

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN TRIBUTE TO HIS EXCELLENCY  
NELSON MANDELA

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of former South African President and anti-apartheid leader Nelson Mandela who passed away on December 5, 2013 at his home in Johannesburg, South Africa.

Today I count myself as one of millions who was inspired by Nelson Mandela's courage and compassion. Mandela was the prisoner who became President. But he was also the statesman who sacrificed his own freedom for the freedom of others and never ceased to be a servant.

Nelson Mandela, affectionately known by his Xhosa clan name "Madiba," was also known as "Tata," the father of a nation. Indeed he was also a father to the world who taught us the fortitude of spirit that comes from forgiveness; a revolutionary who embodied the ministry of reconciliation among his people. In being a faithful brother to the broken and defeated, he became a beacon of light in the midst of darkness.

Nelson Mandela also displayed rare leadership by changing the world through the hearts of men. He fought for human rights through his conviction and faith in the capacity of the human heart to do the right thing. The faith he had—that human beings, communities, and countries can change for the better—leads us forward today as we press towards unity in our families, equality in our communities, and peace among nations.

My heart is also with the people of South Africa at this time and I especially send my deepest sympathy to Mandela's family and his wife, Graca Machel. Thank you for sharing him with all of us.

In a time when there is so much distrust in government throughout the world, we can honor a politician and a peacemaker who taught us the virtue of patience and perseverance. Though we have lost him in this world, we gain the responsibility of carrying on the virtues he displayed. I believe "Madiba" is looking upon us now and reminding us as he once said, "We must use time wisely and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right."

May God Bless the memory of Nelson Mandela, who will always be a hero to me.

HONORING FRANCES SPURLIN FOR  
HER SERVICE TO ALABAMA'S  
SECOND CONGRESSIONAL DIS-  
TRICT

**HON. MARTHA ROBY**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I have the distinct privilege of recognizing a valued member of my staff, Frances Spurlin, who will retire on December 31, 2013, after 27 years of faithful and exemplary service to the United States House of Representatives and Alabama's Second Congressional District.

For almost three decades, Frances has worked as a constituent services representative in Southeast Alabama. She began her Congressional career in 1985 when Representative Bill Dickinson opened a district office in Opp, Alabama. Frances continued her service when Representative Terry Everett assumed office in 1993—and I was honored to have her join my staff when I was sworn into office in 2011.

From veterans to small business owners and from farmers to local and state elected officials, residents of the Second District have benefited from Frances' effective work and compassionate manner. With many cases being time sensitive, Frances never hesitated to go above and beyond to help our constituents cut through bureaucracy and work toward an equitable solution. No matter how big or small, Frances treated each case with diligence, thoughtfulness, and care.

Frances has also served as a mentor to other Congressional staff through the years, instilling her commitment to casework in those she has trained. She has set the example of how to represent a Congressional office with grace, character and ability. I can confidently say that the constituents of Alabama's Second District have been well served by the work of Frances Spurlin.

As she enters retirement, I join my staff and so many others in Southeast Alabama in thanking Frances for her 27 years of public service. To Frances, her husband Gordon, and their family, I wish them health and happiness in the years ahead.

IN TRIBUTE TO JOHN C. WHITE

**HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. John C. White for his dedicated service as the Chairman of the Board of the Universal Technical Institute, Inc. We are in sincere gratitude for the vision, guidance, and leadership you have provided to UTI for your thirty seven years of service.

RECOGNIZING MISS EMMA STROM  
AS THE FLORIDA CLASS 2A  
STATE CHAMPION IN THE 100-  
YARD BACKSTROKE

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize and congratulate Miss Emma Strom on her extraordinary achievement in high school swimming. Emma, a junior at Choctawhatchee High School in Fort Walton Beach, Florida, swam her career-best time of 55.83 to win the Florida title Class 2A state championship in the 100-yard backstroke.

From a young age, Emma displayed a great talent for swimming and was blessed with having the support of her family to share her passion for aquatics. Her parents as well as her siblings, Amelia, Alex, and Olivia, are all involved in the swimming community. Mr. Strom has coached swimming for years, while Mrs. Strom is a certified swim meet official. Emma's sister, Amelia, who is also a student at Choctawhatchee High School, participated in the state meet and was able to share in Emma's moment of victory.

In addition to her commitment and passion for swimming, Emma possesses an excellent academic record and is highly involved both at Choctawhatchee High, as well as, in the greater community. As a participant in the Advanced Placement Program, Emma maintains a 4.46 weighted GPA and is active in several academic and community service clubs in addition to her rigorous swim training schedule. Her passion for swimming is also exemplified by her involvement in the community team, Coast Aquatics, as well as, her time coaching young swimmers at Meigs Middle School in Shalimar, Florida. Emma also serves her parish, St. Mary's Catholic Church in Fort Walton Beach, as an alter server.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Miss Emma Strom on her swimming state championship. Her hard work and dedication shines through in everything she does. My wife Vicki and I wish her all the best for continued success both athletically and academically.

HONORING VOLUNTEERS FROM  
OREGON VETERANS TREATMENT  
COURTS

**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleague Rep. KURT SCHRADER and myself, I rise today to convey our deepest appreciation to the team members of both the Klamath County and the Marion County Veterans Treatment Courts on visiting the nation's capital this week. These Oregonians are here to

● 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.

attend the inaugural “Vet Con,” or Veterans Treatment Court Conference, the first ever gathering of veterans court team members from across the nation. The conference is being put on by Justice for Vets, a professional service division of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, with the goal of providing in-depth training to the nearly 200 vet courts across the nation.

Key to the operation of a veterans treatment court is the collaborative partnership of the judicial system, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the county Veterans Service Office, veterans service organizations, community agencies and volunteers. These community members partner in a treatment team which convenes before each court session to review cases and develop problem solving recommendations. This coordinated response addresses an array of issues from community protection and restitution to offender rehabilitation. Weekly court appearances afford close judicial supervision of the veteran defendant’s progress. The court hands out encouragement and sanctions as warranted.

Mr. Speaker, it may seem a bit lengthy, but we think it is important that we recognize each of the team members in order to honor the hard work of holding veterans accountable while guiding their progress in a treatment court setting.

We are very proud of the work done for veterans in the Marion County Circuit Court. Back in 2010, the Honorable Joseph V. Ochoa perceived that many of the veterans in the criminal justice system had a certain nexus between their crime and their military service. Judge Ochoa sought to create a protocol to handle these veteran criminal defendants with the goal of obtaining treatment services for these veterans through the Veterans Administration.

Judge Joseph Ochoa decided to retire after 16 years on the Marion County Circuit Court and in the later months of 2011 handed over the dream of building a veterans’ treatment court to the Honorable Vance D. Day. Judge Ochoa has remained active in the building the Marion County Veterans Treatment Court and has set aside his title as a judge and committed to serve as one of the defense attorneys in the treatment court. Joe Ochoa is a member of the team participating in the in-depth training this week at the Vet Con.

I have known Judge Vance Day since my first year in the Oregon House of Representatives. Vance and I have worked on numerous projects together for the betterment of Oregonians over the years. Judge Day is a collaborative leader who is well known in his work with World War II veterans. Leading an exceptional team of professionals, Judge Day launched the Marion County Veterans Treatment Court in October of 2012. Just recently, Judge Day’s Vet Court team competed for and was awarded a three year federal grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance. As a result of this funding, and the broad base of community support for the vet court, Judge Day believes that his team can grow the program to service sixty veterans at any given time. Judge Day is a principled and visionary leader—a true Oregon pioneer in every sense of the word.

We also want to recognize The Honorable Tracy Prall. Judge Prall has served on the Marion County Circuit Court since 2003. Judge Prall grew up in Keizer, Oregon and

hails from a family of veterans. Her father and uncle served in the Vietnam War, and her maternal grandfather lost his right arm over North Africa in the early days of World War II while serving as a navigator on a B-17 Flying Fortress. Judge Prall’s family service in the military extends back to the Revolution through her ancestor Captain Samuel Newell, a Virginia patriot. Judge Prall is part of the team being trained this week and serves as the judicial officer who steps in for Judge Day when he is unable to preside over the Marion County Veterans Treatment Court.

E’lan Lambert is the Court Coordinator for the Marion County Veterans Treatment Court. We have been told that E’lan is a navy veteran who served in the Vietnam era and has been involved in veteran’s issues for years, even starting a non-profit organization, Partnership for Veterans at Risk, some years ago.

