

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

NATIONAL SEA GRANT COLLEGE PROGRAM AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 14, 2016

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in reluctant opposition to S. 764. Although I support a uniform national set of standards relating to GMOs and food labels, I do not believe that this legislation adequately balances the competing interests at stake.

On the one hand, most scientists agree that GMO seeds and foods are safe for consumption. At the same time, a majority of Americans have consistently stated that they want to know if their food contains GMOs. Supporters of more comprehensive food labeling have argued that this bill contains large loopholes that would keep many consumers in the dark. Unfortunately, not a single hearing was held on this bill to listen to the competing perspectives and recommendations. I am also disappointed that on such a controversial and important subject, members were not given the opportunity to offer any amendments.

I am concerned that a hastily written and passed federal bill will now preempt state laws that seek to provide their consumers with more comprehensive and readily accessible information. While I do not believe that an inconsistent patchwork of individual state regulations is the long term answer, I do believe we could improve on the provisions of this bill.

HONORING THE MARIN COUNTY FAIR

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2016

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Marin County Fair in honor of its 75th anniversary. A beloved community event attended by people throughout the Bay Area, the Marin County Fair has for decades brought together families, friends, craftspersons, local vendors and more in this historic celebration of Marin County's people and products.

Held this year at the Marin Center in San Rafael from June 30 to July 4, the award-winning Marin County Fair has been held almost annually since its 1925 inception as the Marin County Fair and Harvest Festival. With a wide range of activities for participants, the 2016 fair features over 800 new and returning exhibits, from photography competitions to culinary contests to performing arts and beyond. Additionally, the fair hosts concerts, rides, fireworks, and other attractions throughout its five-day run.

The Marin County Fair is notable not just for its cultural contributions to the community, but

for its commitment to environmentally friendly practices and healthy living. From its solar-powered carousel to food recovery and composting services, the "Greenest County Fair on Earth" has been a longtime pioneer in sustainable event management. Additionally, the fair's health-conscious efforts, like emphasizing nutritional food from vendors and encouraging attendees to bike, have warranted wide-spread recognition, including as the Merrill Award winner at the 53rd Western Fairs Association Annual Achievement Awards Program. By integrating stewardship and wellness into the fabric of the fair, the Marin County Fair preserves its legacy as "the people's fair" while ensuring the event can continue for decades to come.

This year's theme, "What a Ride!" is appropriate for the diamond anniversary of the fair and its decades of history and importance in Marin County. Mr. Speaker, it is therefore fitting to honor the Marin County Fair on their 75th year for their ongoing presence in our community.

RECOGNIZING MIRIAM CENTER'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Miriam K. Center of Savannah, Georgia, for her 90th birthday on August 10th.

At 90 years old, Ms. Center continues to be an impressive member and contributor to the coastal Georgia community.

She graduated from Savannah High School in 1944 and promptly joined the Savannah volunteers to help American troops fighting in World War II. After the war, Miriam married Leo Center and helped him found a prominent, local Savannah business. Miriam and Leo had 3 sons together, Henry, Tony, and Scott.

Since then, Miriam has been greatly involved in public service as she served as Chair of the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Planning Commission, ran for election to the Georgia State Senate, and for Savannah Alderwoman. In 2000, she wrote a book entitled *Scarlett O'Hara Can Go to Hell* and produced the currently showing play, *Johnny and Me*, which chronicles her friendship with Savannah's Academy Award winning songwriter, Johnny Mercer. She is also a frequent guest writer to the Savannah Morning News.

Miriam has traveled the world, visiting England, France, Spain, Greece, Israel, Russia, and much of North America.

Ms. Center, I hope you have a happy 90th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAIME HERRERA BEUTLER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2016

Ms. HERRERA BEUTLER. Mr. Speaker, the day of July 11th, I am wrongly recorded on H.R. 5606, the Anti-terrorism Information Sharing Is Strength Act. I intended to oppose this legislation.

CONGRATULATING THE FLORIDA SOUTHERN MOCCASINS WOMEN'S LACROSSE TEAM ON WINNING THE 2016 NCAA DIVISION II NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. DENNIS A. ROSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2016

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, Florida Southern College is a liberal arts college nestled in my hometown of Lakeland, Florida. Florida Southern is known for its strong academic record, for being the largest collection of Frank Lloyd Wright architecture in the world, and for consistently receiving recognition from the Princeton Review as one of the most beautiful campuses in the country.

However, today I rise to recognize another important distinction for Florida Southern.

The Florida Southern Moccasins Women's Lacrosse Team recently captured the 2016 NCAA Division II National Championship.

On May 21, 2016, the Mocs defeated the two-time defending champion, Adelphi University, by a score of 8-7, capping off a remarkable season.

NCAA Division II Coach of the Year Kara Reber led the Mocs Women's Lacrosse Team to their first national championship, along with All Americans Gabby Barowski and Emily Santoli.

Growing up in Lakeland, I have watched Florida Southern flourish before my eyes. This victory marks Florida Southern's 29th NCAA Division II Championship.

Florida Southern is a tremendous educational institution, and this win is a terrific achievement not only for the school, but also for our local community.

Go Mocs!

THANKING OFFICER BRANDON MURPHY FOR HIS BRAVERY AND SERVICE

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2016

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

recognizing Officer Brandon Murphy for the service he has provided to Michigan's Fifth Congressional District and the Bay City community.

Brandon Murphy is a recipient of the Police Officers Association of Michigan's (POAM) Police Officer of the Year Award. This honor was awarded following an encounter where Officer Murphy was injured by gunfire while successfully managing to apprehend a suspect and stop a violent crime spree. Officer Murphy's personal dedication to public safety at the cost of his own safety deserves the utmost honor, and a Police Officer of the Year Award is a worthy and deserving recognition for such an exemplary officer.

