



United States
of America

Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE *116th* CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

House of Representatives

**HONORING DR. MEHR RAHMATULLAH AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER
IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR ASIAN AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH**

HON. DARREN SOTO
OF FLORIDA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday May 27, 2020

Born in Pakistan, Dr. Mehr Rahmatullah grew up on a farmhouse surrounded by coconut trees, cattle, goats and poultry. Growing up, she watched her mother volunteer much of her time to those in need and became inspired to seek a profession in which she could do the same.

While studying medicine at Dow Medical University in Karachi, she donated blood frequently to the patients who could not afford care. She also worked to transport patients from her village to the University Hospital in order to be treated by her professors during her clinical rotations. As a Medical Officer, she volunteered treatment to impoverished patients with T.B. using her own meager salary and enforced a practice of supervising patients receiving their medication to ensure that they took it. Although she didn't know at the time, this method was actually the now-famous Directly Observed Therapy (DOT) practice, which was made the standard practice for

T.B. treatment by the World Health Organization. She moved to America right after getting married in 1988, and soon thereafter prepared for the United States Medical Licensing Exam.

After passing, she completed her first-year residency training at St. John's Mercy in St Louis, an affiliate of St Louis University. In her second and third year of residency, she moved to serve in Internal Medicine at Orlando Health in Orlando, Florida. After almost 25 years into practice and having received certification as a Diplomate from the American Board of Internal Medicine, Dr. Rahmatullah continues to practice as well as volunteer her time at Shepard's Hope Clinic for economically disadvantaged patients and serves as an Honorary Member of a local School Board at MAGO (Muslim Academy of Greater Orlando). She has also served as Chairman of the Credentials Committee at Osceola Regional Hospital in Kissimmee, Florida.

HON. DARREN SOTO
MEMBER OF CONGRESS