The Mentor Coordinator for the Marion County Veterans Treatment Court is Steve Koyen. Also a navy veteran of the Vietnam era, we understand that Mr. Koyen has a wealth of knowledge and experience he brings to this volunteer position. Mr. Koyen is nearly done with his Mentor Bootcamp at the Vet Con, and as I said before, the mentor aspect of these courts is such an important part of their success. Mr. Koyen should be given a “shout out” for the fine volunteer work he is doing.

Deputy District Attorney Bryan Orrio is the prosecutor on the Marion County team and he is here attending the Vet Con, as well. We understand that Marion County District Attorney Walt Beglau selected Mr. Orrio not only because of his skill and experience as a prosecutor, but for his passion for veterans and the heritage they represent. Without the support of District Attorneys like Ed Caleb and Walt Beglau, veterans courts like Klamath and Marion County would not be free to thrive and grow. Mr. Orrio is one of those hard working Oregonians laboring to ensure our legal system keeps us safe, but fairly dispenses justice.

Attorney Tom Sermak is also in attendance at the “Vet Con” conference this week. Mr. Sermak is the Executive Director of the Marion County Public Defender’s Office and serve on the vet court team as one of the defense attorneys. We’re told that Mr. Sermak has a long and distinguished history as a public defender in what is most typically a very adversarial system. Mr. Sermak’s dedication to this new type of court—a non-adversarial, collaborative court—demonstrates his commitment to seeking justice for all through whatever creative means possible.

The final member of the Marion County team attending the Vet Con is Austin Herman. Mr. Herman is the team’s Parole and Probation Officer. It is Austin who does the daily contact and visits with the veteran defendants. We’re told he is an affable and highly competent law enforcement officer who deeply cares for the program and the veterans it serves. Sheriff Jason Myers should be commended for his support for the court, but even more so for assigning Austin Herman to the team.

Mr. Speaker, we are ever so grateful and proud to be associated with the patriots in Klamath and Marion County circuit courts who have established veterans treatment programs of such high quality. Judge Day told me recently that “our soldiers are victors, not victims. They fought and bled for the liberties we

enjoy. It is our task to fight for their freedom now—freedom from mental and physical pain, freedom to return home healthy, freedom to enjoy the legacy of their sacrifice.” We could not agree more.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, December 4, I missed a series of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on Nos. 618, 619, and 622. I would have voted “nay” on Nos. 620 and 621.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, on November 20, 2013, during rollcall 593 on H. Res. 420—Providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1900) to provide for the timely consideration of all licenses, permits, and approvals required under Federal law with respect to the siting, construction, expansion, or operation of any natural gas pipeline projects, and for other purposes, the vote was incorrectly recorded as “no.” I intended to vote “yes.”

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#### HONORING CYNTHIA LEIGHTON

### HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the long and influential career of Ms. Cynthia Leighton.

For twenty years, I have had the distinct honor of serving as co-chair of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus. During this time I have met so many dedicated men and women from outside the traditional ranks of the fire service who are passionate about the health and safety of our Nation’s firefighters and first responders. Cynthia Leighton is among those individuals, and truly strives to assist and protect those who keep our communities safe and secure.

As a fire service liaison from Motorola and Motorola Solutions for the past twenty-eight years, Cynthia has been the company’s go-to person on issues facing first responders, always willing and able to hear concerns, answer questions, and provide assistance—whether the inquiry comes from a local firefighter or a national fire organization, such as the Congressional Fire Services Institute or the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. Each year at both the annual National Fire and Emergency Services Dinner and the National Fallen Firefighters Memorial Service, she is often behind the scenes making sure that the event organizers have the proper resources they needed for a successful program.

Going above and beyond her job description at Motorola, Cynthia has demonstrated an enormous capacity for helping others and doing whatever she can to support the work of our first responders. On behalf of the Congressional Fire Services Caucus, I thank Cynthia for her dedication and outstanding contributions to the safety of our Nation's firefighters. I wish her the best in all her future endeavors.

ATTORNEY GENERAL ERIC HOLDER'S FAILURE TO CONFRONT BACKPAGE.COM

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 9, 2013

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit a letter I sent last week to Attorney General Eric Holder, my fourth this year on the topic (I also submit the previous four), pressing him and the Department of Justice to prioritize combatting sex trafficking on the Internet. I specifically highlighted the Web site Backpage.com, which time and again has been proven to be a conduit for the buying and selling of human beings, including minors.

My letter was prompted by a Washington Post article, which I also submit for the RECORD, which details the exploitation of a young local girl on Backpage.com.

Attorney General Holder has failed to shut down or even publicly shame Backpage.com, one of the major vehicles for trafficking in this country. Enough is enough. I am not going to drop this issue until every mother and father in this nation has the peace of mind that our government is doing everything it can to confront this criminal enterprise. Backpage.com is profiting from the sexual exploitation of minors. This must not be permitted to continue.

DECEMBER 6, 2013.

Hon. ERIC H. HOLDER, Jr.,  
Attorney General, Department of Justice,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR ATTORNEY GENERAL HOLDER: The lead article in the Metro section of today's Washington Post provided yet another sad account of a young girl being sexually trafficked on the Web site Backpage.com. What makes it even more tragic is that the alleged pimp is a D.C. police officer. Enclosed is a copy of the article. I marked the reference to Backpage.com.

For five years, I have been asking you and your department to deal with this problem. You have given a lot of speeches, but have you ever even publicly called out Backpage.com for its critical role in facilitating sex trafficking?

When are you and your department going to get serious about solving this problem? How many more young girls are going to become victims before the department deals with this?

From now on, I'm going to hold you personally accountable for each victim trafficked on that Web site—each someone's daughter, sister, or mother. I'm asking you—not as attorney general but as a father—to use your remaining time in office to find a way to end Backpage.com's trafficking of young girls and women.

Best wishes,  
Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,  
Member of Congress.

[From the Washington Post, Dec. 6, 2013]

POLICE SEARCH OFFICER'S HOME

(By Peter Hermann, Ann Marimow and  
Clarence Williams)

Authorities are investigating whether a veteran D.C. police officer was running a prostitution ring out of his Southeast Washington apartment where they found a 16-year-old girl who had been reported missing, according to documents unsealed in federal court.

The officer, who has been on the force for 24 years, had not been arrested as of Thursday evening, but he was put on paid administrative leave as police continued their investigation. The teenager told police that the officer took nude photos of her and arranged for her to have sex for money, the court papers say.

News of the allegation broke publicly as another D.C. police officer was in U.S. District Court facing a federal charge of producing child pornography: Marc L. Washington, 32 was arrested Monday on allegations that he took pictures of a semi-nude 15-year-old who had run away from home.

Authorities said it does not appear that the cases are related, but the specter of having two officers from the 7th District station house in Southeast investigated on crimes linked to sexual abuse of minors has shaken the 4,000-member department. D.C. Police Chief Cathy L. Lanier said the department "is very concerned about the recent allegations of egregious conduct."

Lanier acknowledged that the cases could make the force look bad, but she said that "misguided actions of a few in no way reflects on the professionalism, dedication and integrity of the department."

The Washington Post is not naming the 47-year-old officer because he has not been charged with a crime and was not identified in the search warrant application, filed in U.S. District Court. Efforts to reach him were not successful.

It was unclear how investigators came to focus on the officer and the apartment on Stanton Road. The court documents state only that detectives investigating a family's report of a missing 16-year-old girl learned that she might be at the officer's residence.

Police went to the apartment Tuesday night and the officer answered the door after repeated knocks, according to court papers. He let them in, and they reported that they immediately smelled marijuana. Detectives were told that two females were in a bedroom; one was the missing teen, the court documents stated, and the other was an 18-year-old.

Officers stayed at the apartment through the night and most of Wednesday, and after getting a search warrant, they confiscated nine pairs of shoes, one bra, two boxes of condoms, computers and cellphones. The court documents stated that they also took a mirror with names written on it and that the 16-year-old told police that the names were of women who had worked as prostitutes.

A high-ranking D.C. police official said authorities were sorting through conflicting statements and trying to determine precisely what was happening in the apartment. How the officer met the girl was not described in documents made public thus far.

According to court documents, the girl told police that she had gone to the officer's apartment at least twice and that the officer took nude photos of her wearing sparkly, high-heeled shoes and showed them to a potential customer. The man liked the photos and was scheduled to meet her and pay \$80 for sex, the girl told police. Of that, she said, \$20 was to go to the officer. The girl said that the officer was to pay for her hairstyle, shoes

and new clothes and that her working name would be "Juicy." It was not clear whether the girl met the customer.

