD's service to our office and the constituents of Tennessee's Seventh District. JD's zeal for our great Nation and its values, combined with his dogged dedication to the highest degree of excellence in all he does, marks him as a great American and invaluable servant to this country. Although it is with sadness to see JD's time here in our office come to a close, we are confident he will continue to distinguish himself in public service across the Capitol. We wish him and his wife, Addison the very best. On behalf of Tennessee's Seventh District, I commend JD for his excellent service and wish him well.

RECOGNIZING MUSHROOM HOUSE  
AUTOMOTIVE OF COLORA, MARY-  
LAND ON ITS 30TH ANNIVER-  
SARY

**HON. ANDY HARRIS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Mushroom House Automotive, a veteran and family-owned business out of Colora, Cecil County, Maryland, as it approaches its 30th anniversary on October 1, 2024.

Originally a mushroom farm operated by the Webb family for over 40 years, the business transitioned into an automotive repair and sales center after being pushed out of the industry. In 2006, Mushroom House survived a devastating fire that destroyed the shop and several classic cars. It was rebuilt and reopened only with the support and dedication of the local community.

Today, Mushroom House Automotive continues to serve Cecil County and provide top-notch, honest automotive services under the leadership of Victor “Butch” Webb Sr., his son Steven Webb and with the expertise of Archie Singleton II. Together, they have raised over \$300,000 through their vehicle donation program for various non-profit organizations and consistently support the community, including participating in Career Day at Rising Sun Middle School and the CCPS Summer Work Program, where they pair students with local businesses. Mushroom House Automotive also partners with the Cecil County School of Technology’s Automotive program to teach and support the next generation of mechanics and car enthusiasts.

In the last three years, Mushroom House Automotive has placed in the top three of Cecil Whig’s Community Choice in Automotive Salesperson—Used Cars, Auto Repair, Oil Change, Pre-Owned Vehicle Sales and Tires. In addition, Steven Webb and Archie Singleton II were honored as business leaders and inducted into the National Technical Honor Society, a recognition spearheaded by Scott Couto, the Automotive Technology instructor at the Cecil County School of Technology.

I am proud and grateful to Mushroom House Automotive for its continued service of over 30 years to the community. Small, family-owned businesses like these constitute the backbone of American economy and provide essential services to local communities.

RECOGNIZING THE MERCED COUN-  
TY COMMUNITY ACTION AGENCY  
(MCCAA) ON THEIR 60TH ANNI-  
VERSARY

**HON. JOHN S. DUARTE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. DUARTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Merced County Community Action Agency (MCCAA) in celebrating sixty years of service. MCCAA began serving Dos Palos in 1964 and opened its first Head Start center in 1965. MCCAA is part of a nationwide movement that began with the signing of the

Economic Opportunity Act of 1964 by President Lyndon B. Johnson. MCCAA’s mission is to serve, advocate, and collaborate for those in need by developing innovative strategies for self-empowerment.

MCCAA gainfully employs nearly 200 people and serves over 17,000 unduplicated customers every month with a total of sixteen federal and state programs. The work MCCAA provides for the community would be impossible without our local community, who last year volunteered over 14,000 hours. Last year, MCCAA housed over 112 formerly unhoused community members with safe, affordable homes. Over 400 children utilize their free preschool programs for early learning and education. MCCAA provides 1,500 families with utility assistance, keeping families safe during scorching Valley summers.

The MCCAA maintains over sixteen other locations in Merced County, and partners with over 200 local service providers, government agencies, and families to help with outreach, referrals and access to needed services. The D Street Navigation Center is open year-round, twenty-four hours per day to meet the needs of Merced County’s most vulnerable living on the streets. Last year, over 514 unhoused individuals stayed at this Center.

MCAA continues to expand. MCAA recently added a diaper bank, a summer food program, and expanded support for at risk pregnant and new mothers.

Therefore Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the MCCAA for 60 years of service to our Valley.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DANNY  
KATZ, THE WORKERS’ CHAMPION

**HON. JAMIE RASKIN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a constituent who devoted his extraordinary life to the fight for worker justice. From the restaurant workers of Washington, D.C. to the staffers who keep Capitol Hill running, all of Daniel Katz’s clients found in him a champion for dignity, fair wages and working conditions. On July 25, 2024, Danny’s loved ones lost a treasured husband, father, and friend and the world lost a principled, persistent and brilliant public servant.

