

a “common link” between the staff of Congressman Gallo and my New Jersey District Office staff: Mrs. Pamela Thievon of Long Hill, New Jersey.

For over two decades, Pam has provided tireless service to the people of New Jersey’s 11th Congressional District. As my current District Director, Pam leads a team of caseworkers and field personnel. In this important capacity, she has helped thousands of families, taxpayers, veterans, citizen organizations and service groups in their daily struggle to work through the federal bureaucracy. I take casework—resolving your problems with the federal government—very seriously and work enormously hard to get you the answers you deserve. Pam helps me to ensure that constituents are heard and are given an adequate response in a timely manner.

In addition, over the past two decades Pam has mentored dozens of caseworkers and field staff, making an indelible impression on their careers and, indeed, their lives. Just as important, she has provided responsible and sound advice to me as I work to serve the diverse communities of the 11th Congressional District.

Of course, retirement itself is a great gift. After decades of selfless effort, Pamela Thievon will retire at month’s end. She certainly earned this new chapter in her life. We will miss her, but hope she will enjoy her “golden years” surrounded by family and friends.

I am confident that my friend, Dean Gallo, would join me in uttering a heartfelt, “thank you” to Mrs. Pamela Thievon.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I was unavoidably detained from voting when my D.C. bound flight was diverted to Richmond, VA due to the severe weather in this region. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall #376: “no.”
Rollcall #377: “no.”
Rollcall #378: “yes.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, my vote was not recorded on Rollcall #376 on H.R. 1190, Protecting Seniors’ Access to Medicare Act. I was not present for this vote due to travel in Texas at the ICE detention facilities and subsequent flight delay. I intended to vote “no.”

Mr. Speaker, my vote was not recorded on Rollcall #377 on H.R. 805, Domain Openness Through Continued Oversight Matters (DOTCOM) Act of 2015. I was not present for this vote due to travel in Texas at the ICE detention facilities and subsequent flight delay. I intended to vote “yes.”

Mr. Speaker, my vote was not recorded on Rollcall #378 on H.R. 2576, TSCA Modernization Act of 2015. I was not present for this vote due to a travel in Texas at the ICE detention facilities and subsequent flight delay. I intended to vote “yes.”

STOP OVERDOSE STAT (SOS) ACT

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I reintroduced the Stop Overdose Stat (S.O.S.) Act, legislation that will curb the nation’s growing opioid overdose rates.

Joined by Sen. JACK REED of Rhode Island, our legislation will establish a grant program that funds efforts to educate and train the public, first responders, and caregivers of those at-risk of overdose on how to administer naloxone, a drug that reverses the effects of heroin and opioid overdoses until proper medical care can be provided.

We remain encouraged that this important legislation can be funded during the Fiscal Year 2016 appropriations cycle, a reflection of the Obama Administration’s priority to expand naloxone access across our nation.

Since I first introduced this bill in 2009, nearly 140,000 Americans have died from opioid related deaths, including more than 4,000 from my home state of Maryland.

I thank Sen. REED for leading this effort on the Senate side, committing to the idea that Washington lawmakers have a responsibility to fund proven programs that make a real difference in treating and preventing overdose, and ultimately saving lives.

And while I understand that there is much work to be done in order to address substance abuse before it gets to the point of overdose, each year hundreds of Maryland families and tens of thousands of American families need immediate assistance.

I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to cosponsor this important and much needed piece of legislation.

HONORING THE OLDENBURG INDIANA VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT’S 150 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. LUKE MESSER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Oldenburg Indiana Volunteer Fire Department’s 150 years of service to the community.

Being a volunteer firefighter is a special calling. These brave men and women who serve obviously don’t do it for the money. They volunteer for this job because they love their community and want to give back.

Firefighters put their lives on the line every day to protect their neighbors. And, for that, their community owes them a tremendous debt of gratitude.

It is my privilege to recognize Oldenburg’s courageous firefighters for their dedication and to recognize the Oldenburg Indiana Volunteer

Fire Department for 150 years of service to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on June 23, 2015, I was unable to be present for all votes due to multiple flight delays.

If present, I would have voted accordingly on the following votes:

H.R. 1190, Protecting Seniors’ Access to Medicare Act—Aye.

H.R. 805, Domain Openness Through Continued Oversight Matters (DOTCOM) Act—Aye.

H.R. 2576, TSCA Modernization Act—Aye.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 23, 2015, I was unable to vote due to travel delays. Had I been present on the House floor, I would have voted “nay” on roll call No. 376, final passage of H.R. 1190, the Protecting Seniors’ Access to Medicare Act of 2015. I would have voted “aye” on roll call No. 377, H.R. 805, the Domain Openness Through Continued Oversight Matters Act of 2015, and “aye” on roll call No. 378, H.R. 2576, TSCA Modernization Act of 2015.

TRIBUTE TO MS. PHYLLIS DANIEL

HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 24, 2015

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following Proclamation:

Whereas, Thirty five years ago a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve as a teacher, administrator and principal; and

Whereas, Ms. Phyllis E. Daniel has enhanced the academic curriculum of Public Schools in DeKalb County, Georgia and has increased the good will of the schools in my district. Her work resonates throughout the community and she has created a legacy for students through scholarships and servitude; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents as a friend, a fearless leader and a servant to ensure that all students receive the best education and skills to become outstanding leaders of our communities and nation; and

Whereas, Ms. Phyllis E. Daniel is a cornerstone in our community who has enhanced the lives of thousands for the betterment of my District and our Nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Ms. Phyllis E. Daniel on her retirement and to wish her well