The girl said that six other women worked out of the apartment and that advertisements were posted on the Internet site backpage.com, the documents said.

In U.S. District Court on Thursday, authorities were dealing with the separate case involving Marc Washington. Magistrate Judge John M. Facciola said he wanted to release the officer to stay with his father in Waldorf, Md., and be put on electronic monitoring. But Facciola issued a 24-hour stay on the order to give prosecutors a chance to appeal.

"It is despicable for anyone to do this," Facciola said of the alleged conduct. "For a police officer to do this is beyond anyone's imagination."

But with Washington's gun and badge no longer in his possession, the judge said it "reduces substantially" the possibility of the officer being able to abuse his previous position of authority. The arresting officer told the judge that Washington's police powers had been revoked and that he was in the process of being suspended without pay.

The officer's attorney, Michelle Peterson, told the judge that her client "understands the serious nature of the charges, but they are just that—charges."

Assistant U.S. Attorney Ari Redbord said that investigators recovered dozens of photos from Washington's camera, including images of two semi-nude females who appeared to be minors, and that they think there may be other victims.

"He committed this crime on duty, in uniform and with a firearm," Redbord said in arguing for Washington to remain in custody. "He picked the most vulnerable of victims in our community."

OCTOBER 23, 2013.

Hon. ERIC H. HOLDER, Jr.,  
Attorney General, Department of Justice,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR ATTORNEY GENERAL HOLDER: I write to share with you a letter I sent today to President Obama urging that either he or you make a major policy address in the next 30 days publicly calling out Web sites like Backpage.com, which time and again feature prominently in court cases involving the horrific sexual exploitation of American children. This issue is as timely as it has ever been given a recent Washington Post article which revealed that Northern Virginia gangs have concluded that trafficking young girls is actually more profitable than traditional criminal enterprises like drugs or weapons sales—in part because prostituted minors can be bought and sold multiple times. Not surprisingly the gangs use the Web to advertise services.

As you know, this is an issue about which I have long been deeply troubled. I had a productive meeting with several Department of Justice employees today regarding the most effective means by which to tackle this insidious criminal activity.

I recognize there are no easy answers, but as I stated in my letter to the president, I believe it is critical that we embrace a holistic approach, which includes public education, demand reduction and, importantly as it relates to Backpage.com, public shame.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,  
Member of Congress.

JULY 30, 2013.

Hon. ERIC H. HOLDER, Jr.,  
Attorney General, Department of Justice,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR ATTORNEY GENERAL HOLDER: Many Americans were undoubtedly heartened to

learn yesterday that authorities rescued 105 children from 76 different cities across this nation who had been forced into prostitution, and arrested 150 pimps who were intimately involved in the exploitation of these minors—children ranging in age from 13 to 17. But I suspect that just as many Americans were shocked to learn of the scope and reach of human trafficking in our own backyard. For under the Trafficking Victims Protection Act any minor used in a commercial sex act is a victim of human trafficking.

I applaud the impressive work of the FBI; its local, state, and federal law enforcement partners, including the Fairfax County Police Department and the Loudoun County Sheriff's Office, and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). As you know, I have long supported efforts locally and in the annual Commerce-Justice-Science (CJS) appropriations bill to elevate this issue as a law enforcement priority. In fact the CJS bill which recently passed the House Appropriations Committee included language instructing U.S. Attorneys to maintain their human trafficking task forces and undertake proactive investigations of persons or entities facilitating trafficking in persons through the use of classified advertising on the Internet. The bill also directs the U.S. Attorney General to submit a comprehensive report on all DOJ anti-trafficking activities, including legislative proposals that may advance any efforts, no later than 60 days after the bill is signed into law.

While the details of this campaign, Operation Cross Country, are still emerging, not unsurprisingly, Backpage.com featured prominently in the announcement of the crackdown. In fact, a CNN story this morning cited the assistant director of the FBI's criminal investigative division, as saying, "This seventh iteration of Operation Cross Country also was the most successful, with a 30% to 40% increase in 'identifying both victims and pimps' compared with previous operations." The story continued, "He credited the success in part to an expansion of the probe to websites such as www.backpage.com, which he called a forum 'where pimps and exploiters gather.'"

An NBC news story following the raid reported, "Search for 'Backpage.com' on the FBI's main website and up pops eight whole pages of press releases and public announcements naming the classified advertising site as a tool for sex criminals, particularly those selling children, sex and prostitution." Case after case shows that as long as web sites like Backpage.com operate with impunity, impervious to public shame, law enforcement will simply be playing catch up.

In that vein, just last week, an overwhelming majority of state and territorial attorneys general sent a letter to the chair and ranking members of the U.S. Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and House Committee on Energy and Commerce. The letter indicated that "Federal enforcement alone has proven insufficient to stem the growth of internet-facilitated child sex trafficking," and pleaded that, "Those on the front lines of the battle against the sexual exploitation of children—state and local law enforcement—must be granted the authority to investigate and prosecute those who facilitate these horrible crimes."

I couldn't agree more, which is why in April 2012, well over a year ago, I wrote you a letter making clear that classified Internet advertising was the latest front in the battle against sexual exploitation and trafficking of minors. Specifically I wrote, ". . . if DOJ is of the mind that there are insufficient laws on the books to prosecute this activity, I respectfully request a broader, legal analysis and recommendations to Congress of

legislative initiatives that may be undertaken to fully equip law enforcement to tackle this problem." This was the first of several letters I've written on the topic.

On June 8 2012, I wrote, ". . . I continue to believe that unless there is the very real prospect of criminal liability that Backpage.com will fail to change . . . I recognize that these are complex legal questions but surely we can agree that this is not a complex issue. Children ought not to be bought and sold online. Those who facilitate and enable this practice should have to face consequences. I welcome the best legal analysis the Department can provide in how to ensure that this happens."

And again, on March 27, 2013 I wrote you, this time including a series of recommendations provided by NCMEC that Backpage.com and similar Web sites used for trafficking could voluntarily adopt to reduce the sexual exploitation of children online. I urged you, as the nation's chief law enforcement officer, to press Backpage.com to immediately adopt these practices and said that if they fail to do so you should ". . . take legal action against Backpage.com."

These last two letters have gone unanswered. The legal analysis has never been provided and the exploitation of innocents continues.

Human trafficking has rightly been deemed the slavery issue of our time. It isn't simply an international tragedy, it's a national and local outrage. For years, the back of my office door featured a giant picture of William Wilberforce—the remarkable abolitionist, and man of faith, who labored tirelessly for decades to ban the slave trade in the British Empire. Wilberforce was part of a broader transatlantic abolition movement dating back to the 1700s. He served as an inspiration for the abolitionist cause on our own shores, laying the foundation for the likes of Frederick Douglass, Harriet Beecher Stowe and even Abraham Lincoln, who 150 years ago this year issued the Emancipation Proclamation.

Wilberforce, famously said, "Having heard all this, you may choose to look the other way, but you can never again say that you do not know." We know that our nation's children are at risk of horrific exploitation that almost defies imagination. We know how pimps and johns use specific Web sites to profit from and prey on their vulnerability. Will you continue to look the other way?

Best wishes.

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,  
*Member of Congress.*

MARCH 27, 2013.

HON. ERIC H. HOLDER, JR.,  
*Attorney General, Department of Justice,*  
*Washington, DC*

DEAR MR. ATTORNEY GENERAL: As you know I have long been outraged that Web sites like Backpage.com, which in case after case have been found to be a conduit for the buying and selling of human beings, including children, to the tune of millions of dollars in profits a year, appear to do so with impunity from federal prosecutors.

Just recently, Joshua Jacquis Dumas, plead guilty to "running a commercial sex business that prostituted multiple juvenile girls in Herndon, Virginia, and other locations throughout Virginia, Maryland, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida." To his great credit, the office of U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, Neil MacBride, brought the case against Dumas. The "statement of facts" that Dumas agreed to before entering his guilty plea is a grotesque account of abuse, manipulation and exploitation and much of it took place in and

around my congressional district. These crimes were made possible with Backpage.com. The FBI press release announcing the guilty plea specifically mentioned the website: "Daily, the enterprise posted multiple advertisements on Backpage.com, and sometimes within minutes customers would call."

