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House of Representatives

HONORING THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

Hon. Eleanor Holmes Norton

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor The George Washington University on the occasion of its bicentennial.

For two centuries, generations of students from around the world have come to The George Washington University (GW) to take full advantage of the unparalleled academic opportunities that accompany its unique vantage point in the heart of the nation's capital.

Indeed, the entire GW community is unique in that, regardless of what discipline one may choose to pursue there, all have chosen to attend the university because of their desire to make a difference in the world—and their ability to utilize GW's vast network of partnerships, access and policy initiatives to translate that desire into action.

With its decades-long working relationships with nearly every federal agency, as well as numerous international multilateral organizations, the university's faculty have long been an indispensable source of groundbreaking research and ideas that not only create new knowledge but also transform policy that affects millions of people in their daily lives. While GW's traditional areas of strength have long been regarded as law, media and policymaking, the university is also pioneering discoveries in cybersecurity, tissue regeneration, robotics, autism, fighting extremism, HIV/AIDS, combating violence against women and girls worldwide, nanotechnology and building sustainable ecosystems, among many other areas. It should not come as a surprise that GW's doctors, researchers and public health officials have been at the forefront of COVID-19 research since the beginning and are diligently working to help address this urgent problem.

Moreover, the collective force of GW's two centuries is embodied by its distinguished alumni—now numbering more than 290,000 in 130 countries worldwide—whose ranks include some of the most consequential leaders of our time in practically every pursuit.

Furthermore, as a hub of intellect and dynamic human capital, the university continues to infuse the District of Columbia with its exciting mixture of ideas, diversity and youthful energy, which has made it an essential part of the city's civic and cultural life since its very founding.

Yet, none of this great success was either inevitable or preordained. It was only achieved by the commitment of generations of students, alumni, faculty and staff to build GW into a preeminent global research institution.

I ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking and congratulating GW for two centuries of accomplishment and positive impact on the District, the rest of the nation and the world. I wish the university continued success into its third century and beyond.