Danny was driven by his conviction that worker justice is the foundation of a just society. He believed in the fundamental principle that a dignified workplace for even the lowest paid workers raises the standards all for all workers. After working for a private practice specializing in employment law, Danny founded the District of Columbia Employment Justice Center, becoming its first director. It also didn’t matter which court heard one of his client’s cases; over the course of his career, Danny represented clients before every one of the federal, state and local courts in Maryland and D.C.

For Danny, his duties to his clients extended beyond the courtroom. He advocated for legislation at the D.C. City Council on worker pay issues and testified before the U.S. Congress on the rampant menace of wage theft. He lent his considerable talents pro bono to clients

seeking assistance from the Public Justice Center in Baltimore, the Maryland Legal Aid Bureau, the Woman’s Law Center of Maryland and the Sexual Assault Legal Institute. He was dedicated to sharing his wealth of knowledge with his fellow attorneys, frequently teaching continuing education courses for lawyers on litigating claims under wage-and-hour laws and how his colleagues could most effectively represent immigrants and low-wage workers.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Danny maintained his focus on the most vulnerable workers in our communities. After establishing accessible legal clinics for workers across the DMV, he ensured that the Washington Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights and Urban Affairs could keep these clinics open virtually and continue providing services. The clinic didn’t miss a single week as Danny and a team of like-minded lawyers served workers seeking legal aid when they needed it most. Danny used his membership in the National Employment Lawyers Association to build both solidarity and expertise among members of the labor bar.

By the time he reached the House of Representatives as Senior Counsel at the Office of Employee Advocacy (OEA), Danny had 25 years of experience advocating for workers. He had earned numerous accolades, including the Maryland Employment Lawyers Association “Excellence in Advocacy” award and the “Visionary Award” in 2018 for his work with the Maryland Coalition Against Sexual Assault. Just as he had done in every job prior to the House OEA, Danny acted as a dedicated mentor to his colleagues and aspiring attorneys and a fierce advocate for his clients.

His loss is profound and sharply felt in our community. I join the people of Maryland’s beautiful Eighth District in honoring the life of Danny Katz, a titan in the fight for workers’ rights, and in sending my condolences to his wife Lael, his son and his daughter Lucia. May Danny’s memory be a blessing.

CELEBRATING THE 200TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE CITY OF  
PEKIN

**HON. DARIN LAHOOD**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. LAHOOD. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the City of Pekin, Illinois, which I’m proud to represent in Congress, as it celebrates its 200th anniversary.

Pekin’s history began with Pioneer Jonathan Tharp building a small log cabin in 1824 on the high east bank of the Illinois River in what would become Pekin, Illinois. The families of Gideon Hawley, William Haines, Nathan Cromwell, Dr. John Warner, William Brown, Thomas Snell, Isaac Perkins, William Carpenter—among others—joined the Tharps in settling and establishing the new community.

Pekin, fondly referred to by its early inhabitants as the “Celestial City”, embraces the inspiration its founders received by Chinese culture and geography in its namesake (Peking, current Beijing), with Pekin and modern-day Beijing existing on or about the same latitude.

Since its earliest days, Pekin’s proximity to railroads and the Illinois River has made it

ideal for agribusiness and manufacturing—providing for its abundant growth and early establishment as the largest city and the current county seat in the County of Tazewell.

Abraham Lincoln freed his first slave, Nance Legins-Costley of Pekin, in Tazewell County, and Pekin is the birthplace of such prominent national figures as U.S. Senate Minority Leader Everett McKinley Dirksen; U.S. Assistant Secretary of Defense and Advisor to Robert McNamara, John T. McNaughton; Journalist Richard Stolley of LIFE Magazine, and Astronaut Scott Altman.

Today, Pekin remains a closely-knit and primarily service-oriented community, with dozens of churches, civic and service organizations, and nonprofit agencies striving to make a difference in the Pekin community and beyond. The founding pioneer settlers of Pekin believed strongly that it was imperative to provide their youth with a strong education, and the Pekin Public Schools have diligently nurtured the children of the Pekin community since its first school opened in 1830.

Pekin is perhaps best known today for its annual Marigold Festival that draws visitors from all over the state and the nation, gathering primarily in its iconic Mineral Springs Park. Community members have successfully led an 18-month endeavor to raise over \$1.2M in private funds and to build a performing arts venue in Mineral Springs as a major Bicentennial gift to the City, its residents, and many future generations.

Pekin continues to make exceptional efforts to preserve and understand its past while embracing its future, led by organizations such as the Pekin Public Library and the Tazewell County Genealogical and Historical Society: Its year-long 2024 Bicentennial celebration has been among the highest of such achievements.