I have repeatedly requested that the Department of Justice provide an analysis of whether there are sufficient laws on the books to prosecute the type of activity that Backpage.com engages in, and, if not, that the department provide a broader legal analysis and recommendations to Congress of legislative initiatives that may be undertaken to fully equip law enforcement to tackle this problem. To date this request has gone unanswered. Meanwhile, as the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) pointed out in a recent letter to me, "children are still being sold for sex on this site [Backpage]."

I recognize that complex legal questions are involved in this discussion, but surely the safety and security of America's most vulnerable, our children, warrants such a discussion. I have enclosed the letter I received from NCMEC as I believe it provides invaluable information about critical next steps that the department could take to challenge Backpage.com.

Specifically NCMEC provides four recommendations for practices that Backpage.com and similar Web sites used for trafficking could immediately and voluntarily adopt to reduce the sexual exploitation of children online, including:

"Prohibiting payment sources that mask the customer's identity—such as gift cards, prepaid credit cards and using another's credit card. These payment sources hamper law enforcement's ability to investigate these ads.

"Verifying and knowing its customers. Verifying the identity and age of the person submitting the ad as well as the person depicted in any images in the ad. These are ways to verify this information either in person or online when the ad is purchased. Other classified ad sites have implemented verification processes including database checks and review of government issued identification.

"Consistently blocking or removing postings believed to involve minors being sold for sex.

"Preventing ads with previously flagged images from being posted and refusing to post ads from customers who are believed to have posted suspicious ads in the past."

I urge you, as the nation's chief law enforcement authority, to press Backpage.com to immediately adopt these recommendations. And if they fail to voluntarily adopt these recommendations, I implore you to take legal action against Backpage.com.

Despite mounting public pressure, Backpage.com seems impervious to criticism and even shame. I am increasingly convinced that they will only respond to the very real prospect of criminal or civil liability. Sites like Backpage.com have historically hid behind the Communications Decency Act (CDA) which, as NCMEC points out, "Provides immunity to Internet communication service providers, such as website operators, for publishing content by third parties." But importantly, the CDA does not prevent federal prosecutions of sexual crimes against children.

On January 10, the Kansas City Star reported that the Eighth Circuit Court of appeals "decided for the first time that a federal anti-slavery law applies to both the consumers as well as the sellers of sex with children." Specifically the court found, "The unambiguous text . . . makes no distinction

between suppliers and purchasers of commercial sex acts with children, and the defendants have failed to persuade us Congress intended a supplier-only limitation or a purchaser exception.”

The anti-trafficking movement has recognized this as a landmark ruling which closes an important loophole in the fight against trafficking through criminal deterrence, and raises the priority of prosecution of demand. However, this victory will be short-lived if Backpage.com and related online classified sites operate without fear of repercussion, fostering an atmosphere of demand which results in the continued trafficking of women and children for sex.

This is a grave injustice—a blot on our collective national conscience which demands action. Will you allow this exploitation to continue on your watch?

Sincerely,

FRANK R. WOLF,  
*Member of Congress.*

CONGRATULATING AHN MIRA AND  
SEAN RYAN HALPIN ON THEIR  
WEDDING IN SEOUL, KOREA

**HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA**

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the wedding ceremony of Ms. Ahn Mira and Mr. Sean Ryan Halpin held earlier this fall, on September 14, 2013, in Seoul, Republic of Korea. The couple met during Sean Halpin's current service as a first lieutenant with the Special Operations Command—Korea (SOCKOR), United States Forces Korea.

Ms. Ahn is from the distinguished Ahn family of Haeju City, South Hwanghae-do Province, currently in North Korea. The Ahn clan of Hwanghae-do is remembered historically for their several family members who took leading roles in the independence movement during Korea's colonial occupation.

Ms. Ahn's paternal grandfather came to the port of Pusan, in South Korea as a refugee during the Korean War. Her family currently resides in the port city of Incheon where her father, Ahn Jaeman, is the principal of the top-rated East Incheon Middle School and her mother, Kim Kyunghee, is the devoted mother of two daughters.

Sean Halpin is from a family that has served the United States for more than a century. His paternal great-great-grandfather, Captain Patrick Foley, an immigrant from County Kerry, Ireland, served in the 23rd Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry (“the Irish Brigade”), fought under General Philip Sheridan in the last major Civil War battle, the siege of Petersburg, and was present at Appomattox Court House for the final surrender.

His paternal great-grandfather, Dr. Thomas P. Foley, of Chicago, Illinois, served as a medical officer with the United States Army during the First World War. His grandfather, Thomas J. Halpin, was a captain serving with the 88th Infantry during the liberation of Rome in the Second World War. His father, Dennis P. Halpin, served with the United States Peace Corps in Korea, the U.S. Department of State, and the U.S. House of Representatives as a professional staff member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs. Sean's loving mother, Mina Chuok (née Pak) Halpin, is originally from Pusan, Korea.

For historical purposes, I submit this statement to be part of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in recognition of the union of Ahn Mira and Sean Ryan Halpin, and of the distinguished service provided by their families to their respective countries.

IN RECOGNITION OF CORPORAL  
DONNY DAUGHENBAUGH, U.S.  
MARINE CORPS (RET.).

**HON. RANDY K. WEBER, SR.**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. WEBER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my support and deepest thanks for a fine young man and outstanding soldier from my congressional district—Corporal Donny Daughenbaugh, U.S. Marine Corps (Ret.).

Corporal Daughenbaugh was hit with a bullet in the face, and miraculously survived the injury. After a long and grueling rehabilitation, he has made it his life's mission to give back to veterans facing similar situations. He is now the Assistant Vice President and National Spokesperson for the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes. A 501(c)(3), non-profit, non-partisan organization, it was established in 2004 to provide severely wounded veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, and their families, with emergency financial assistance and other support services to help them recover from injuries and rebuild their lives. The Coalition has also provided several grants to various programs benefiting veterans in Texas, which is home to approximately 1.7 million veterans.

On December 9–13, the Coalition will host “The 7th Annual Road to Recovery Conference and Tribute” in Orlando, Florida to help hundreds of military veterans and their families adjust to civilian life. Although he may never fully recover from his injury, Corporal Daughenbaugh has been able to inspire others through his story of resilience. The bullet lodged in his brain is a constant reminder of his service to our nation as a proud member of the U.S. Marine Corps.

Together with Coalition CEO David Walker, Corporal Daughenbaugh is rebuilding an organization that rebuilds lives. In just one year, they have transformed an organization with a righteous mission into a leading national organization that gives hope to veterans.

Their mission: ensuring our war-weary nation does not lose sight of its obligations to those protecting our freedoms. The Coalition is addressing a serious challenge facing our nation: helping thousands of returning veterans reintegrate into American society by creating a safety net that would help returning veterans avoid the high rates of unemployment (averaging 17.9 percent nationwide), suicide (24 per day), divorce (60 percent), etc. Unfortunately, these true American heroes often receive little or no support from the nation for which they sacrificed so much. Because of a shortage of funding and an interminable bureaucratic backlog at the Veterans Administration, they wait for roughly a year, on average, to receive disability pay and benefits. Thousands never receive the proper care for PTSD, because it still remains a largely misunderstood condition.

The Coalition is an organization standing in the gap—and their work is already producing impressive results through public and private partnerships across the nation. One of these successful endeavors is with a Dallas-based international restaurant chain, Bennigan's, and their “Wall of Heroes” initiative. Through the promotion, Bennigan's customers are invited to purchase a drink, write a note, and upload a picture in honor of anyone currently serving or those who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Corporal Daughenbaugh also has been a guest of honor at multiple “Happy Hour with a Hero” events sponsored by Bennigan's— and his story has also been featured on their Wall of Heroes site.

America has been a nation at war for the longest period of time in our history—bringing a new set of challenges, not only our military fighting force, but to a generation of young veterans. Many are facing unprecedented physical and psychological trauma while transitioning back to civilian careers. Over 1 million veterans are expected to make that transition this year. Through his work with the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes, Corporal Daughenbaugh is inspiring thousands of young veterans who are on a road to recovery from their injuries. I applaud his work and dedication. He is indeed a true American hero.

RECOGNIZING PMI WASHINGTON,  
D.C., ON ITS 2013 LEADERSHIP  
AWARD

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate and recognize the Project Management Institution's Washington, D.C., Chapter for its commitment to leadership and advocacy on behalf of the project management profession. PMI Washington, D.C., is the recipient of the 2013 PMI Chapter Award for Leadership, Planning & Operations. This award is given in recognition of PMIWDC's focus on business and operational planning, including the chapter's outstanding website. In addition to the chapter's achievements, this year also marks its 35th anniversary.

