MEMORANDUM REGARDING AUTHORIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

HON. PAUL D. RYAN
OF WISCONSIN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following memorandum regarding authorization of the Department of Homeland Security.

We, the chairs of the committees with jurisdiction over the Department of Homeland Security or its components, are hereby recording our agreement on the following principles for the 115th Congress:
1. The Department of Homeland Security (“the Department”) and its components should be authorized on a regular basis to ensure robust oversight and improve its operation.
2. Committees with jurisdiction over the Department and its components will prioritize the authorization of the Department and any unauthorized or expiring component in that committee’s authorization and oversight plan.
3. To the maximum extent practicable, the committees with jurisdiction over unauthorized or expiring components of the Department shall coordinate with the Committee on Homeland Security to produce a comprehensive authorization bill for the Department.
4. The Committee on Homeland Security shall coordinate with the committees with jurisdiction over unauthorized or expiring components of the Department in the development of any comprehensive authorization bill for the Department.
5. The Committee on Homeland Security and the committees with jurisdiction over components of the Department shall jointly develop a process for the vetting and pre-clearing of base text and amendments offered at subcommittee and full committee meetings of a DHS authorization bill in the Committee on Homeland Security that fall within the jurisdiction of a committee other than in addition to the Committee on Homeland Security.
6. The committees will expedite consideration of any comprehensive authorization bill for the Department, including timely resolution of any matters subject to a sequential or additional referral.
7. To the extent that there are policy differences between the committees regarding a provision of the comprehensive authorization bill that the chair of the Committee on Ways and Means has determined to be a revenue provision or a provision affecting revenue. If the chair of the Committee on Ways and Means makes such a determination, nothing in this agreement shall be construed to preclude that chair from exercising an additional or sequential referral over the measure, or a point of order under clause 9(a) of Rule XIX of the Rules of the House of Representatives.
8. Nothing in this agreement shall be construed as altering any committee’s jurisdiction under rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives or the referral of any measure thereunder.
9. Further, nothing in this memorandum precludes a further agreement between the committees with regard to the implementation of a process to ensure regular comprehensive authorizations of the Department.

Signed,

GREG WALDEN, Chair,
Committee on Energy and Commerce.

DEV NUNN, Chair, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

JASON CHAFFETZ, Chair, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

BILL SHUSTER, Chair, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

MICHAEL J. McCaul, Chair, Committee on Homeland Security.

BOB GOODLATTE, Chair, Committee on the Judiciary.

LAMAR SMITH, Chair, Committee on Science, Space and Technology.

KEVIN BRADY, Chair, Committee on Ways and Means.

HONORING RAMONA BAX ON HER RETIREMENT AFTER 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE BANK OF ST. ELIZABETH

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER
OF MISSOURI
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a constituent of mine, Mrs. Ramona Bax on her retirement after 50 years of employment with the Bank of St. Elizabeth. Mrs. Bax has been a constant friendly face during her years working at the bank. The patrons, management, and her co-workers will miss her welcoming personality at the bank. Mrs. Bax has been a lifelong resident of the St. Elizabeth community and is thankful for the opportunity to live and work in such a great town. As a fellow resident of St. Elizabeth, we are also thankful to have her as a friend, neighbor, and member of our community. In her spare time, Mrs. Bax volunteered her time at the St. Elizabeth school during the years her children attended and also while her grandchildren attended the school. She is also an active member of St. Lawrence Catholic Church. The entire community has benefited from her volunteering spirit.

Mrs. Bax has been married to her husband, Richard, for 56 years. They have four children, John, Charles, Glenn, and Stacy, and are the proud grandparents of ten grandchildren and great-grandparents of three great-grandchildren. With her retirement, Mrs. Bax will be able to enjoy more time with her wonderful family.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Mrs. Ramona Bax on her retirement. The commitment she has shown to the Bank of St. Elizabeth for 50 years is a commendable accomplishment. It is an honor to represent her in the United States Congress.

HONORING GARY DARLING FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE

HON. JERRY McNERNEY
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I, along with my colleagues, Representatives DeSaulnier and Huffman, rise today to honor Gary W. Darling for dedicating 33 years to an incredible career as a water professional. Mr. Darling developed his technical background by graduating from the University of California, Davis and becoming a registered professional civil engineer. His academic pedigree led him to a long and productive career in managing and leading a water agency, numerous infrastructure projects, and building coalitions in Northern California.

For 15 years, Mr. Darling managed the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Project, which is a crucial reservoir for our region’s water supply and environment. He was a Project Manager during the planning and environmental review phases for the $1 billion Freeport Regional Water Authority and served for six years on the Board of Directors for the California Association of Sanitation Agencies. Notably, he served 11 years as General Manager of Delta Diablo, overseeing wastewater resource recovery services for 200,000 people across Antioch, Bay Point, and Pittsburg. Delta Diablo is proud to be an award-winning agency that is “transforming wastewater to resources” by investing in innovative solutions and partnerships.

Mr. Darling also has a long and successful history of leading organizations. For more than eight years, he has led the 19-agency Bay Area Biosolids to Energy Coalition. Members implement regional biosolids management solutions to maximize renewable energy and minimize greenhouse gas emissions. To Gary’s credit, this coalition has six pre-commercial biocenergy technology projects in development.

Gary Darling has shown impressive leadership of the 22-member Western Recycled Water Coalition (WRWC) over the last nine years. This important coalition recruits members and facilitates collaboration to develop sustainable water supplies for their communities throughout the western United States. WRWC secured close to $35 million in federal funding that was leveraged with local and
state funds to construct eight essential water infrastructure projects. The coalition also secured $4 million for feasibility studies and planning for 14 new projects. 2016 membership includes planning for 34 projects that will provide close to 200,000 acre-feet per year of sustainable water supply. Mr. Drang and WRWC also worked with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Stanford University, and others to pilot innovative new desalination and wastewater technologies to advance the wastewater resource recovery industry.

