

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF PAUL OYASKI

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to bring to your attention the 33-year public service career of Paul Oyaski who is retiring from his post as the Director of Cuyahoga County's Department of Development on January 14, 2011.

Director Oyaski has directed with distinction the Department of Development since 2004, leading a staff of 62 in Ohio's largest county which serves all the people of Ohio's 10th Congressional District and surrounding districts. He has administered federal funding from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program for 51 Cuyahoga County municipalities with fewer than 50,000 residents. His department has managed a \$75 million budget supplemented by the CDBGs, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, the Department of Energy, and the Environmental Protection Agency. Through Paul's leadership, the people of Cuyahoga County were served ably and the federal dollars we appropriated were used wisely and with the people's needs first and foremost on the agenda. During his tenure as Director, he received numerous awards from the public and private sectors.

Prior to his service at the county level, Paul Oyaski served as the Mayor of Euclid, Ohio from 1996 to 2003. As mayor of a city with a population of 53,000, Mayor Oyaski became familiar with the administrative responsibilities associated with the CDBG program. He led Euclid to receive the Livable Cities Award from the U.S. Conference of Mayors in 2000 for positive race relations. He was also spokesman for the First Suburbs Consortium which represents Euclid and 14 other inner-ring suburbs of Cleveland.

Before his election as Mayor, Paul Oyaski served the City of Euclid with distinction as a member of the City Council, the Director of Community Services and Development, and as Law Director. Paul graduated from the Ohio State University School of Law with honors, earned his Bachelor of Arts Magna Cum Laude from Cleveland State University, and is a proud graduate of Euclid Senior High School where he was a member of the National Honor Society and received his letter for varsity soccer.

Mr. Speaker and honored colleagues, please join me in wishing Paul Oyaski well as he retires from a long and illustrious career in the public sector working with the people of his hometown of Euclid, and Cuyahoga County for these many years.

RECOGNIZING MR. FRANK EDWARD EMORY, SR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM ELECTED OFFICE

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an extraordinary American who has devoted his life to building the community in which he lives—Wilson County, North Carolina. As a passionate, empowering and inspirational leader, Frank Edward Emory, Sr. has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of those around him.

Mr. Emory is a native of Johnston County, North Carolina. He received his college education at A&T College—now A&T State University—in Greensboro, North Carolina. After completing his education, Mr. Emory became a distinguished extension agent and later served as assistant director of Urban Affairs at North Carolina State University.

In 1970, Mr. Emory was elected to the City of Wilson Board of Education (later Wilson County Board of Education) and remained in this capacity until 1984 when he was elected to the Wilson County Board of Commissioners. He was the first African-American to serve on these boards.

Mr. Emory has been a wonderful example of faith in God and community, and faith that we may someday realize a place where equality and opportunity flourish. He has been a special friend and leader who truly understands people and their issues. He is always ready to work with anyone willing to improve the total community.

After 40 years of continuous service, Mr. Emory has decided to retire from elective office. And while his retirement will be a tremendous loss, Mr. Emory leaves a great legacy that will continue to enrich and strengthen the community for many years to come.

Mr. Emory's remarkable tenure included the development and construction of numerous county facilities as well as the expansion and development of critical emergency services including emergency disaster response, centralized communications, rescue services, and full countywide paramedic services.

Mr. Emory was a key leader in expanding recreation opportunities, improving services for seniors, enhancing cable television services, improving health care facilities and the county's road system.

Mr. Emory has also been a strong and consistent supporter of economic development throughout the region, and a tireless advocate for improving education. He strongly supported funding for the Wilson County Public Schools and Wilson Community College. He also supported state and local bond issues for school and community college construction, which included the renovation of multiple schools and the construction of the Darden Middle School and the John W. Jones Elementary School.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to his countless gifts to our community, he has given me true friendship, by which I have been enormously honored. He has been married to Athalene Dancy Emory for more than 50 years. They are the proud parents of two sons, Frank, Jr. and Randolph, who have blessed them with four grandsons.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the commitment, dedication and success of Frank Edward Emory, Sr. on the occasion of his retirement from elective office.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today our national debt is \$14,019,559,567,587.86.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$3,381,133,821,294.06 since then.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

THE STEM EDUCATION TEACHER TAX INCENTIVE ACT OF 2011

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, the latest results of international tests just came in. On the Program for International Student Assessment, PISA, 15-year-olds in the United States rank 25th in math—below average—among their peers in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD, nations. Our 15-year-olds rank 17th place—only average—in science. To compete for the jobs of the future, the United States can and must do better.

Today I introduce the Science, Technology, Education, and Mathematics, STEM, Teacher Tax Incentive Act of 2011, one small step to help restore our strength in STEM education and our nation's economic competitiveness.

Research has shown that teacher quality is the most important factor affecting student achievement. We need more highly effective teachers to help excite and inspire our students about Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math. This bill will provide a tax credit to encourage those who major in STEM fields to join and stay in the teaching profession. The tax credit can be used to help repay undergraduate tuition, and is 50 percent greater for qualified STEM teachers who teach in high-needs schools.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

In Hawaii, I have visited dozens of schools and STEM teachers who are working day in, day out to inspire the next generation of leaders. These teachers engage their students through innovative programs like Waianae High School's Searider Productions and robotics initiatives, where our students compete successfully across our islands, nationally, and internationally.

The Hawaii Department of Education's winning Race-to-the-Top plan outlines efforts to increase students' access to highly qualified teachers in STEM and other hard-to-staff subjects. This bill can help supplement Hawaii DOE's efforts.

For his work on this bill in past congresses, I thank my former colleague Congressman Vern Ehlers, Republican of Michigan. Although he retired from his role as a legislator in December 2010, I look forward to his continued contributions as a nuclear physics professor. Thank you also to the other members of the Congressional STEM Education Caucus for their partnership in this and other initiatives to promote STEM Education.

MERCER ISLAND HIGH SCHOOL
MARCHING BAND

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of an outstanding marching band in my district—the Eighth District of Washington—that recently returned from a once-in-a-lifetime trip to London to perform in the invitation-only New Year's Day Parade there. It isn't the first time the band has performed on a grand scale and to a grand audience and it most certainly won't be the last.

The Mercer Island High School marching band, composed of approximately 200 young people, returned from their whirlwind trip to London just a few days ago. And although the winter storms slowed down 87 of the band's members, Mr. Speaker, their performance went off without a hitch. They marched from Trafalgar Square to Big Ben and on to the steps of Parliament. The bells of Westminster Abbey sounded out and the entire experience was, as their director Parker Bixby put it, "surreal."

One of the more notable things about the Mercer Island High School marching band's trip to London, Mr. Speaker, is that this is not the first time the band has performed at such a prestigious event. In 1996, the band performed at the Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena and played there again in 2006. What's more, the band will return to Pasadena for the Parade next year, as well. The band's engagements are well documented and internationally known.

The community of Mercer Island, with a population of 22,890, is remarkably supportive of the arts. The City's Arts Council, the Rotary Club, the Schools Foundation, other community groups, and many individuals comprise a community dedicated to young musicians and artists. It is indeed a testament to the community, Mr. Speaker, that the trip to London was even possible. Raising money is never easy, especially in our economic climate. However, the people of Mercer Island generously gave to help make the dream trip a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate director Bixby for his tireless efforts, Mercer Island Superintendent Gary Plano for his support, Mayor Jim Pearman and the City Council for their support, and the people of Mercer Island for their generosity. Above all, I would like to thank the members of the band for working every day to create a product that is respected and admired around the world.

NEWTON HOUSING AUTHORITY
HONORS JONATHAN HACKER

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, after 39 years of dedicated service in the important cause of providing housing for people in need in our society, Jonathan Hacker is retiring next month as Director of the Newton Housing Authority.

Throughout the period when many in this country mistakenly put excessive focus on pushing homeownership for lower-income people in cases where it was not appropriate, Jonathan Hacker worked tirelessly on behalf of providing decent rental housing for people in that category. As he noted recently, "When I first assumed my position at NHA, our housing portfolio consisted of 226 units of federal public housing located in 4 developments along with 223 units of subsidized housing. Today, the NHA portfolio consists of 1,034 units of affordable housing operated under federal, state, and management portfolios." This feat—more than doubling the number of rental units available—is a rare example, unfortunately, of work by someone who understands the best way in which to respond to housing needs.

Public housing has not been a fashionable cause for many years, and our society has suffered from that. Jonathan Hacker was never deterred by these attitudes from working hard on behalf of people in need, and not just people in that sector but the entire City of Newton benefitted greatly from his work. As NHA Chair Tom Turner said in the announcement of Mr. Hacker's retirement, "Jonathan will be greatly missed. He has an amazing background and work ethic as well as 39 years of housing authority experience."