PMI is the world's largest nonprofit membership association for project management professionals. PMI's resources and research empower more than 265 chapters worldwide and 700,000 members, credential holders, and volunteers to further enhance and develop their careers. PMI's worldwide advocacy for project management is reinforced by its globally recognized standards and certification program and extensive academic and research programs. PMIWDC has nearly 11,000 members and remains the fastest-growing and largest PMI chapter in the world.

The PMIWDC Chapter has made significant organizational advances by having both a Governance Board for strategic planning and an Operations Board for directing the organization. Additionally, the chapter has developed advanced policies and processes to ensure continuity through changing leadership. PMIWDC has been praised for providing expanded management development and providing a path for volunteer members to advance into roles with greater responsibility.

The chapter is also recognized for its outreach efforts to local high school and college students to recruit and advance the project management profession. PMIWDC serves as an exemplary model for the PMI Global values of professionalism, volunteerism, community, and engagement.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend my congratulations and ask that my colleagues join me in commending PMI's Washington, D.C., Chapter for its leadership and outreach in the community.

TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF MICHAEL  
T. BURNS

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael T. Burns, who is retiring as the General Manager of the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority after eight years of highly distinguished service to the users and employees of our public transit system.

Michael Burns has been an outstanding leader of the VTA. He's been a dependable steward of public funds. He has improved efficiency and transit services, secured federal grants, and completed major capital projects. Under his leadership, VTA opened its first express lanes and developed a partnership with Caltrans called the iTEAM to deliver highway projects in Silicon Valley more effectively. He initiated bus rapid transit on heavily traveled corridors, and promoted the use of the latest technological innovations. He has also fostered recognition of deserving employees and enhanced diversity in the workplace.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a thoroughbred professional, Michael T. Burns, on the occasion of his retirement from the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority. He has served with honor and distinction, and earned the respect of his fellow public servants and the entire community.

The shoes of Michael Burns will be difficult to fill, but he leaves the VTA on sound financial footing. I wish him every blessing in his well deserved retirement and salute him for a storied career in public service in the transportation sector. He has strengthened the Silicon Valley region and our country with his extraordinary leadership and our entire community is grateful to him.

THE ELECTION OF MR. WILLIAM J.  
STANLEY III AS CHANCELLOR OF  
THE COLLEGE OF FELLOWS OF  
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF  
ARCHITECTS

**HON. JOHN LEWIS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my constituent, Mr. William J. Stanley III, on his election as Chancellor of the College of Fellows of the American Institute of Architects. Mr. Stanley was elected to the College of Fellows' highest position in July at the American Institute of Architects National Con-

vention in Denver, Colorado, and he will be inaugurated on December 12, 2013.

The American Institute of Architects (AIA) is a professional organization for architects in the United States. It is comprised of more than 79,000 licensed architects and associated professionals. The AIA's most prestigious honor is the designation of a member as a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. A jury of peers awards Fellowship to members who have made contributions of national significance to the profession. Only about two percent of AIA members have been honored by appointment to the College of Fellows. Mr. Stanley's distinction not only recognizes his individual, architectural achievements but also elevates his significant, societal contributions.

Mr. Stanley is the founder and principal for design of the firm Stanley, Love-Stanley, P.C. In 1972, he became the first African-American graduate of Georgia Tech's College of Architecture. He began his private architectural practice in 1977 with Ivenue Love-Stanley, also an AIA Fellow and his wife of 35 years.

Literally, Mr. Speaker, you can find his legacy and beautiful innovative designs throughout Metro Atlanta, across the country, and around the world. His amazing work has been featured in numerous books and periodicals, and he has more than 40 award-winning projects to his credit. His designs in Atlanta include the Olympic Aquatic Center for the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games, the historic Fulton County Courthouse, Ebenezer Baptist Church, the John Hope Hall Science Research Facility at Morehouse College, the Reynolds Cottage at Spelman College, the Thomas Cole Research Center at Clark Atlanta University, the Catholic Center at Atlanta University Center, B.E.S.T. Academy at Benjamin S. Carson All Male Middle and High School, and the Nanotechnology Research Center at Georgia Tech. Outside Atlanta, his handiwork includes the Health & Physical Education Complex at Fort Valley State University in Fort Valley, Georgia; the L.H.O. Spearman Technology Center at Texas Southern University in Houston, Texas; and the Wilberforce Institute in South Africa.

Mr. Stanley has served on the National Board of the American Institute of Architects, as the South Atlantic Regional Director, and as past President of AIA Georgia. In 1995, Mr. Stanley was awarded the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Citation, one of the AIA's highest honors, presented to the country's most socially-conscious architect. In 1999, the Georgia chapter of the AIA bestowed upon Mr. Stanley the Bernard Rothschild Medal, the chapter's highest award. In 2011, AIA Atlanta presented him with its Ivan Allen, Sr., Trophy for sustaining the highest ideals of the profession of architecture through his contributions of service to the Atlanta community. He has also lectured and served as a visiting critic and jury member throughout the United States, Europe, and Africa.

Throughout his career, Mr. Stanley has frequently found himself in positions on projects where he was the first or the only African American with leadership or design responsibility. Even today, he says, "the profession of architecture has very few persons of color among its ranks." Not only does Mr. Stanley's body of work inspire countless young architects of all backgrounds, but he has also broken down invisible barriers through his examples and actions. He is determined to open the door to generations of aspiring architects.

As Fellows, Mr. Stanley and Ms. Love-Stanley take their shared legacy to heart by mentoring countless young architects. Mr. Stanley has served in various leadership positions, affording him the opportunity to mentor young students of architecture academically and professionally, including two years as the President of the National Organization of Minority Architects (NOMA). For the past 27 years, Stanley, Love-Stanley, P.C. has sponsored a scholarship award and internship for the most improved architecture students of African descent. Every day, they inspire young people of color in the AIA, NOMA, and the Metro Atlanta community in general.

Mr. Speaker, architecture holds a special place in my heart. As you know, I love art and history in any form, and architects work so hard and so long to become experts in countless fields—arts, science, math, construction to name a few—in order to design, create, save, and restore beautiful masterpieces for countless generations.

I cannot fully express my great appreciation of Mr. Stanley and Ms. Love-Stanley's service and dedication to Metro Atlanta, nor how deeply proud I am of Mr. William J. Stanley III, FAIA, NOMA, for receiving this well-deserved honor.

INTRODUCTION OF BREAST CANCER  
AWARENESS COMMEMORATIVE  
COIN ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Ms. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, last month we recognized Breast Cancer Awareness Month—acknowledging the toll the disease takes on individuals and families, and the importance of continued research and awareness efforts. Since 1989, thanks to earlier detection, increased understanding, and improved treatment, the death rates for breast cancer have continued to decrease. Yet breast cancer remains the second leading cause of cancer death in women, with one in 36 women dying from the disease. While breast cancer used to be considered a disease of aging, recent trends show that more aggressive forms of the disease have been increasingly diagnosed in younger women. Just this year, it is estimated that 232,340 women will be diagnosed with and 39,620 women will die of cancer of the breast in the United States.

We need to do more to tackle this disease. Each year roughly \$16.5 billion is spent in the United States on breast cancer treatment, according to the National Cancer Institute estimates. While the federal government remains the largest funder of breast cancer research in the United States, in 2012, the National Cancer Institute reduced funding by almost \$30 million and the Department of Defense Breast Cancer Research Program grants decreased more than 22 percent from 2010 funding levels.

Additional private sector support will help us find a cure for breast cancer even faster. That is why my colleague Representative Aaron Schock and I are introducing the Breast Cancer Awareness Commemorative Coin Act. Additional private sector support will help us find

a cure for breast cancer even faster. Proceeds from the sale of the coin will benefit the Breast Cancer Research Foundation and Susan G. Komen for the Cure. These two organizations have spent more than \$450 million and \$790 million, respectively, on research funding. But more needs to be done to find better treatments and a cure.

Our mothers, our sisters, our daughters, cannot afford to wait. I encourage you to support this new legislation.

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#### COMMENDING UZBEKISTAN

### HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, as the Chair of the Congressional Central Asia Caucus, I rise today to commend Uzbekistan on its ongoing efforts to strengthen relations with the United States. In August 2012, Uzbekistan's legislature approved a foreign policy concept submitted by President Islam Karimov which is intended to strengthen the country's independence and sovereignty, ensure Uzbekistan's role in international affairs, create security and stability in Central Asia, and sets Uzbekistan on a path of joining the ranks of democratic countries.

