

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### END OF U.S. MILITARY OPERATIONS IN IRAQ

#### HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday marked the official end of United States military operations in Iraq. President Obama has fulfilled his promise to bring all of our troops home by December and, for that, I commend him.

I objected to the invasion of Iraq at the outset, and I have vigorously opposed it since. As we withdraw from Iraq after nearly nine years of war, there is no sense of "mission accomplished" because the mission was incomprehensible. We invaded the country under false pretenses and deliberate misrepresentations: no credible evidence pointed to the existence of weapons of mass destruction and, not surprisingly, none were found.

It is my hope that history books accurately will record the sorry consequences of invading a sovereign nation on the basis of adulterated evidence. That is what we did in 2003, and our country has paid, and will continue to pay, dearly for its foolish rush to war. Today, Iraq's economy is in shambles, its coalition government is fragile, anti-Americanism runs high, and violence abounds.

Since we launched this war, nearly 4,500 American soldiers have lost their lives and tens of thousands have sustained lifelong injuries. Their sacrifice must be honored and remembered. One way to do so is by not repeating the grievous mistakes that led us into Iraq. My fear is that those who sought this war again are urging conflict—this time with Iran. George Santayana warned that "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." Let us reflect at length on the punishing costs of war and its unforgiving legacy.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO TIME WARNER CABLE ON THE OPENING OF THEIR D.C. BUREAU

#### HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Time Warner Cable for its investment in local television news coverage in North Carolina and its recent expansion into Washington, D.C.

By opening a news bureau in our nation's capital, the people of North Carolina will have another outlet to learn about the important work being done on their behalf and other updates that are important to the communities throughout the region.

Mr. Speaker, TWC is dedicating significant resources to high quality local news channels that provide critical local news, weather, traffic

and sports coverage in the communities that they serve.

In my district, the Raleigh research triangle area is home to some of the leading innovators in technology and healthcare. The legislation that we pursue and enact in Washington has an enormous impact on these businesses and research facilities. With Time Warner Cable's commitment to reporting both at the local and national level, they are giving our residents an important resource to stay informed and involved.

I applaud Time Warner Cable for recognizing the importance of local news, for investing in it and creating jobs while providing this critical service to their customers and the constituents I serve.

### IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD ROBINSON

#### HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend, Richard Robinson in the event of his retirement after seven dedicated years of service as Chief Executive Officer of Stanislaus County.

Rick was appointed Stanislaus County Chief Executive Officer in September 2004. In this position, under the director of the Board of Supervisors, Rick oversees all aspects of Stanislaus County government, which includes 26 County departments, a \$900 million operating budget and over 3,600 employees.

Faced with severe financial challenges during the current economic crisis, Rick led an effort to develop a multi-year framework around which the County budget functions, a strategy which enables the County to address both current and future year budget shortfalls in a systematic and proactive manner. During his career with Stanislaus County, he also led many efforts aimed at strengthening the County health care safety net, including successful initiatives to attain the Federally Qualified Health Care Facility Designation in the County's health clinic system, a multi-year effort to retain the County Residency Program, and the sale and transition of the Stanislaus Behavior Health Center to private ownership.

Prior to his appointment with Stanislaus County, Rick had, since 1991, held the position of Chief Administrator with Tehama County. Rick started his local government career in 1982 as an Accountant for the Tehama County Auditor-Controller's Office. In 1986, he was elected Auditor-Controller and ran unopposed for a second four-year term in 1990.

Rick currently serves on several local committees, including the Community Hospice Board of Directors, the Governing Board of Doctors Medical Center, Stanislaus Workforce Alliance Board of Directors and the Valley First Credit Union Supervisory Committee. Rick was recently honored by the Stanislaus

County Equal Rights Commission as a recipient of the 2011 Annual Dale Butler Equal Rights Award for exemplary service in equal employment opportunity matters and leadership in promoting equal rights.

Rick was an honors graduate of California State University, Chico, earning his degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting. He is a lifetime selection to Beta Gamma Sigma, a national scholastic honor society for business graduates. Rick has been married to his beautiful wife Kathy for 37 years. They have 4 children and 8 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring my good friend, Mr. Richard Robinson for his years of dedication to the County of Stanislaus.

### TO COMMEND ZIAMATIC CORPORATION FOR RECEIVING THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR SAFETY AND EXCELLENCE IN 2011

#### HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a prestigious Bucks County based company, Ziamatic, for receiving the Governor's Award for Safety and Excellence. Ziamatic Corp. (ZICO) was founded in 1958 with the intention of providing the men and women in the fire services industry with products that make their profession safer and easier. Over the years, Ziamatic has grown to become a leading manufacturer of fire and safety equipment in the United States. Today, the Yardley-based company employs 33 people.

For almost half of the last century, ZICO has designed and developed dozens of new products ranging from breathing apparatus to ambulance equipment and ladder access systems. With each new design, one thing has always been consistent: quality. Before a product has the ZICO name attached to it, it must undergo rigorous testing to be sure that it meets the highest of standards.

Thank you to Mike Ziayalek, and all of the employees at Ziamatic. Congratulations on receiving the Governor's Award for Safety and Excellence. We appreciate all that you do for the community and wish you many more years of success.

### HONORING THE SAINT XAVIER UNIVERSITY COUGARS FOOTBALL TEAM FOR PLAYING THE NAIA CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

#### HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2011 St. Xavier University Cougars football team, who will compete in the

• 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.

school's first National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) championship game on December 17, 2011. The Cougars, who call my district home, will compete for the title in Rome, Georgia, against Carroll College of Montana.

