

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DONALD W. LEMKA

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today we commemorate the life and service of Supervisory Special Agent Donald W. Lemka (Don) who passed away at the young age of 41 last year after a valiant battle with cancer. He is survived by his wife, Tracey, and daughter, Madison Bridges.

Don served his country in the U.S. Marine Corps where his assignments included work on Marine One as Crew Chief and at three U.S. embassies. He then continued his service to our country as a special agent at the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Don's first office assignment was at the San Antonio Field Office's Resident Agency in Austin, Texas, where he worked until 2015.

Given the confidential nature of his work, many of his accomplishments cannot be made public. The people of South and Central Texas are more secure today because of honorable Americans like Don who protect them from global and domestic threats they are often not aware of. We owe Don a debt of gratitude for a life well lived in service to his country.

RECOGNIZING THE 83RD ANNUAL FLORIDA STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL

**HON. DENNIS A. ROSS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 83rd Annual Florida Strawberry Festival in Plant City, Florida, an important celebration in my district.

Plant City, Florida, is recognized as the Winter Strawberry Capital of the World, and the state of Florida is the second largest strawberry producing state in the United States, with more than 10,000 acres of strawberries planted annually.

The Florida Strawberry Festival serves to bring the community together to celebrate the agricultural and historical legacy of the Florida strawberry. The festival is scheduled to take place over eleven days this year, and has provided family-friendly fun since 1930 and welcomes over 500,000 visitors from across the country to enjoy musical concerts, agricultural exhibits, parades, youth developmental programs, other forms of entertainment, and delicious strawberry treats.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to recognize this treasured community tradition that has brought together countless participants, volunteers, and sponsors. I thank all of those who have given their time and resources to make the Florida Strawberry Festival such a cherished tradition in our community.

OATH OF CITIZENSHIP ON MARCH 9, 2018

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and sincerity that I take this time to congratulate twenty-five individuals who will take their oaths of citizenship on March 9, 2018. This memorable occasion will be held at the United States Courthouse and Federal Building in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the world to the United States in search of better lives for their families. Oath ceremonies are a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On March 9, 2018, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oaths of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Domingo Virruete, Bernadette Augustynski, Haroldas Vysniauskas, Jose Otoniel Campos, Maria Georgina Rivera, Jorge Robles, Humberto Morales Jr., Ernestina Caro, Omar Awad Sobih, Maria Francisca Aguliar, Katie Rizhkov, Haneen Mohammad Al-Zeer, Rania Shwqi Abudayyeh, Christine Nasr Mousa, Tannya Marisa Viramontes, Paul Alejandro Beltran, Jimmy Trang, Lissette Jesus Sayan Thompson, George Gonzalez, Luis Alberto Salazar, Ana M. Ramirez, Hina Naz Chaudhry, Beth Wanjiru Kavolu, Said Saad, and Karoline R. Stiglich.

Although each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision that they want to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Constitution, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals who will become citizens of the United States of America on March 9, 2018. They, too, are American citizens, guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate them and welcome them.

RECOGNIZING NACDS RXIMPACT DAY

**HON. MARKWAYNE MULLIN**

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. MULLIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Tenth Annual NACDS RxIMPACT Day on Capitol Hill. This is a special day where we will have the chance to recognize pharmacy's many contributions to the American health care system.

Organized by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) for the past decade, this event will take place March 7–8, 2018. This year alone, more than 400 individuals from the pharmacy community—including practicing pharmacists, pharmacy school faculty and students, state pharmacy association representatives and pharmacy company leaders—will visit us here on Capitol Hill. Advocates from all 50 states will share their views with us about the importance of supporting their access agenda—legislative priorities that will ensure that our constituents will continue to have access to more than 40,000 community and neighborhood pharmacies across the country and be better able to utilize pharmacists to improve health care quality while reducing the cost of care.

Patients have always relied on their local pharmacist to meet their health care needs and we as policymakers know our local pharmacists to be important community leaders. They are trusted, highly accessible health care providers deeply committed to providing high quality, convenient, and efficient health care services.

As demand for health care services continues to grow, pharmacists have expanded their role in health care delivery, partnering with physicians, nurses and other health care providers to meet their patients' needs. Innovative services provided by pharmacists do even more to improve overall patient health and wellness.

Pharmacists are highly valued by those that rely on them most—those in rural and underserved areas, as well as older Americans, and those struggling to manage chronic diseases. Pharmacy services improve patients' quality of life as well as health care affordability. By helping patients take their medications effectively and providing preventive services, pharmacists help avoid more costly forms of care. Pharmacists also help patients identify strategies to save money, such as through better understanding of their pharmacy benefits, using generic medications, and obtaining 90-day supplies of prescription drugs from local pharmacies.

Pharmacists are the nation's most accessible health care providers. In many communities, especially in rural areas, the local pharmacist is a patient's most direct link to health care. Utilizing their specialized education, pharmacists play a major role in medication therapy management, disease-state management, immunizations, health care screenings,

• 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.

and other health care services designed to improve patient health and reduce overall health care costs. Pharmacists are also expanding their role into new models of care based on quality of services and outcomes, such as accountable care organizations (ACOs) and medical homes.

The pharmacy advocates of NACDS RxIMPACT Day on Capitol Hill will be promoting an access agenda. They know that we face difficult debates about the future of health care and the pharmacy community wishes to work with us to help in the effort to develop comprehensive and consistent approaches to public policy that put pharmacy's value to work for patients and payers. They understand well that the issues we are debating today are highly connected and vital to pharmacy, to all of health care, and to society as a whole.

I believe Congress should look at every opportunity to make sure that pharmacists are allowed to utilize their training to the fullest to provide the services that can improve care, increase access and lower costs. In recognition of the Tenth Annual NACDS RxIMPACT Day on Capitol Hill, I would like to congratulate pharmacy leaders, pharmacists, students, and the entire pharmacy community represented by NACDS, for their contributions to the health and wellness of the American people.

IN HONOR OF LOGAN GROSZ AND SEAMUS CASEY'S SELECTION AS WYOMING'S TOP YOUTH VOLUNTEERS, AND SADIE HOGAN AND MICKAYLA VANNATTER AS DISTINGUISHED FINALISTS BY THE PRUDENTIAL SPIRIT OF COMMUNITY AWARDS

### HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Logan Grosz and Seamus Casey for being honored as Wyoming's top youth volunteers by the Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, and Sadie Hogan and Mickayla Vannatter for being recognized as Distinguished Finalists.

The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards is a nationwide program that recognizes four middle level and high school students from each state for their outstanding volunteerism. Each year, two students are selected as the State Honorees, and two as Distinguished Finalists. This year's honored students are committed to service and to going above and beyond for their communities.

Logan Grosz was selected as the High School State Honoree for Wyoming for his dedication to supporting the Children's Hospital Colorado. As a patient and its Champion for the State of Wyoming, he organizes and runs fundraisers that have raised over \$7,500 for the hospital and its other patients.

Seamus Casey is this year's Middle Level State Honoree for his support of the Folds of Honor Foundation. Last summer, he designed and completed his own triathlon, raising \$10,000 for the Foundation's scholarships for family members of fallen or disabled servicemen.

Sadie Hogan was recognized as a Distinguished Finalist for her leadership in a project

that compiled and distributed sacks of food and toiletries to homeless members of her community.

Mickayla Vannatter was recognized as a Distinguished Finalist for her program that encourages children at her school to choose inclusion over bullying.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Logan, Seamus, Sadie, and Mickayla. They have set excellent examples for their friends and families, and I appreciate all they do to support the great state of Wyoming and our great country.

### GUN VIOLENCE

SPEECH OF

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 26, 2018*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to discuss the issue of gun violence in America.

This Valentine's Day, February 14, 2018, marked the thirtieth mass shooting in our country this year, when a mentally unstable 19-year-old opened fire on Marjorie Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida with an AR-15 military style weapon, killing 17 individuals and injuring 15 others.

We extend our deepest sympathies to all those affected by this tragedy and recognize the skill and heroism of the law enforcement officers and first responders who came to the aid of others.

We commend the efforts of those who are working to care for the injured and investigate this horrific incident.

We extend our heartfelt condolences and prayers to the families of the fallen, and to all those affected in the community of Parkland, Florida and in the United States.

The horrifying events in Parkland mark the 378th mass shooting in the U.S. since 2017, and the 30th this year, according to Gun Violence Archive.

Mass shootings are a near daily occurrence in America, but what happened in Las Vegas on October 1, 2017 stands out: It was the deadliest such incident in U.S. history, with more than 58 killed and 515 injured.

A mass shooting is defined by Gun Violence Archive as any incident in which four or more are shot and/or killed in a single event, at the same general time and location not including the shooter.