Mr. Speaker, in the hopes that Jonathan Hacker's example will inspire others to work as he has on the best solution to our housing needs, I ask that the statement from the Newton Housing Authority on his retirement be printed here.

JONATHAN HACKER, NEWTON HOUSING
AUTHORITY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO RETIRE

Jonathan L. Hacker, Executive Director of the Newton Housing Authority has announced his intention to retire in February after 39 years with the Authority.

Mr. Hacker began his career with the NHA in 1972 as Administrative Assistant. He was elevated to Assistant Executive Director in 1983 and to Executive Director in 1999.

When asked to reflect upon his career he stated, "When I first assumed my position at NHA, our housing portfolio consisted of 226 units of federal public housing located in 4 developments along with 223 units of subsidized housing. Today, the NHA portfolio consists of 1,034 units of affordable housing

operated under federal, state, and management portfolios. New housing opportunities have always been difficult to obtain in Newton due to factors that we are all familiar with. Our accomplishments have been extraordinary.

"We have received over 7.5 million dollars since 1992 for capital improvement funding from HUD to renovate and support our federally funded portfolio. Some of the work items include Section 504 handicap modifications at our developments, replacement heating plants, replacement windows, roofs, kitchen and bath modernizations, new fire alarm systems, balcony and canopy repairs, an emergency fire stopping project, and other improvements that make the lives of our residents easier and safer. During the initial years of the federal capital improvement program, these grants were competitive in nature. Our competitive proposals generated HUD grants in excess of 4 million dollars.

"On the State side, funds have been more difficult to come by. However, we managed to accomplish a one million dollar building envelope project, an emergency generator project which provides emergency electricity to our disabled residents at the New Hyde apartments, a replacement window program, building re-siding project, electric baseboard replacement project, drainage and surface improvements to the New Hyde site and have additional projects currently in the planning and design stage. State funded projects that are presently in the process of being federalized (Echo Ridge and Nonantum Village) are receiving significant infusions of funds, which will improve the infrastructure of these properties and enhance the lives of our residents.

"Our real property acquisition program has been amazingly successful, recently yielding 48 units of affordable housing with local inclusionary zoning funding, Community Preservation Act participation, and conventional bank financing. The Newton Housing Authority with the Commissioner's support elected to receive 6 million dollars in cash payments from developers of two luxury developments which would have otherwise provided 9 units of family housing for a finite period of time. Our election to receive cash has created appropriate sized housing conveniently located close to public amenities, which will remain affordable in perpetuity. NHA has demonstrated that it is the low cost producer of affordable housing acquisition in our city. This program creates the quickest path to creating permanently affordable housing.

"On other fronts, great accomplishment and personal satisfaction has come from our actions on behalf of victims of Hurricane Katrina, bringing Habitat for Humanity to Newton, devising an emergency management and evacuation plan for our residents, implementing and upgrading our Information Technology systems, dedicating units in our Wyman Street property for temporary emergency housing, federalizing two state funded developments, being named by HUD as a High Performing Housing Authority on multiple occasions, and being honored in November 1999 when HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo named us as '... the nation's finest ...' in a Washington, D.C. awards ceremony. We were instrumental in gaining the necessary support from the Nonantum community to allow Nonantum Village Place, a HUD 202 development to become a reality. We have had numerous financial audits including the recently completed FY 2009 A-133 audit which have all been without finding or recommendations.

"We provided much comfort to Mr. Bill Britt, the 'Hermit from Chestnut Hill'. He along with a number of truly homeless individuals residing outdoors received our care

and personal resources. Although for the most part we were unsuccessful in encouraging these folks to obtain our public housing units, we provided clothing, bedding, meals and financial assistance where we could during the coldest times of the year.

"During the blizzard of 1978, we provided food, water, and medical supplies including prescription medications to our residents. Since motor vehicles were not permitted to be on the streets during this emergency we received special authorization to carry out our mission. We made the necessary arrangements with local family owned businesses to open their doors to us, extend credit, and provide emergency supplies so that we could bring sustenance to our residents.

"There have been so many important accomplishments over the years, each that impact our residents. It would not be possible to highlight them at this time."

Mr. Hacker acknowledged the current members of the NHA Board of Commissioners for their commitment, dedication, and professional manner in which they have approached their positions. "Howard Haywood, Rick Kronish, Mary Panaggio, Jeff Sacks, and Tom Turner have each made a difference in the lives of those under our umbrella. It is, after all, about those under our care. I am pleased with the recent appointment of Rick Kronish to our Board as the representative of organized labor. Rick's background in finance and his affiliation with the New England Council of Carpenters will be an asset as the Newton Housing Authority moves forward.

"As I move into retirement, I am comfortable knowing that I have done the best job possible in my capacity of Executive Director. I leave the Newton Housing Authority with solid financial reserves, a caring and dedicated staff, and innovative and progressive programs in place. The overall excellent health of the Newton Housing Authority will afford my successor the ability to move forward with the strength to address the challenges that lie ahead."

When asked to comment on Mr. Hacker's retirement, NHA Chair Tom Turner stated, "Jonathan will be greatly missed. He has an amazing background and work ethic as well as 39 years of housing authority experience. I am hopeful that his relationship with the NHA can continue on some level going forward."

Mr. Hacker plans to spend more time with his family, including two wonderful grandchildren, improving his golf game, enjoying the outdoors and developing new interests.

IN HONOR OF CAPTAIN ROLAND
SALCER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Captain Roland Salcer, the longest working policeman in Ohio's history. Captain Salcer retired on January 1, 2011 from the Cleveland Heights Police Department after 60 years of dedicated service.

Born on December 27, 1924, Captain Roland Salcer was raised in East Cleveland and knew at an early age that he wanted to work as a policeman. Before achieving his goal of becoming a police officer, Captain Salcer served as a sergeant in the U.S. Army's tank corps for three years during World War II. During his stint in the Army he fought in the historic Battle of the Bulge.

On January 1, 1951 Captain Salcer began his career with the Cleveland Heights Police Department as a third-class patrolman. For the past 33 years he has served as a captain. During his tenure with the Cleveland Heights Police Department, Captain Salcer formed Ohio's first suburban police narcotics unit, played an integral role in a 1971 drug bust, and only used his firearm once. He has a stellar reputation as a reliable officer who has always treated people with dignity, fairness and respect. Not only is Captain Salcer the oldest and longest working police officer in Ohio's history, he is also the second longest working officer in the country's history.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor of Captain Roland Salcer. At the age of 86, Captain Salcer has served and protected the people of Cleveland Heights with courage for 60 years.

HONORING THE CAREER OF MINNESOTA TWINS PITCHER BERT BLYLEVEN

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize former Minnesota Twins pitcher and 2011 inductee into the Major League Baseball Hall of Fame, Mr. Bert Blyleven.

Mr. Blyleven pitched for 22 years at the major league level, including 11 seasons as a member of the Minnesota Twins. During his career, he amassed an astonishing 3,701 strikeouts and used his magnificent curveball to help pitch two teams to World Series victories, including the 1987 Minnesota Twins.

Since 1996, Bert has been a proud member of the television broadcasting team for the Minnesota Twins and has delighted hometown fans with his color commentary.

Mr. Blyleven is a mainstay of the Minnesota sports community and his election to the Hall of Fame is long overdue. He is hereby circled.

HONORING WILLIAM (BILL)
NESMITH

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor William, Bill, Nesmith, who will retire from his position as Hillsborough County's fire chief on January 15, 2011.

Mr. Nesmith has provided Hillsborough County with 41 years of service in the fire community. After spending 24 years with Tampa Fire Rescue, he joined the Hillsborough County Fire Rescue as assistant chief in 1994 and just 2 years later became fire chief.

Under his leadership, the Hillsborough County Fire Department merged with Hillsborough's Emergency Medical Services to become Hillsborough County Fire Rescue, which he oversaw. Hillsborough County Fire Rescue saw immense growth after this, more than doubling its number of firefighters.

During Chief Nesmith's tenure as Fire Chief, eight new fire stations were opened and

equipped with state-of-the-art equipment. In addition, he was instrumental in ensuring that all engines and ladders were staffed with paramedics, providing Hillsborough County's residents with the highest level of pre-hospital care.

Mr. Nesmith has a quite impressive repertoire of accomplishments that coincide with his career. He was able to continue his formal education, receiving a bachelor in arts and a master in arts in industrial technology education from the University of South Florida. He served on numerous boards and committees, including the International Association of Fire Chiefs and Florida Fire Chiefs' Association, and has been the recipient of the Harvey Grant Excellence in Rescue Award and Hillsborough County's Distinguished Service Award.