St. Xavier defeated Marian University on December 3rd to go 13-1 for the season and earn a trip to the title game. Marian was the only school to defeat St. Xavier this year, and the Cougars avenged their loss in exciting fashion to earn their title birth. With SXU leading by three points in the final moments of the game, Marian was threatening to score with a first-and-goal situation. On third down, SXU freshman Clayton Fejedelem intercepted a pass in the end zone to seal the victory.

The Cougars' potent spread offense was on full display in the second half of the contest with three touchdowns through the air. St. Xavier's offense leads the NAIA in scoring offense with 45.9 points per game. Just as impressive was the defense as it held Marian's star running back to just 26 yards on 16 carries.

SXU had come close in the past, making it to the NAIA semifinals three times before, but this year the fourth time was the charm. When the Cougars face Carroll College tomorrow, I am confident they will be ready to take on the Fighting Saints. Please join me in honoring the St. Xavier University Cougars football team and their head coach, Mike Feminis, on competing in the NAIA National Championship and sealing their place as a perennial football powerhouse. May they perform like champions and bring back a national championship trophy.

IRAN THREAT REDUCTION ACT OF  
2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2011*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, while I am deeply concerned about Iran's capacity to develop nuclear weapons and I support targeted sanctions against Iran, I voted no on H.R. 1905, the Iran Threat Reduction Act of 2011 because I do not believe it would accomplish its stated goal of reducing the threat from Iran.

I am concerned that at a time when more nuanced diplomatic tools are needed to successfully address this important and multifaceted effort to prevent Iran from developing nuclear weapons, this legislation would dangerously limit the flexibility of the U.S. Government to engage directly with Iran to turn back these efforts. The Administration has made it clear that the Comprehensive Iran Sanctions Accountability and Divestment Act (CISADA), enacted just last year after careful deliberation by both the House and Senate, is an adequate and effective tool for addressing the threat potentially posed through multilateral negotiations with Iran. I have spoken directly with officials at the State Department and they tell me they are very concerned that piling on additional sanctions could have the counter-

productive result of sending the already destabilized economies of our European allies into a tailspin and threaten the stability of the global economic recovery.

I am also troubled by the 601(c) provision inserted during mark-up of the bill, which takes the unprecedented step of restricting dialogue between U.S. and Iranian officials. The controversial provision would prohibit contact between U.S. diplomats and any Iranian official who "would pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the vital national security interests of the United States." This is dangerous and would have prohibited the efforts that secured the release of two of my constituents, Sarah Shourd and Shane Bauer, along with their friend and fellow U.C. Berkeley alumnus Josh Fattal, who were detained for years in Iran after being arrested while hiking near Iran's border with Northern Iraq. Furthermore, not only is it unclear how restricting negotiations with Iran on its nuclear program would advance our security interests, it should be clear that taking this option off the table is counterproductive in addressing the very real threats that Iran presents.

It is my hope that my colleagues will address these issues in conference and return a bill for final passage that considers what it takes to effectively undertake national security strategy execution. It is time for us to stop posturing and to understand that far from a reward to withhold, diplomacy is a critical tool for protecting United States national security interests.

IN HONOR OF ALBERT CASWELL  
AND THE MEN AND WOMEN OF  
OUR NATION'S ARMED SERVICES

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Albert "Bert" Caswell.

Bert has worked as a United States Capitol tour guide for over twenty-five years. He is known throughout the Capitol for his extraordinary work and selfless attitude. After hours, Bert volunteers his time offering Capitol tours to wounded veterans and participants of the Make-A-Wish foundation. He also visits and writes poems for wounded soldiers at local hospitals to lift their spirits and celebrate their heroic nature.

Mr. Speaker, I submit before you a poem, authored by Albert, reflecting on the extraordinary sacrifices and courage of the men and women of our Nation's Armed Services.

CHRISTMAS TEARS

This Christmas season, as you awake . . .  
Please, so take the time to so take . . .  
To remember in this December, all of those  
families whose hearts now quake . . .  
For they are so separated, so far across the  
shores . . . by such dark and most evil  
war . . .  
All in fear, not knowing . . . if but their  
loved ones may live but one day more.  
. . .  
So say a prayer . . .  
Because, there will be tears across this nation . . .  
Christmas Tears . . .  
And as you so see the smiles upon your children's faces . . .

Remember, there are such men and women of honor, fighting all in such dark places.

. . .  
Giving all of their treasure, oh yes That Last Full Measure . . . so you may live in peace . . .

So say a prayer and shed a tear, for all of them and all of these so here . . . Our Patriots of Peace!

And all of the ones, who now so in hospitals, who have so just begun their new battles in this new year. So shed a tear.

. . .  
For the ones who now so live without arms and legs, and holes in all places . . . teaching us all what faith is!

For them all so shed a tear!

And for all of those most magnificent ones, as Thy Will Be Done, On Earth As It Is In Heaven now in the ground . . . for freedom won! Shed a tear . . .

For all those little boys and girls, who have just lost their best friends in the world.

. . .  
Its so sad now, shed a tear . . .

And as you so sing your songs of joy, remember all of these little girls and boys in your hearts so very loud! And shed a tear . . .

And in this evening as you break your bread, remember to say a prayer for all those whom have bled!

All so you can be free and live in peace . . . Please shed a tear, and say a prayer for all of these . . .

A child is born . . .

As we remember on this golden morn . . .

Remember all of their Christian Acts, for their courage does not lack . . .

So for all of our Armed Forces, shed a tear.

. . .  
Say a prayer, that they will all be home one day . . . safe and sound in the coming years . . .