Recent U.S. mass shootings include:

Las Vegas, 2017: 58 killed; 515 wounded  
 Orlando, 2016: 50 killed  
 Virginia Tech, 2007: 32 killed  
 Sandy Hook, 2012: 27 killed  
 San Ysidro, 1984: 21 killed  
 San Bernadino, 2015: 14 killed  
 Edmond, 1986: 14 killed  
 Fort Hood, 2009: 13 killed  
 Columbine, 1999: 13 killed  
 Charleston, 2015: 9 killed

There were more than 11,600 deaths linked to gun violence in 2017, which is roughly equivalent to nearly four 9/11 attacks in terms of the total number killed on September 11, 2001.

Comparatively, more than 15 thousand were killed by gun violence in 2016, and there were 383 mass shootings.

It is horrifying to admit that gun violence now seems to be a staple of American life.

The United States ranks No. 1 in the world in terms of firearms per capita—with 88.8 guns per 100 people—and it has the highest homicide-by-firearm rate in the developed world.

The problem is so endemic that gun violence is now the third leading cause of death for children in the U.S.

An average of 1,297 children die annually from gun-related injuries.

Guns are linked to roughly 33 thousand deaths in the U.S. per year; about two-thirds of them are suicides.

According to Pew Research Center, a majority of Americans (across partisan lines) support gun policy proposals such as barring people with mental illnesses from buying guns; prohibiting gun purchases by people on federal no-fly or watch lists; and background checks for private gun sales and sales at gun shows.

America has six times as many firearm homicides as Canada, and nearly 16 times as many as Germany.

United Nations data shows that America far and away leads other developed countries when it comes to gun-related homicides.

America has 4.4 percent of the world's population, but almost half of the civilian-owned guns around the world.

In December 2012, a gunman walked into Sandy Hook Elementary School in Newtown, Connecticut, and killed 20 children, six adults, and himself.

Since then, there have been at least 1,518 mass shootings, with at least 1,715 people killed and 6,089 wounded.

The fairly broad definition of "mass shooting" includes not only shootings in which four or more people were murdered, but shootings in which four or more people were shot at all (excluding the shooter).

Even under this broad definition, mass shootings make up a tiny portion of America's firearm deaths, which totaled more than 33,000 in 2014.

On average, there is more than one mass shooting for each day in America.

Whenever a mass shooting occurs, supporters of gun rights often argue that it is inappropriate to bring up political debates about gun control in the aftermath of a tragedy.

For example, former Louisiana Governor Bobby Jindal, a strong supporter of gun rights, criticized former President Barack Obama for "trying to score cheap political points" when Obama mentioned gun control after a mass shooting in Charleston, South Carolina.

But if this argument is followed to its logical end, then it will never be the right time to discuss mass shootings.

Under the broader definition of mass shootings, America has nearly one mass shooting a day.

So if Congress is forced to wait for a time when there is not a mass shooting to talk gun control, Congress could find itself waiting for a very long time.

The time for responding to mass shootings with thoughts and prayers has long since passed.

The time for responding with effective legislation is now.

I have called upon this Administration to secure the passage of H.R. 4268, the "Gun Safety Not Sorry Act," legislation I have introduced that would impose a 7-day waiting, or "cooling off," period prior to the purchase or

transfer of ownership of a semiautomatic firearm, silencers, armor piercing ammunition, or large capacity ammunition magazines.

According to Newsweek, the “Gun Safety Not Sorry Act” is the No. 1 legislative proposal that Congress can and should pass right now.

The majority must cut its close ties to the powerful gun lobby to facilitate useful gun control legislation necessary immediately.

The “Gun Safety Not Sorry Act will not abridge the Second Amendment, it will not take away gun rights, and it does not impose greater restrictions on gun ownership—it will not stop all mass shootings but it will certainly help.

In the wake of the horrific Valentine’s Day mass shooting in Parkland, Florida, the emboldened survivors of the high school shooting are calling for immediate gun reform.

States with tighter gun control laws have fewer gun-related deaths.

I will soon introduce legislation to keep our children safe from mass shootings: the “No More Atrocities with Guns Act” (No MAGA Act) raises the minimum age from 18 to 21 for a person to purchase or possess semi-automatic assault weapons.

Teenagers, whose brains are not yet fully developed should not yet be entrusted with a weapon that is designed to inflict maximum damage in minimum time.

Americans cannot understand how it is legally possible for a 19-year-old mentally unstable person to purchase such a highly lethal weapon such as the AR-15 assault rifle and then use that weapon to slaughter 17 high school students.

Although Americans say they want to protect the right to bear arms, they are very much supportive of many gun policy proposals—including some fairly contentious ideas, such as more background checks on private and gun show sales and banning semi-automatic and assault-style weapons.

Mass shootings occur more frequently in states that do not require background checks for all gun sales.

Analyses of mass shootings in the United States between 2009 and 2015 document that the majority of mass shootings occur in venues where the carrying of firearm is not restricted.

In states that require background checks for all handgun sales, including guns offered in unlicensed sales online and at gun shows, there are 52 percent fewer mass shootings.

Congress must take action to prevent other incidents such as the recent act of terror and hatred in Parkland, Florida that resulted in the tragic loss of 17 innocent lives.

There have been 32 moments of silence observed on the House Floor related to Gun Violence since 2012.

The time for moments of silence has long since passed.

The American people are demanding moments of action.

I pledge to continue to work to reduce gun violence and prevent mass shootings.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARCUS RASKIN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2018

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of a strong voice in the progressive movement, and a great mentor and friend, Marcus Raskin. Marcus’ exceptional work as a national security staffer, political theorist, and progressive thought leader has deeply shaped our nation’s consciousness about war, economic inequality, and civil rights.

Born in 1934 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Marcus initially pursued a career as a pianist, before changing direction and studying law and policy at the University of Chicago. After attaining his law degree, Marcus moved to Washington D.C. and became a staffer for Representatives Robert W. Kastenmeier & James Roosevelt.

He quickly distinguished himself as a leading voice of liberal thought, and was hired as staff on the National Security Council by President Kennedy’s National Security Advisor, McGeorge Bundy. He also later served in the Bureau of the Budget (now the Office of Management and Budget), and the Presidential Panel on Education.

Following his service in the Kennedy Administration, Raskin formed the Institute for Policy Studies (IPS) along with Richard Barnett. As a progressive policy think-tank, IPS was the first of its kind. To this day, the institute remains committed to economic and racial justice, climate justice, peace and foreign policy, community engagement, and leadership development.

Marcus also played a pivotal role in the release of the Pentagon Papers during the Nixon Administration. His criticisms of the Vietnam War and American military policy led to Daniel Ellsberg noticing Marcus and relying on his help to get the leaked documents to reporters at the New York Times. This initiated a watershed moment in our country’s history about the need for transparency and accountability in government.

I first met Marcus Raskin, during the mid-1970’s, while I worked on Capitol Hill for Congressman Ron Dellums, and I am grateful to him for his wise counsel over the years. Marcus was one of the first to congratulate me on my election to Congress, and acted as a reassuring confidant as I considered my vote against the overly broad 2001 authorization to use military force.

Marcus Raskin passed on December 24, 2017, and is survived by his wife, Lynn, and his children Erika, Eden, Noah, and my colleague in Congress—JAMIE.

Today, on behalf of California’s 13th Congressional District, it is my honor to commend Marcus Raskin for his moral leadership and to thank him for his mentorship. I cherish my time serving alongside his son, Representative JAMIE RASKIN of Maryland’s 8th Congressional District and wish my sincere condolences to the rest of his surviving family.

THE INVALUABLE HELP OF ANDY IGREJAS IN STRENGTHENING THE LAUTENBERG TSCA REFORM ACT

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2018

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding contributions Andy Igrejas has made in improving the lives of the American people through his tireless advocacy and expertise in reducing public exposure to harmful chemicals.

A native of Bloomfield, New Jersey and a proud graduate of Rutgers College, Andy has worked on environmental health and government reform issues in New Jersey, California, and Washington, D.C. over his decades of service.

Every day, we see the steps the Environmental Protection Agency is taking to implement the Lautenberg TSCA Reform law passed in 2016. While that implementation is so far not living up to the letter of the law, we will continue to work to hold the EPA accountable for meeting its essential duty under the law: removing toxic chemicals from commerce and from our homes.

We are only able to do this because of important changes that were made in the Lautenberg Act as it went through Congress—changes that came about because of Andy’s tireless work and dedication as Executive Director of the Safer Chemicals Healthy Families Coalition.