Public servants like Mr. Nesmith keep our communities safe in our most pressing times of need. His talents will be missed, and I wish him the best in the future.

JAMES MANNING, JR.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Mr. James Manning, Jr., to the people of Neptune, NJ. Mr. Manning stepped down from his position on the Neptune Township Committee on January 1st of this year after 15 years of dedicated and uncompromised service to the people of his hometown and the people of Monmouth County and our great State of New Jersey.

As a lifelong resident of Neptune, Jim, as he is known to his friends, joined the Neptune Township Committee on January 1, 1996, as one of the youngest elected officials in the history of the Township. But this was not the first act of public service for Mr. Manning. Jim was already living the words of the great President Abraham Lincoln who said, "He has the right to criticize who has the heart to help." By the time of his first successful election, he had already served on a number of municipal boards and worked in many campaigns and volunteer organizations. His election was recognition and reward for his service to the residents of the Township; recognition which was reinforced five more times as he continually won reelection no matter the political environment.

Mr. Manning during his 15 years of service was honored by his peers to act as mayor in 1998, 2003 and in 2007. He also served numerous times as deputy mayor and police commissioner and served on many boards as a governmental representative and liaison to departments such as Administration, Finance, Police, Courts and Public Safety as well as the Board of Health and Welfare. He also made great strides in increasing the service while controlling the costs associated with the Department of Public Works to which he served as liaison during his entire tenure on the Township Committee.

But as any great public servant, his service did not define him but was a compliment to the individual. A native of Neptune and son of Flo and James Manning, Sr., Jim worked for 12 years for Jersey Central Power and Light and today is employed serving the citizens of

the State of New Jersey in the Department of Labor in the area of Workforce Development. During his time with Jersey Central he also served his brothers and sisters in the labor movement for 5 years as the vice president of IBEW Local 1309.

Mr. Manning has two children, son Michael, 19, and daughter Melanie, who is 15, in whom he takes great pride. He also over the holidays asked Ms. Lori Davis to become his wife and join him as he embarks on this new phase of his life.

I know that though Jim has left elective office, he will not leave the service to the people of his hometown. I want to add my thanks to those of the citizens of Neptune Township for his years as a dedicated public servant and my best wishes for his continued success.

CONGRATULATING THE VARSITY FOOTBALL TEAM OF BYRON P. STEELE II HIGH SCHOOL IN CIBOLO, TEXAS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the varsity football team of Byron P. Steele II High School in Cibolo, Texas on winning the 2010 University Interscholastic League 5A Division II Football State Championship. This is Steele High School's first state championship. The Steele Knights football team victoriously ended a long season on December 18, 2010 at Dallas Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

A crowd of more than 37,000 watched the Steele Knights varsity football team win 24–21 over the Wildcats of Denton Guyer High School. In their extremely competitive 14 win, two loss season, this outstanding football team proved that hard work, dedication, and skill are the perfect recipe for champions. These football players were led to the championship title through the tireless leadership of their head football coach, Mike Jinks and his commendable staff. I congratulate the educators and leaders of this superb team, including the leadership of athletic director Robert Lehnhoff. Key players on this team include Malcolm Brown, running back and Most Valuable Player during the championship game and Ryan Simmons, linebacker and Most Valuable Defensive Player during the championship game. Although these young players stood out during the final game, it was the hard work and commitment from the entire team that lead Steele to their first title. This is not only a victory for the players, students and faculty, but for the parents, community and fans as a whole.

Steele High School is part of the Schertz Cibolo Universal City Independent School District and opened in the fall of 2005. By 2006, this school set the area record for most wins by a new school and has continued this winning tradition since its inception.

I am honored to praise the accomplishments of Cibolo, Texas' home team, the Steele Knights varsity football team as the 5A Division II State Champion. Congratulations.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLENE JOHNSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a trailblazing woman in the field of athletics, who represents our shared alma mater with tremendous leadership. Charlene Johnson is being honored by the Baltimore Alumni Chapter of South Carolina State University on January 16, 2011 for her 28 years of outstanding contributions to the University's Athletics Department. It is my honor to join my fellow alumni in applauding her great work.

Charlene Johnson is currently serving her seventh season as athletics director at South Carolina State University. After guiding the Department in an interim capacity in 2003, Johnson was elevated to the athletics director on a permanent basis in the spring of 2004. Her influence is being felt well beyond the Orangeburg campus. In 2007, Johnson became the first female to serve as chairperson of the Directors of Athletics in the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference. She has also served on several NCAA committees.

The 2010–11 athletic season marks Mrs. Johnson's 28th year as a member of the SC State Department of Athletics, making her one of just three athletics staff members with more than 25 years of service to the University's athletics department. During her tenure as director of athletics, three different SC State teams have brought home conference championships, with three earning NCAA tournament appearances. The Bulldog football team won the 2008 and 2009 Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference titles and made back-to-back trips to the prestigious FCS playoffs, and was league Co-Champion in 2004.

The women's tennis team has won the last six MEAC tennis crowns and made as many appearances in the NCAA Tennis Championship, while the men's squad has earned six of the last seven MEAC titles and as many berths to the NCAA Tournament. Prior to being named director of athletics, Johnson served seven years as the senior woman administrator and associate athletic director for the university. During that time she helped usher in a new era in SC State Athletics, assisting in the planning, directing, and coordinating of all areas of the department of athletics.

Johnson began her illustrious career in athletics at SC State in 1983 when she became the first woman to be appointed to a full-time coaching position as an assistant on the Lady Bulldog basketball team. Since that time, she has served the university in a number of capacities, including head volleyball coach, head women's tennis coach, and assistant women's basketball coach. She also spent two terms as the school's interim director of athletics.

Johnson's success as a leader in athletics is grounded in her success as a player. On the basketball court she became a part of SC State history early on when, she helped the Lady Bulldogs capture the 1979 AIAW National Championship with a 73–68 win over Dayton in Fargo, North Dakota. After her playing career, Johnson continued to help her alma mater and the women's basketball program. As a member of the coaching staff, she was instrumental in keeping the Lady Bulldogs among the top teams in the Southeast.

In 1990, Johnson guided the Lady Bulldog volleyball team to its sole Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference championship, earning MEAC Coach of the Year honors for her efforts. She also earned MEAC Coach of the Year accolades for women's tennis in 1986.

In recognition of her efforts, Johnson was inducted into the SC State Athletics Hall of Fame in 1998 as an administrator and received special recognition in 2000 as a member of the 1979 AIAW National Championship team. Mrs. Johnson, who earned both her bachelor's (1980) and master's (1987) from SC State, is married to Virgin Johnson, Jr., and they are the proud parents of two children: Taylor and Virgin (Trey) III.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in recognizing the significant contributions of Charlene Johnson as an athlete, a coach and an athletics administrator. She has built an outstanding legacy at South Carolina State University, and is a trailblazing role model for women pursuing careers in university athletics. I congratulate her on a job well done and thank her on behalf of all South Carolina State alumni for her many contributions to the university.

IN HONOR OF JUDGE JEAN MURRELL CAPERS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Judge Jean Murrell Capers, a courageous woman whose very productive life serves as example of what can be accomplished through determination and dedication.

Judge Capers will celebrate her 98th birthday on January 11, 2011. Her 98 years have been filled with selfless service to others.

From 1949 to 1956 she served on the Cleveland City Council, becoming the first African-American woman elected to the city council of a major city. Between 1960 and 1964 she worked as assistant attorney general and from 1964 to 1966 she was special counsel to the Ohio Attorney General. In 1977, she was appointed as an Ohio Municipal Judge and was subsequently reelected to a 6 year term. Judge Capers fulfilled her campaign promises by assisting many black Clevelanders in finding positions with the city and by speaking out against injustice, including segregation in the local taxi cab industry. She continues today to work as an attorney with a special focus on elder law, advocating for victims of social injustice.

Judge Capers is one of the original members of the Women's Advisory Council of the Women's Division previously known as the Ohio Bureau of Employment Services, now the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. In 1941, she won Cleveland's tennis championship which was organized by the city recreation department. She went on to teach health and physical education at Central High School and has worked throughout her life to support youth, encouraging them to strive to achieve academic and social success.

She was elected to the Ohio Women's Hall of Fame in 1997. In 2010, she received a Cleveland Marshall College of Law honorary doctorate of laws degree, 64 years after graduating from that institution. That same year,

she was named one of Cleveland's "Most Interesting People."

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Judge Jean Murrell Capers.

