

Persons who breach or order violations of these principles, or who aid and abet the breach of these principles, or who fail to punish subordinates who have committed breaches of these principles, may face individual criminal liability at home and/or in foreign or international courts.

**DARFUR PEACE AND  
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2006**

SPEECH OF

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 5, 2006*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise the passage of H.R. 3127, The Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006. As I was regrettably absent at the time of this vote, I now take the opportunity to affirm my resolute support of this act.

"The care of human life and happiness, and not their destruction, is the first and only object of good government." These words, spoken by Thomas Jefferson, come to mind as I consider the current situation in Darfur, Sudan. In a conflict that has killed hundreds of thousands of people, displaced and left millions hungry, the United States can remain idle no longer. I stand with my colleagues in the House in support of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act and would have voted for the resolution if I had been present.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE  
SCHOLARSHIP DATABASE ACT**

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 2006*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Scholarship Database Act to create a one-stop Web portal of scholarships, grants, fellowships, and other forms of financial aid for the students wishing to study science, technology, engineering, or mathematics disciplines.

Yes, there are many websites in existence that inform students about federal financial aid or students pay for a service to locate other scholarship opportunities. However, none seems to meet the needs of a wide range of students across the country. We grapple with what to do for our nation's future in terms of the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics students, the least we can do is ease the burden of finding financial aid. In a time of fiscal responsibility, this is an affordable way to enable our workforce of tomorrow to be highly skilled and well educated.

The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Scholarship Database would give a complete list of scholarships, fellowships, and other programs of financial assistance from all public and private sources for science, technology, engineering, and mathematics postsecondary and post-graduate level study.

First generation students would greatly benefit from such a database that would separate the information according to disciplines of study, level of study, and assistance based on gender, ethnicity, or other characteristics.

When one is the first person in your family to consider going to college one often has very little guidance on how to proceed with the entire college application process, of which financial aid is one piece. If a student does not immediately or easily find financial assistance they may at first see their dream of a college degree in a STEM field shattered. We can ease this with the one-stop Web portal of STEM financial aid.

As we move forward, this Web portal can expand to meet the needs of our nation, and it can serve as a model for other disciplines to follow suit.

**IN HONOR OF CALIFORNIA'S COUNTY  
AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONERS**

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 2006*

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor California's County Agricultural Commissioners. Agriculture is California's No. 1 industry. In 2004 the fertile soils of California supported over 350 different crops, which were valued at over \$37.5 billion and shipped throughout the United States and foreign countries. Weather, water and good farmers are some of the major factors contributing to California's bountiful crops. One other prime factor in California's agricultural success has been the presence of California Agricultural Commissioners.

California County Agricultural Commissioners will celebrate their first 125 years during their annual convention in May 2006, in San Luis Obispo, CA. No other State in the United States has the Agricultural Commissioners system, which has been in existence in California since 1881. It is fitting that the California Agricultural Commissioners be recognized and honored for their contributions to the well being of California and to our Nation.

As prescribed by State Law, the County Agricultural Commissioner is responsible for the local administration of State wide enforcement programs that promote and protect the agricultural industry of the State. In addition this commission is dedicated to protecting public health, safety and welfare. In fulfilling this responsibility, the primary objective of the County Agricultural Commissioner is to maintain a viable system of production and delivery of an abundant supply of wholesome food and fiber to domestic and export consumers. Each agricultural commissioner adheres to the following policies in order to maintain the integrity of the County Agricultural Commissioner's Office.

The first and foremost policy is to ensure the protection of California's agricultural resources and the environment in manner that will result in the greatest long-term benefit to all. One of the primary ways the commission protects agricultural resources, the environmental and public health is by supporting beneficial legislation as well as preserving local determination. The Commissioner seeks to insure that all interagency and joint policies provide adequate flexibility to accommodate local concerns and resources.

The County Agricultural Commissioner recognizes the need to protect the agriculture industry from the introduction and spread of

damaging pests. Therefore, it encourages and promotes the suppression of pests through biological, cultural, mechanical and chemical methods. However, the Commissioner has always been cognizant of the effects of harmful pesticides and has adamantly enforced all laws and regulations that provide for the appropriate, safe and efficient use of pesticides.

The Commissioner protects both businesses and consumers. The consumers are protected from fraud and deception and are assured marketing equity among producers and among shippers in the distribution of fruits, nuts, vegetables, eggs and honey by the uniform enforcement of quality standards. The Commissioner's Office also encourages the development of alternate disposal methods for substandard commodities to prevent waste.

The Agricultural Commissioners are today enforcing legislation of the basic quarantine sections that have stood for over 115 years. It has been the enforcement of these quarantine laws that has helped to keep California agriculture free from biological pollution caused by invasive insect and plant diseases found in other parts of the world.

The work of the Agricultural Commissioners is to be commended as their presence, dedication, knowledge, professionalism and hard work, has insured an adequate food supply for millions of people and a healthy economy for the State of California. Our Nation's residents as well as citizens of other nations are the beneficiaries of an amazing supply of agricultural products grown throughout the year in California. California, her farmers and Agricultural Commissioners can be proud of the first 125 years of service.

**PAYING TRIBUTE TO LT. COL.  
GEORGE SHERMAN (RET.)**

**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 6, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero, Lt. Col. George Sherman (Ret.) who will be celebrating his 80th birthday on April 17, 2006.

A distinguished member of the Las Vegas community, Lt. Col. George Sherman (Ret.) has dedicated his life to being a loving and devoted husband, father, and grandfather, achieving a brilliant career in the United States Army Air Corp-Air Force, and serving as a respected leader in his community.

In the early 1940's, while serving in the Army Air Corp-Air Force, Lt. Col. George Sherman (Ret.) earned the distinct honor of becoming one of the famed Tuskegee Airmen. Throughout his 22 year service in the United States Military, Lt. Col. George Sherman (Ret.) served as Aircraft Commander, Launch and Control Training Officer, and Chief of Ordnance Safety. Furthermore, while serving, he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology from the University of Illinois; and after retiring from the military in 1971, Lt. Col. George Sherman (Ret.) received a Masters of Arts in Public Administration.

Over his distinguished life, Lt. Col. George Sherman (Ret.) has shown a passion for aviation and community service. He was awarded the Silver Beaver Award, the highest honor of the Boy Scouts of America; he was a member