Today, we celebrate the City of Pekin and its residents for their passion and dedication to their community. I extend my sincere congratulations to the City of Pekin, Illinois for a successful 200 years, and I wish them even more success in the years to come.

#### RECOGNIZING PHILIP GIBBONS ON 50 YEARS OF BROADCASTING

**HON. JOHN W. ROSE**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a name—and voice—known to countless Tennesseans. Philip Gibbons is celebrating 50 years in radio, most of which having been spent as host of the midday show on 94.7 The Country Giant. The station reaches more than 120,000 listeners across 19 counties, spanning Middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky. That's a lot of people who look forward to hearing him day after day.

His broadcast career started at 15-years-old, before he was old enough to drive. The year was 1974 and the gig was part-time janitor and disc jockey for WPTN in Cookeville, Tenn.

Fifty years later, Gibbons is a member of the Tennessee Radio Hall of Fame. He's been selected as a regular stage host at the CMA Music Fest and a guest announcer at the Grand Ole Opry many times in recent years.

In 2020, Philip was awarded Small Market Personality of the Year by Country Aircheck, the leading trade publication for the industry. Philip was also nominated by the Academy of Country Music for Small Market Personality of the Year.

When asked why he never left Cookeville behind for a larger radio market, he responded, "this is where my heart is. This is my community." He not only spent his entire career in that community, but he also gives back to it every chance he gets.

Since 1983, he's served as the public address announcer for Tennessee Tech University football and basketball games. He's also volunteered his time and used his platform to support many causes over the years, including Habitat for Humanity, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Alzheimer's Tennessee, and the American Cancer Society. Gibbons is known by some as the 'pink tie guy' in the Upper Cumberland for his dedication to bringing awareness in the fight against breast cancer through wearing a pink tie. Following the devastation from Hurricane Michael, Philip used his airtime to ask listeners to fill an 18-wheeler with supplies to help the folks of Panama City Beach recover.

From interviewing up-and-coming artists to the legends, Philip has built a name for himself in Cookeville, in Music City, and throughout the County Music family. He's seen a lot of change in the business throughout his career. Today, automation and pre-recorded announcements are commonplace in radio, but Philip remembers well the days of live-only broadcasts and actual turn tables.

I want to congratulate Philip on 50 years in radio and wish him many more years of success ahead.

#### RECOGNIZING THE SAMARITAN'S PURSE FLOOD RECOVERY RE- SPONSE IN EAST KENTUCKY

**HON. HAROLD ROGERS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express immense gratitude on behalf of the people of Eastern Kentucky who have received flood recovery assistance from Samaritan's Purse during two back-to-back disaster relief missions, starting in 2021.

Breathitt County has essentially become a second home to some team members of Samaritan's Purse, who first arrived in our region after a major flood in March 2021. They have provided the most comprehensive response efforts, rallying volunteers from across the country to help muck-out damaged homes, provide cleaning supplies and food to flood victims, and resources to help rebuild homes. The crew dedicated an entire year of service to our region and had only been gone for a few days before a second catastrophic flood hit the heart of our region in July 2022, taking the lives of 45 Kentuckians. Without hesitation, the Samaritan's Purse tractor trailer reloaded supplies and turned around to head right back to Breathitt County. Our region was briefly crippled by the widespread impact of that overnight flood that took out power lines, washed out critical roadways and bridges, damaged thousands of homes and vehicles,

leaving hundreds of Eastern Kentucky families homeless in an instant.

Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of individuals across the country, donations flooded into our region, giving flood survivors a glimmer of hope for the long journey ahead. Many organizations, like Samaritan's Purse, also dispatched recovery teams to our region, helping sustain families through their darkest hour. As various crews expended as many resources as possible to aid Eastern Kentucky, there has been one constant team remaining long after everyone else had to leave—and that is Samaritan's Purse. For every meal provided, every mop distributed, every bucket of mud carried out, every nail that has been driven and every prayer that has been prayed in our region, I want to personally express my gratitude to Samaritan's Purse.

This organization has carried out the vision of the late evangelist Bob Pierce for more than 50 years, which he established "to meet emergency needs in crisis areas through existing evangelical mission agencies and national churches." Rev. Franklin Graham took up the mantle over 40 years ago, spreading the same kindness, generosity and steadfast hope around the world.

