

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF DUANE VOLUME FIRE CO. INC.

### HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2020*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the tremendous commitment to service and duty that the men and women of the Duane Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. have shown to their community for the last 50 years.

In September of 1970, a small group of Duane residents established the volunteer fire company as a private corporation on land that was donated in perpetuity to the Fire Department. Over the next two years, generous donations and fundraising helped the Duane Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. to become fully operational, constructing a firehouse and obtaining the necessary equipment. In 1972, the department entered into a longstanding contract with the Town of Duane to provide firematic operations, the scope of which have expanded greatly today to provide many additional services. The Duane Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. has highly trained and certified personnel up to the paramedic level that can assist in any emergency.

The Duane Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. embodies the spirit of the North Country, cultivating a strong sense of community and lending a helping hand whenever needed. These volunteers not only aid their fellow neighbors when emergencies arise, but also provide a space to bring the community together. The firehouse serves as an ad-hoc community center, used for a wide variety of purposes such as hosting town board meetings and serving as the local election site as well as the area's food bank. The department truly is a cornerstone of the community.

On behalf of New York's 21st District, I would like to thank the brave men and women, past and present, of the Duane Volunteer Fire Co. Inc. for their longtime commitment to safeguarding the community. I congratulate them on their hard-earned achievements thus far and know they will continue to be a pillar of support to the town for many years to come.

HONORING PEYTON THOMPSON

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2020*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Peyton Thompson. Peyton is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Peyton has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Peyton has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Peyton has served his troop as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader and attended the Seabase High Adventure in the Bahamas. Peyton has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Peyton constructed two raised garden beds for Pharis Farm, an antebellum Clay County Historic Site outside of Liberty, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Peyton Thompson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF  
CONSTITUTION DAY

### HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2020*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Anniversary of Constitution Day in the United States. On September 17, 1787, our Founding Fathers met and signed the most influential document that shaped American history, the United States Constitution.

On this day every year, we celebrate Constitution Day to commemorate our Founding Fathers working together to construct our supreme law of the land. The United States Constitution's first three words—"We The People"—affirm that the government of the United States exists to serve its citizens. Collectively, the U.S. Constitution is not only the source of all government powers, but places limitations on the government that protects the fundamental unalienable rights of U.S. Citizens.

Today we honor Constitution Day to ensure all people broaden their knowledge on how the Constitution has shaped our history and each and every one of our lives. Knowing the content of the U.S. Constitution is the key to making sure that we operate within the parameters established by our Founding Fathers. It ensures that the Constitution remains a living, breathing document and the bedrock of our democracy. Only by knowing our freedoms and rights are we able to safeguard them from attempts to dilute them. Only by knowing the boundaries of what's permissible can we prevent threats to the more perfect union that was created over 200 years ago. All laid out for us, together today, we celebrate unity, freedom, and democracy.

Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask that you rise with me in celebrating Constitution Day in the United States of America.

CELEBRATING REVEREND DOCTOR  
GREGORY M. HOWARD

### HON. A. DONALD McEACHIN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2020*

Mr. McEACHIN. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and recognize Rev. Dr. Gregory M. Howard, a pastor, academic, and author, who has dedicated his life to promoting community spirit in others.

Dr. Howard has shown dedication and passion for spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ through his many roles as a servant leader. The Commonwealth of Virginia is indebted to him for his years of service to our academic and religious institutions, including his time as Interim Dean and Associate Professor of Homiletics and Practical Theology at the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University, and as immediate past president of the Baptist General Convention of Virginia. He has shared his experiences and deep knowledge with us through his writing, including authoring *Black Sacred Rhetoric: The Gospel According to Religious Folk Talk and Voices Crying Out in the Wilderness: Theological Reflections Where Context Matters*.

Dr. Howard's leadership within the Black church has advanced the cause of social justice, and I am confident that he will continue to lead that fight for years to come. He continuously motivates us to work with humble devotion to improve the lives of those around us. I have no doubt that he will continue to inspire generations of young people to pursue a life of service through faith, community, and love.