And on this Christmas night as you so lay yourself down to sleep . . .

All in your hearts, so very deep . . . Say a prayer . . .

That our Lord will so watch over all of these.

. . .

And say a prayer for peace . . . do so please.

. . .

Now, on this night from high above . . .

But comes a gentle rain, soft falling snow flakes from our Lord all in his love.

. . .

All for their selfless sacrifice, all of these fine men and women who now must fight . . .

Are but our Lord's tears, for all these and their families on this night . . .

So say a prayer and shed a tear, and so pray that they will all be back next year.

. . .

But, with their loved ones, on Christmas night . . .

Lord God, Bless Them . . . Bless Them All! Thank Them All . . .

And say a prayer and shed a tear for all those most magnificent families and heroes who answer the call!

Thank them all and shed a tear.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, on December 14, 2011, I inadvertently cast "yea" votes on the final passage of H.R. 1905 and H.R. 2105. I am opposed to both bills.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNNIE B. BOOKER

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Johnnie B. Booker on the occasion of her retirement from the Coca-Cola Company. Ms. Booker's career has been marked by an extraordinary record of success as a corporate executive, national expert on workforce and supplier diversity, and senior federal government official.

Ms. Booker has served as Global Director of Supplier Diversity for the Coca-Cola Company since 2001. In this capacity, she has been responsible for developing and implementing the company's supplier diversity program and initiatives to assure equal contracting opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses. During her first year with Coca-Cola, contracts with minority- and women-owned businesses increased over the previous year by 50 percent, exceeding the company's goal by 27 percent. Under Ms. Booker's leadership, the company has consistently exceeded its goals for subsequent years, and its supplier diversity profile has grown substantially in actual dollars expended and global recognition.

Mr. Speaker, I might add that this is Ms. Booker's second retirement. Before joining Coca-Cola, she had a successful career in the federal government, culminating in her role as Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity at the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC), from which she retired in 1996. In 1991, Ms. Booker joined the Resolution Trust Corporation (RTC) as Vice President, Division of Minority and Women's Programs. While at the RTC, she created unprecedented contracting and investment opportunities for minority- and women-owned businesses and law firms. She commissioned the first disparity study by a federal agency and increased contracting fees for minority- and women-owned businesses from 18 percent to over 48 percent and from 3 to 26 percent for minority- and women-owned law firms. Her work at the RTC served as a model for other federal agencies as well as private companies seeking to establish viable minority procurement programs.

Prior to her tenure at the RTC, Ms. Booker served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. In this role, she established a new office of affirmative action and equal opportunity and successfully revamped the Department's fragmented approach to discrimination complaint processing and affirmative employment programs. Ms. Booker also served in executive capacities with the Federal Home Loan Bank Board and the National Urban League.

Active in her community, Ms. Booker serves on the boards of the National Minority Supplier Development Council, Women's Business Enterprise National Council, US Pan Asian Chamber of Commerce, Bronx Community College Foundation, the Ashley Stewart Foundation, National Advisory Board of the Whitney M. Young, Jr., School of Social Work—Clark Atlanta University and the Supplier Diversity Council of The Conference Board. Her civic affiliations include Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Dogwood City Chapter of The Links, Inc., Circle-Lets, The National Black Child Develop-

ment Institute, NAACP, Urban League and Big Bethel AME Church. Ms. Booker has appeared in a myriad of national publications and has received numerous honors and awards for her outstanding professional contributions and accomplishments.

Ms. Booker received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Hampton University and a Master of Social Work Degree from the Atlanta University School of Social Work. She is the proud mother of a son, S. Courtney Booker, III, mother-in-law of Nissa and grandmother of two wonderful grandchildren, Dalyn and Aiden, who bring her special joy. I know that she is looking forward to being able to spend more time with them in retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the entire House join me in congratulating Ms. Johnnie B. Booker on this well deserved retirement. I wish her good health and Godspeed.

HONORING SARAH SMIERCIAK, RECIPIENT OF THE 2011 RHODES SCHOLARSHIP

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sarah Smierciak, a graduate of my alma mater, Northwestern University, who was recently awarded a prestigious Rhodes Scholarship.

Ms. Smierciak hails from Lemont and majored in History and in Middle East Language and Civilization. She studied Arabic at the American University in Cairo and Damascus University. She is also an accomplished triathlete and a member of the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society.

Established in 1903, Rhodes Scholarships are awarded to outstanding well-rounded students to attend Oxford University for post-graduate study. The selection committee identifies young men and women of outstanding intellect, character, leadership, and commitment to service. Over 830 of our nation's top students applied and Sarah was awarded one of only 83 Rhodes Scholarships.

Ms. Smierciak's work and experiences demonstrate that she is a very deserving choice for this prestigious scholarship. She has published articles on social justice and published her photography, and serves as a docent on Egyptian art at The Field Museum.

Fluent in Arabic, she currently resides in Egypt, where she is promoting the value of education by assisting orphans in the aftermath of the Egyptian Revolution. Through her work with the international charity, FACE for Children in Need, she is working to develop a teaching curriculum for the street children of Egypt and Sudan. She remains tireless in her devotion to helping these young boys appreciate the need for education.

Ms. Smierciak plans to use her Rhodes Scholarship to pursue developmental studies at Oxford University. She aspires to one day be an advisor at the United Nations.

I ask you to join me in honoring Ms. Sarah Smierciak, a member of the Rhodes Scholarship Class of 2012, and may she have success in all her endeavors to promote the value of education throughout the United States and the world.

