

Scully ('49), the voice of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Baseball Hall of Fame broadcaster, and Radio Hall of Famer. The significant contributions these individuals have made to the field of journalism are a testament to the true spirit of excellence instilled in them at The Fordham Ram.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that my distinguished colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring the Fordham Ram for its 100 years of remarkable dedication to fair journalism and its longstanding commitment to improving The Bronx.

IN RECOGNITION OF JUDGE DAVID
GARCIA

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable David Garcia, Judge of Denton County Criminal Court No. 3, for his service to Denton County and to the many combat veterans he has impacted through his work with the Denton County Veterans Treatment Court Program (VTCP).

Judge Garcia was appointed to the Denton County Criminal Court No. 3 on September 1, 1997 and will conclude his tenure at the end of December after 21 years of service to our community. Since 2012, he has presided over the Veterans Court. After his appointment to the Court, Judge Garcia not only completed a backlog of cases, but he also built a new model for veterans courts that prioritizes improving the quality of mental health care available to justice-involved veterans. Under his guidance, the veterans court provided evaluation and treatment for certain veterans' combat-related mental illnesses. In his role, Judge Garcia shifted the focus in sentencing from the pursuit of judicial compliance and reduced recidivism toward a regimen that allows combat veterans suffering from the impact of PTSD and MST to graduate from the VTCP program and return to their families and communities with charges dismissed.

As a Member of Congress, one of my greatest privileges is to support veterans in North Texas and around the country. During his two decades of service, Judge Garcia has advocated for broader veteran health care access by supporting the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014 and the VA MISSION Act of 2018, legislation that improves care for those who have sacrificed and served for our country. On behalf of the 26th District of Texas, I extend my sincere appreciation to Judge Garcia for the contributions he has made to the Denton County community and to our region's veterans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 19, 2018, I was unable to be in Washington and missed roll call votes No. 436 "Concurring in the Senate

Amendment to H.R. 1222—Congenital Heart Futures Reauthorization Act of.", No. 437 "Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 6615—Traumatic Brain Injury Program Reauthorization Act of 2018.", No. 438 "To amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize the expansion of activities related to Alzheimer's disease, cognitive decline, and brain health under the Alzheimer's Disease and Healthy Aging Program, and for other purposes.", No. 439 "To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants to improve health care in rural areas.", No. 440 "To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to establish a security vulnerability disclosure policy, to establish a bug bounty program for the Department of Homeland Security, to amend title 41, United States Code, to provide for Federal acquisition supply chain security, and for other purposes.", No. 441 "To amend the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to provide for an integrated planning process, to promote green infrastructure, and for other purposes.", No. 442 "Concurring in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 6227—National Quantum Initiative Act.", No. 443 "To direct the Secretary of the Interior to convey certain facilities, easements, and rights-of-way to the Kennewick Irrigation District, and for other purposes.", No. 444 "To expand recreational fishing opportunities through enhanced marine fishery conservation and management, and for other purposes.", and No. 445 "To reauthorize the Museum and Library Services Act." Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on all ten bills.

LIBERALISM EXPLAINED

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I now have a unified theory that I believe explains the ideology of liberals.

It covers their views of virtually any subject—higher taxes, open borders, more regulations, and the traducing of traditional values.

The reason liberals want more government control is so they can control our daily lives. The reason liberals want to control our daily lives is because they think they are smarter than the American people. The reason they think they are smarter than the American people is . . . well, there is no good reason.

I'm sure many liberals are well-meaning. They want what they feel is best for the country. But that's the problem. They want to impose their views on the American people.

Conservatives want to conserve values and protect freedoms—free speech, freedom of religion, and freedom from excessive government control. That, I believe is what Americans want too.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on Roll Call vote 437. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 437.

RECOGNIZING THE VALDOSTA
STATE FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. AUSTIN SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on December 15, 2018, the Valdosta State University Blazers football team secured their fourth NCAA Division II Football National Championship in a 49–47 thriller over Ferris State University in McKinney, Texas. The Blazers 2018 season was anything but ordinary, finishing 14–0 and scoring 50+ points in eight out of 14 games this season.

Valdosta, Georgia in Georgia's Eighth District is affectionately known as "Title Town," home to football powerhouses in the state and across the nation at both the high school and collegiate levels.

I want to congratulate the Blazers, Coach Kerwin Bell, Valdosta State President Richard Carvajal, and the entire football and athletics staff at Valdosta State for this accomplishment. Georgia is very proud of you, and I hope you will take time to celebrate another title in Titledown.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF MR.
CURTIS RAY GOODE

HON. JAMES COMER

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Mr. Curtis Ray Goode of Marion County in the 1st District of Kentucky who passed away on December 17, 2018. Born November 8, 1946, Mr. Goode valiantly served in the Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. After serving his country, he was not only a talented diesel mechanic with UPS in Louisville but steadfastly worked for the betterment of his fellow veterans as a devoted member of the Marion County Veterans Honor Guard, the Lebanon VFW, and the American Legion.

Mr. Goode's service in the United States Marine Corps is evidence of his dedication to safeguarding our nation's freedoms and values and is worthy of our deepest respect and admiration. His patriotic spirit and dedication to his country were rivaled only by his fervent commitment to his family and his enthusiasm for serving others.

I join with his family and loved ones—including his wife of 51 years, Christine Goode, his children, and his extended family—in celebrating his lifetime of accomplishments and recognizing his noble service to our nation. His outstanding legacy of service and compassion lives on in each member of his family and in all those who knew him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK T. McHENRY

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 20, 2018

Mr. McHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and could not make it to votes.