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.
MEMORIAL BREAKFAST**

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, as we celebrate the birth of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and reflect on his life and work, we are reminded of the challenges that democracy poses to us and the delicate nature of liberty. Dr. King's life, and, unfortunately, his untimely death, reminds us that we must continually work to secure and protect our freedoms. Dr. King, in his courage to act, his willingness to meet challenges, and his ability to achieve, embodied all that is good and true in the battle for liberty.

The spirit of Dr. King lives on in the citizens of communities throughout our Nation. It lives on in the people whose actions reflect the spirit of resolve and achievement that will help move our country into the future. In particular, several distinguished individuals from Indiana's First Congressional District will be recognized during the 32nd Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Breakfast on Saturday, January 15, 2011, at the Genesis Convention Center in Gary, Indiana. The Gary Frontiers Service Club, which was founded in 1952, sponsors this annual breakfast.

This year, the Gary Frontiers Service Club will pay tribute to several local individuals who have for decades unselfishly contributed to improving the quality of life for the people of Gary. Those individuals who will be recognized as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Marchers at this year's breakfast include: Karen Freeman-Wilson, the late Reverend Dr. Benjamin J. Holmes, Robert L. Nichols, Bishop Benjamin A. Sanders, William A. Shields, Ph.D., and Deputy Mayor Geraldine Tousant. Additionally, Martha Morgan Naylor will be honored with the prestigious Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Drum Major Award, an award given out annually to outstanding individuals of the Gary community. Ms. Johnnie Rogers will be recognized as the 2010 Frontier of the Year, which marks the first time a woman has been honored with this distinguished award.

Though very different in nature, the achievements of each of these individuals reflect many of the same attributes that Dr. King possessed, as well as the values he advocated. Like Dr. King, these individuals saw challenges and faced them with unwavering strength and determination. Each one of the honored guests' greatness has been found in their willingness to serve with "a heart full of grace and a soul generated by love." They set goals and work selflessly to make them a reality.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the Gary Frontiers Service Club officers: President Oliver J. Gilliam, First Vice President Sean Jones, Second Vice President James Piggee, Treasurer/Seventh District Director Floyd Donaldson, Recording Secretary Melvin Ward, Financial Secretary Sam Frazier, and

Corresponding Secretary Ferba Hines, as well as Breakfast Chairman Clorius L. Lay, Videographer Otho Lyles, Master of Ceremony Clause Dowers, the honorees, and all other members of the service club for their initiative, determination, and dedication to serving the people of Northwest Indiana.

CELEBRATING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. ALBERTO CARRILLO

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career and accomplishments of Mr. Alberto Carrillo, Sr. a dedicated employee of the Office of Human Relations of Santa Clara County.

Prior to our election to the House of Representatives, I served 14 years on the Board of Supervisors for the County of Santa Clara and so I am well aware of the important work done by the County's Office of Human Relations. They work diligently with our extremely diverse community to build positive inter-group relations, to eliminate prejudice and discrimination and to foster the peaceful resolution of conflict.

Alberto has worked tirelessly advocating for civil and human rights in our community. Both with the County and in his capacity as a community activist and volunteer, he has worked toward building opportunities in housing, employment, education, business and government for Santa Clara County's diverse community.

His experiences outside of the County speak to his dedication. He began his career with the Mexican-American Chamber of Commerce, held leadership positions in the Mexican-American Political Association, and has served on many non-profit boards of directors and advisory boards.

The Congress wishes Mr. Carrillo the very best as he continues this new chapter in his life in retirement.

**IN HONOR OF SARAH BRACHMAN'S
ADVOCACY FOR DOWN SYNDROME**

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sarah Brachman, the National Down Syndrome Society's 2011 Advocate of the Year.

Sarah Brachman has interned countless hours for my office as well as our colleague Congressman BEN CHANDLER. Some of her duties have included, but not limited to, the expansion of membership for the Congressional Down Syndrome Caucus while garnering support for legislation important to the caucus' initiatives. Sarah single-handedly recruited over 30 Members of Congress to join the caucus.

Sarah courageously speaks with individuals and groups about her daily life as an individual who lives with Down syndrome. As a direct re-

sult of Sarah's dedication and leadership, countless individuals have been educated on the concerns of the individuals with Down syndrome.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating Sarah Brachman for her devoted service as an advocate for Down syndrome.

HONORING JOSE F. ALIAGA

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Jose F. Aliaga for his outstanding work as a civil servant in his home country of Peru and the United States of America.

Jose Aliaga first arrived in the United States to pursue a college education at the University of Michigan, where he recently earned his diploma this past December. As a political science major, Mr. Aliaga learned about the democratic process in America and looked for ways to use this knowledge to strengthen the diplomatic and economic relationship between Peru and the United States. He worked to promote trade between America and Peru and led one of the first trade missions from the United States prior to the Free Trade Agreement.

In addition to his diplomatic work, Jose Aliaga has continued to further his role as a leader to children in Latin America. He founded the Aliaga Foundation to provide impoverished children in the jungle of Peru with books, pencils, food and medicine and continues to foster positive relations between the United States and Peru by promoting student exchanges between universities.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jose F. Aliaga. I commend Mr. Aliaga on his dedication to strengthening ties between America and Peru. He is to be applauded for his continuous contribution to the lives of children in Latin America.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. KENNETH PRINGLE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Kenneth Pringle, mayor of Belmar, New Jersey. Mr. Pringle will be retiring from his position as mayor after serving for 20 years. Surrounded by family, friends and colleagues, Mr. Pringle's efforts and dedication will be recognized at an awards dinner on January 22, 2011. This celebration is well-deserved in light of Mayor Pringle's 20 years of service as an admirable public servant to the constituents of Belmar.

Mayor Pringle has served as the mayor of Belmar from 1990 through 2010. The longest serving mayor of Belmar, Mr. Pringle is a staunch advocate for environmental issues and maintaining clean beaches. He has successfully sought the implementation of a smoke-free policy along the beaches in

Belmar. This policy acts as a model for various towns throughout New Jersey. During his tenure, Mr. Pringle has also supported the implementation of “green” and “sustainable” living throughout Belmar. He has also advocated against offshore drilling, hosting numerous events and press conferences in Belmar relating to this topic. Mayor Pringle’s outstanding contributions to the borough of Belmar continue to resonate and positively affect the lives of the residents.

Mr. Pringle has served on various committees, enhancing his experience and ability to assist constituents. Mr. Pringle served as chairman of the Belmar Charter Study Commission from 1989 through 1990, past chairman of the Belmar Housing Authority and a member of the Belmar Planning Board and counsel to the Red Bank Planning Board. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Monmouth Ocean Development Council and has served on the Board of Directors of New Jersey Transit Corporation. Mr. Pringle is a founder of the Belmar Improvement Fund. He was also instrumental in the forming of the Belmar Arts Council. Mr. Pringle’s unending advocacy and hard work have undoubtedly helped countless people throughout Belmar.

Mr. Pringle is a graduate of Mount Saint Mary’s College in Emmitsburg, Maryland and Georgetown University Law Center, where he was the criminal procedure project editor of the Georgetown Law Journal. From 1982 through 1983, Mr. Pringle served as law clerk to the Honorable Clement Haynsworth, Jr. of the fourth circuit. He also worked as an associate at the Washington, DC law firms of Hogan & Hartson and Ross, Dixon & Masback but soon returned to Belmar, New Jersey in 1987 to open a solo law practice. Mr. Pringle is currently the managing partner of Pringle Quinn Anzano, P.C., a 25 person law firm with offices in Belmar, Morristown and Trenton, New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Mayor Kenneth Pringle’s 20 years of service to the borough of Belmar. Mr. Pringle’s achievements make him a deserving recipient of this body’s recognition.

HONORING JONATHAN D. OLSEN

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jonathan D. Olsen for his involvement in the San Diego community. Jonathan is a lifelong resident of Santee, California, having graduated from Santana High School and finalizing his bachelor of arts degree in 2011.

Jonathan has served as the president of the Santee Chamber of Commerce, is leading a successful organization and serves the community with distinction. He is a thriving businessman in Santee, having worked in the Santee community management and operating several business endeavors. He has great abilities in working and managing his family’s doughnut shops and other businesses.