RECOGNIZING RADM MICHAEL A. BROWN

**HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Rear Admiral Michael A. Brown for his distinguished service to the Government of the United States as the Director, Cybersecurity Coordination, National Protection and Programs Directorate, and Senior Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity Representative to the National Security Agency and the United States Cyber Command from December 2010 to January 2012.

Rear Admiral Brown is a national level leader on cybersecurity, a matter of highest importance to the nation's national security, homeland defense and economic competitiveness. Since the Department of Defense and the Department of Homeland Security each bring different authorities, capabilities and cultures to this national challenge, the nation needed an astute solution provider and consensus builder in each of these areas. Handpicked to bridge the two leading Departments in this mission space, he quickly earned the respect of each due to his intellect, skill and determination for national-level solutions and brought the Departments closer together.

Rear Admiral Brown's sound advice routinely developed and informed policy and operations positions taken by senior decision makers at the national level, thereby advancing national and international cybersecurity policy and critical legislative proposals needed to change the nation's antiquated cybersecurity-related laws. Few people had a bigger role at increasing the understanding and appreciation of the complexity and relationship between policy, technology and operations required to secure our nation's public and private infrastructure.

Rear Admiral Brown's leadership was crucial in the execution of a first-of-its-kind government-wide boundary cyber defense system to which the U.S.'s foreign intelligence system would be connected, to setting the course to transform DHS's cyber operational centers into national assets, to creating the public-private partnerships necessary to jointly operate to mitigate extraordinarily pressing nation state, crime, and hacktivist cyber threats.

The National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center was another of his notable achievements providing the vision and execution to make it operational. Both a warrior and innovative thinker, he seamlessly worked with government and private sector counterparts to strengthen and support operational partnerships.

During a perilous time for our nation, in which our adversaries' ability and will to steal and control our national assets through cyberspace often far outpaces our posture to stop it, Rear Admiral Brown helped set the necessary strategic direction by unifying the Federal Executive branch, state and local government, the U.S. critical infrastructure community, and the private sector. His leadership culminated in a White House-supported effort that defined a national plan for unified public and private response to malicious activity under the National Cyber Incident Response Plan.

Our thanks also go to his wife, Therese L. Brown and his children Michael R. Brown, Meghan T. Brown and Lauren M. Brown. Their support and sacrifice on behalf of our Nation should be recognized along with Rear Admiral Brown's tremendous hard work.

HONORING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CANAAN GALILEE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 60th Anniversary of Canaan Galilee Missionary Baptist Church in Madison, Illinois.

In 1951, Mother Georgia Jones accepted her calling to help organize a new church in the Eagle Park area of Madison, Illinois. Word of Mother Jones' efforts reached Rev. C. D. McClinton, the former pastor of Southern Tabernacle Church in nearby Lovejoy. These two, along with a small group of dedicated pioneers, met for several weeks before forming a Mission which would become Canaan Galilee Missionary Baptist Church, with Rev. McClinton as the first Pastor.

Early meetings of the new church were held in the Jones' home. Soon, a lot was purchased and the first church structure was constructed through the labors of the church members. A fire destroyed the first church building on Good Friday, 1966, and temporary facilities were required, including a tent where services were held during the summer and fall of 1966. Work was ongoing for a permanent replacement which would be completed in stages as resources were available. The physical church structure continued to develop as the church congregation grew and a new edifice was recently dedicated.

Canaan Galilee Missionary Baptist Church has grown and expanded since its humble beginnings. A number of ministries have been instituted to serve not only the church congregation but also the Eagle Park community. The current and seventh pastor, Rev. Don Sanford, has been a driving force for expanding the church involvement in the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the 60th Anniversary of Canaan Galilee Missionary Baptist Church and to wish them the best for many years to come.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1540, NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2011*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 1540, the National Defense Authorization Act for FY 2012. The conference report provisions regarding the treatment of terrorism detainees in U.S. cus-

tody contained in the bill simply do not go far enough to ensure that counterterrorism officials have the ability to effectively deal with the threats our country faces, while upholding our constitutional values.

These detainee provisions put into law the authority of the military to indefinitely detain without trial individuals determined to be members or substantial supporters of terrorist organizations. But the bill does not define in clear terms those who are subject to this provision and leaves open the possibility that even American citizens arrested on U.S. soil could be detained indefinitely.

I fully support many provisions in this bill, including those that provide our service members with the pay and equipment they need and deserve. I also strongly support provisions that make much-needed improvements to the sexual assault and harassment policies of the Defense Department, and ensure that victims have access to a military lawyer and maintain their option of confidential reporting even if they seek legal counsel.

But, the language regarding detainees contained in this bill threatens the rights and liberties of American citizens. We must state unequivocally that no American may be arrested on U.S. soil and detained indefinitely without trial. This bill fails that test and compromises our most basic constitutional values.

That is why I vigorously oppose H.R. 1540 and urge my colleagues to join me in a strong "no" vote.

DIVISION E OF THE CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, the Statement of Managers language contained in Division E of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2012 regarding the Boiler MACT rule is not intended in any way to convey an endorsement by the conferees of any Boiler MACT rulemaking proposal.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF MR. FRANK CASTELLI

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Frank Castelli's retirement as the Service Director for the City of Middleburg Heights after 25 years of dedicated service.

Mr. Frank Castelli was born in Jefferson, Ohio and graduated from Geneva High School. He later continued his education by attending Cleveland State University. Mr. Castelli and his wife, Delia, have been married for 45 years and have one daughter, Claudia, and two sons, Marc and Matt. Frank also has two grandchildren, Marcella and Pete.