The work to reform the Toxic Substances Control Act began in earnest in 2009, when the major stakeholders published principles for reform. It was that year that Andy organized the Safer Chemicals, Healthy Families coalition to create a unified voice for health, environmental, and labor organizations interested in advancing chemical policy reform.

With Andy as its director, the coalition has grown to include 450 organizations and small businesses from across the country and across the political spectrum. By unifying these groups, Andy made their voices stronger, strong enough to stand up to extraordinary expenditures from industry interests.

Andy’s work also kept the interest in TSCA reform alive when negotiating a deal seemed impossible. Andy’s appreciation for the role of entrepreneurship and the private sector in creating positive social change led to the coalition’s decision to launch Mind the Store, an initiative challenging the nation’s largest retailers to restrict hazardous chemicals in their supply chains. It was that effort at the retail level, along with legislative efforts in the states, which kept industry at the table pursuing a comprehensive federal program.

I want to thank Andy for his bold thinking, tireless efforts, and strategic counsel to me and my staff, without which many of the public health and environmental improvements in the Lautenberg TSCA reform law would not have been possible.

SPECIAL OLYMPIAN, “BEEBO”

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, once Brendan West picked up a basketball, he was never able to put it down. Nicknamed “Beebo,” Brendan is a 22 year old Special Olympian from Houston, Texas, who has become an aficionado of the game of basketball.

Beebo has Roberts Syndrome, a genetic disorder that delays the growth of limbs and facial features. He was born without arms, so naturally he learned to do everything with his feet. His father, Ray, and his mother, Ann, adopted Beebo when he was 6 weeks old. Doctors told his parents he wouldn’t be able to do anything other than eat and go to the bathroom. His diagnosis didn’t keep Beebo down for long, continuing to defy the odds.

Just about anytime and anywhere, you can find a smile on Beebo’s face and a basketball between his feet. Beebo first learned how to play basketball when he was in Jr. High. With just his feet, he is able to dribble and shoot the ball with deadly accuracy. His basketball skills have earned him multiple titles and propelled him forward as an award winning Special Olympian. Beebo was even honored with an honorary ESPY, the Excellence in Sports Performance Yearly Award, last year. The basketball star has shot hoops with NBA player James Harden and even played with the world-renowned Harlem Globetrotters. Beebo is not only an amazing basketball player, but also an exceptional bowler and tennis player, winning gold medals in both events.

Perhaps the most shining quality Beebo exudes is his personality. When you step onto a basketball court, you can hear Beebo’s laugh echoing from every corner. His enthusiasm for the game of basketball and life is infectious, and he inspires everyone around him.

I am honored to be able to spread the inspiring story of Beebo. His resiliency, determination, and grit all are to be admired and something we should all seek in our lives.

He is the perfect embodiment of what it means to be a Special Olympian and Houstonian. Keep playing basketball, Beebo, we will all be cheering him on.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed votes on Monday February 26 and Tuesday February 27, 2018. I had intended to vote “yes” on Roll Call vote 81, “yes” on vote 82, “no” on vote 83, “no” on vote 84, “no” on vote 85, “no” on vote 86, “no” on vote 87, “yes” on vote 88, “no” on vote 89, “yes” on vote 90, and “yes” on vote 91.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BONNIE WATSON COLEMAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mrs. WATSON COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, due to an excused absence on February 14, 2018, I was unable to vote on Roll Call Vote Nos. 72 through 78. Had I been present I would have voted in the following matter:

On Roll Call Vote No. 72 on ordering the Previous Question for H. Res. 736 I intended to vote NAY.

On Roll Call Vote No. 73 on Agreeing to the Resolution for H. Res. 736 I intended to vote NAY.

On Roll Call Vote No. 74 on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H.R. 3542, Hamas Human Shields Prevention Act, as amended, I intended to vote YEA.

On Roll Call Vote No. 75 on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 129, Calling on the Department of Defense, other elements of the Federal Government, and foreign governments to intensify efforts to investigate, recover, and identify all missing and unaccounted-for personnel of the United States, I intended to vote YEA.

On Roll Call Vote No. 76 on Motion to Recommend with Instructions H.R. 3978, TRID Improvement Act, I intended to vote YEA.

On Roll Call Vote No. 77 on Passage of H.R. 3978, TRID Improvement Act, I intended to vote NAY.

On Roll Call Vote No. 78 on Passage of H.R. 3299, Protecting Consumers Access to Credit Act of 2017, I intended to vote NAY.

IN HONOR OF HOWARD AND JOAN KUNESH’S 71ST WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

**HON. LIZ CHENEY**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Howard and Joan Kunesh on the celebration of their 71st Wedding Anniversary.

This significant benchmark is a symbol of their commitment to each other and to their family. I am happy to join their friends and family in extending my best to them on this special occasion.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Howard and Joan on the celebration of their 71st Wedding Anniversary. I wish them the best today and for many more blessed years to come.

PI KAPPA ALPHA 150TH ANNIVERSARY RECOGNITION

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and to recognize the Pi Kappa Alpha International Fraternity—a values-based men’s fraternal organization with more than 225

chapters in the United States and Canada, approximately 16,000 undergraduate members, and over 290,000 lifetime members. In 2018, Pi Kappa Alpha celebrated the 150th anniversary of its founding on March 1, 1868 at the University of Virginia when six young men joined together and resolved to form a fraternity for the establishment of friendship on a firmer and more lasting basis. Their commitment to high ideals of scholarship, leadership and gentlemanly behavior remain strong to this day.

In 1868 there were 38 states. Pi Kappa Alpha predates two rows of stars on the American Flag. The nation of Canada, home to several Pi Kappa Alpha chapters, was founded one year earlier in 1867. The first organized baseball and football games were played in 1869. Coca-Cola was founded in 1886 and basketball was first played in 1891.

Pi Kappa Alpha has persevered and grown through world wars, generational and cultural changes, depressions, recessions, and other challenges on college campuses that have at times threatened its existence. Its members have explored space, served as leaders of business and industry, filled the ranks of public servants in the arenas of education, government and the military; authored books; performed on athletic fields and entertainment venues.

Throughout its history Pi Kappa Alpha has answered the call to arms to preserve and protect the United States of America and its friends and allies. More than 600 Pi Kappa Alphas are recognized as Gold Star Heroes, making the ultimate sacrifice in conflicts dating back to the Spanish American War and including the War on Terror today.

Pi Kappa Alpha has prepared nearly 300,000 men to lead on their campuses and in their homes, communities, and businesses. It has endured and it thrives today because valuing friendship, showing love for your fellow man and defending the truth of its ideals are timeless, lifelong virtues.

Nearly 16,000 PIKE student members are impacting and influencing their campuses and communities today, serving as leaders in student government, Interfraternity councils, sports teams and student organizations. Collectively, PIKE chapters annually perform over 360,000 hours of community service and donate more than \$3.6 million to philanthropy.

These student leaders are supported by 2,500 men (and women) who volunteer to serve on advisory boards and house corporations. Over 150 alumni associations ensure that the admonition, “Once a Pike, Always a Pike,” remains true, inspiring the lifetime fraternal experience for its members.

Pi Kappa Alpha seeks to enrich the undergraduate experience and the quality of its volunteer support through a comprehensive, industry-leading educational program that incorporates all aspects of the Fraternity including scholastic performance, personal development, leadership training, innovative learning, community engagement, campus involvement and participation.

Today, in its 150th year, Pi Kappa Alpha calls upon its members to live anew its legacy, to reflect on the principles of its Founders and to commit to a strong future for its great brotherhood. As a proud member of the Pi Kappa Alpha International Fraternity, I would like to congratulate the fraternity on its 150 years of success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHIEF  
THOMAS J. MORAN OF THE BUF-  
FALO POLICE DEPARTMENT

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. HIGGINS of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the exemplary life and career of Thomas J. Moran, Chief of the "A" District of the Buffalo Police Department, who passed away on March 1st of this year. Chief Moran was 49 years old.

Chief Moran first joined the Buffalo Police Department on February 4, 1994 at age 25, a recent graduate of the State University of New York at Brockport.

In May of 2006, he received the Edward H. Butler Award for Heroism for having successfully disrupted an armed robbery of a retail store in the Ferry-Fillmore district where he had been stationed.

After performing admirably in various roles as a Police Officer for eighteen years, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in April of 2012, and again promoted to Chief in June of 2013.

As Chief of the "A" District covering South Buffalo and the adjacent neighborhoods, he was known for his responsiveness and engagement with community stakeholders, for his clear leadership and helpful mentorship of the officers under his command, and for his dedication and commitment to the citizens of the City of Buffalo, to the Buffalo Police Department, and to the principles of law and order.