Jonathan also has been active in the development of the special edition of the Echo, the Santee Street Fair, Business Expos, the Santee Car Show, and the Santee Chamber of

Commerce Awards Night. Under his leadership, several successful community events were organized. These include the Miss Santee-Teen Pageant, Sunrise Santee Morning mixers and programs, business-after-five monthly business networking meetings, Santee Day at the County Fair, Fall Frenzy-City Wide Sale and Craft Fair, SCORE Counseling-SBA counseling, installation and retreat planning and numerous ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremonies. Jonathan is also involved in speaking to high school and college students concerning their goals and aspirations.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to stand in recognition of Jonathan Olsen for his tireless work as a member of the San Diego community. Such an extraordinary level of dedication serves as an example to others and showcases the goodness that community service, charity and strong local leadership could have on impacting the lives of others. I ask that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to Jonathan and wishing him continued success in the future.

HONORING STEPHANIE AUER

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of Ohio’s 15th Congressional District and the citizens of Columbus, Ohio, to honor the life and memory of Stephanie Auer. Stephanie will always be remembered for her willingness and commitment to serve others. Her positive outlook and sunny disposition brought great joy to those who knew her, and the many contributions she made as a volunteer to a number of worthy causes improved the lives of people both here and around the world.

Born and raised in Cleveland, Ohio, Stephanie graduated from Manicatt High School and attended The Ohio State University. Upon graduation, she was employed in the insurance industry as an underwriter and worked at Wells Fargo Insurance Services. Along the way, Stephanie touched the lives of many of us, and I am fortunate to be among those to call her friend.

Stephanie made her family and friends a priority in her life and was always there for others. She led by example and inspired others to step up to the plate. Whether it was teaching young girls, volunteering at a local clinic or sharing the Gospel in Cambodia, she demonstrated her faith and values through her actions and in the way she lived her life.

Stephanie touched the lives of so many people and she will be missed by all those who knew her. Her devotion to her family, friends and church will be long remembered.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, on January 6 and 7, 2011, I was out of town due

to a family situation. Unfortunately, I was not present for rollcall votes 8, 9, 10, and 11.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yea” on all four.

HONORING JONATHAN SANFORD

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today I want to honor the career of Jonathan Sanford, an international trade and finance specialist in the Foreign Affairs, Defense and Trade Division of the Congressional Research Service. Mr. Sanford is retiring after 39 years of federal service, including the last 38 years as a CRS expert where he became a serious student of the Congress and demonstrated a capacity for integrating substantive knowledge on a wide range of issues with a practical understanding about how to move things forward.

Mr. Sanford’s combination of personal skills, high professional capacity, mastery of a very complex set of international financial issues, and his sophisticated understanding of the political process made him ideally suited for his work teaching, informing, and advising policy makers and their staffs—and he did this throughout his career with unflagging enthusiasm and without any trace or pitch, of course, of partisanship.

Over a span of almost four decades, Mr. Sanford has helped keep Members of Congress and their staff well informed through his prolific written work—which was consistently thoughtful, responsible, and balanced in its analysis—and by his readiness to engage in active policy discussions that were so evidently shaped by a creative mind and a vast institutional memory.

His expertise on international financial issues include exchange rate systems, bilateral and multilateral debt relief efforts, reconstruction of the Iraqi economy, a thorough understanding of the international financial and multilateral development institutions, as well as the central role of Congress in the formulation of U.S. policy at these institutions, and countless others.

To many of his colleagues and the people with whom he’s worked most closely over the years, Mr. Sanford is nearly an institution himself within this venerable institution of Congress, and that seems appropriate to me because of the passion with which he was dedicated to the role and responsibilities of this legislative branch, and to its people, and its purpose, and to everyone we all work here together to serve.

I want to take this moment to congratulate and to thank Mr. Sanford not only for his many contributions to the Congress for so many years but also for his legacy of service to public policy and to the public good. His many decades of close support to the Congress, his work ethic, his standards and his character all come together to me in a way that I think best exemplifies the meaning of public service.

HONORING DALE MAJERCZYK

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dale Majerczyk as he retires as city manager for the city of Essexville Michigan. After 15 years as city manager, Mr. Majerczyk's last date will be on Friday, January 14th.

During his tenure as city manager, Mr. Majerczyk has worked to improve the city of Essexville. He was instrumental in securing funding to reconstruct streets, upgrade the waste treatment plant, develop the industrial park, build a new Department of Public Works facility, develop a brownfield plan for the city, fund landfill testing, and secured funding for a sewer project. He has represented the city with various local, state and national organizations. He helped start Kids Fest and assisted local businesses with expansion and development.

Prior to his work with the city of Essexville, Mr. Majerczyk worked for the city of Petoskey, the city of Traverse City and the Teamsters State, County and Municipal Workers Local 214. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Central Michigan University and has several public service and mediation certifications.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Dale Majerczyk as he retires as the city manager of the city of Essexville and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE
EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, this week marks the one year anniversary of the horrific earthquake that struck our neighbor Haiti last year, killing over 200,000 men, women, and children including U.S. citizens. I join my colleagues in commemorating this somber event and in reaffirming the commitment of our nation to continue to work with the Haitian people and government to not only rebuild Haiti, but make a better Haiti.

There has been progress in the recovery from the devastating earthquake and I applaud the individuals within the State Department, USAID, the U.S. embassy in Haiti, and the many people from communities throughout our country, including my district in Wisconsin, who have volunteered, donated money, and gone to Haiti in the past year to try and make life a little better for those who have suffered so much. I also want to highlight and applaud the brave men and women in our military who were our nation's first responders during the deadly and dark first days of this catastrophe and in the months following the earthquake. For many Haitians, these men and women were the first face of hope in a hopeless situation.

Nonetheless, we are all aware of the various challenges that Haiti continues to face and will face for the foreseeable future. We all

see the tent cities. Over a million people are still waiting for both "temporary" and permanent housing solutions. Dozens of issues, from resolving disputes over land ownership to rubble removal still need to be addressed. For far too many, permanent housing solutions are no closer today than they were on January 13, 2010.

Other challenges remain. A cholera outbreak has killed over 3,500 people and affects over 150,000 more. Millions of cubic meters of rubble still remain in Port Au Prince. Add to this mix the controversy and "irregularities" surrounding the recently held Presidential and Parliamentary elections and there are plenty of obstacles to rebuilding Haiti. These come on top of the challenges existing pre-earthquake.

Additionally, I am distressed and disgusted by the recent reports about the continuing sexual violence and assault being committed in these camps against women and girls. When displacement occurs, whether because of conflict or natural disaster, women almost always suffer the most severe deprivations and consequences. According to UNICEF, a lack of security and the "hard living conditions" in the camps have been major factors increasing the risk of violence against women and girls.

Our Haiti efforts must prioritize—less with words and with more deeds and actions—the rights of vulnerable Haitian women and girls. And first and foremost, must be their immediate protection against these despicable assaults which violate basic human rights. We must strengthen the UN peacekeeping mission and the Haitian police so they can make stopping these attacks a priority.

According to Amnesty International, the risk of rape and other forms of gender-based violence in Haiti's camps has increased "dramatically" in the past year and "Women and girls, already struggling to come to terms with the grief and trauma of losing their loved ones, homes and livelihoods in the earthquake, are living in camps in tents that cannot be made secure, with the constant threat of sexual violence. Without access to medical care and with little prospect of receiving any support or seeing their attackers brought to justice, survivors see no end to their plight."

The U.S. and international community then must drastically increase their attention and focus on preventing this violence against women and girls immediately. It is also critical for the U.S. to push the Haitian government and other international donors to include women and girls in the rebuilding and recovery decisionmaking process and plans.

There have also been reports of significant delays in moving the aid that Congress approved for Haiti relief, recovery, and rebuilding out of the federal agencies and into the hands of partners on the ground in Haiti. What we need to see in 2011 is not a trickle of assistance but a downpour and I hope that these unnecessary delays have been resolved and the Administration will move to ensure that this relief gets to the Haitian people.

We also need to continue to make efforts to strengthen the ability of the Haitian government to take the lead in responding to the long-term rebuilding and recovery needs of the Haitian people. U.S. aid to Haiti, to the maximum extent possible, must be directed through or with the input of the duly-elected Haitian government. While the well-documented problems with recent elections make this goal even more difficult in the short term,

I think we all understand that the future for Haiti depends on it having an effective, accountable, and transparent government that responds to the needs of its people.

Ramping up housing efforts is also critical at this moment. More than 1 million people—approximately 380,000 of whom are children—still live in crowded camps. USAID has reported that it has spent over \$100 million for emergency and transition shelters, including temporary shelters designed to last up to three years. By the end of 2010, its temporary solutions were able to house almost 60,000 Haitians. It is an understatement to say more needs to be done.