In conclusion, we ask our colleagues to join us in acknowledging and thanking Gary Darling for his service and significant contributions to our communities and water supply. We congratulate him on his retirement and are looking forward to his future ventures.

CONGRATULATIONS CLEMSON

HON. TOM RICE
OF SOUTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and honor to rise today to congratulate the Clemson University football team on their 2017 National Championship win over the University of Alabama.

In what was a nail-biting rematch of the 2016 National Championship game between the Clemson Tigers and the Alabama Crimson Tide, the Tigers came back this year with something to prove—and they did just that with their 35–31 win over the Tide.

While every member of the team played their hearts out, I’d like to recognize a very special player who hails from the Seventh District of South Carolina, wide receiver Hunter Renfrow. A native of Horry County and graduate of Socastee High School, Mr. Renfrow has had an outstanding season—catching six touchdowns and receiving 44 passes for a total of 495 yards this season.

Perhaps even more impressive than his talent on the field is his determination and hard work that got him there. He joined the Tigers football team as a walk on, later earning a scholarship and this year catching the championship-winning touchdown with just 42 seconds left in the game. This National Title is a win for Mr. Renfrow, the players, the coaches, Clemson University, and all of South Carolina. Congratulations Clemson and Go Tigers.

RECOGNIZING THE ASIAN COMMUNITY SERVICE CENTER ON THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHINESE NEW YEAR FESTIVAL

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK
OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to take this opportunity to recognize the Asian Community Service Center on the 10th anniversary of the Chinese New Year Festival that is taking place at the Luther Jackson Middle School in Falls Church, Virginia on Saturday, January 14, 2017.

This family friendly festival will once again feature lion dances and the exciting Dragon Parade, along with a variety of other dance and musical performances from Chinese and other Asian cultures.

I want to commend the Asian Community Service Center for enthusiastically inviting all Americans to attend this festival. Their warm hospitality provides an opportunity for everyone to learn about the unique beauty of the Chinese culture.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent a significant number of Chinese Americans who live and work in my Congressional District. At the beginning of the Year of the Rooster, I would like to wish you and our colleagues a very happy and prosperous new year.

HONORING THE HEAD COACH OF THE KEISER UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL TEAM MR. ROLLIE MASSIMINO

HON. AILCE L. HASTINGS
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Rollie Massimino, who is currently the head coach of the Keiser University Basketball Team in West Palm Beach, Florida. Serious fans of the sport of basketball know the history of this great sportsman. Mr. Massimino began his head coaching career at SUNY Stony Brook in 1969, and after nearly 50 years, recently compiled his 800th victory.

His other head coaching positions have included stints at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and Cleveland State University. Mr. Massimino came to national attention as head coach of the Villanova Wildcats from 1980–1992. He is most famous for leading the Wildcats to their unforgettable upset of the top-seeded Georgetown Hoyas in the 1985 NCAA title game.

All who have known Mr. Massimino have been impressed by the sincerity and determination that he imparts to all the young men who have looked up to him throughout the years. Not a person who seeks the limelight, he is a truly great sportsman who has always been known for concentrating on winning and playing the game clean.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Massimino’s current Keiser team is 15 and 2 and riding a 12 game winning streak. His continual success is not surprising to American basketball fans, who admire him for his expertise and talent. I am very pleased that Mr. Rollie Massimino is presently guiding a team in my Congressional district to such distinction. He is a hero to many and a fine citizen, worthy of acclaim from us all.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GINA QUATTROCHI

HON. JERROLD NADLER
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 11, 2017

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Gina Quattrochi, a champion for HIV/AIDS healthcare and housing, who passed away in December 2016.

In 1986, at the height of the AIDS crisis, Ms. Quattrochi was named to the board of the AIDS Resource Center and led negotiations to acquire a former hotel on Christopher St., in my district, which was renamed Bailey House. This hotel became the first group residence for people with AIDS in the country. At a time when HIV/AIDS was shrouded in fear and paranoia, Gina was fearless. She later served as CEO of Bailey House for 25 years. It was under Ms. Quattrochi’s leadership that Bailey House grew from a small housing agency to a multimillion-dollar organization that provides a wide range of health and housing services to over 1,800 clients.

In addition to Bailey House, Ms. Quattrochi was a board member of several HIV/AIDS advocacy organizations, including the National AIDS Housing Coalition, where she also served as president; the Harlem Hospital Community Advisory Board; the Ryan White Integration of Care committee; and iHealth NYS. In 2014, she was appointed to Governor Andrew Cuomo’s task force to reduce new statewide HIV infections to just 750 per year by 2020.

Ms. Quattrochi also fulfilled her lifetime goal of extending the city’s HIV/AIDS Services Administration, or HASA, services beyond just AIDS diagnoses to qualified people with HIV. Her lifetime of work transformed the conversation about how to help house, provide health care to, and feed people with HIV/AIDS.

As a longtime supporter and advocate for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS, or HOPWA, I am proud to have represented Gina and Bailey House for many years, but I am more proud to have called her a friend. She leaves behind an indelible legacy, she will be profoundly missed by the city of New York, the country, and the HIV/AIDS advocacy community. I can think of no greater tribute than the words of Emmy and Tony Award-winning author and AIDS activist Larry Kramer: “She was the most noble of heroines. She fought not only for us, but for all of mankind.”