Like so many in my community, I am grateful to have known Chief Moran and to have called him a friend. I shall remain grateful for his leadership, and his work to serve and protect the people of South Buffalo and the entire City of Buffalo.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me and with Members of the House to express our deepest condolences to his wife, Kelly, to his daughters Ava and Lila, and to the entire family of the late Chief Tom Moran, and join me in recognizing his many years of dedicated public service.

HONORING DEBBIE DAVIS

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Debbie Davis, editor and assistant publisher of The Davis Enterprise, for her service to the Davis community and to congratulate her on her retirement.

For over 38 years, Ms. Davis has helped unite and inform the Davis community through her work at The Davis Enterprise. Her work expertise has earned her a reputation as a respected journalist, and there is no doubt in my mind that her legacy will leave a lasting impact on the Davis community.

The breadth of Ms. Davis' accomplishments is in itself an achievement, and some of her most notable milestones include developing the 2017 centennial magazine that celebrated the businesses and leaders that built the

Davis community, the "Those Who Make Memories" book, and over 10,700 editions of The Davis Enterprise.

I speak on behalf of the entire Davis community when I say thank you to Debbie Davis for her generous service to our community. I wish her the best as she enjoys her well-deserved retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JACK BERGMAN**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. BERGMAN. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call Votes Nos. 83, 84, 85, 86 and 87 I am not recorded because I was not present in the House for that vote series. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner.

On Roll Call No. 83, I would have voted YEA.

On Roll Call No. 84, I would have voted YEA.

On Roll Call No. 85, I would have voted YEA.

On Roll Call No. 86, I would have voted YEA.

On Roll Call No. 87, I would have voted YEA.

RUSSELL N. COLLINS, JR.

**HON. DONALD NORCROSS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. NORCROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of the late Russell N. Collins, Jr., of Palmyra, New Jersey, for his service to our nation.

Russell N. Collins Jr. was born in Camden, New Jersey in 1925. He attended Woodrow Wilson High School where he was a gifted drum player in the school band. Upon learning of the surprise attack on the American naval base at Pearl Harbor, Mr. Collins enlisted into the United States Navy and proudly served his country during World War II as an original crew member of the USS *New Jersey* (BB-62), from 1943 to 1946.

After the war, Mr. Collins returned home to New Jersey and married his high school sweetheart, Helen S. Collins. They were married more than fifty years until Mrs. Collins' passing in 2004.

Later in life, Mr. Collins would return to the Battleship *New Jersey*, where he served as a volunteer and valued member of the floating Museum and Memorial along the Camden, New Jersey waterfront.

Mr. Collins is remembered by those close to him as having a hearty laugh, a gentle grin and was adept at storytelling. He was a Mason, a Shriner and an Odd Fellow, and was never seen without his USS *New Jersey* hat.

On December 21, 2017, Mr. Collins passed away at the age of 92. He was the last museum volunteer who served as a U.S. Navy sailor on the Battleship during World War II. Mr. Collins' life was a rich collection of love, friendship, loyalty, bravery, and heroism.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Russell N. Collins, Jr. was a true American hero. I ask you to join me in

celebrating this patriot and his selfless sacrifices on behalf of our grateful nation.

IN HONOR OF JIM AND JEAN  
LAKE'S 50TH WEDDING ANNIVER-  
SARY

**HON. LIZ CHENEY**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Jim and Jean Lake on the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

This significant benchmark is a symbol of their commitment to each other and to their family. I am happy to join their friends and family in extending my best to them on this special occasion.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Jim and Jean on the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary. I wish them the best today and for many more blessed years to come.

RETIREMENT RECOGNITION FOR  
DIANE DZURISIN

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a tireless and visionary veteran and federal employee for her work to protect and improve the lives of her fellow citizens.

Diane Dzurisin is retiring after seventeen years with the VA, two decades in the military, and six years of long-term care nursing. It has been said that if you choose work that you love, then you never have to work another day. I suspect that has been the case for Diane during her impressive career. When my constituent services staff has needed guidance to resolve the most challenging VA cases, she has never failed to ensure that each veteran's concerns were appropriately and expeditiously addressed. Her awareness of and sensitivity to the unique challenges of adjudicating claims following military sexual trauma has lifted the burdens and changed the lives of countless veterans.

People like Diane Dzurisin never really retire—they reinvent. On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to thank her for her service, honor her for her dedication to veterans, and wish her all the best as she embarks on this new journey.

HONORING ELAINE BROWN ON HER  
75TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 75th birthday of Elaine Brown, a community leader, civil rights activist, and advocate for the underrepresented.

Elaine Brown was born on March 2, 1943, in North Philadelphia, an area affected by significant poverty and racial segregation. She

was raised by her mother, Dorothy Clark, who worked to support her and instilled in her a love of music. Starting with classical piano lessons, Elaine grew as a songwriter and eventually moved to Los Angeles to pursue music as a career.

In LA, she engaged with the civil rights movement, and after the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr., Brown was motivated to join the Black Panther Party. As a party member, she helped establish the groundbreaking Free Breakfast for Children Program, Free Busing to Prisons Program, and Free Legal Aid Program.

In 1968, Brown was commissioned by David Hilliard, the Party Chief of Staff, to record the album "Seize the Time," which includes the anthem of the Black Panther Party. The Party's co-founder, Huey P. Newton, later commissioned her to record a second album, "Until We're Free", to promote the party's message, "All Power to the People."

In August of 1974, Elaine Brown took over as the chair of the Black Panther Party—the first and only woman to lead the revolutionary organization. Under her leadership, the party focused on electoral politics and community service. In 1977, she managed Lionel Wilson's victorious campaign to become Oakland's first black mayor. That same year, I was proud to work on her trailblazing campaign for the Oakland City Council.

After leaving the party in 1977, she wrote her memoir "A Taste of Power: A Black Woman's Story" in 1982 and returned to her work on the struggle of black liberation and prison reform. In 1996, Brown moved to Atlanta, Georgia, and founded Fields of Flowers, Inc., a non-profit committed to providing educational opportunities for impoverished African American children.

Elaine also founded Mothers Advocating Juvenile Justice and the Michael Lewis Legal Defense Committee, where she spent nearly two decades supporting the legal appeal of Michael "Little B" Lewis, who was wrongly accused of murder and tried as an adult at 13. Elaine wrote *The Condemnation of Little B*, exposing racism that affects millions of poor African Americans and the barbarity of trying children as adults. In 2003, Brown co-founded the National Alliance for Radical Prison Reform and has continued her advocacy by frequently lecturing at colleges and universities throughout the country.

Elaine continues to co-author many books and serves in leadership roles for various committees, and is the CEO of a non-profit organization, Oakland & The World Enterprises, Inc. which is dedicated to launching and sustaining for-profit businesses for cooperative-ownership by the formerly incarcerated and those facing monumental social barriers.

On a personal note, Elaine has been a "comrade" and friend since the early 1970's, whose friendship, intellect, and life's work I deeply appreciate and admire.

Today, on behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, it is my honor to celebrate Elaine Brown and her accomplishments, advocacy and contributions for the underrepresented. Her work toward the empowerment of women and minorities, especially African Americans, is a true inspiration to many.

WHY WE CAN WAIT NO LONGER  
AND THE FIERCE URGENCY TO  
ENACT NOW RESPONSIBLE GUN  
VIOLENCE PREVENTION LEGIS-  
LATION AFTER PARKLAND,  
FLORIDA MASS SHOOTING

### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call upon the President and the Congress of the United States to act without delay and pass legislation to prevent gun violence and mass casualties from shootings.

The community of Parkland, Florida—along with the rest of the country—is still reeling from the horrific tragedy that took place at the Marjorie Stoneman Douglass High School on Valentine's Day, February 14, 2018.

Our hearts still ache with sadness and disbelief for the families and loved ones of the 17 students—sons and daughters, brothers and sisters—who lost their lives in this senseless, horrific act of domestic terrorism.

It is safe to say that America is sick and tired of being sick and tired of gun violence.

That is why we must act now to stop gun violence, protect citizens, and save lives.

Here are the top 6 actions the President and the Congress can and must take now to protect our communities:

Require universal background checks to keep guns out of dangerous hands;

Extend the waiting period to purchase or transfer dangerous weapons like the AR-15 pending completion of background checks to 7 days;

Raise the minimum age to purchase or transfer dangerous weapons like the AR-15, high-capacity magazines, ammunitions, and silencers from 18 to 21 years of age;

Ban military-style assault weapons; Limit high-capacity magazines; and Increase access to mental health services.

We can take action without infringing on the 2nd Amendment rights of Americans.

We need to make it harder for criminals to obtain guns by strengthening the background check system.

We need to ensure that mental health professionals know their options for reporting threats of violence—even as we acknowledge that someone with a mental illness is far more likely to be the victim of a violent crime than the perpetrator.