Additionally, in the mix of all this, sometime this year, the President must also decide whether to continue Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitians in the U.S. After the earthquake, at the urging of a number of Members of Congress including myself, President Obama extended TPS for Haitians in the U.S. preventing them from being deported to the devastated country citing among other reasons, that these individuals "personal safety would be endangered by returning to Haiti." That original order will lapse in a few months. It is clear however that Haiti is still in the midst of the earthquake caused crisis that led to TPS being granted.

Lastly, even with the best intentions and the most diligent of efforts, problems and challenges will continue to affect the rebuilding efforts in Haiti. A cholera epidemic, Hurricane Tomas, highly controversial recent elections, you name it, it appears it will happen to Haiti. Therefore patience is crucial. We must rededicate ourselves to a long-term commitment to our neighbors in Haiti.

Mr. Speaker, we all have an important role to play in Haiti's recovery as it continues on this long road from tragedy to triumph. We know that many hard months remain ahead and much hard work needs to be done.

I want to make clear to the Haitian people that the U.S. government commitment to helping them rebuild is no less clear or strong today than it was on that terrible January day one year ago. This is a key moment for Haiti and for testing our commitment that was so evident in the days following January 12, 2010. Normal will not come soon enough for the Haitian people. As we commemorate the tragic events that took place one year ago, let us redouble our commitment, support, and efforts to rebuild Haiti.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
BONNIE ANN HEATH, EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF THE CORTLAND
COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE
AMERICAN RED CROSS UPON
THE OCCASION OF HER RETIRE-
MENT**HON. RICHARD L. HANNA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I ask that the House join me in recognizing the service of Bonnie Ann Heath, executive director of the Cortland County Chapter of the American Red Cross upon the occasion of her retirement after outstanding leadership in this capacity from May 14, 1984 to December 31, 2010.

We celebrate the collective combined years in which Bonnie Ann Heath began her career as a volunteer with the American Red Cross in 1973, as secretary-bookkeeper from 1977–1979 and worked for the RSVP Program from 1979–1984 before being named the executive director in 1984.

Bonnie Ann Heath inspired, taught, nurtured, encouraged, showed great compassion, direction and organizational skills to countless numbers of youth, members of the Armed Forces and their families, community volunteers with the American Red Cross, in both programming and in the face of disaster.

We remember the active involvement of Bonnie Ann Heath in Red Cross programs such as Blood Services, Disaster Services, Health and Safety Training, Youth Program, First Aid and Babysitter Training, Free Learn to Swim and the Aquatics Program, First Aid Demonstrations, Wellness Days, Health Fairs, Care and Share, Project SHARE, and her work with FEMA and the 2005 Flood Disaster and the outstanding work during the 9/11/2001 disaster organizing response volunteers.

In addition to the passion of her career, Bonnie Ann Heath counts the greatest joys in her life as those of her loving husband Malcolm, her children Alene, Mellora, Derron; her four grandsons, Colby Matthew, Noah and Zachary; other family and friends; for they have been steadfast in their support and love during the countless hours of work as a professional woman.

I ask that this House once again join with me in celebrating and honoring the accomplishments of Bonnie Ann Heath. The Cortland community, this country and our world are better places thanks to the great work and dedication of Bonnie.

COMMEMORATING THE ONE-YEAR
ANNIVERSARY OF THE HAITI
EARTHQUAKE

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the Haiti earthquake, to remember those who died, and to pay tribute to the remarkable perseverance of the Haitian people.

A year ago today, a massive earthquake caused almost unimaginable loss of life and devastation in Haiti. Some 250,000 people were killed, over a million displaced from their homes, and much of the capital was reduced to rubble.

I traveled to Port au Prince in early March, and I was inspired by the hope and courage of the Haitian people, even in the face of unimaginable loss. In the days and months after the earthquake, Americans responded with immense generosity, donating their money, time, and expertise to help alleviate human suffering in Haiti. More challenges followed, however, in the form of violent storms, political upheaval, and a cholera epidemic that has already claimed the lives of over 3,500 people and sickened 150,000 others.

Today is also a somber reminder of how much more we must do. The heartfelt outpouring of support from around the world in the days following the earthquake has not

translated into meaningful progress toward reconstruction and development on the ground. One year after the earthquake, it is simply unacceptable that over a million displaced people still live under tents, while much of the capital is still covered in rubble. It is unacceptable that so many Haitians lack access to clean drinking water, sanitation supplies, and medical care.

Recently, my good friend Dr. Paul Farmer published an article in *Foreign Policy* magazine outlining five lessons of the Haiti earthquake. I hope my colleagues will have the opportunity to review this important article below.

We must work to build capacity in Haiti; work with the government to provide real, long-term development; create real jobs and viable homes; and foster economic growth and vitality for Haiti and the Haitian people.

Mr. Speaker, today we remember those who were killed. We must also re-dedicate ourselves to providing real, long-term assistance and support for Haitians looking to rebuild their country.

[From *Foreign Policy Magazine*, Dec. 2010]
5 LESSONS FROM HAITI'S DISASTER: WHAT THE
EARTHQUAKE TAUGHT US ABOUT FOREIGN AID
(By Paul Farmer)

1. JOBS ARE EVERYTHING

All humans need money—they need it to buy food and water every day. And no matter how hard the government or the aid industry tries, people will want for all three things until they are employed.

The world pledged some \$10.2 billion in recovery aid to Haiti after Jan. 12's devastating earthquake. Imagine how many people that money could employ, putting them to work on tasks like removing rubble (only 2 percent of which has been cleared to date), rebuilding key government buildings, and planting trees in a country that is almost entirely deforested. And yet so far, just 116,000 people have been employed in this way. Haiti has 9.8 million people, and at least half were unemployed even before the earthquake. If we focused our efforts on the singular task of getting them jobs—even if we did nothing else—Haiti's reconstruction could be a success.

2. DON'T STARVE THE GOVERNMENT

The international community doesn't know best. Local people do. NGOs like the one that I am lucky to work with cannot replace the state—nor can the United Nations or anyone else. We don't have the expertise, and we won't stay forever. We don't have the same stake in building a community that the locals themselves have. And if aid is to work, it can't fall apart when the experts leave.

On this, almost everyone agrees. But the opposite approach has characterized Haiti relief. The dollar figures tell the real story: A mere 0.3 percent of the more than \$2 billion in humanitarian aid pledged by major donors has ended up with local authorities. That money will hardly compensate for the 20 percent of civil servants who died in the quake.

Some donors argue that the Haitian government is rife with corruption and mismanagement—and that infusing it with money will only make matters worse. But we need to strengthen the public sector, not weaken it. And that will take a working budget. It's impossible to be transparent and track your budgets when you lack computers, electricity, and even the personnel to do so. Until the government has the resources it needs, Haiti will remain the republic of NGOs.

3. GIVE THEM SOMETHING TO GO HOME TO

Today, some 1.3 million Haitians live in tent camps amid often squalid conditions—

yet no one has been able to convince them to resettle. Why don't they want to leave? Because there is nothing to draw them back. Many of these displaced men and women didn't own the houses that collapsed around them; they rented them—often under very unfavorable conditions. They were in debt to bad landlords. They had no schools or clinics.

Enticing them to return home will mean providing exactly what they lacked before: housing, education, and health care. Ironically, Haitians are getting some of those things now in the camps. They have shelter in the 69,700 tents distributed by donors; they have the food and hygiene kits that NGOs offer. The tent camps may well become semipermanent homes if those services don't also exist in the cities, villages, and towns.

4. WASTE NOT, WANT NOT

At least half of aid money probably never reaches its recipients, eaten up by overhead; often it's even more. I know of no other business or enterprise in which this would be an acceptable operational strategy. Equally frustrating, sometimes the money doesn't show up at all. Of the donor dollars promised for 2010, Haiti so far received a mere 38 percent, or \$732.5 million, excluding debt relief. Nine months after the disaster, not a cent of the U.S. donation for Haiti's reconstruction has been disbursed; it's tied up in appropriations. Imagine trying to re-engineer a devastated country when your budget is at the mercy of political whims in foreign lands.

5. RELIEF IS THE EASY PART

Disaster relief is not reconstruction. We haven't rebuilt Haiti despite giving 1.1 million people access to drinking water; we didn't remake the country with the 11,000 latrines that have been installed. "Building Haiti back better" means sustaining those temporary gains and adding education, health care, services, and good governance.

What's most important in getting started? Economic growth. Yet it is a challenge hardly mentioned in aid documents or strategies—coming up only twice in the United Nations' most recent 44-page report. Poverty of the kind that was so acutely revealed this January can't be defeated until there is a brighter economic future for the millions of Haitians who are ready to seize it.