The United States and Uzbekistan belong to a number of the same organizations, including the United Nations, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, International Monetary Fund, and World Bank. Uzbekistan is a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Partnership for Peace and an observer to the World Trade Organization.

Home to more than half of the population of Central Asia and located at the center of regional trade and transport networks, Uzbekistan is a potential Central Asian regional power. For more than a decade, I have worked closely with the country and I am pleased by the developments that have occurred in such a short time since Uzbekistan gained independence at the end of 1991 with the breakup of the Soviet Union.

Uzbekistan has supported North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) troops in Afghanistan through provision of electricity, development of rail infrastructures and the Northern Distribution Network. Uzbekistan was also one of the United States' main regional partners in the war on terrorism.

Under the leadership of President Karimov, our relationship with Uzbekistan has now developed beyond Afghanistan. The United States and Uzbekistan are cooperating on security, economic relations, political and civil society issues, agricultural development, transnational crime, and the threat of infectious disease. Although we have a ways to go, we are in the process of strengthening our bilateral relations.

This is why I am pleased to welcome President Karimov's delegation to the United States which is visiting Washington, D.C. from December 8–12, 2013. Uzbekistan's delegation is led by my good friend, Foreign Minister Abdulaziz Kamilov, who served previously as Uzbekistan's Ambassador to the United States. The delegation also includes my good friend, Senator Sodiq Safoyev, who served previously as Uzbekistan's Foreign Minister

and also as Ambassador to the United States and State Advisor to the President.

Other members of Uzbekistan's delegation include the First Deputy Minister of Defense, First Deputy Minister of Justice, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Economic Relations, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Science and Technology, the Chairman of the Committee on Democratic Institutions, the Head of America's Department, and a member of the National Security Council under the President of Uzbekistan. H.E. Bakhtiyar Gulyamov, Uzbekistan's Ambassador to the United States, will accompany the delegation.

While in Washington, the delegation will be hosted by Members of the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives. Having traveled to Samarkand in late August of this year, to Tashkent more than once, and in tribute to my long-standing friendship with Foreign Minister Kamilov and Senator Safoyev which spans nearly a decade, it was my sincere hope to personally host a Members Only meeting for them. But, in my absence, I thank my esteemed colleagues for doing so.

The people of Uzbekistan are, as President Kamilov said, "a creative people who deeply realize their identity, take pride of the fact that they live on the sacred land and are the descendants of great ancestors, capable to subdue any peaks." I agree.

And so, once more, it is my privilege to welcome Uzbekistan's distinguished delegation to Washington and extend my kindest regards and best wishes for a successful dialogue.

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#### HONORING SCHIMPPFF'S CONFECTIONARY OF JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA

### HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, small mom-and-pop businesses are an integral part of local economies, especially in the State of Indiana. Schimpff's Confectionary, located in Jeffersonville, Indiana, is a prime example of a small, family-owned business that has maintained a tradition of community involvement and devotion to a quality product. Schimpff's is not only a vital part of the community, but also an important Jeffersonville landmark.

Schimpff's Confectionary is a world-class candy maker, confectionary store, and museum located within the Old Jeffersonville Historic District. This candy store is one of the oldest in the country. It has kept the same atmosphere throughout the years and continuously draws large crowds. In addition to selling candy, Schimpff's Confectionary gives tours to visitors of the shop, providing an interactive experience and insight into how the finest candy was and is made.

Schimpff's Confectionary contributes mightily to the town of Jeffersonville. Not only do they reliably provide delicious treats to the families of Southern Indiana and beyond, but they maintain local jobs, and their outstanding presence is a source of deep pride for the entire community. Residents of Jeffersonville have grown up with Schimpff's Confectionary, and the store has faithfully maintained its high quality standards, and friendly atmosphere,

since the day it opened. For these reasons and more, I am proud to recognize Schimpff's in this installment of the 9th District's Small Business Spotlight.

Although the Schimpff family had been making candy in Louisville, Kentucky, since 1850, the Jeffersonville store was established in 1891 by Gustave Schimpff, Sr. and Jr. The shop continues to be run by his family and is now run by the third generation of Schimpff's. Gustave's great-grandson, Warren Schimpff, continues the family legacy of exceptional candy making with his wife, Jill. Through their leadership and labor, Schimpff's has expanded their operations and developed a distinguished international reputation.

While Schimpff's has been based in Jeffersonville since 1891, the family has traveled to Sweden to participate in the Candy Championships, the international candy competition in Gränna. Jill and Warren Schimpff are the first Americans to have ever participated in this competition. While visiting Sweden, they met European candy makers, and learned some new and creative techniques to share with their many customers. Such initiatives have brought people from across the globe to Jeffersonville for the purpose of visiting their fine establishment.

The confectionary has gained its fair share of local and national attention as well, including recognition by "Louisville Business First" as one of the area's top twenty for-profit attractions. Additionally, the business has gained national media attention from the Food Network, the History Channel's "Modern Marvels," and American celebrity chef Paula Deen.

The Schimpff's dedication to customers and quality has sustained the family legacy, and is responsible for the longstanding success of their business. This confectionary has been a Jeffersonville treasure since its opening over 120 years ago, and it will continue to be a recognized landmark for years to come.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, unfortunately, on December 5, 2013, my vote on the House floor was not properly registered. Had my vote registered, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 625.

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#### HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF DR. WILLIAM WEST THOMPSON

### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and dedicated service of Northwest Florida's beloved Dr. William West Thompson, who passed away on December 2, 2013. Throughout his long and distinguished career in medicine and public service, Dr. Thompson served as an inspiration to countless individuals and left a lasting impression on the Okaloosa County, Florida community. All those who have been blessed by his

presence mourn the loss of a great man and unparalleled public servant.

Dr. Thompson, or "Dr. T" as he was fondly known, was born on April 6, 1921, in Hallsboro, North Carolina. Upon receiving his degrees from both Duke University and the Duke University School of Medicine in 1942 and 1947 respectively, he completed his medical training and residency at facilities across the country, including in New Jersey, Texas, Massachusetts, and Arkansas. Dr. T also served proudly in the United States Army for more than ten years in the Army Medical Corps rising to the level of Chief of a Pediatrics Unit.

In 1957, after practicing in Virginia for two years, he moved to Fort Walton Beach, Florida, where he continued practicing pediatrics. It was in Northwest Florida where Dr. T would spend the next decades of his life continuing to serve others in the community. Whether it was through house calls, late night hospital rounds, or nights spent with ailing patients, Dr. T's commitment to bettering the lives of those around him never wavered and was evidenced through his kindness and the unmatched quality of care he provided to his patients.

Dr. T also lent his time and efforts to a myriad of medical associations, including the Florida Medical Association, where he served as both as Chairman and Vice President; Okaloosa County Medical Society, where he served as the organization's first president; and Fort Walton Beach Medical Center, where he served as President and Chief of Pediatrics.

In addition to his dedicated service and passion in the medical field, Dr. T was highly involved in public service. He served not only as the team physician for local junior high and high schools, but also was president of the Chamber of Commerce from 1967 to 1968 and a member of the Okaloosa County School Board from 1984–1989. However, many remember him for his leadership as Mayor of Fort Walton Beach from 1965 to 1966.

Throughout his life, Dr. T served his Nation and community with the utmost integrity and humility. He was truly a man of compassion who possessed a passion for serving others. He will be remembered as a dedicated public official, wonderful physician, and a loving husband, father, brother, uncle, grandfather, great-grandfather, and great-great-grandfather. His contributions to Northwest Florida and our Nation were truly exceptional and his legacy will not be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor the exemplary life of Dr. William Thompson. My wife Vicki joins me in our sincerest condolences and our prayers go out to his wife, Melba; son, Wes; daughters, Emilie, Helga, Kenya, Rhonda, and Karen; nephew, Roger; grandchildren, Robert, Britt, Kyle, Alex, Renee, Michael, Ryan, Kelly, Kaylyn, Avery, and Aspen; great-grandchildren, Katherine, Amber, Alexander, Zachary, Hunter, and Kai; great-great grandson Orion; sister, Hilda, and the entire Thompson family and friends. He will truly be missed by all.

HONORING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF LICK OBSERVATORY

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 125th Anniversary of the Lick Observatory.

On January 3, 1888 the Lick Observatory's great refracting telescope saw "first light." Its construction on top of Mt. Hamilton was made possible by a \$700,000 donation from James Lick. By many accounts the wealthiest man in California, Mr. Lick gave almost his entire fortune to advance science and public welfare. When finished, the "Lick Refractor" was the largest, most powerful refracting telescope in the world.