We must also make safe gun storage a priority.

As the founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus, a senior Member of the Judiciary Committee, and the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security, I have listened far too often to the testimony of individuals who have survived tragedies or lost loved ones as a result of gun violence.

In the words of President Obama after the 2013 Sandy Hook Elementary shooting, "We're going to have to come together and take meaningful action to prevent more tragedies like this, regardless of the politics."

While it is certainly true that violent crime and homicide rates in this country have been declining in recent years, they are still far above those in other industrialized nations.

There exists a culture of violence in America; a subculture that with today's techno-

logically advanced weaponry is far more dangerous to public safety than ever before.

At no point in our nation's history has a single human been more capable of inflicting massive death and misery, and our society is producing more individuals who seek to employ such means to carry out their ill intentions.

Far too often, the tool of choice for would-be killers are military-style assault weapons with high-capacity magazines.

Every day, on average, 92 Americans are victims of gun violence, resulting in more than 33,000 deaths annually.

In raising this issue, we recognize and respect other cultures that exist in America; law-abiding citizens who are responsible in their ownership of firearms.

Many of these citizens are responsible with respect to the lethal capacity of their firearms, opting not to obtain assault weapons or to equip assault weapons with 30, 50, 75, or 100-round magazines.

Here is what I think the Congress can and must do to reduce gun violence without abridging the Second Amendment rights of law-abiding Americans.

Extend the waiting period to purchase or transfer dangerous weapons like the AR-15 pending completion of background checks to 7 days.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 4268, the "Gun Safety, Not Sorry Act."

Raise the minimum age to purchase or transfer dangerous weapons like the AR-15, high-capacity magazines, ammunitions, and silencers from 18 to 21 years of age.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 5088, the "No Mass Atrocities with Guns Act" ("No MAGA Act").

Reinstate and strengthen the federal ban on assault weapons.

I am an original co-sponsor of H.R. 3947, legislation that will reinstates the assault weapons ban that has been introduced by my colleague, Congressman DAVID CICILLINE of Rhode Island.

Reinstate a federal ban on bump stocks and high-capacity magazines holding more than ten rounds and allowing a shooter to inflict mass damage in a short period of time without reloading will save lives.

I will soon be introducing the "Stop Abuse, Violence, and Ending Lives Act of 2018," legislation to ban the sale and possession of bump stocks.

Require a background check for every gun sale, while respecting reasonable exceptions for cases such as gifts between family members and temporary loans for sporting purposes.

I am an original co-sponsor of H.R. 4240, the "Public Safety and Second Amendment Rights Protection Act of 2017," legislation that requires universal background checks and closes the gun show loophole that has been introduced by my colleague, Congressman MIKE THOMPSON of California.

It is estimated that four out of ten gun buyers do not go through a background check when purchasing a firearm because federal law only requires these checks when someone buys a gun from a federally licensed dealer.

That would be like allowing four out of ten people to choose if they would like to go through airport security.

This loophole allows felons, domestic abusers, and those prohibited because of mental

illness to easily bypass the criminal background check system and buy firearms at gun shows, through private sellers, over the internet or out of the trunks of cars.

Strengthen the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS) database to ensure it is up to date by requiring federal and state agencies to transfer important records to the database expeditiously since without the information, the reliability of a background check is questionable.

Pass legislation aimed specifically at cracking down on illegal gun trafficking and straw-purchasing which often puts guns in the hands of people who are prohibited from having them.

Straw-purchasing is when a prohibited buyer has someone with no criminal history walk into a gun store, pass a background check and purchase a gun with the purpose of giving it to the prohibited buyer.

Restore funding for public safety and law enforcement initiatives aimed at reducing gun violence.

Congress should fund law enforcement's efforts to reduce gun violence, while supporting federal research into causes of gun violence.

There is no reason the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) or the National Institute of Health (NIH) should be prohibited from researching the causes of gun violence.

That is why I have co-sponsored H.R. 1832, legislation that authorizes the appropriation of funds to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention for conducting or supporting research on firearms safety or gun violence prevention.

I have also co-sponsored H.R. 1478, the Gun Violence Research Act, which repeals the provision that in practice prohibits the Department of Health and Human Services from sponsoring research on gun violence.

And there is no reason for the restrictions federal law places on our law enforcement officers' ability to track and combat the spread of illegal guns.

Close the holes in our mental-health system and make sure that care is available for those who need it.

Congress must improve prevention, early intervention, and treatment of mental illness while working to eliminate the stigma associated with mental illness.

Access to mental health services should be improved, the shortage of mental health professionals should be addressed, and funding should be made available for those programs that have proven to be effective.

That is why I have co-sponsored H.R. 1982, the "Mental Health Access and Gun Violence Prevention Act," legislation that authorizes the Department of Justice, the Department of Health and Human Services, and the Social Security Administration to: (1) increase access to mental health care treatment and services, and (2) promote reporting of mental health information to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System.

Help local communities get unwanted and illegal guns out of the hands of those who should not have them.

Congress should help support and develop local programs that get unwanted guns off our streets, such as gun buy-back programs that proved so effective in Australia.

Finally, we must address our culture's glorification of violence seen and heard through our movie screens, television shows, music and video games.

Congress should fund scientific research on the relationship between popular culture and gun violence, while ensuring that parents have access to the information they need to make informed decisions about what their families watch, listen to, and play.

Here is what I think neither the President, the Congress, nor state and local governments should not do to reduce gun violence.

We should not arm teachers because they are not trained to handle weapons; this is not what they signed up for.

We must not surrender to NRA even though the gun lobby has long enjoyed tremendous influence over congressional Republicans and some Democrats.

Persons who live in fear of gun violence and mass shootings at schools, theaters, places of worship and work, and public spaces are not afraid of the NRA.

What they are afraid of is an AR-15 in the hands of a mentally unstable person.

Americans are a can-do people; we do not bemoan our problems and accept terrible outcomes.

We act to solve them.

We have made our cars and trucks and roads safer and reduced traffic fatalities.

We have virtually eradicated polio, small pox, and other debilitating and life-threatening diseases.

We respond immediately to natural disasters caused by hurricanes, earthquakes, tornados, floods, and man-made disasters caused by acts of terrorism.

When it comes to reducing or preventing gun violence, we must summon that same spirit of American resolve and know-how and get the job done.

We can do it; after all, we are Americans.

IN HONOR OF TASHA MCKELVEY  
FOR EARNING THE SPAATZ  
AWARD AND RANK OF CADET  
COLONEL IN THE CIVIL AIR PA-  
TROL

### HON. LIZ CHENEY

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Cadet Colonel Tasha McKelvey on earning the Spaatz award and the rank of cadet colonel in the Civil Air Patrol.

The Spaatz Award is the highest cadet honor in the Civil Air Patrol, given to less than one percent of all cadets. It acknowledges those who have demonstrated excellent leadership, character, fitness, and aerospace knowledge in the CAP Cadet Program. During her time in the Wyoming Wing of the CAP, Ms. McKelvey has done just that. Among her peers, she is a leader and source of inspiration for inspiration during trying times. Her determination and grit also resulted in her passing the Spaatz exam on her first try, a rarity across the nation.

Ms. McKelvey is the first female and the sixth cadet within the Wyoming Wing to receive the Spaatz Award. I thank her for her commitment to serve our great nation. Her bravery, sacrifice, and resolve are truly admirable. Ms. McKelvey has set an excellent example to her family, friends, and peers.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Cadet Colonel Tasha McKelvey on

receiving the Civil Air Patrol's highest cadet honor, the Spaatz Award and the rank of cadet colonel. She and her family deserve to be extremely proud.

COMMEMORATING THE 165TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF STEINWAY & SONS

### HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 165th anniversary of a Queens treasure, and one of the world's most iconic brands—Steinway & Sons.

Steinway makes world-renowned pianos, distinguished for their grandness and masterful craftsmanship. Each piano consists of more than 12,000 individual parts, and is said to have its own musical character as unique as the individual who plays it. These magnificent works of art, I am proud to say, are made in my district.

The Steinway legacy dates back to 1853, when Heinrich Engelhard Steinway founded Steinway & Sons in New York, a few years after emigrating from Germany. The high quality and meticulous craftsmanship of Steinway's pianos led to rapid growth for the business and the opening of a factory in Queens. Along with the factory, the Steinway family established a company town, Steinway Village, which spurred development in the neighborhoods that are today known as Astoria and Long Island City in Queens, and they spread their family values of investing in community. The philanthropic work of the Steinway family endures today throughout Queens and New York City.