IN HONOR OF MAJOR GENERAL  
KENNETH D. JONES

### HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2020*

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Major General Kenneth D. Jones for his 38 remarkable years of leadership and dedicated service in the United States Army.

General Jones was born and raised in Brazos County and now calls Iola, Texas home. In 1980, General Jones graduated from Texas A&M University, where he was a member of the Corps of Cadets' V-1 Vipers. After graduation, General Jones chose to serve his country and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant, Ordnance Corps. General Jones began his career as a Soldier in the 82nd Airborne Division during the Cold War, later commanding at the company, battalion, brigade, and major command levels. Throughout his career, General Jones spent over 35 months deployed overseas in Southwest Asia. His deployment includes Operations Iraqi Freedom/

• 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.

Iraqi Freedom/New Dawn, and Enduring Freedom/Spartan Shield.

During his time in the Army, General Jones also found time to further his education and training, earning a master's degree from the United States War College in 2008. He served in multiple flag officer assignments across the country. After he earned the rank of Army Reserve two-star general, General Jones was promoted to Commander of the 81st Readiness Division in 2017. In this position, General Jones was responsible for ensuring his units—a group amounting to 50,000 soldiers—were fully trained throughout the Southeastern United States region.

During his career, General Jones exemplified excellence and service. He has earned multiple decorations in his career, including Legion of Merit Medals, Bronze Star Medals, and Meritorious Service Medals, to name a few. In his civilian career, General Jones worked for Hallmark Cards Inc. for 28 years as a Plant Engineering Manager before deciding to return to his roots in Texas, where he works for the family insurance business in Bryan as the Business Development and Human Capital Manager.

It is an honor to celebrate General Jones' leadership and unwavering commitment to our great country. I am proud to join his wife Cheryl, their two daughters, and two grandchildren to thank him for a long, devoted career of service and wish him well as he begins this next chapter of life.

DEBATE ON H.R. 1668, THE IOT CYBERSECURITY IMPROVEMENT ACT

**HON. ROBIN L. KELLY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2020*

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Madam Speaker, in regards to a technical question from some of my colleagues, H.R. 1668 will set the minimum security policies and vulnerability disclosure guidance for the procurement of government Internet of Things devices. To ensure that devices do not slip through the cracks, Section 7 of this bill includes a simplified acquisition threshold provision. The intent of this section is to ensure that all contracts, even those below the simplified acquisition threshold, are subject to the standards and guidelines developed under section 4 or the guidelines published under section 5.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH T. McELVEEN, JR.

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2020*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and the retiring Mayor of my hometown of Sumter, South Carolina. Joseph T. McElveen, Jr. is a dedicated public servant and an ardent advocate for Sumter. His leadership will be missed, but I know he will continue to be an active part of his beloved community.

Joe McElveen and I share the hometown of Sumter and are blessed to have had entrepre-

neurial parents to teach us. His father, John, owned a bicycle shop and ice cream parlor on Liberty Street across from my mother's beauty shop. The two of them created a partnership that resulted in my brothers and me spending our summers selling his ice cream from our mother's push carts in our neighborhood. I am grateful that the relationship between our families developed into a lifelong friendship between us.

Joe attended public schools in Sumter and graduated from The Citadel in 1968. He was a Gold Star student and a Distinguished Air Force Student and Graduate. Following college graduation, Joe went on to attend the University of South Carolina Law School, where he served on the Editorial Board of the South Carolina Law Review and published two articles. He graduated and was admitted to the Bar in 1971.

After law school, Joe served in the U.S. Air Force as an administrative officer for the 728th Tactical Fighter Support Squadron. When his active duty service ended, he continued in reserve duty as a Staff Judge Advocate until 1977. During that time, Joe joined the Bryan Law Firm and became a partner in 1975. His legal career focused on family law and workers' compensation.

