

recognizing their sacrifice to the United States.

S. 2773. An act to amend the Leahy-Smith America Invents Act to address satellite offices of the United States Patent and Trademark Office, and for other purposes.

S. 3198. An act to direct the Securities and Exchange Commission to revise any rules necessary to enable issuers of index-linked annuities to register on a form tailored specifically to registered index-linked annuities, and for other purposes.

S. 3903. An act to require the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection to establish procedures for conducting maintenance projects at ports of entry at which the Office of Field Operations conducts certain enforcement and facilitation activities.

S. 5016. An act to designate the medical center of the Department of Veterans Affairs located in Anchorage, Alaska, as the "Colonel Mary Louise Rasmuson Campus of the Alaska VA Healthcare System", and for other purposes.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to 15 requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

HONORING PROMISES TO NATIVE NATIONS

(Mr. KILMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, in 2018, the United States Commission on Civil Rights released the "Broken Promises" report, a project undertaken at my request to evaluate Federal obligations to Indian Country.

Here is a summary. For too long, the Federal Government has failed to live up to its treaty and trust responsibilities to Tribal nations. As a result, many Native communities lack adequate housing, health facilities, schools, and justice centers. Many lack basic infrastructure—roads, water, and telecommunications—required to deliver needed support services.

Congress and the Federal Government have a moral and legal obligation to fulfill the promises that have been made, and that is why I am proud to introduce the Honoring Promises to Native Nations Act, legislation to help reverse the decades-long pattern of systemic funding shortfalls and to strengthen Federal programs that support Indian Country.

This bill includes provisions to reaffirm the nation-to-nation relationship between the Federal Government and Tribal nations and to better meet the needs of Native communities.

Action is long overdue, Mr. Speaker, and Congress should move swiftly to get this done.

EVIDENCE OF GOD'S LOVE

(Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. JOYCE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, as we recognize National Bible Week, we have the chance to reflect on the wisdom and guidance that the Holy Scripture provides to us as we seek to govern.

It was Benjamin Franklin who said: I know that my redeemer lives. And if a sparrow cannot fall without His knowing, surely an empire cannot rise without His aid.

We see evidence of God's love and providence in so many aspects of our American lives. From our military, who have kept our Nation safe, to the doctors and researchers who have developed lifesaving medicines and cures because they have the freedom to innovate, to the miners, rail workers, and manufacturers who have built a strong and prosperous country, and to the farmers and producers who till our soil and grow the food that we rely on, there is abundant evidence that we are truly a blessed Nation.

May God continue to bless these great United States of America.

CONGRATULATING JIM GARDNER ON HIS RETIREMENT

(BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the legendary career of Philadelphia news anchor Jim Gardner and to thank him for his remarkable contributions to the Philadelphia area and broadcast journalism.

It was back in 1976 that Jim first started his career at Philadelphia's local ABC affiliate, WPVI. For more than 46 years now, he has helped bring the news, both good and bad, to millions of us who live in the Delaware Valley.

Jim has been at the center of ensuring that Philadelphia and the entire region were proud in times of success, unified in moments of division, and calm during times of crisis.

Mr. Speaker, as a lifelong Philadelphian, it is simply impossible to imagine Philadelphia TV without Jim Gardner. I thank him for his years of service and wish him and his family all the best.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHARLES SMITHGALL

(Mr. SMUCKER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SMUCKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Charles Smithgall of Lancaster, who passed away in October at the age of 77.

Charlie, as he was known to so many, will be greatly missed. He was a husband to Debbie, a father to Allison, a grandfather to two boys, and a friend to all that he met.

Charlie graduated from J.P. McCaskey High School in 1963 and later the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy

and Science, and then he spent the rest of his life working to improve the lives of those in his hometown of Lancaster as operator of his family's pharmacy, which continues to operate on West Lemon Street.

Charlie also worked to improve the health of Lancaster city. He served as mayor from 1998 to 2006 and worked tirelessly to revitalize the city. Major developments such as the convention center there and Clipper Magazine Stadium would not have been possible without his leadership.

Charlie was also a devoted collector of military equipment, including cannons. If you have watched historical movies such as "Gettysburg" or "Lincoln," chances are that you have seen one of Charlie's cannons on the big screen.

We will all miss Charlie. While we mourn the loss of our friend, we offer our prayers of comfort to Debbie, Allison, and his entire family.

A WIN FOR OFFSHORE WIND

(Mr. AUCHINCLOSS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. AUCHINCLOSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate a more secure future for offshore wind and for Massachusetts' leadership in this growing clean energy sector.

The removal of the proposed crewing amendment is a win for offshore wind and for Massachusetts. I am proud to have fought on behalf of clean energy independence and my district's economic development.

However, we should not replay this saga every Congress. With Republicans taking the gavel, I am ready to work across the aisle and with dissenting voices in my own party to negotiate a permanent solution that advances offshore wind and anchors American jobs at home.

I look forward to working on a bipartisan compromise to support domestic mariners and shipbuilders and to safeguard our clean energy future.

A DAY THAT WILL LIVE IN INFAMY

(Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day.

Eighty-one years ago today, our Nation endured a tragic loss when Pearl Harbor was targeted in a surprise attack, resulting in over 2,000 military and civilian casualties, more than 1,000 injuries, and the loss of a naval fleet.