That same factory, which first opened in the early 1870s, continues to operate today. The historic factory has been producing the world's finest pianos, virtually uninterrupted, for more than 145 years. Today, the factory employs over 300 union craftspeople, and many more people in management, administrative and sales roles in New York and throughout America. Steinway & Sons is an American success story, integral not only to the history of the borough of Queens and New York City, but also to the cultural story of the United States of America. It is a jewel that elevates American craftsmanship and innovation throughout the world.

As a lifelong musician and a son of Queens, it is with great pride that I celebrate the 165th anniversary of the world's number one piano, New York's very own Steinway & Sons.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN  
PALLONE

### HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure and pride that I rise today to congratulate my brother, Long Branch Councilman John Pallone, on his selection as the Amerigo Vespucci Society Man of the Year. I joined the Amerigo Vespucci Society on March 3, 2018 at their 125th dinner gala to celebrate John and recognize his outstanding work.

Born and raised in Long Branch, New Jersey, John is a lifelong resident of the city and an active member of the community. Currently serving as Council President, John was first elected to the city council in 1990 and then ran successfully again for a council seat in 2010 where he has served ever since. In this capacity, John has made the safety and well-being of Long Branch residents a priority and continues to focus on the redevelopment of the city, serving as a board member of the Urban Enterprise Zone.

In addition to his work as a public servant, John is the Vice President of the Long Branch Free Public Library Board of Trustees, a member of the Amerigo Vespucci Society and a parishioner of Holy Trinity Church.

John is the owner of Video Life Productions, a successful video production company that he established in 1982. He and his wife Svetlana are the proud parents of John Thomas.

Mr. Speaker, I sincerely hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating John Pallone on his recognition as Man of the Year by the Amerigo Vespucci Society. He is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

SPRINGFIELD CLINIC LEADS  
ILLINOIS IN OPENNOTES

**HON. RODNEY DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in order to recognize the Springfield Clinic, one of the first multi-specialty clinics in downstate Illinois. With more than 400 physicians and advanced practitioners practicing in 80 medical specialties and sub-specialties, Springfield Clinic now proudly stands as one of Illinois' largest private multi-specialty clinics and serves nearly one million patients throughout the central Illinois region.

In 2010, as part of their "leading the way" initiative, all Springfield Clinic offices began working with the OpenNotes movement. This put them among the nation's leaders in integration of electronic health record technology, which enables clinicians to share their visit notes with patients through fully transparent medical records. This secure system encourages patients to become active participants in their health care by providing a convenient way to access and manage personal medical records, communicate directly with medical professionals, schedule appointments and prescriptions, receive email and text reminders for preventive care and upcoming appointments, and pay bills online.

This dynamic state-of-the-art system provides Springfield Clinic the necessary tools to expand patient services. However, we cannot hope to automate and streamline provider workflow unless more patients sign up for and participate in these portals. I'm proud to represent Springfield Clinic, which is on the forefront of this innovative approach to the doctor-patient relationship. Nineteen million patients are already taking advantage of their new ability to access medical information online through OpenNotes, and my hope is that this number only continues to grow both in my district and across the country. More and more medical professionals and citizens should take

advantage of this patient-centered program so we can focus on what matters most—patient care.

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING  
CASEY JESZENKA

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commend Casey Jeszenka for his service to the people of Guam. Casey made Guam his home and joined the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center in 2000. He has served as the director of the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network for the last 16 years and will retire on March 2, 2018. Throughout his tenure, Casey has been an invaluable advocate and resource for many in our community in Guam to develop successful businesses and contribute to the local economy. I have worked closely with Casey throughout my time in Congress, and he has been a trusted advisor in the development of small businesses on Guam.

As the Network Director, Casey has been responsible for the overall management and implementation of the service functions associated with the University of Guam Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network (PISBDCN). His leadership at PISBDCN was instrumental to assisting clients and providing information, resources, education, technical support, and professional counseling and consultant services to local entrepreneurs and business owners. Casey worked closely with both the public and private sectors and a system of island sub-centers, overseeing their organization, program implementation, management and evaluation processes in order to further develop and enhance a comprehensive network on Guam and throughout Micronesia. Casey nurtured partnerships between PISBDCN, and the Guam Small Business Administration (SBA), the Guam Economic Development Authority (GEDA), and the University of Guam College of Agriculture's Extension Programs to make the programs of the Pacific Islands Small Business Development successful.

Prior to serving as Network Director, Casey served as Special Projects Director and Counselor from 2000 to 2002 for the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center. Casey was responsible for planning, directing and organizing the establishment and operations of new and established Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Subcenter and Satellite programs throughout the network. He provided training to new SBDC Subcenter and Satellite personnel in accordance with the PISBDCN Standard Operating Procedures. Casey, additionally directed and supervised the SBDC Subcenter and Satellite counseling services and training programs, and trained SBDC personnel to handle these duties. He assisted in the development and tracking of goals in line with the PISBDCN mission, strategic plan and directives. also provided a comprehensive range of small business based assistance to established and prospective small business owners and other qualified clients including one-to-one client counseling. Casey imple-

mented SBDC orientation and training sessions and developed and implemented new workshops.

In addition to his roles with the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center, Casey has also been actively involved as a member of the Pacific Asia Travel Association Micronesia Chapter's Executive Committee, a member of the Pacific Asia Travel Association Micronesia Chapter's Education Committee, as secretary of the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center Network's Advisory Board, and as a member of the Guam Chamber of Commerce Small Business Committee.

Casey has worked diligently throughout his 18 years of service on Guam. He will be missed as a valued member of the Pacific Islands Small Business Development Center, but through his leadership and guidance, he has positioned the PISBDCN to continue its exceptional service to the people of Guam. I extend my sincere congratulations to Casey, and I join the people of Guam in commending him for his service and thanking him for his many contributions to our island community.

RECOGNIZING THE CAPITOL VISITOR CENTER AND STAFF FOR SURPASSING 20 MILLION VISITORS TO THE CVC

**HON. GREGG HARPER**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the staff of the U.S. Capitol Visitor Center (CVC) and recognize the CVC for surpassing its twenty-millionth visitor.

On December 2, 2008, the CVC opened to the public for the first time. By May of the following year, the CVC welcomed its one millionth visitor. During this past December, after just nine years in operation, the CVC welcomed its 20 millionth visitor.

Since its opening, the CVC has been guided by four primary goals to better serve the U.S. Congress: Security, Visitor Education, Visitor Comfort, and Functional Improvements to the U.S. Capitol.

Today, which traditionally marks the beginning of the Spring tourist season, the CVC provides a secure public environment to welcome and assist a large number of visitors. The CVC creates and presents informative programs on the workings and history of the Congress, the legislative process, and the art and architecture of the Capitol to millions of visitors each year, all while providing the amenities, comfort, convenience, and accessibility for visitors appropriate to one of the nation's most visited tourist destinations.

The CVC team welcomed 2.4 million visitors in 2017, the highest single-year total since the facility opened. Even more remarkable is that almost half of those visitors came during the Spring season between the months of March and June. As we are about to begin a new Spring tourist season, I am reminded of just how important the CVC is as we welcome our constituents to Washington, D.C.

Behind the scenes, the CVC provides modern, efficient facilities for the operational functions of the Capitol, as well as provides important work space for both the House and Senate, and improves connectivity between the Capitol and the Library of Congress.

While the CVC does provide world-class tours for over two million visitors each year, its service to Congress doesn't stop there. The CVC team has also supported more than 7,000 congressional events in CVC meeting spaces as well as welcoming and assisting guests at Congressional Gold Medal Ceremonies, commemoration ceremonies, annual Memorial Day and Capitol Fourth Concerts, and presidential inaugurations, among many other events.

Also, in support of Congress, the CVC team has developed training programs for congressional staff to learn about the history of the Capitol and Congress and the artwork that represents their story. Critical safety and emergency evacuation procedures are key elements of this program. To date, more than 31,000 interns and other staff have participated in the training program, enhancing their ability to deliver high-quality tours to constituents.

The majority of visitors to the CVC are our constituents, and based on independent surveys, 93 percent of visitors to the Capitol said their expectations were met or exceeded and that they were likely to recommend taking a Capitol Tour to their friends. These numbers reflect the passion and knowledge the Visitor Center's team brings to the Capitol each day, as well as their commitment to inform, involve, and inspire every visitor.

The CVC will celebrate its 10th anniversary on December 2, 2018. As the CVC embarks on its second decade serving as the front door to the Capitol and the Congress, I wish to recognize the hard-working CVC staff that remain committed to providing world-class services to our visitors, our constituents, and those of us who work in the Capitol each day.