Mr. Castelli is a veteran of the United States Army and served in Germany during 1955 and

1956. Following his service in the Army, Mr. Castelli worked in the insurance industry for nearly 30 years as a claim adjuster and commercial insurance agent. He also spent 16 years as the co-owner and operator of Trans Ohio Insurance Agency with his brother, Ron. In 1986, Frank became the Service Director for the City of Middleburg Heights, Ohio.

In addition to his careers serving his country, fellow Ohioans and residents of Middleburg Heights, Mr. Castelli has been a leader in the community. Since 1976 he has served as the president of the Misty Lake Condominium Association and at one time served as a member of the Planning Commission. From 1976 to 1986 Frank was a councilman for Middleburg Heights, Ward 1. He has also been serving as the president of the Middleburg Heights Democratic Club since 1998 and is an active member of the Cuyahoga County Democratic Party Executive Committee.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Frank Castelli as he celebrates his retirement.

HONORING ACTIVIST AND CIVIL RIGHTS HERO KATHLYN GILLIAM

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Kathlyn Gilliam, a champion of civil rights and the Dallas school district's first African-American female trustee. Ms. Gilliam was 81 years old when she passed away this last Sunday.

There is no shortage of talent and diversity in the 30th District of Texas, and residents like Kathlyn Gilliam are a testament to this fact. An activist and a leader, Ms. Gilliam dedicated her life to achieving higher quality education and living standards for all.

Growing up and working during the days of segregation, Ms. Gilliam's exceptional character helped her to triumph over a unique set of institutional hurdles and staunch resistance from her peers. She bravely attended Lincoln High School before Dallas ISD's desegregation and even went on to become the school district's first Black female trustee.

Ms. Gilliam actively shaped the way South Dallas schools would evolve into some of the magnet schools we understand them to be today. By fiercely advocating for stronger curricula and warding off near-constant opposition from the rest of the school board, Ms. Gilliam enhanced the overall learning experience for thousands of students in the area, the effects of which are still apparent today.

Mr. Speaker, it saddens me and thousands of other Dallas residents to hear of Ms. Gilliam's passing. Her legacy of effectively reshaping the Dallas school district and improving her community is not only immortalized in a school named in her honor, but also in our hearts and memories. Ms. Gilliam's passing comes as a great loss to the 30th District of Texas, and I hope that others will take example by her leadership and exceptional character.

WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. TROOPS  
FROM IRAQ

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to praise our troops—and our President—as we end our involvement in Iraq.

America's armed forces were called to duty, did everything asked of them and served with distinction. Their valor and dedication in serving our country half a world away has been an inspiration to me and to our nation. And now, as they leave the nation of Iraq, we here at home honor their sacrifice, the sacrifice of their families, and welcome them with open arms and open hearts. As we welcome those who are coming home, we must not forget the nearly 4,500 servicemembers who lost their lives and the more than 30,000 troops who were wounded in this conflict who, along with their families, have made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

President Obama deserves much credit for keeping his promise to the American people to withdraw from the Iraq conflict and have our troops home by the holidays. Those of us in the House and the Senate must continue to honor our commitment to our veterans and their families, helping to ensure a future in which they can fulfill their hopes and dreams for themselves and their children.

JOBS ARE OUR HIGHEST PRIORITY

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call attention to incentives that add to unemployment and decrease tax revenues.

Strong consumer protection laws are the responsibility of each State in our Union and I support efforts to enforce them to protect our constituents. However, no reasonable person would favor an approach so draconian in its effect that it makes innocent employees victims. The impact on our hard-working union members is unfair and unwarranted. Proportionality in these cases is critical. Perverse incentives can be seen when the settlements in these cases are used to pay operating budgets of the agencies that bring the charges, especially if it encourages the targeting of out of state companies for huge settlements. The payments should be enough to compensate for any harm and to push the company to act in an appropriate manner according to law. Only in egregious or criminal circumstances should companies be forced out of business.

It is crucial to enforce strong consumer protection and deceptive advertising laws. In this economy, as we hasten to take measures to protect jobs, we have got to be mindful of incentives that put states revenue needs in competition with each other. Without question, the states must have the power to stop deceptive advertising and unfair competition, but they should not have the authority to abuse that power in ways that decrease other states tax revenues by forcing businesses to add thousands of Americans to the ranks of the

unemployed. I would encourage those enforcing our laws to take this into account.

PIPELINE SAFETY, REGULATORY  
CERTAINTY, AND JOB CREATION  
ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. PATRICK MEEHAN**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, December 12, 2011*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, in Pennsylvania and across the country, we are moving forward to develop American sources of energy. This development will reduce energy prices for hardworking taxpayers, create jobs for Americans and lessen our dependence on foreign oil. As this important development moves forward, we must remain strongly committed to protecting our environment and ensuring these operations are safe and responsible.

The production of natural gas from the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania is an economic driver for our State but it also presents unique challenges. Thousands of wells have already been drilled in Pennsylvania, and many more and thousands of miles of Marcellus-related pipeline are planned in the Keystone State alone. Most of these facilities are unmanned and spread across rural areas, making monitoring and data communication difficult. Critical failures of these systems can cause untold environmental and economic damage, yet we may not know of these failures until far too much damage has been done. There is an urgent need for better systems to monitor wells and pipelines for leaks, damage and anomalies to protect the environment and the public.