Today, it is assumed that an observatory should be built on a mountain. However, at the time most observatories were built in cities. It is easy to forget that when Mt. Hamilton was chosen as the build site, it was only speculation that the high altitude would reduce atmospheric interference, allowing for a clearer view of the night stars.

Having proven the theory correct, Lick Observatory set the standard for building observatories on top of mountains, at high altitude, and away from potential interfering light sources and pollution.

The Lick Refractor was a premier research telescope for nearly a century. Even now, this telescope is still used to wow visitors, to inspire scientific wonder, and as a teaching tool for local colleges and universities. While many scientific facilities of this age are no longer useful as tools of discovery, the Lick Observatory continues to upgrade its capabilities and produce ground breaking science.

The Adaptive Optics project uses a unique, deformable mirror to cancel out atmospheric interference. It is capable of achieving resolutions comparable to the space-based Hubble Telescope, but at a fraction of the cost.

The Lick Observatory also houses the Automated Planet Finder, with the goal of finding Earth-like planets located within 100 light years. In partnership with NASA, this fully automated telescope makes its own decisions on where to look in the night sky and is capable of determining whether an Earth-like planet has been discovered.

Even the 125 year old Lick Refractor is still occasionally put to use. In the fall of 2000, coupled with an automatic camera, it started photographing the star clusters in our galaxy. These photographs have provided valuable information for mapping these clusters' star members.

I wish to congratulate the Lick Observatory on its 125th anniversary, and commend not only its scientific achievements, but also its work in inspiring others to pursue the wonders of science.

HONORING SERGEANT JORGE DELEON, U.S. ARMY (RETIRED)

### HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today we honor Sergeant Jorge DeLeon, a brave soldier

who resides in my congressional district, for his exceptional service to his country, community and fellow veterans.

Sergeant DeLeon joined the U.S. Army in 2001. During his fourth deployment to Afghanistan in April 2004, the Humvee he was driving ran over an anti-tank mine. Sergeant DeLeon lost his right leg and had his left leg severely injured as a result of the blast. He underwent a long recovery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and now wears a computer-controlled prosthetic leg.

But Sergeant DeLeon's commitment to service did not end as a result of his battlefield injuries. Currently, he is employed by the Coalition to Salute America's Heroes (CSAH) as Director of the Family Support Network and CSAH Liaison to Brooke Army Medical Center. In addition, he serves as the National Spokesperson for CSAH to help to raise awareness for the organization. CSAH is committed to providing wounded veterans and their families support services to help them recover and rebuild their lives.

Sergeant DeLeon's personal bravery and ongoing efforts on behalf of his fellow veterans are commendable. I thank him for his dedicated service to our country.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PECK PIRATES HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM, 8-PLAYER STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

### HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct privilege today to recognize the Peck Pirates High School 8-Player Football Team. The Pirates had what can only be described as a perfect season. The young men that make up the Pirates 8-Player team displayed remarkable teamwork which drove their memorable season home to Sanilac County, keeping the 8-Player trophy in a Sanilac County School since the inception of the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA) 8-Player football sport in 2010.

The Pirates won the State Championship on November 22, 2013 with a decisive 67–32 win over Rapid River Rockets High School 8-Player Football Team, capping a perfect 13–0 season.

This championship game showcased the Pirates skills that carried them through the season. Their defense took charge executing key plays with tackles, sacks and a big interception before halftime. Their offense wasted little time getting points on the board, working together to complete drive after drive down the field. Both in defensive battle and offensively, the Pirates kept constant pressure on their opponent and making their claim to the trophy clear.

The Pirates proved they had the skills, teamwork and fortitude to rise to the challenge and accomplish their ultimate goal—a State Championship! I am certain the community and the entire Thumb Region takes great pride in what these young individuals were able to achieve as a team.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to honor the hard work and sportsmanship displayed by all of the members of the Peck Pirates team. I

also wish to take a moment and acknowledge all the efforts and support by the coaches and parents, the cheerleaders, the school band, the teachers and administrators, and all of the students, fans, and community members who came out this season to support the Pirates. Together they made up a winning support system which led to an unforgettable season.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I want to offer my personal congratulations and best wishes. All the accolades, awards, and trophies are rightfully deserved. Enjoy being State Champions, Go Pirates!

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 621, had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,227,010,669,351.91. We've added \$6,600,133,620,438.83 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6.6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

#### REGARDING H. RES. 417

### HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, as Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific—which has broad jurisdiction for U.S. foreign policy affecting the region, including India—I rise today to express my concerns about H. Res. 417 which purports to praise India's rich religious diversity and commitment to tolerance and equality while reaffirming the need to protect the rights and freedoms of religious minorities.

While I have the utmost respect for my colleagues who have introduced and co-sponsored this Resolution, I have a difference of opinion regarding the Resolution and its unintended consequences. The Resolution does little to praise India or strengthen U.S.-India relations but rather focuses on the 2002 Gujarat riots some 11 years after the fact.

Thanks, in part, to the efforts of Mr. Sanjay Puri, Chairman of USINPAC, who has mobilized the Indian-American community in opposition to the Resolution, I highly doubt H. Res. 417 will ever see Floor action. However, the timing of the Resolution is unfortunate as it unintentionally invokes the name of the U.S.

House of Representatives for purposes of influencing India's upcoming elections.

For this reason, I feel the need to include my statement in the Congressional Record for historical purposes to clear up the misinformation put forward by H. Res. 417. As I said shortly after the riots and ever since, like every other Member of Congress committed to human rights I see eye to eye with the national and international community that what happened in Gujarat calls for justice and accountability. But India, like the United States, has an independent and transparent Judiciary and, after an investigation that has been ongoing for more than a decade, India's Supreme Court and its Special Investigation Team have not found any evidence against Chief Minister Narendra Modi. And so, just as the U.S. would expect India to accept the findings of the U.S. Supreme Court, I believe it is time for the U.S. to accept the findings of India's Supreme Court.

Some 8 years after the fact, H. Res. 417 also commends the U.S. government for exercising its authority in 2005 under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 to deny a U.S. visa to Chief Minister Narendra Modi on the grounds of religious freedom violations. However, technically speaking, no travel ban is in place. Chief Minister Modi was denied one visa in 2005. In September 2013, in response to a letter I sent to U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry, I was informed by the State Department that visa eligibility is determined by standards in the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) based on information provided by the applicant or otherwise available at the time of application, and that “any future visa application put forward by Chief Minister Modi will be carefully considered and adjudicated in accordance with U.S. law.” While I believe such a response by the State Department is grossly inadequate and an affront to U.S.-India relations because of its failure to unequivocally put this matter to rest, the underlying message is clear. No travel ban is in place.

Shri Narendra Modi may very well be India's next Prime Minister, and Resolutions like H. Res. 417 do little to help strengthen U.S.-India relations or protect and promote U.S. interests abroad, especially in the Asia Pacific region. For the record, Chief Minister Modi is a democratically elected leader. He has been elected three times by the majority of some 60 million constituents.

In India's upcoming 2014 elections, every voter should have the continued right to choose the candidate which emerges as the man of destiny, without undue influence from the United States or any other government. This is why I commend USINPAC for working with key leaders in the U.S. House of Representatives to set the record straight about Shri Narendra Modi, and for encouraging Members of Congress to open immediate dialogue with the Chief Minister.

I thank Chairman Ed Royce of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs for also voicing his objections to H. Res. 417. India is a multi-cultural and multi-religious Democracy, where the Leader of the Ruling party is of Italian heritage, the Prime Minister is a Sikh, and the Vice President is a Muslim in an 80 percent Hindu nation. As the world's largest and oldest democracies, our inherent values and substance bind India and the United States together. Therefore, it is my sincere hope that

the U.S. House of Representatives will oppose any effort that seeks to tear us apart.

#### HONORING VOLUNTEERS FROM OREGON VETERANS TREATMENT COURTS

### HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 9, 2013*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to convey my deepest appreciation to the team members of both the Klamath County and the Marion County Veterans Treatment Courts on visiting the Nation's capital this week. These Oregonians are here to attend the inaugural “Vet Con,” or Veterans Treatment Court Conference, the first ever gathering of veterans court team members from across the Nation. The conference is being put on by Justice for Vets, a professional service division of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, with the goal of providing in-depth training to the nearly 200 veterans treatment courts across the Nation.