ON THE OCCASION OF MS. JOSEPHINE F. EDWARDS' RETIREMENT FROM ELECTED OFFICE

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an extraordinary American who has devoted her life to building the community in which she lives—Wilson County, North Carolina. As a caring, thoughtful and passionate leader in the community, Josephine Farmer Edwards has worked tirelessly to improve the lives of those around her.

Mrs. Edwards is a native of Nash County, North Carolina. She graduated from Nash County Training School, earned a bachelor's degree from Fayetteville State College (now Fayetteville State University), and a master's degree from Pennsylvania State University. She put that education to work as a classroom teacher for 38 years in Nash and Wilson counties, and later taught adult education.

In 1986, Mrs. Edwards was elected to the Wilson County Board of Commissioners and

has distinguished herself as an elected official for the past 24 years. Mrs. Edwards has now retired from elective office but leaves a great legacy that will continue to enrich and strengthen the community for many years to come.

Mrs. Edwards' remarkable tenure included the development and construction of numerous County facilities as well as the expansion and development of critical emergency services including emergency disaster response, centralized communications, rescue services, and full countywide paramedic services.

Mrs. Edwards was a key leader in expanding recreation opportunities, improving services for seniors, enhancing cable television services, improving health care facilities and the County's road system. She has also been a strong and consistent supporter of economic development throughout the region, and a tireless advocate for improving education.

With her background in public education, Mrs. Edwards was a tireless supporter of funding for the Wilson County Public Schools and Wilson Community College. She also supported state and local bond issues for school and community college construction, which included the renovation of multiple schools and the construction of the Darden Middle School and the John W. Jones Elementary School.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to her countless gifts to our community, I have been blessed with her lifelong friendship, by which I have been enormously honored. Mrs. Edwards was married to the late James Edwards and continues to own and operate the family business, Edwards Funeral Home of Wilson. Mrs. Edwards has two adult daughters, Angela Edwards Jones (Tyrone) and Carla Edwards Williams (Daryl). She is also a proud grandmother and great grandmother.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the hard work, dedication and success of the Honorable Josephine Farmer Edwards on the occasion of her retirement from elective office.

HAITI EARTHQUAKE ANNIVERSARY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, January 12, 2010, Haiti was devastated by the most powerful earthquake to strike that nation in over 200 years.

The wave of destruction to follow was unprecedented.

In just 35 seconds, one-third of the country had been directly impacted by the worst natural disaster to ever hit the Western Hemisphere.

Today, one year later, we mark the somber anniversary of this tragedy and honor those who lost their lives that day.

Remarkably, in the midst of such devastation, the people of Haiti have forged on.

And yesterday, I was honored to have the opportunity to travel to Haiti and visit with some of these men and women as they work tirelessly to rebuild their lives, their communities and their nation.

I was struck by their enduring resilience and inspired by their perseverance.

Sustainable recovery in Haiti will depend on strong leadership by the Government of Haiti, a concrete effort to stop corruption, and the implementation of accountability and transparency measures, as well as the involvement of the people of Haiti in the design and ownership of their future.

It will also be important going forward that there be a transition away from dependency on traditional U.S. government assistance and instead a renewed focus on innovative public-private partnerships and grassroots, civil society efforts.

To ensure that U.S. foreign assistance to Haiti remains transparent and effective, I also plan on introducing legislation to that end this Congress, calling for increased and sustained oversight over U.S. funding to Haiti.

Finally, though the official OAS report has not yet been released, it appears that certain changes will need to be made to ensure that the true will of the Haitian people in electing their future representatives is honored and respected.

The Haitian people deserve a leader who believes in effective, good governance and the rule of law.

And it is only in adherence to these principles, that Haiti's recovery may be successful.

FEDERAL FURLOUGH BILL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as a former small businessman and former state legislator, I am horrified at the unlimited ability of the federal government to deficit spend. Small businesses have to balance the books, or they go out of business. And unlike the spendthrift ways prevalent in this building, state governments generally have to balance their budgets.

Recently, at least 24 states, and nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million workers, have undertaken a budget-cutting maneuver that I believe we should consider at the federal level: short term employee furloughs. These states, across the nation, along with city and county government counterparts, recognize that occasional worker furloughs are necessary to cut budgets and hold down spending. It also has the benefit of ensuring that federal workers are not sheltered from the realities of life in today's economy.

The federal government continues to grow, and continues to rack up debt. I would like to make the U.S. Government as cost conscious as the states. My legislation is a start. It will make Federal civilian employees subject to a non-consecutive two week furlough next year, correspondingly reduce appropriations for salaries and expenses for offices of the legislative branch, and provide a 10 percent reduction in pay for Members of Congress. An exception is provided for national security or reasons relating to the public health or safety, including effective law enforcement. This bill will save the federal government over \$5.5 billion.

Furlough Fridays and other such ideas are becoming a common occurrence for state and local governments. They present slight problems but they provide large solutions to the budget troubles we face. I believe that managed appropriately, with due allowance for

vital and national security implications, as specified in this bill, they can do the same for the federal government.

TRIBUTE TO CORONA CITIZEN OF THE YEAR PAT MILLER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Corona, California are exceptional. Corona has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Pat Miller is one of these individuals. On January 15, 2011, Pat will receive a prestigious honor when the Corona Chamber of Commerce names her Citizen of the Year for 2010 at the organization's 96th Annual Awards and Installation dinner at the Eagle Glen Golf Club.

Pat Miller and her late husband, Roger, owned and operated the Thomas Miller Mortuary for many years before they turned over day-to-day operations to their son Chris and his wife Rhonda. The mortuary has been an integral part of the community of Corona, and has provided care and solace to many families who have lost loved ones.

In addition to her role as a business owner in the community, Pat Miller exemplifies the word "volunteer." She has spent her life donating her time and attention to various clubs, organizations and activities. In 1985, she served as the President of Soroptimist International of Corona, and remains a life member. Through Soroptimist she became involved with the Riverside County Coalition for Alternatives to Domestic Violence.

Thanks to the diligent efforts of Pat, and a group of core volunteers, the services provided by this organization have expanded tremendously. The organization is now known as the Corona Outreach office, and the facility has grown from one small shelter to a 45-bed facility. Pat also served on the Board of Directors and Advisory Board for many years. Her accomplishments did not go unnoticed, and Pat was awarded the Women Helping Women Award in 1985 and the Golden West Regional Award Program.

Additionally, Pat donated much of her time to volunteering with the school district as she raised her children, Chris and Stephanie. She has remained active member of the PTA, the Corona-Norco School District Advisory Committee, and now has a renewed interest now that her grandchildren are in school.

For many years, Pat served on the Corona Regional Medical Center Foundation Board and chaired the main fundraising black tie dinner several times. In fact, she is now in her 15th year serving on the Corona Regional Medical Center Governing Board of Directors.

Other organizations fortunate enough to have Pat's attention include the Women's Improvement Club of Corona, Navy League, Children's Home Society, Pink Ladies Hospital Auxiliary, Boys Club Auxiliary, The United Way, Catholic Daughters, Corona Chamber of Commerce and St. Matthew's Church.

In light of all Pat Miller has done for the community of Corona, the Corona Chamber of Commerce is honoring Pat as Citizen of the Year. Pat's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona, California. She has been the heart and soul of many community organizations and events and I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she receives this prestigious award.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW COLUMBIA ADMISSION ACT, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EQUAL REPRESENTATION ACT AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOUSE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce three bills that provide different approaches for obtaining congressional representation and full democracy for the more than 600,000 American citizens who reside in the nation's capital and pay the full array of federal taxes that support the government of the United States, but have no voting representation in Congress. These bills are the New Columbia Admission Act, the District of Columbia Equal Representation Act (formerly titled the No Taxation Without Representation Act) and the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act. These are the first bills of our Free and Equal D.C. series—bills that address the missing rights to self-government and democracy that other American citizens enjoy—to be introduced in the coming weeks. I have introduced all three of these bills during different periods in the past. I introduce them today after listening to residents at the many Community Conversations I have held in each ward of the District since a dangerous gun amendment—which would have eliminated all of the District's gun laws and would have done much more—forced delay of the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act in April 2010.

These Community Conversations, as well as other constituent meetings and correspondence, have indicated that these three bills have significant support among D.C. residents. I introduce them today, a week after the new House majority eliminated the District's vote in the Committee of the Whole, despite a finding by the federal courts that this vote is constitutional. Recognizing that the House would not consider any approach to representation and full democracy for D.C. residents at this time, I am introducing bills that each had majority support in the District among residents during the years that each was under consideration. D.C. residents, in their quest for full democracy, have always embraced the approach that appeared most timely and possible. Because we are blocked from pursuing any approach at this time, I am introducing the bills that residents have indicated would have their continued support. These bills send a direct message to Congress that residents are undeterred in the pursuit of our rights, and the bills also will help ensure no weakening in the

momentum residents have built here and throughout the country over the past several years for full democracy. However, I have not included a bill to fully or partially retrocede the District of Columbia to the State of Maryland, ideas that also have been mentioned for many years. Few District residents have indicated support for retrocession approaches, and, in our experience, even fewer Maryland public officials and residents support them. It is inconsistent with the District's pursuit of self-determination to impose upon another jurisdiction without consent from that jurisdiction.

