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WASHINGTON, D. C. - Congressman Ben Ray Luján, D-N.M., the U.S. House Assistant Speaker spoke Sept. 27 on the passing of Ambassador Joe Wilson:

“It was with profound sadness that I heard of the passing of Ambassador Wilson, a friend and fellow New Mexican for whom I had deep respect. Amb. Wilson was a devoted patriot who put country and duty before politics and who had the courage to speak the truth in the face of extreme criticism. With his passing, our country lost a faithful public servant.

“Today, my thoughts and prayers are with Joe’s family and friends. He will be missed by all those who loved and respected him.”