**TERRY VAUGHN, A HURRICANE HARVEY HERO**

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute another of our Harvey Heroes. I want to recognize Terry Vaughn, district manager of pharmacy and retail operations for 14 Walgreens stores in the Lake Houston area where I live. As Hurricane Harvey hovered over the Houston area dropping up to 50 inches of rain in some parts, Terry and his Walgreens partners were watching and waiting like most Houstonians. In the wake of the storm, all but one of Terry's stores closed due to damage or impassable roads. The only store the Walgreens team could get to was the location on West Lake Houston Parkway and FM 1960—in my neighborhood of Atascocita.

Terry lives one mile from the store. As the San Jacinto River rose and Lake Houston came out of its banks, a fellow team member's house was flooding so quickly she and her family of six had nowhere to turn. They walked through water to the Atascocita Walgreens where Terry and other volunteers met them with kayaks and transported them to Terry's home where Mitzi, his bride of 19 years, and their two boys provided the food and shelter the family so badly needed.

The forecasts said this storm would be here for days. Since he could get to the store, Terry

decided to open up the Atascocita location. Terry, three other managers, and Walgreens team members who couldn't make it to their own stores but still wanted to help, kept our Atascocita location's doors open through shortages of power and shortages of patience. The one thing they didn't have a shortage of was dedication to their community. Terry would wake up each morning, check the water level of Lake Houston to make sure it wasn't coming closer into his own home, then report for service.

Mr. Speaker, during Harvey, Terry's store was the only continually operating Walgreens this side of the Gulf of Mexico. He partnered with the City of Humble to deliver life-saving medications to evacuees at the city's emergency shelter at the Humble Civic Center. He immunized 40 local first responders to protect them from the flood borne diseases of tetanus and Hepatitis A; then took his immunizations on the road setting up first responder clinics at fire and police stations. Terry and his team immunized more than 1,000 people in two days.

Virtually all Lake Houston-area grocery stores were closed due to the flooding. The stores were filled with water. Distribution trucks could not get to the area. As the storm damage continued, Terry led a team of Walgreens managers who with their own trucks (Texas trucks with plenty of lift to get through those waters, Mr. Speaker) went to 13 other Walgreens and gathered household supplies, diapers, baby formula, and medical supplies to distribute at the operational Atascocita location.

For days Terry kept answering the calls and kept serving. One of those calls was from United Airlines who had personnel and displaced passengers stuck at George Bush Intercontinental Airport. Terry and his Walgreens team fulfilled an order of more than \$30,000 in supplies and delivered it straight to the tarmac. Was there a bright spot in all this for Terry? He told me, "Seeing people come together and my team working non-stop without breaks—with their own families going through the worst times—we showed up to help our community and put our own issues aside."

Mr. Speaker, those who know Terry know he has a servant's heart. He is active with the Lake Houston Chamber of Commerce, Boy Scouts, and Humble Area Assistance Ministries. Terry started with Walgreens as a cashier more than 21 years ago. He has performed every job in the store and worked his way up to be a district manager. On August 18 as Hurricane Harvey ravaged and flooded our area, he was called upon to once again do every job. And he did. And he makes us proud to be Texans.

**IN MEMORY OF WALTER J. BUCKERT, JR.**

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, sadly, Walter J. Buckert, Jr., a proven champion for military service-members and their devoted families, passed away last week. He will always be cherished for championing benefits for our military and providing extraor-

dinary jobs for military family members. The Office of the Second Congressional District of South Carolina was fortunate to have as staff members two of his talented granddaughters, Elizabeth Grayson and Katherine Grayson, who he influenced for extraordinary service on behalf of constituents. I include in the RECORD the following thoughtful obituary:

Walter J. Buckert, Jr., age 85, passed away peacefully on Sunday, February 25th at Inova Fairfax Hospital in Virginia.

Walter was born on February 24th, 1933, in Rochester NY, to Walt and Marge Buckert. In 1955, Walter graduated from Georgetown University with a BA in Business. He joined the General Electric Company's Corporate Financial Program where he was assigned to the Federal Government Department of Electronics Division. From there, he was promoted to General Electric's Lighting Business Group, its highest division by revenue at that time. He took on increasing roles of responsibility with each transfer accepting positions in New York, Cleveland and Richmond. His final assignment from General Electric, before his retirement in 1995, was as Manager of U.S. Government Sales and Marketing for all lighting products for government use and resale to military personnel. In that role, Walter grew government sales and created a division highly valued to this day. After 47 years with General Electric, Walter joined Webco General Partnership in 1996 as Director of Government and Industry Affairs. A strong advocate for military personnel and their families, he was awarded the American Logistics Association Lifetime Achievement Award, The Department of the Army Outstanding Civil Service medal for his service, and The Exchange.

Walter is survived by his beautiful wife of 55 years, Mary Sutton Buckert and loving daughter, Laurie Grayson; son-in-law, Bill Grayson; and granddaughters Katherine, Elizabeth, and Caroline Grayson who fondly referred to their grandfather by his childhood nickname, Buddy. He is also survived by his older sister, Joanne McDermott, and too many nieces and nephews on both sides of the family to count but to whom he held much love and respect.

Walter will be remembered for his loyalty, hard work, and dedication to others. He was a true blooded, American patriot who never took his freedom for granted. He was a humble, stoic man, with strong convictions and beliefs, but underneath it all was a childlike spirit. Walter was a loving and devoted husband, father, grandfather, uncle, brother and friend, he will forever be missed.

**IN HONOR OF CHIC AND BILLIE RAWLINGS' 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY**

**HON. LIZ CHENEY**

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Ms. CHENEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to Chic and Billie Rawlings on the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

This significant benchmark is a symbol of their commitment to each other and to their family. I am happy to join their friends and family in extending my best to them on this special occasion.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations to Chic and Billie on the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary.

I wish them the best today and for many more blessed years to come.

ON THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
THE SUMGAI T POGROMS

**HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the pogrom against the Armenian residents of the town of Sumgait, Azerbaijan. On February 27, 1988, and for three days following, Azerbaijani mobs assaulted and killed Armenians. The violence left hundreds of Armenian civilians dead and injured, women and girls were raped, and some victims were burned alive. Thousands were forced to flee their homes, leaving behind their belonging.

The pogroms came about as the result of years of vicious, racist anti-Armenian propaganda by Azerbaijani authorities, dehumanizing Armenians. Azerbaijan authorities made little effort to punish those responsible, instead attempting to cover up the atrocities in Sumgait to this day, and denying the government role in instigating the killings. Indeed, even today, racist propaganda against Armenia and Armenians is prevalent in Azerbaijan.

The assault on ethnic Armenian civilians in Sumgait helped touch off what would become a direct conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan which took thousands of lives and displaced millions more. The anniversary of Sumgait is a reminder of the consequences when aggression and hatred grow unchecked.

Mr. Speaker, this April we will mark the 103rd anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, an event the Turkish government, Azerbaijan's closest ally, goes to great lengths to deny. We must not let such crimes against humanity go unrecognized, whether they occurred yesterday or 30 years ago or 100 years ago. Today, let us pause to remember the victims of the atrocities of the Sumgait pogroms. Mr. Speaker, it is our moral obligation to condemn crimes of hatred and to remember the victims, in hope that history will not be repeated.

IN RECOGNITION OF RODNEY T.  
MITCHELL

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rodney Mitchell, associate dean of students at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas. He tragically passed away February 26, following almost 30 years of affiliation to UNT first as a student and then as a cherished staff member.

Rodney was a UNT alumnus who earned his BA in Applied Arts and Sciences in 1996 and his MPA in 1999. A proud member of the Mean Green family, he was a life member of the UNT Alumni Association, a Mean Green football season ticket holder, and supporter of various student programs with his gifts to the university. The Residence Hall Association created the "Rodney T. Mitchell Advocate of

the Year" award in honor of his service and leadership as the College Inn Hall Director and Residence Hall Association President.

After working for the City of Denton as the Assistant to the City Manager, he returned to UNT as a member of staff in 2001. He served as assistant director for academic development—Upward Bound program and as director of TRIO Upward Bound and student support services before becoming associate dean of students in 2013.

Throughout his time at UNT, it was clear that Rodney had an enormous heart for students. He assisted students through the SOS (Seeking Options and Solutions) Program, opened and grew the UNT Food Pantry, and oversaw various intervention programs to support student success. He made a significant impact as a part of the University and community he loved, touching thousands of lives as a generous, caring servant.

It was at UNT that Rodney met his wife Melanie. Together they served for many years at the Denton Church of Christ at Welch Street on the UNT campus and at the Singing Oaks Church of Christ.

Rodney was a kind and generous man, and the world is a lesser place with his departure. His servant heart is a shining example as we seek to treat others as we want to be treated. He is survived by Melanie, a current UNT employee, and his 13-year-old son, Hayden.