Key to the operation of a veterans treatment court is the collaborative partnership of the judicial system, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, the county Veterans Service Office, veterans service organizations, community agencies and volunteers. These community members partner in a treatment team which convenes before each court session to review cases and develop problem solving recommendations. This coordinated response addresses an array of issues from community protection and restitution to offender rehabilitation. Weekly court appearances afford close judicial supervision of the veteran defendant's progress. The court hands out encouragement and sanctions as warranted.

I have had the honor of working with the Klamath County Veterans Treatment Court since it was started by Judge Marci Atkinson in November 2010. The development of the Klamath County Veterans Treatment Court began with discussions between Klamath County District Attorney Ed Caleb and Klamath County Veterans Service Officer Kathy Pierce. They formed an exceptional team to attend one of the first veterans court training seminars. Since then, Judge Atkinson and her team have built a very effective court utilizing best treatment practices to address the needs of veteran defendants in the criminal justice system.

Only two members of the Klamath County Veterans Treatment Court were able to attend this week's “Vet Con” conference. Kathy Pierce, as I mentioned before, is the Klamath County Veterans Service Officer. Kathy has been such an important part of ensuring that veterans in Klamath County are linked up with the benefits they have earned. Kathy works very closely with my office to help veterans resolve issues with their claims and appeals.

Steve Tillson serves as the Klamath County Veterans Treatment Court Coordinator. Steve has a great deal of responsibility in keeping the court well run and organized.

Steve is here this week not only for the training, but is serving as a trainer for other coordinators. We are proud of the work that Steve and Kathy have accomplished over the last four years and we are grateful for their

commitment to excellence demonstrated by their attendance at this week's Vet Con.

Kathy and Steve are both tireless advocates for those who have worn the Nation's uniform.

I am very grateful and proud to be associated with the patriots in Klamath and Marion County circuit courts who have established veterans treatment programs of such high quality. Judge Vance Day told me recently that "our soldiers are victors, not victims. They fought and bled for the liberties we enjoy. It is our task to fight for their freedom now—freedom from mental and physical pain, freedom to return home healthy, freedom to enjoy the legacy of their sacrifice." Mr. Speaker, I could not agree more.

#### 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, December 10, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

#### MEETINGS SCHEDULED

##### DECEMBER 11

- 9 a.m.  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
Subcommittee on Clean Air and Nuclear Safety  
To hold an oversight hearing to examine domestic renewable fuels. SD-406
- 9:30 a.m.  
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
Business meeting to consider the nomination of Alejandro Nicholas Mayorkas, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Secretary of Homeland Security. SD-342
- 10 a.m.  
Committee on Foreign Relations  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Catherine Ann Novelli, of Virginia, to be an Under Secretary for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment, Alternate Governor of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Alternate Governor of the Inter-American Development Bank, and Alternate Governor of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, Charles Hammerman Rivkin, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary for Economic and Business Affairs, Tina S. Kaidanow, of the District of Columbia,

to be Coordinator for Counterterrorism, with the rank of Ambassador at Large, Puneet Talwar, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary for Political-Military Affairs, Michael A. Hammer, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Chile, Kevin Whitaker, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Colombia, and Bruce Heyman, of Illinois, to be Ambassador to Canada, all of the Department of State.

SD-419  
Committee on Rules and Administration  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Thomas Hicks, of Virginia, and Myrna Perez, of Texas, both to be a Member of the Election Assistance Commission.

SR-301  
Committee on Veterans' Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the Veterans Affairs (VA) claims system, focusing on a review of the Veterans Affairs' transformation progress. SR-418

1 p.m.  
Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe  
To hold hearings to examine resolving crises in East Asia through a new system of collective security, focusing on the Helsinki process as a model. SD-106

2 p.m.  
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight  
To hold hearings to examine streamlining overseas trade and development agencies, focusing on a more efficient and effective government. SD-342

Committee on the Judiciary  
To hold hearings to examine continued oversight of the United States government surveillance authorities. SD-226

2:30 p.m.  
Committee on Finance  
Subcommittee on International Trade, Customs, and Global Competitiveness  
To hold hearings to examine the digital trade agenda. SD-215

Committee on Indian Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Vincent G. Logan, of New York, to be Special Trustee, Office of Special Trustee for American Indians, Department of the Interior; to be immediately followed by an oversight hearing to examine implementation of the Department of the Interior's Land Buy-Back Program. SD-628

3:30 p.m.  
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
Subcommittee on Economic Policy  
To hold hearings to examine rebuilding American manufacturing. SD-538

3:45 p.m.  
Special Committee on Aging  
To hold hearings to examine protecting seniors from medication labeling mistakes. SD-562

##### DECEMBER 12

9:30 a.m.  
Committee on Energy and Natural Resources  
Business meeting to consider the nominations of Steven Croley, of Michigan,

to be General Counsel, and Christopher Smith, of Texas, to be an Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, both of the Department of Energy, and Esther Puakela Kia'aina, of Hawaii, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Interior; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of Franklin M. Orr, Jr., of California, to be Under Secretary for Science, and Jonathan Elkind, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary for International Affairs, both of the Department of Energy, and Rhea Sun Suh, of Colorado, to be Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife, and Tommy Port Beaudreau, of Alaska, to be an Assistant Secretary, both of the Department of the Interior. SD-366

10 a.m.  
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine assessing the P5+1 Interim Nuclear Agreement with Iran, focusing on Administration perspectives. SD-538

Committee on Finance  
Business meeting to consider an original bill to repeal the Sustainable Growth Rate system and to consider health care extenders. SD-215

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
To hold hearings to examine accreditation as quality assurance, focusing on meeting the needs of 21st Century learning. SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary  
Business meeting to consider S. 619, to amend title 18, United States Code, to prevent unjust and irrational criminal punishments, S. 1410, to focus limited Federal resources on the most serious offenders, S. 1675, to reduce recidivism and increase public safety, S. 975, to provide for the inclusion of court-appointed guardianship improvement and oversight activities under the Elder Justice Act of 2009, and the nominations of John B. Owens, of California, and Michelle T. Friedland, of California, both to be a United States Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit, Nancy L. Moritz, of Kansas, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Tenth Circuit, Matthew Frederick Leitman, Judith Ellen Levy, Laurie J. Michelson, and Linda Vivienne Parker, all to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Michigan, Christopher Reid Cooper, to be United States District Judge for the District of Columbia, Gerald Austin McHugh, Jr., and Edward G. Smith, both to be a United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, M. Douglas Harpool, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Missouri, Sheryl H. Lipman, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Tennessee, Stanley Allen Bastian, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of Washington, Manish S. Shah, to be United States District Judge for the Northern District of Illinois, and Peter Joseph Kadzik, of New York, to be an Assistant Attorney General, Robert L. Hobbs, to be United States Marshal for the Eastern District of Texas, and Gary Blankinship, to be United States Marshal for the Southern District of Texas, all of the Department of Justice. SD-226

10:30 a.m.  
 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
 Subcommittee on Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard  
 To hold hearings to examine forecasting success, focusing on achieving U.S. weather readiness for the long term.  
 SD-G50

11 a.m.  
 Committee on Foreign Relations  
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Bathsheba Nell Crocker, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary for International Organization Affairs, Michael Anderson Lawson, of California, for the rank of Ambassador during his tenure of service as Representative on the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization, and Robert C. Barber, of Massachusetts, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Iceland, all of the Department of State.  
 SD-419

2:30 p.m.  
 Committee on Foreign Relations  
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Joseph William Westphal, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Mark Gilbert, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to New Zealand and to serve concurrently and without additional compensation as Ambassador to the Independent State of Samoa, George James Tsunis, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Norway, John L. Estrada, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, and Luis G. Moreno, of Texas, to be Ambassador to Jamaica, all of the Department of State.  
 SD-419

Select Committee on Intelligence  
 To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.  
 SH-219

DECEMBER 17

10 a.m.  
 Committee on the Judiciary  
 To hold hearings to examine protecting small businesses and promoting innovation by limiting patent troll abuse.  
 SD-226

10:30 a.m.  
 Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
 To hold hearings to examine the Navy Yard tragedy, focusing on the physical security for Federal facilities.  
 SD-342

DECEMBER 18

2:15 p.m.  
 Special Committee on Aging  
 To hold hearings to examine the future of long-term care policy, focusing on continuing the conversation.  
 SD-562

2:30 p.m.  
 Committee on the Judiciary  
 To hold hearings to examine certain nominations.  
 SD-226