EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING BRENDA CONNOLLY ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2020

Ms. MENG. Madam Speaker, it is with great respect and appreciation that I rise today to honor Brenda Connolly, who is retiring after serving 35 years in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Ms. Connolly has been a member of my team since I was first elected to the House of Representatives. She is a trusted advisor and a centering force throughout the unpredictability of Washington. If you have met Brenda, then you know her retirement means more than just losing a staff member—it is the loss of an incredibly funny, talented and caring person who left a profound impact on everyone she has come across.

I was recently asked if there was anything I would change about Brenda's time in our office, and without hesitation I simply responded 'nothing.'

Before coming to Washington, D.C., Brenda grew up in Battle Creek, Michigan. She then graduated from the University of Michigan—Go Blue—where she met her husband Doug with whom she has two children, Nicholas and Caitlin. Brenda has been such a keystone of my team despite our superficial differences, because we understand one another. We both attended the University of Michigan, we value time with our families above all else, our children always come first, and we have the same sense of humor.

Our team shared many of Brenda's firsts while she worked with me: her first manicure, her first Kahlúa, and her first viewing of The Office. Brenda was also there for one of my most significant firsts: my first day in Congress. Brenda taught me more about Capitol Hill than she probably realizes. She put my job in perspective, made sure I was on time for the important things, and helped me understand how to let the small things slide. Brenda was always proactive about what we needed, always raising potential concerns before I thought of them. Brenda has an incredible talent for making meaningful people-to-people connections; and in her 35 years on Capitol Hill, I can only imagine the countless connections she has made through the years.

I know we will dearly miss Brenda's nature paintings, holiday sweaters, and unrepeatable metaphors. From her first day on February 7, 1985, Brenda understood that the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few. I wish her a wonderful and fulfilling retirement with many years of happiness.

On behalf of all the people she has made laugh, served, and worked with, I thank Brenda for her many years of service to New York and the United States of America. Brenda will be deeply missed.

IN HONOR OF THE MEMORY OF PAULA SPRINGER BOASE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2020

Mrs. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the esteemed life of Paula Boase. Paula will forever be remembered for her tremendous impact on our community, and she will be deeply missed.

Born in Detroit, Paula Boase was a life-long Michigan resident who left a significant mark on our state. After graduating from Michigan State University, Paula became a buyer for Hudson's and later worked for Heinz. A short while later, Paula began her career with the Downriver Community Conference (DCC), where she remained for the past thirty-six years. After initially serving as a job developer who helped community members connect with employment opportunities, Paula quickly became a fixture in the DCC and eventually rose to the position of Director of Economic Development. Among her colleagues and peers, Paula was regarded as a humble leader who endeavored to make a lasting difference, and she will always be recognized as the motivating driver behind the Brown Field redevelopment in the Downriver community. Paula dedicated her life to working for causes she believed in, and her efforts truly affected change throughout the Downriver community.

Beyond her impact in a professional capacity, Paula Boase was a generous, kind, and compassionate community figure. She was a fierce environmental and animal rights advocate, a creative baker, and an adventurous traveler. Above all, Paula was a loving mother to Hilary and Daniel and doting grandmother to Leah, Bryce, Evan, and Elena. Paula's passing represents a loss to the entire Michigan community, but her memory will endure through the countless lives she touched.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the legacy of Paula Boase. We are saddened by her loss, but we will forever remember her remarkable life, work, and community impact. May she rest in eternal peace.

INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL DISTRICTS PROVIDE ESSENTIAL SERVICES ACT

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2020

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the "Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act," at the request of the California Association of Special Districts. I want to thank my original cosponsors for their support of this much-needed legislation.

Special districts are independent units of local government that provide public services cities and counties do not provide for residents. Those services include first responders, policing, firefighting, public health, transit, and more, making special districts critical to the communities they serve.

However, special districts are currently ineligible for direct federal financial assistance under the "Coronavirus Relief Fund" established by the CARES Act (Public Law 116–136). My legislation would ensure that the 2,700 special districts in California and 30,000 special districts nationwide are eligible for any additional assistance provided by Congress to state, county, and local governments to aid in the fight against COVID–19. There are 237 special districts alone in, California's third Congressional district, which I am honored to represent.

The "Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act" would also allow special districts access to the Federal Reserve's Municipal Liquidity Facility, which provides states, counties, and cities federally guaranteed bridge financing to offset unexpected short-term revenue shortfalls. Like states, counties, and cities, many special districts serve large populations and have the legal authority to issue short-term tax and revenue anticipation notes. However, special districts are not currently granted direct access to the Municipal Liquidity Facility, even to offset revenue shortfalls caused by the current pandemic

Madam Speaker, I urge all Members to cosponsor the "Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act" to ensure that all local governments have the support needed to deliver crucial quality-of-life services for our communities during this global pandemic.

HONORING RAY ''GUMBI'' SALAZAR

HON. GREG STANTON

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 1, 2020

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life and legacy of Ray "Gumbi" Salazar, a true giant of Arizona, who passed away on Saturday, April 18, 2020, at the age of 71. We will remember him as a civil rights pioneer who dedicated his entire life to the advancement of a more just and equitable Arizona. His unwavering positivity, artistic spirit, and commitment to education serve as an inspiration to our community and our state.

Salazar was a changemaker who fought for opportunity and a brighter