D.C. residents are entitled to nothing less than full and equal citizenship, which can only be achieved through statehood. Accordingly, the first bill I introduced when I came to Congress in 1991, the New Columbia Admission Act, would have made the District of Columbia the 51st state, the State of New Columbia. The New Columbia Admission Act would create a state from essentially the eight hometown wards of the District. However, the state would have no jurisdiction over the federal territory in the District of Columbia, consisting of most of the Washington that Members of Congress and visitors associate with Washington, DC, the capital of our country. The U.S. Capitol premises, the principal federal monuments, federal buildings and grounds, the National Mall and other federal property here would remain under federal jurisdiction, as elsewhere. Our bill provides that the State of New Columbia would be equal to the other 50 states in all respects, in that the residents of New Columbia would have all the rights of citizenship they are entitled to as taxpaying American citizens. New Columbia would have two senators and, initially, one House member.

The New Columbia Admission Act has received significant support in the House in the past. In 1993, we got the first vote on statehood for the District of Columbia, with nearly 60 percent of Democrats and one Republican voting for the New Columbia Admission Act. The Senate held a hearing on its companion bill, introduced by Senator Ted Kennedy, but declined to hold a markup in committee or to consider it on the floor. Soon thereafter, the District, which is the only U.S. city that pays for state functions, found it necessary to ask the federal government to take over the cost of some state functions, posing fiscal barriers to entry into the Union on an equal basis, and the Democrats lost control of the House. This temporary setback led me to introduce the second best option then available, a bill for Senate and House representation for D.C.

Today, I also introduce the District of Columbia Equal Representation Act, which would give the District of Columbia two senators and, initially, one House member. With statehood delayed, Senator JOSEPH LIEBERMAN and I introduced this bill for several years as the No Taxation Without Representation Act. The House, which was controlled by Republicans, did not act on the bill. The Senate held hearings and marked up the bill in 2002, but did not bring it to the floor.

Today, I also introduce the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act, a bill for one House member, initially, for D.C. residents. In 2005, when I continued to be in the minority, then-Representative Tom Davis and I partnered on a bipartisan bill, the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act, giving House votes to Democratic D.C. and Republican Utah. The D.C. House Voting Rights Act

marked the first time in decades that we achieved large House and Senate majorities for voting rights for D.C. residents, and brought the city closer than we have ever come to voting representation in more than two centuries. This bill likely would be law today had the gun lobby not insisted on adding an amendment that would not only have eliminated the District's gun laws, but also would have added measures making the nation's capital a virtually gun law-free jurisdiction.

In introducing these bills, we lay down a marker of our determination to never relent or retreat until we have obtained each and every right to which we are entitled, whether through the frustration and anguish of the incrementalism that Congress has always forced upon us or with the full and complete set of rights, which would be achieved through statehood. We will be watchful to both make and seize every opportunity to pursue our rights, regardless of who controls Congress. We accept no imposed limit on our equal rights as American citizens, and we will pursue them all until the day when there is no difference in citizenship between residents of the District of Columbia and other American citizens.

IN HONOR OF LENA BAKER
(POSTHUMOUSLY)

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lena Baker. Today, her family dedicates her tombstone, 65 years after she was laid to rest at the Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Cuthbert, Georgia.

She was born June 8, 1900 near Cuthbert, in the small community of Cotton Hill where her family worked as farmers. Ms. Baker worked as a maid, cleaning houses and doing laundry to support her three children. She also was employed by Ernest B. Knight, a local gristmill owner.

On April 29, 1944, Ms. Baker was forced from her home by Ernest Knight and taken to the gristmill, where she was held against her will. According to court testimony, Knight brandished the iron bar that was used to lock the door. Ms. Baker, fearing for her life, attempted to leave and the two "tussled" over a pistol. During the struggle, the gun went off, killing Knight. Ms. Baker testified that she walked immediately to the house of County Coroner, J. A. Cox, and confessed to the accidental death of Ernest Knight.

Her trial convened on August 14, 1944 at the Randolph County Courthouse, which was then presided over by Judge Charles William "Two Gun" Worrill, who kept two pistols on the bench. With an unconcerned lawyer by her side, a jury of twelve Caucasian men—hardly a jury of her peers—found her guilty in a trial and deliberation that, together, lasted less than four hours. Judge Worrill sentenced Ms. Baker to be executed. However, Governor Ellis Arnall granted Ms. Baker a 60-day reprieve so that the Board of Pardons and Pardon could review the case.

In January 1945, the board denied clemency. She then was taken to Reidsville State

Prison on February 23, 1945. Ms. Baker's execution date was rescheduled for March 5, 1945. She is the only woman to be executed by electrocution in the State of Georgia.

She went to the electric chair calmly and bravely. Her last words were, "What I done, I did in self-defense, or I would have been killed myself. Where I was I could not overcome it. God has forgiven me. I have nothing against anyone."

Ms. Baker is buried in the cemetery at Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Randolph County, where she once worshiped. In 1998 a group of church members finally marked her grave.

In August 2005, the State Board of Pardons and Paroles posthumously pardoned Ms. Baker, acknowledging that the 1945 decision to deny clemency to Ms. Baker was "a grievous error" and that she could have been charged with the lesser crime of voluntary manslaughter, which would have prevented the sentence of capital punishment.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that the dedication of her tombstone today can heal the wounds of the past. May Lena Baker now truly rest in peace.

THE RENEWABLE ENERGY APPLIED PARTNERSHIPS (REAP) ACT

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, Hawaii, like the rest of the United States, is entirely too dependent on imported fossil fuels. We must speed up the development of renewable energy technologies that can help wean us from our oil dependence and create economic growth at home. If we sow the seeds of renewable energy innovation today, we will be able to reap the benefits for years to come.

Today I introduce the Renewable Energy Applied Partnerships (REAP) Act. This bill will create a Department of Energy pilot program to provide grants to partnerships which will include community colleges and universities, businesses, nonprofits, labor organizations, state education agencies, National Academies, and other public agencies. These partnership grants can be used to train teachers, recruit students, design renewable energy instructional programs, and encourage collaboration between faculty and industry partners.

The bill builds on the Perkins Career and Technical Education Act to help students learn practical skills for future careers in renewable energy and STEM fields. Partnerships will also receive priority if they can demonstrate long-term sustainability without continued federal funding.

Hawaii is at the forefront of innovation in the renewable energy sector, and I have visited many existing cross-sector partnerships in wind, solar, biofuels, and other renewable energy technology. It is my hope that this bill will help support the very best of these collaborations in Hawaii and around the country, to create jobs and train the next generation of renewable energy workers.

For his work on this bill last Congress, I thank my former colleague, Congressman Patrick Murphy of Pennsylvania, the first Iraq War veteran in Congress and a fighter for STEM education in Pennsylvania and nationwide.

HONORING THE LIFE OF A HISTORIC HMONG LEADER: GENERAL VANG PAO

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life, service and sacrifice of Gen-

eral Vang Pao, who passed away yesterday evening in Clovis, California. General Vang Pao was a historic Hmong military leader who led his people against communist forces during a turbulent time in Laos from 1961 to 1975. In this country, General Vang Pao served as a civilian leader who continued to lead the Hmong American community for nearly four decades.

My heart-felt sympathy goes out to General Vang Pao's family and to all the Hmong-American families in Minnesota and across the U.S. Over the years, I had the honor of joining General Vang Pao at many events such as: the Hmong American New Year celebrations and the July Soccer Festival celebrations in St. Paul, as he had always come to the Twin Cities to join the Hmong community for those events. Most recently, I had the great honor of joining him for the grand opening celebrations of the Hmong Village Center on the Eastside of St. Paul on October 30, 2010. Although frail from his failing health and sitting in his chair, the General was in good spirit and spoke eloquently to a large gathering crowd at the celebrations. Sadly, this was the last time I saw him.

General Vang Pao's influence has touched the Hmong-American community deeply, and I know the community will continue to share and cherish the memories of his legacy for future generations to come. In honor of General Vang Pao's lifetime of service to his people and loyalty to the U.S., I am pleased to submit this statement for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.