Joe served on the House of Delegates and Board of Governors for the South Carolina Bar Association, and as a board member of the Workplace Litigation Group. He also received the Gold Compleat Lawyer Award by the South Carolina School of Law in 1996.

In addition to his success as a lawyer, Joe is also dedicated to serving his community. He has served on the Sumter County Drug Abuse Council and as a member of the City of Sumter Zoning Board of Adjustments and the City/County Planning Commission. He has also served as president of the Sumter Jaycees, the Sumter Optimist Club and the Greater Sumter Chamber of Commerce. He also served on the board of the Sumter Family YMCA and was recognized for his service by the March of Dimes and the Heart Association.

Joe has also held elective office. He was elected to Sumter City Council for two years, serving from 1984 to 1986. In 1986, he began representing Sumter County in the South Carolina House, where he served on the Judiciary and Rules Committee. He also served two terms as Majority Leader and left the State Legislature in 1996. In 2000, Joe ran for and was elected Mayor of our hometown.

With his retirement this year as Mayor of Sumter, Joe leaves as the longest serving Mayor in the city's history. He also leaves a legacy of making the City of Sumter a better place. I was pleased to work with the Mayor to secure federal funding to renovate an old warehouse into a much-needed Intermodal Transportation Center. Later the Regional Transportation Authority honored me by naming the Center in my honor and I was present for its dedication in 2008. We also worked closely together to bring resources and services to economically distressed communities through three HOPE (Harvest Opportunity and Promoting Empowerment) Centers in the federally designated Sumter Columbia Empowerment Zone.

As Mayor, Joe also oversaw a revitalization of Sumter's historic downtown. The Sumter Opera House was restored as a center for entertainment, a new Public Safety Complex was

opened, and public parks including Memorial Park, Palmetto Park and Swan Lake Iris Gardens have been upgraded. During his tenure, he encouraged Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification in new construction and renovations to public buildings to promote sustainability.

He also expanded sports and recreational opportunities by opening the City of Sumter Aquatics Center and the Palmetto Tennis Center. Joe also led the initiative to decrease vacant properties by more than 22-percent and developed the PRIDE program to help 564 owners clean up blighted properties. His efforts to improve Sumter, were recognized when the City was recognized as a Top 20 finalist in the 2019 All American City Competition hosted by the National League of Cities.

Joe is a longtime member of The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) and was elected to the 28-member USCM Advisory Board. He also serves as Chair of the Veteran Affairs Task Force and Vice Chair of the Membership Committee.

He is married to the former Kathy Watson. They have two children, Thomas (Bronwyn) and Kate Price (Nick), and two grandchildren Adelaide and Joe McElveen. The family attends First Presbyterian Church, where Joe has served as a deacon and an elder.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me wishing Mayor Joe McElveen a happy and healthy retirement from public life. He has demonstrated through this lifetime of service that he is motivated by his love of his community and its people. He has given his time and his talents to ensure Sumter continues to grow and thrive. It is a better place because of his service, and that is a tremendous legacy of which he should be extremely proud.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE NFL

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2020*

Mr. RYAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my fellow representative, Mr. Bob Gibbs, to wish the National Football League a happy 100th birthday. One hundred years ago today, 15 people met in an automobile showroom in Canton, Ohio to form what would become the National Football League. From these humble beginnings, the NFL has grown into a pre-eminent American sports league, comprised of 32 teams from 22 states across the country.

Over its first 100 years, the NFL has become a fixture in American life. The league is an American institution that brings together individuals of all ages, races, and backgrounds through a common enthusiasm for and appreciation for the game of football. Through good times and bad, the NFL has consistently reflected the spirit of the American people, displaying resilience, optimism, and resolve through periods of war, economic distress, natural disasters, and the current pandemic. Last season, the NFL concluded the celebration of its 100th season with a thrilling Super Bowl championship that was viewed by over 100 million Americans.

Although the league celebrated its 100th season in 2019, the League's 100th birthday