The House has taken a step to address these deficiencies in passing H.R. 2845, the Pipeline Safety, Regulatory Certainty, and Job Creation Act of 2011. Among other provisions, the bill requires the Secretary of Energy to continue evaluating industry safety standards and readiness to respond to infrastructure failures. In performing these evaluations, I encourage the Secretary to investigate the utility of secured, meshed wireless networks. These meshed networks—multi-antenna, no-root meshed-radio systems—can provide continuous monitoring and then alert operations personnel and first responders to leaks and damage in real-time. They can be expanded as new operations are brought online and added to exploration vehicles like ships and trucks, improving communications potential in the critical first minutes after an incident.

As the Secretary moves forward with his safety review and evaluations pursuant to the bill, I encourage the consideration of secured, meshed wireless networks as a possible means of ensuring both real-time monitoring of remote energy infrastructure and swift, seamless response and communication in the event of leaks or other critical failures.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE SUNCOAST  
SEABIRD SANCTUARY

**HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 40th anniversary of the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary, the largest and most successful non-profit wild bird hospital in the United States.

It is a privilege for me to represent the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary in Indian Shores and to have seen firsthand the outstanding commitment of its staff that works to rehabilitate the more than 8,000 injured birds it admits each year.

The Sanctuary was founded in 1971 by zoologist Ralph T. Heath and is staffed by highly trained individuals equipped with emergency facilities, a surgical center, recovery areas, and an outdoor wild bird recuperation area. Admitting up to 159 different species per year, the Sanctuary is world renowned for its innovative rehabilitation techniques with over 80 percent of its admitted birds successfully rehabilitated and released back into the wild.

Over the years, the Sanctuary has also become a cherished attraction to Central Florida visitors. Attracting over 100,000 visitors each year, the Sanctuary offers a unique environment for bird watching, and a tremendous opportunity for photographing wildlife on Florida's beautiful Gulf Coast. Admission into the Sanctuary has always been free, giving the general public a great opportunity to visit and learn about Florida's wildlife.

Mr. Speaker, through their hard work and dedication, the staff and volunteers of the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary not only give back to Florida's natural world, but also serve as a valued asset to our community. This weekend, many of the Sanctuary's family and friends from the past 40 years will gather to celebrate the history and accomplishments of this valuable facility. It is my hope that my colleagues in the House will join me in saying thank you to all those who have been a part of the Suncoast Seabird Sanctuary.

DORIS VIRGINIA TRACY TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Doris Virginia Tracy, a longtime resident of La Veta, Colorado. Mrs. Tracy was a distinguished World War Two-era pilot and loving wife and mother.

From the earliest days of her childhood in Missouri, Doris dreamed of learning to fly. She took her first ride in a bi-plane at the age of nine, and decided to become an "aviatrix," as female pilots were then known. After entering college with her sister Bernice, Doris was only the second girl to sign up for Civilian Pilot Training. After a long wait, as only one woman was allowed in the program for every nine men, she earned her license.

In order to continue flying and serve her country during World War Two, she applied

with the Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), who flew military aircraft in support of the Army Air Forces. After seven months of training, she flew engineering flight tests, copiled B-24s, and flew administrative flights in C-45s at bases in Texas, Ohio, Mississippi, and Wyoming.

After the WASP program disbanded, Doris moved to La Veta with her family to start a store. It was there she met Julian Tracy at a local dance. They were married in 1946 and raised two daughters together, Glenna Lee and Julie. In addition to running the store, she was active with the PTA, the Francisco Fort Museum, and the Eastern Star, and enjoyed searching the Colorado hills for artifacts.

In March 2010, Doris was in attendance here in Washington as the WASP were presented with the Congressional Gold Medal for their service to the nation. She passed away at the age of ninety on July 29, 2010, and was survived by her daughters, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Doris Tracy. I rise today to salute this one-of-a-kind woman who is remembered for her smile, warmth, and patriotism.

#### ON THE WINGS OF LUKE

### HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following poem.

#### ON THE WINGS OF LUKE

All in . . .  
 All in those most darkest hours of war . . .  
 When, that precious life so lies before . . .  
 All in that balance that which so insures . . .  
 When, who lives or dies . . .  
 'Oh but to so see another sunrise . . .  
 When, a loved one's caress will so shower  
 . . .  
 Such faith and strength, in all of its great  
 power . . .  
 As their loved ones encouragement will so  
 flower . . .  
 Such strength and faith all in these hours  
 . . .  
 All in these precious moments which above  
 all else so towers . . .  
 With loved ones at their sides, as against all  
 odds they so reach for the skies . . .  
 Where, the beginning of hope and healing so  
 lies!  
 But, comes the very will to live or die!  
 While, in the coming months and days . . .  
 As into the year as do they . . .  
 As upon bended knees so pray . . .  
 As upon The Wings of Luke their loved ones  
 arrive this day . . .  
 From all across our Country Tis of Thee,  
 come their loved ones all in tears to  
 provide such relief . . .  
 I open arms hope we now see!  
 To provide the strength that they all need!  
 For all of these great American families our  
 hearts so bleed . . .  
 Because, the one thing that which but means  
 the most!  
 I but when loved ones lie all in arms length  
 so very close!  
 Because hearts of love can lift such souls  
 higher!  
 To help win all of those battles, all in these  
 times so dire . . .  
 That in the end but mean the most . . .  
 So On These Wings of Luke . . .

We give these great America's families what  
 they need most . . .

All in this battle, when recovery and death  
 lies close . . .

For a family's love but means most!

From on The Wings of Luke comes hope . . .

#### TRIBUTE TO DR. PETER FRIEDMAN

### HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to express my gratitude to Dr. Peter Friedman who served as my Congressional Fellow this year. Pete served as my point person on energy issues with the Energy and Water Appropriations Subcommittee and was responsible for all nuclear and defense related issues in my office.