We are blessed that Samaritan's Purse found our small corner of rural America and made our people a priority when they needed it the most. As a result of their dedication, we are now celebrating with flood survivors in Breathitt County who now have a safe, new house to call home. On behalf of Eastern Kentuckians in Breathitt and surrounding counties, we thank them for standing with us through the flood and long after the flood waters have receded. May God continue to multiply the efforts of Samaritan's Purse as they rebuild hope in the mountains of Eastern Kentucky and beyond.

#### COMMENDING ROBERT SUNSHINE

**HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 27, 2024*

Mr. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Robert Sunshine on his retirement after 48 years of stellar service to the Congressional Budget Office, the Congress, and the country. I'd like to take a few minutes to honor this truly exceptional public servant.

Bob's tenure at CBO has been extraordinary, not just for its longevity, but for the outstanding work he has produced and the people he has so deeply affected. Throughout his distinguished career, he has served as a mentor to countless members of the CBO staff (and to CBO's directors) who have valued his wisdom, work ethic, and experienced perspective. Bob truly exemplifies the values of dedication and leadership—of upholding CBO's mandate to be objective, impartial, and non-partisan.

Before coming to CBO, Bob was a senior associate at a transportation consulting firm. He joined CBO in 1976 when the agency was in its infancy. His first job was as principal analyst, covering transportation issues in what is now the Natural and Physical Resources Cost Estimates Unit of CBO's Budget Analysis Division.

Bob quickly demonstrated his analytical skills and breadth of knowledge and was promoted in 1978 to become Unit Chief. In that role, he led his staff in providing high-quality and timely budgetary projections and analyses of legislative proposals on a wide range of topics, including energy, land and water management, disaster assistance, and banking—to name just a few.

In 1995, Bob became the Budget Analysis Division's Deputy Assistant Director, and in 1999 he was named CBO's Assistant Director of Budget Analysis. In that capacity, he oversaw much of the agency's work. He supervised the preparation of cost estimates and intergovernmental mandate statements for legislation being considered by the Congress. He also managed the preparation of the multiyear budget and economic projections that constitute the baseline for the Congressional budget process, the agency's annual analyses of the President's budget proposals, and CBO's ongoing contributions to the Congressional budget scorekeeping system. He also continued in his role as the executive editor of the agency's long-running Monthly Budget Review.

In 2003, Bob received the James L. Blum Award for exceptional and distinguished accomplishment and leadership in public bud-

eting from the American Association for Budget and Program Analysis.

Bob served as Acting Director of CBO from November 25, 2008, to January 22, 2009, before becoming Senior Adviser to the Director and unofficial quality control officer for CBO's written products.

Douglas Holtz-Eakin, CBO's Director from 2003 to 2005, described Bob as "the living heart of CBO. He has molded the agency, sustained its focus on its mission, and passed his wisdom along to generations of analysts—and Directors! It is hard to imagine CBO without him."

Peter Orszag, CBO's Director from 2007 to 2008 said, "It is no exaggeration to say that CBO is what it is today—rigorous, independent, and widely respected—in no small part because of Bob Sunshine. For nearly half a century, he has worked in service of facts, good analysis, and sound policymaking. Bob's counsel made me a better CBO Director, just as he has made better everyone who has been lucky enough to work alongside him. Most importantly, Bob has done all of this and more without losing his sense of humor and his humanity."

Bob is highly regarded by Members of Congress, regardless of party affiliation, on both sides of the Capitol for his deep knowledge of the budget process and commitment to CBO's role in that process.

Paul Ryan, former Speaker of the House and Chairman of the House Committee on the Budget said, "Bob Sunshine has made critical contributions over CBO's entire history to ensure it developed and provided non-partisan and objective data and analyses to the Congress. Few can match the unwavering, sustained, and lengthy commitment Bob made to CBO."

Bill Hoagland, a former staff director of the Senate Budget Committee, described Bob as "Solid, steadfast, loyal, with unbending integrity. The rock for almost the entire span of CBO's existence, Bob provided the 'sunshine' to what otherwise can be a depressing subject—the federal budget."

Bob also is a lay leader of Congregation Har Shalom in Potomac, Maryland, and a devoted husband of 57 years to his wife Laurie, proud father of two sons, Ari (married to Jennifer) and Josh (married to Dara), and delighted grandfather to four grandchildren.

His professional accomplishments set him apart, but it is his personal ethic—his optimism and thoughtful consideration for his friends and colleagues—that truly defines him. I wish him well as he moves on after decades of outstanding service to the Congress. I am grateful for that service, and I wish him the best in the years to come.