It is my honor to represent such brave and honorable members of our community, and Officer Brandon Murphy is a shining example. The true measure of an exemplary public safety officer was exhibited by Officer Murphy when he sacrificed his own wellbeing in order to prevent the further victimization of the community he serves.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the work done by Officer Brandon Murphy and thank him for the service he has provided to our community.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN AND SUSAN
BURKE

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2016

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John and Susan Burke who will be celebrating their 50th Wedding Anniversary on August 6, 2016.

John and Susan were married at Saint Gregory's Church in Dorchester, MA, on August 6, 1966. Susan attended St. Gregory's High School and graduated from Boston State Teachers College. John grew up in South Boston, attended Boston Technical High School, graduated from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, and served our country in the U.S. Army for three years. Upon his return home, John worked for the Boston Edison Company and was former Congressman Joe Moakley's Administrative Assistant.

John and Susan are proud parents of their two daughters, Courtney Murray and Patricia Lombardozi and are blessed with five grandsons; Michael, Patrick and John Murray and Declan and Luke Lombardozi as well their two son-in-laws, Tim Murray and Santiago Lombardozi.

Mr. Speaker, I have known John and his brothers, Gerry, Kevin, Tim, Patrick and Brian for nearly four decades, they are a proud South Boston family. It is truly an honor and a pleasure to be able to share in this joyous occasion with a great couple and a wonderful family. I know that John and Susan are looking forward to celebrating their 50 years of marriage next month with their friends and family and I want to again congratulate them both on this wondrous occasion.

RECOGNIZING JIM SPARKS

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Jim Sparks, a high school teacher in Georgia's First Congressional District for 26 years.

In 1994, while in his late 30s, Mr. Sparks left a corporate position in the transportation industry to pursue a career in education.

At first, when he was hired by the Camden County school system, little did he expect that he would spend 26 years teaching and change a countless number of students' lives.

During his tenure, he has mainly taught high school U.S. history, but as Mr. Sparks says, his job was not to teach a particular class, it was to teach students.

Since Mr. Sparks has been at Camden County High School it has more than quadrupled in the number of students.

Mr. Sparks used his previous life experiences as a soldier in Vietnam and a corporate officer in the transportation industry to bring a unique dynamic to the classroom.

This school year was his last, as Mr. Sparks is retired at the end of the year.

His dedication to develop young minds is something that should inspire us all and I am thankful for his service to the youth of the First Congressional District of Georgia.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND
SERVICE OF CLAUDE MILLER

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2016

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the United States House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Mr. Claude Miller for his life of service, and artistic contributions to the State of Michigan and to my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

On January 16, 2016, at the age of 74 years old Claude Miller died, leaving behind his wife and children. Throughout his long life, Claude was a testament to the community champions that form the foundations of our communities. Following an honorable discharge from service in the United States Air Force, Claude eventually settled in Flint, Michigan. There he dedicated his life to service as an advocate for the city he loved. A tireless volunteer, Claude was the very embodiment of the 'Strong, Proud' spirit of Flint.

Claude had a passion for art, spending much of his remaining free time drawing, painting and taking classes at Mott Community College. There he built a reputation for his artistic abilities and passion for his craft. Following his death, the college hosted an exhibition of his art titled, "Faces, Places, and Spaces." One piece depicting President Barack Obama was featured among that collection. That piece has made the long journey to Washington, D.C. where it has been proudly displayed in my office for the last week, prior to being committed to the White House and the President.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the life of Claude Miller for his commitment to our community,

and for his artistic contributions. His life reminds us that art and service can become the cornerstones of a community and a life well lived.

VICTIMS IN CHINA, CUBA, MALAYSIA
ILL-SERVED BY TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 18, 2016

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 launched a bold comprehensive public-private sector strategy that included sheltering, political asylum, and other protections for the victims; long jail sentences and asset confiscation for the traffickers; a myriad of preventative initiatives and tough sanctions for governments that failed to meet minimum standards prescribed in the TVPA.

As the prime sponsor of that law, which also created the Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Report and tier rankings, I remain deeply disappointed and concerned that both last year's TIP Report and the current one gave passing grades to several nations with horrific records of government complicity in human trafficking. Falsifying a country's human trafficking record not only undermines the credibility of the report but was especially dehumanizing to the victims who suffer rape, cruelty and horrifying exploitation.

The politically contrived passing grades for more than a dozen failing governments was exposed by a series of investigative reports by Reuters, which found that the professionals at the State Department's TIP office made one set of recommendations—only to be overruled at a higher level for political reasons.

A hearing I held last week looked closely at the newly released Trafficking in Persons Report, which assesses and ranks 188 countries each year on their records of prosecuting traffickers, protecting victims, and preventing human trafficking.

Sadly, this year's TIP Report has again failed many victims. Some of the rankings comport with the records of certain countries. Burma and Uzbekistan, for example, are designated Tier 3—as they should be. But other nations including trading partners Malaysia and China are given a free pass despite their horrific records of government complicity in human trafficking. Cuba, a dictatorship highly favored by this administration, is again falsely touted with a passing grade.

China was also allowed to keep its Tier 2 Watch List ranking, despite the fact that the reason for their upgrade two years ago was found to be a fraud.

Alexandra Harney, Jason Szep, and Matt Spetalnick of Reuters authored an expose on China's politicized ranking, finding that, "Two years after China announced it was ending the 're-education through labor' system, extrajudicial networks of detention facilities featuring torture and forced labor thrive in its place." China had deceived the U.S. in 2014, and when that became apparent last year—we let them keep their ill-gotten upgrade in 2015, and again in 2016. I chair the Congressional-Executive Commission on China and based on both sex and labor trafficking, China deserves a Tier 3 ranking—egregious violator—