Pete's background as chairman of an engineering department, a naval officer, and engineering background, provided me with unique technical knowledge of nuclear power and defense issues. His expertise came to the forefront during the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear reactor accident. Pete provided me with data-driven, measured advice on the crisis which was both forward-looking and justifiable. It was an important year for nuclear energy and it was good to have Pete on my staff.

In the appropriations process, Pete developed well-researched and insightful positions, which properly prioritized the spending on energy projects based on their potential impact. His astute political insights and his willingness and ability to learn the legislative process served me very well.

I benefited greatly from Pete's advice, knowledge and work ethic over the past year. I want to thank him, and commend him, for a job well done. I also want to thank his wife, Sylvia, and daughter, Helen, for allowing us to have Pete for the year. I know it wasn't easy for them to have him away for such a long period. I am sure they will be glad to have him back and that he will be glad to resume his position as Chairman of the Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth.

Finally, I want to thank the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for sponsoring Pete as a Congressional Fellow. At a time when the world is becoming increasingly technical and competitive, Congress benefits from the advice of experienced and educated experts.

#### URGING TURKEY TO SAFEGUARD ITS CHRISTIAN HERITAGE

SPEECH OF

### HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, December 13, 2011*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 306 that the House passed earlier this week.

Wherever we see repression, wherever we see atrocities being swept under the rug, we have a moral duty to speak out. Members of NATO are no exception.

Today in Turkey, beautiful and historic Armenian churches, monuments and monasteries lie in ruins—broken not by the sands of time, but by desecration, theft and dynamite.

For too long, the U.S. has allowed Turkey to elude responsibility for the destruction of Armenian churches. With this resolution, Congress sends a stern message to Turkey's Prime Minister, Recep Erdogan—the United States will not tolerate Turkish assaults on Armenian heritage and religious freedom.

The passage of House Resolution 306 earlier this week was an important step towards justice for the Armenian people, but our work is unfinished. Until the U.S. and Turkey officially recognize the Armenian Genocide for what it was, I will continue to fight to correct the staggering injustice of soft-peddling the murder of 1.5 million men, women and children.

#### HONORING DAVID MONTGOMERY

### HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note the passing of David Montgomery, after a long and well-lived life.

David Montgomery had many roles in his life: machinist, union activist, educator, author and, most importantly, father and husband.

Dr. Montgomery came to my state of Connecticut in 1979, where he had a distinguished research, writing and teaching career. It was there that he wrote his most notable work, "Fall of the House of Labor: The Workplace, the State and American Labor Activism, 1865–1925," which was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in 1989.

More than an author though, Dr. Montgomery was an activist who started his career not in academia, but on the shop floor. In the 1950s, after graduating from college, he went to work as a machinist, where he began to organize workers to join the International Association of Machinists. He was black-listed and fired from his first job in Minneapolis as a result of his organizing efforts, as he was repeatedly throughout his career. Yet, instead of ceding his cause, he continued to fight for his values. He then made a remarkable transition: he earned his doctorate and began a career in teaching. Dr. Montgomery taught at several colleges, eventually becoming the Farnum Professor of History at Yale.

But whatever job he had, he never stopped being an activist. Dr. Montgomery helped strengthen the resolve of workers and activists while teaching in New Haven. His research and teaching informed his students about the history of working people, and he inspired generations of students to study that history as they sought to change the nation. He knew that by valuing the dignity of work and recognizing workers' struggle for justice in their workplace and country, we could help build a more just society.

A former student of his, Jennifer Klein, captured his essence when she said in a press account that Dr. Montgomery was not only "the model of the scholar-activist but also the activist-scholar."

My heartfelt condolences to Dr. Montgomery's wife, Martel, his sons Claude and Edward, his five grandchildren, his brother Daniel and sister Virginia.

Dr. Montgomery led the kind of full and committed life to which all of us should aspire. He will be missed by all who were lucky enough to know him.

CONGRATULATING THE CHINESE AMERICAN FILM FESTIVAL FOR CELEBRATING ITS 7TH YEAR

**HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the Chinese American Film Festival, which was held in Los Angeles and San Francisco, California, for celebrating its 7th successful year.

This year, the opening ceremonies were held on October 27, 2011 at the Directors Guild of America in Los Angeles, and on October 30, 2011 at the Marina Theatre in San Francisco. With over 10 workshops and seminars, and over 200 officially selected films that were screened in Hollywood, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, the Festival has once again demonstrated how effectively the Chinese and American cultures can join together through the medium of film to create unique and outstanding work.

Many of those in the Chinese industry have been recognized by the American film industry, but for many others this was the first time these films had ever been screened in North America. The films chosen for the Festival were audiences' favorites in the Chinese and American film markets.

With the support of the Consulate General of China in Los Angeles, and the Motion Picture Association of America, the Chinese American Film Festival has become a grand annual event of cultural exchange and communication between the two film industries.

As one of the major annual cultural events in Hollywood, this festival demonstrates that creativity has no boundaries of race, color, language, or traditions. Through the window of film, people see each other, hear each other and understand each other. As described by James Su, Founder and current Chairman of the Festival, "The Chinese American Film Festival continues to showcase the dynamic power of creations it produces when East meets with West and when hands are joined together."

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Su and the Chinese American Film Festival for another successful year and for showing tremendous dedication to cultural exchange while opening communication between the Chinese and American film industries. Welcome to California, and welcome to the United States.

2010 CAFF Golden Angel Award Films: The Seal of Love; My Kingdom; Color Me Love; 72 Heroes; Detective D; Always Be With You; An Eternal Lamb; Love You You; A Simple Life; Snow Flower and the Secret Fan.

