

Chairman Alzate et al.,

I am writing in support of House Bill No. 5233 sponsored by Rep. Tanzi et al. and House Bill No. 5265 sponsored by Rep. Azzinaro et al.

I am a retired commissioned officer with twenty-three (23) years of service in the U.S. Navy. I am presently supporting the South Kingstown 300th Anniversary Committee in their planning for National Congressional Medal of Honor Day on Saturday, March 23, 2023. I previously have served as the State Senior Vice Commander and State Adjutant of the Rhode Island Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

The passage of Rep. Tanzi's bill will allow the Town of South Kingstown to further and more permanently recognize the service and sacrifice of CMOH recipients Sergeant William G. Fournier, Sergeant William J. Babcock, and Corporal David B. Champagne. As General of the Armies John J. Pershing said "Time will not dim the glory of their deeds." However, naming these three bridges in South Kingstown will help to ensure that those deeds are not forgotten.

I also support Rep. Azzinaro's bill increasing the weight limit on those vehicles which are registered with prisoner of war plates, Purple Heart plates, Distinguished Service Cross plates, Bronze Star Medal plates, National Guard plates or disabled veterans' plates.

I respectfully ask that you unanimously approve these two bills and send them to the House floor for a vote by all of the members.

Thank you!

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V/R,

Matthew Baldwin McCoy  
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