

facing a multitude of challenges; Dr. Ortiz called upon his exemplary leadership abilities and relationship building with his colleagues to help lead the district through some of its most trying time.

While serving as Chancellor, he emphasized delivering programs and services that enhanced the region's human, economic, environmental, and social development. Dr. Ortiz provided leadership and advocacy for the diverse students of the four colleges while promoting his mission of supporting student academic access and success. His demonstrated commitment to students serves as a fine example to others working toward providing high quality educational opportunities and services to the marginalized and underrepresented.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, I salute Dr. José M Ortiz, for his outstanding service and passionate commitment to the Peralta Community College District. Dr. Ortiz has touched many lives throughout his career, and I wish him and his loved ones continued success and happiness.

IN RECOGNITION OF PATRICIA
PENNISI

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Patricia Pennisi as she retires after forty years of service to the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center. As her family, friends, and colleagues gather to celebrate her long list of accomplishments and years of service, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring this great individual who has served and contributed so much to the Sacramento region.

Since receiving her Master's Degree in Social Work in 1970 from the University of Kansas and shortly after her certification from the Academy of Certified Social Workers in 1972, Ms. Pennisi has been committed to the mission of social work. For the last forty years, Ms. Pennisi has been an integral part of the important programs that have made the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center an essential part of the North Sacramento community. As longtime Assistant Director of Stanford Settlement Neighborhood, she has been at the forefront of directing the center's children and youth services. With the leadership of Ms. Pennisi, both the Children's Program and the Teen Center Program have grown and flourished. In addition, to helping raise funds to support the center's many programs, she has been vital in ensuring its continued success.

Over her entire career, Ms Pennisi has worked tirelessly to be a champion for children. She has been a remarkable influence on her colleagues, as well as the student interns that have had the privilege of working with her. Although she will be greatly missed for her vast contributions, she will be fondly remembered for her ability to make Sacramento a better place and for her contributions to the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center.

Mr. Speaker, as Patricia and her family, friends and colleagues gather to celebrate her retirement, I am pleased to honor and recognize her for her hard work to help the Sac-

ramento community. I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing her the best in retirement and thanking her for her service to the Sacramento region.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF
ROSELLEN KERSHAW

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Rosellen Kershaw who recently passed away at the age of 87. She leaves behind her loving family, including her daughter Julie, and granddaughters, Taylor and Morgan Marsobian. Fresno County is truly indebted to Rosellen's legacy of service, integrity and love.

Rosellen Kershaw was born on August 29, 1923, to Charles and Pinkie Kershaw in Fresno, California. She spent almost her entire life in the Central Valley, graduating from Fresno High School and Fresno State College. She received her Master's Degree from San Francisco State University.

Rosellen taught school at the elementary, high school and college levels. However, she consistently referred to herself as a "professional volunteer," having dedicated more than 50 years of her life to the causes and organizations in Fresno that she felt most passionate about. Ms. Kershaw was committed to improving her community one hour at a time.

The fruits of Rosellen's labors were reflected in her involvement with local organizations and clubs, such as the Ani Guild of the California Armenian Home, of which she was a founder and board member for over 40 years. She was also President of the League of Women Voters of Fresno, California State President of American Association of University Women, Chair of the Fresno Housing and Community Development Commission, Chair of the CSUF Arts and Humanities Advisory, board member of the Fresno Regional Foundation, Secretary of the Fresno County Grand Jury, board member of the California Journal, President of the Fresno Art Museum, and President of the Friends of Fresno County Library. In addition, she was a founder and first general manager of Valley Public Radio. Among her many achievements, Rosellen received the California Rotary Paul Harris Fellow accolade, and was awarded the CSU Fresno Top Dog Award for Service.

Rosellen Kershaw was an extraordinary woman with a commitment to family, friends and her community. Her service will forever be remembered by the lives she so graciously touched. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life of Rosellen Kershaw, a true pillar of our community who will never be forgotten.

HONORING SHARON SILVA

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Turlock Chamber of

Commerce Chief Executive Officer Sharon Silva for her many years of profound service to Turlock. After fifteen years of dedicated work, she retired on August 31, 2015.

Born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona, Sharon moved to the small town of Turlock, California with her family. Sharon found the time to further her education at Modesto Junior College and California State University, Stanislaus where she received her Bachelor's degree in Organizational Communications. In addition, she graduated from the National Trust for Historic Preservation in Washington, D.C. with a Main Street Certification Institute Certification in Historic Preservation and also from the US Chamber Institute in Chamber Management at the University of Arizona in 2004.

For eight and half years, Sharon served as the Executive Director of the Turlock Downtown Association, where she made enduring contributions to beautifying and restoring the historic downtown of Turlock. Among numerous activities that celebrated the culture of Turlock, she planned major community events such as the Festival of Lights Tree Lighting Ceremony and the Fourth of July parade. During Mrs. Silva's last three years with the Downtown Association, she was promoted to the position of Chief Executive Officer for the Turlock Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and diligently oversaw all three agencies. Sharon has been a beacon in the community and an integral part of the non-profit organization's success.

Volunteering is second nature to Sharon; she has been a part of several different boards and a vital member of many different clubs and organizations. Appointed by the Mayor of Turlock and confirmed by the City Council, Sharon was one of nine committee members to become a part of the Development Collaborative Advisory Committee, and provide advice and recommendations to the city for improving the business climate. Furthermore, Sharon was co-chair of the Turlock Centennial Celebration in 2008, sat on the Board of Directors for the Turlock Community Theatre, and is a longtime member of the Rotary Club of Turlock. Sharon is a past member of the Turlock Unified School District Board and sits on a number of CSU Stanislaus committees: the President's Advisory council, the College of Business Board, the Alumni Board, the CSUS Warrior Association, and lastly, and the Center for Public Policies Studies Advisory Board. She served on Stanislaus County's Economic Development Committee and on the Board of Directors for the Stanislaus County Alliance Workforce. She was also the chair of the county's Redistricting Committee in 2011. Mrs. Silva stands as a role model for community dedication. Being actively involved and connected within the community as Sharon Silva has been, it comes as no surprise that she has received numerous awards and recognitions. In 1995, she received the Turlock Citizen of the Year Award and Volunteer of the Year Award at the Best of Turlock Awards Dinner. While serving as the Executive Director for the Turlock Downtown Association, the organization received the Governor's Award for Excellence in Revitalization Achievement in Design. The Turlock Chamber of Commerce was one of ten chambers in the state of California to be a CalChamber's President Circle Recipient for six years in a row. In 2011, Sharon Silva was named the Western Chamber