The attack on Pearl Harbor was intended to cripple the United States, but it did just the opposite. Men and women across the country rallied together to support our country as it entered World War II, from enlisting in the military to volunteering for the

war effort. This tragedy united our country against a common enemy.

As a 24-year Army veteran, we must always remember this day as a reminder to be vigilant and always prepared.

Today, we honor those who lost their lives in the attack on Pearl Harbor. May we never forget their sacrifice and service to our great Nation.

COMPENSATION FOR FIRE SURVIVORS

(Mr. THOMPSON of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of thousands of California wildfire survivors.

Following the disastrous wildfires in 2015, 2017, and 2018, a court-ordered trust was established to compensate survivors for their loss of property. These funds are nowhere near enough to fully compensate for the loss of a home. Even worse, I have heard from countless constituents concerned that the funds they receive from the trust will be taxed.

That is why I, along with Congressman LAMALFA, introduced H.R. 7305, to make clear that settlement proceeds like these are nontaxable.

This legislation is absolutely essential to wildfire survivors, many of whom still cannot return to a home on their property.

The sad reality is that more natural disasters, including fires, will happen in the future. It is critical that Congress pass this legislation now.

This bill ensures Americans impacted by disasters do not owe unfair taxes.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to include this legislation in any omnibus or spending bill moving forward.

HELPING SMALL BUSINESSES EXPAND EXPORTS

(Mrs. KIM of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. KIM of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 8844, the STEP Improvement Act of 2022.

I was proud to join Representatives FLOOD, EVANS, and NEWMAN to introduce this bill to help our small businesses expand exports and reach new markets.

The STEP Improvement Act would reauthorize the State trade and export program from fiscal year 2023 to 2026, for 3 more years, and improve the program by streamlining the application process for small businesses and implementing strong metrics so the program works as intended.

Since STEP's creation in 2011, my home State of California has received \$8.5 million in STEP funding, helping more than 1,200 small businesses create jobs and generate more than \$85 mil-

lion in export sales. That is 10 times the return on our investment.

Mr. Speaker, I thank all of my colleagues who helped to pass this legislation yesterday in the House.

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IN SUPPORT OF THE NIAGARA FALLS AIR RESERVE STATION

(Mr. HIGGINS of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the \$2.8 million included in the National Defense Authorization Act for the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

This funding will support construction of a new combined operations and alert facility at the base. The project is important to the 914th Air Refueling Wing and national readiness.

A strong and efficient 914th is good for the country and for western New York. The air reserve station is Niagara County's largest employer, generating \$300 million in economic impact on the local economy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this funding and enhance mission response.

CELEBRATING CAROL HERNANDEZ

(Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BICE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate my incredible Air Force fellow, Carol Hernandez, for her tremendous work this past year in my office.

Carol has been instrumental in all things related to the Armed Services Committee, especially when it came to the NDAA and looking for ways to improve the DOD acquisitions process. Her wealth of knowledge, experience, and expertise has been crucial in helping address issues important to Oklahoma's Fifth Congressional District.

We will miss Carol, not for only what she brought to us legislatively, but mostly because of who she is as a person. Carol is truly one of the most kind, thoughtful, and genuine people I have ever met. She is also whip smart, an engineer, and an amazing mother to four daughters.

Although I am excited for her new chapter, it has been a pleasure to have her in my office. She will be truly missed.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Carol for everything she has done for Team Bice.

CONGRESS MUST SAFEGUARD SAME-SEX AND INTERRACIAL MARRIAGES

(Ms. BROWNLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BROWNLEY. Mr. Speaker, this summer the Supreme Court issued the

Dobbs decision, a direct assault on the right to safe and legal abortion.

In a disturbing concurrence to an already dangerous decision, Justice Clarence Thomas attacked Obergefell v. Hodges, which underpins the right to marriage equality.

With the right to marry potentially at risk, House Democrats put people over politics and took action to protect marriage equality for all Americans.

The Respect for Marriage Act prevents right-wing extremists from overturning legal precedent and ensures statutory protections for same-sex and interracial marriages across the country.

While extremist Republicans continue their path to destroy American freedom and challenge the legitimacy of LGBTQ families, Democrats are protecting American people's right to marry who they love.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this crucial bill to safeguard same-sex and interracial marriages, and I look forward to seeing President Biden sign this bill into law to protect and respect the right to marriage equality across our country.

CONGRATULATING THE 2022 RECIPIENTS OF THE GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION AWARDS

(Mr. CLYDE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2022 recipients of the Georgia Mountains Regional Commission awards.

The Georgia Mountains Regional Commission, or GMRC, offers guidance and resources to nearly 50 local governments, fostering leadership, economic development, and prosperity to improve northeast Georgia communities.

GMRC recently celebrated its 60th anniversary and honored this year's accomplished award recipients.

I am pleased to congratulate:

Joe Rothwell, regional planner for GMRC, as employee of the year;

John Sell, community and economic development director of White County, as appointed official of the year;

The mayor of Dawsonville, Mike Eason, as elected official of the year;

The mayor of Lavonia, Mr. Courtney Umbehant, as GMRC council member of the year; and

Ken Schubring, GMRC vice chairman, who received this year's chairman award.

I am proud to honor this year's Georgia Mountains Regional Commission award recipients, and I thank each of them for their hard work and dedication to serving northeast Georgians.

CONDEMNING IRAN KILLING CHILDREN

(Ms. PORTER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1