On behalf of the 26th Congressional District, I wish to extend condolences to Melanie, Hayden, Rodney's mother Joyce Mitchell, his father Marvel Mitchell, his brother Zachary Mackey and many other family members, as well as the entire UNT and Denton communities. Rodney will be remembered and loved forever by his family and a multitude of friends. I am grateful for the legacy he has left for the UNT and our North Texas community.

IN HONOR OF DAVID AND LINDALU  
BARBER'S 50TH WEDDING ANNI-  
VERSARY

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th wedding anniversary of David and Lindalu Barber on February 3, 2018.

David Barber and Lindalu Thompson were married on February 3, 1968 at Wilson Chapel United Methodist Church in Birmingham, Alabama. They are both life-long residents of Jefferson County.

David spent his professional career as a prosecutor, serving Jefferson County as a Deputy District Attorney, and as District Attorney, for a total of 35 years. He concurrently served in the United States Army Reserve for a period of 37 years, retiring in 2005 as a Colonel.

Lindalu's chief occupation was that of mother and homemaker to their three children: Joel Barber (Mindy), Julie Barber Hanner and Jenny Lou Barber Grindle (Chris). They are grandparents to Drew Grindle, Catherine Grindle, John Lewis Barber, Lawson Barber, Fischer Barber, Mary Evelyn Grindle and David Grindle.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 50th wedding anniversary of David and Lindalu Barber.

IN HONOR OF THE 50TH WEDDING  
ANNIVERSARY OF RONNIE AND  
RHONDA BROOKS

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 5, 2018*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 50th wedding anniversary of Ronnie and Rhonda Brooks on August 10, 2018.

Ronnie and Rhonda met on June 9, 1968 and were married that same year.

Ronnie graduated from MacArthur Technical College and joined the Navy. He was assigned to a brand new Naval Boot Camp Facility in Orlando, Florida.

Rhonda Fore Brooks graduated in May of 1968 from Kinston High School in Kinston, Alabama. She had just moved back from Tacoma, Washington, where her father was stationed in the Air Force.

Their first child, Scotty Zane, was born in the Great Lakes Naval Training Center on Mother's Day, May 11, 1969. Their second child, Sandra Elaine, was born on February 1, 1972, in Charleston, South Carolina, where Ronnie was stationed on the USS Howard W. Gilmore AS-16.

Ronnie graduated from Troy State University in 1977 and the University of Alabama in 1982. He taught and was principal at Coosa Christian Elementary School in Gadsden, Alabama. Rhonda went to MacArthur Technical School.

In 1984, they moved to Piedmont, Alabama. Ronnie was Human Resources Manager for SCT Yarns, Inc. and Rhonda went to Jacksonville State University. They again moved to Opp, in 1991 and Ronnie became Personnel and Safety Manager with Opp & Micolas Mills and Rhonda owned the Opp Christian Bookstore for the next 10 years before moving to Phenix City, Alabama, as part of Ronnie's job promotion.

Their children are married now: Scotty married Tammy Bryan and Sandie married James Manscill, Jr. They have four grandchildren: Justin Brooks (married to Anna Frederick), Hannah Brooks, Erika Manscill and Danielle Manscill.

Being retired now, Ronnie and Rhonda are still active in the community, active members of Epworth United Methodist Church and members of the International Gideon's Association in the Russell County Camp. They both give the success of their marriage and family to the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing the 50th wedding anniversary of Ronnie and Rhonda Brooks.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and

any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 6, 2018 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 7

Time to be announced

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider the nominations of John F. Ring, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, Frank T. Brogan, of Pennsylvania, to be Assistant Secretary for Elementary and Secondary Education, and Mark Schneider, of the District of Columbia, to be Director of the Institute of Education Science, both of the Department of Education, Marco M. Rajkovich, Jr., of Kentucky, to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, and other pending nominations.

TBA

9:30 a.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold hearings to examine security clearance reform.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To continue a business meeting to consider H.R. 2825, to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to make certain improvements in the laws administered by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of John B. Nalbandian, of Kentucky, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Kari A. Dooley, to be United States District Judge for the District of Connecticut, Dominic W. Lanza, to be United States District Judge for the District of Arizona, Jill Aiko Otake, to be United States District Judge for the District of Hawaii, and Joseph H. Hunt, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Department of Justice.

SD-226

Committee on Veterans' Affairs

To hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

SD-G50

10:30 a.m.

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine Department of Defense audit and business operations reform at the Pentagon.

SD-608

1 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine stopping senior scams.

SD-562

2 p.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the Economic Report of the President.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph E. Macmanus, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia, Marie Royce, of California, to be an Assistant Secretary (Educational and Cultural Affairs), Robin S. Bernstein, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, and Edward Charles Prado, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Argentine Republic, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on Oversight, Agency Action, Federal Rights and Federal Courts

To hold hearings to examine small business bankruptcy, focusing on assessing the system.

SD-226

MARCH 8

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine United States European Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider S. 79, to provide for the establishment of a pilot program to identify security vulnerabilities of certain entities in the energy sector, S. 186, to amend the Federal Power Act to provide that any inaction by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission that allows a rate change to go into effect shall be treated as an order by the Commission for purposes of rehearing and court review, S. 1059, to extend the authorization of the Uranium Mill Tailings Radiation Control Act of 1978 relating to the disposal site in Mesa County, Colorado, S. 1160, to include Livingston County, the city of Jonesboro in Union County, and the city of Freeport in Stephenson County, Illinois, to the Lincoln National Heritage Area, S. 1181, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture to expedite access to certain Federal land under the administrative jurisdiction of each Secretary for good Samaritan search-and-recovery missions, S. 1260 and H.R. 2615, bills to authorize the exchange of certain land located in Gulf Islands National Seashore, Jackson County, Mississippi, between the National Park Service and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, S. 1335 and H.R. 2888, bills to establish the Ste. Genevieve National Historic Site in the State of Missouri, S. 1336, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to reauthorize hydroelectric production incentives and hydroelectric efficiency improvement incentives, S. 1337, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to make certain strategic energy infrastructure projects eligible for certain loan guarantees, S. 1446 and H.R. 1135, bills to reauthorize the Historically Black Colleges and Universities Historic Preservation program, S. 1457, to amend the Energy

Policy Act of 2005 to direct the Secretary of Energy to carry out demonstration projects relating to advanced nuclear reactor technologies to support domestic energy needs, S. 1563, to authorize the Office of Fossil Energy to develop advanced separation technologies for the extraction and recovery of rare earth elements and minerals from coal and coal byproducts, S. 1602, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating certain land as the Finger Lakes National Heritage Area, S. 1692, to authorize the National Emergency Medical Services Memorial Foundation to establish a commemorative work in the District of Columbia and its environs, S. 1799, to amend the Energy Policy Act of 2005 to facilitate the commercialization of energy and related technologies developed at Department of Energy facilities with promising commercial potential, S. 1860 and H.R. 1109, bills to amend section 203 of the Federal Power Act, S. 1981, to amend the Natural Gas Act to expedite approval of exports of small volumes of natural gas, S. 2213 and H.R. 4300, bills to authorize Pacific Historic Parks to establish a commemorative display to honor members of the United States Armed Forces who served in the Pacific Theater of World War II, S. 2325, to incentivize the hiring of United States workers in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, H.R. 589, to establish Department of Energy policy for science and energy research and development programs, and reform National Laboratory management and technology transfer programs, H.R. 648, to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to amend the Definite Plan Report for the Seedskaadee Project to enable the use of the active capacity of the Fontenelle Reservoir, H.R. 1397, to authorize, direct, facilitate, and expedite the transfer of administrative jurisdiction of certain Federal land, H.R. 1404, to provide for the conveyance of certain land inholdings owned by the United States to the Tucson Unified School District and to the Pascua Yaqui Tribe of Arizona, and H.R. 1500, to redesignate the small triangular property located in Washington, DC, and designated by the National Park Service as reservation 302 as "Robert Emmet Park".

SD-366

Committee on Environment and Public Works

Subcommittee on Superfund, Waste Management, and Regulatory Oversight

To hold hearings to examine S. 2421, to amend the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980 to provide an exemption from certain notice requirements and penalties for releases of hazardous substances from animal waste at farms.

SD-406

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine the opioid crisis, focusing on leadership and innovation in the states.

SD-430

2 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To receive a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Personnel  
To hold hearings to examine domestic violence and child abuse in the military.  
SD-G50

MARCH 14

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services  
Subcommittee on Strategic Forces  
To hold hearings to examine Department of Energy atomic energy defense activities and programs in review of the

Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2019 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

Committee on Indian Affairs  
To hold an oversight hearing to examine opioids in Indian country.

SD-628