Best Documentary Film: The Day of Noah 2: Apocalypse.

Best Independent Film: Dali.

Best Asian American Film: Wedding Palace.

Best Short Film: A Petal Onto the Sea.

Best Children's Feature Film: Close to Me.

Charity Film: My Girlhood.

Outstanding Chinese Culture Promoter: Dedication.

Outstanding Chinese Film Promoter: Macau Film Association.

Chinese Film Promoter Mayor Award: Xin Hua City Mayor.

Outstanding Newcomer Actor: Joshua Hannum—Leading Actor of "Once Upon a Time in Tibet."

Outstanding Newcomer Actress: Zhou Yang—Leading Actress of "Love You You."

Outstanding Newcomer Director: Chen Miao—Director of "Son of the Stars."

Outstanding Newcomer Producer: Wang Bin, Yang Yue—The Producers of "Time Flies Soundlessly."

Best Actor of the Year: Wang Qianyuan—Leading Actor of "The Piano in a Factory."

Best Actress of the Year: Ni Ping—Leading Actress of "The Sun."

Best Director of the Year: Yang Yazhou—The Director of "The Sun."

Outstanding Achievement Award: Tang Guo Qiang.

CHIEF GERALD WHITMAN TRIBUTE

**HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Chief Gerald Whitman of the Denver Police Department. Chief Whitman has served capably and honorably in this position for over eleven years.

Chief Whitman's distinguished career with the Department began in 1982. After excelling as a Patrol Officer, Field Training Officer, Sergeant, and Lieutenant, he was promoted to the rank of Captain in 1995. During this time he was responsible for the protection of the newly-formed District 6, including Capitol Hill and Downtown Denver. Three years later, he was again promoted to Division Chief of Patrol, where he oversaw uniformed patrol operations.

Mayor Wellington Webb named Gerald Whitman as Denver's 68th Chief of Police in 2000. Under his leadership, major crime rates have dropped despite an economic recession and fewer officers per capita on patrol. The Department has gained a reputation for innovative ideas, the effective use of technology, and an emphasis on community and victim outreach. Its forensics lab and cold case unit have received wide acclaim, and serve as a model for departments nationwide.

Gerry Whitman holds a Bachelors Degree in Law Enforcement Administration and a Masters in Criminal Justice from the University of Colorado at Denver. Despite having a longer tenure than any of his predecessors, he intends to return to the rank of Captain after stepping down as Chief of Police.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Chief Gerald Whitman. I rise today to thank him for his continuing devotion to the City of Denver and its citizens.

H.R. 1254

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 1254, the Synthetic Drug Control Act of 2011 because it will do little, if anything, to curb abuse of synthetic marijuana. It will, however, unnecessarily burden the criminal justice system and inhibit important scientific research on synthetic substances. It will also impose further unnecessary costs onto taxpayers as the federal criminal code is expanded.

Evidence suggests that criminalizing substances, as this bill envisions, does not change demand or prevent health harms that stem from their use. The deaths and injuries that result from abuse of any substance and the destruction that drug abuse inflicts on our families and communities is heartbreaking. I support comprehensive drug education programs which promote clear information for children and adults about how to recognize drug abuse and the risk factors that promote it. It is important to recognize that drug abuse proliferates differently depending on the socio-economic conditions that exist in a given community, which makes it all the more important for the federal government to assist state and local governments in addressing this public health problem. This bill does nothing to boost real public health and education awareness campaigns which must be a part of addressing substance abuse.

Instead, H.R. 1254 would place a number of synthetic substances under Schedule I of the Controlled Substances Act. As Schedule I is the most restrictive, placing substances on it makes research on these substances vastly more difficult. Scientific researchers have warned Congress that this legislation will impede research on treatments for a range of diseases and disorders, including Parkinson's disease. In addition, the Drug Enforcement Agency already has the power to place substances on the Schedule I list.

Finally, criminalization of another group of drugs will engender an expansion of the criminal justice regime. Our present system of criminal justice already places a far too large and disproportionate burden onto poor and minority communities. Marijuana arrests in the United States cost on average \$10,000 per individual from arrest to adjudication, according to public policy researcher John B. Gettman at the George Mason University School of Public Policy. The prosecution and prison terms that will necessarily arise from enforcement of this bill will impose enormous costs on taxpayers at a time when resources are scant. I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing this legislation.

MASON PUNCHERS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Mason Punchers football

team on an outstanding 2011 season. Yesterday, the Punchers won the Class 1A, Division I Texas state championship and ended their season with a perfect record, 15–0.

I want to congratulate the team on their dedication and hard work. It takes determination and focus to win a state championship, and the focus must be all the greater to do it on top of a perfect season. I applaud the perseverance of the team.

Coach Kade Burns, as well as all the young men on this team, deserves recognition for the accomplishment. The 15–0 season was all the greater considering this was Coach Burns' first season as head coach at Mason.

I know that many years from now, these young men from Mason will look back on this day with fond memories. I encourage them to enjoy this achievement to the utmost, as it is a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

It is my honor to represent the student and families Mason and their state championship football team. Again, I congratulate the Mason Punchers on a perfect season and a state championship!

HONORING THE LIFE OF AND  
ACHIEVEMENTS OF JUDGE  
HOSEA T. "H.T." LOCKARD

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Judge H.T. Lockard, born Hosea T. Lockard on June 24, 1920. Judge Lockard was a civil rights leader, hero and pioneer who fought alongside giants to bring racial equality to Memphis, Tennessee and the surrounding area. He grew up on a small farm near Henning, Tennessee before deciding to attend LeMoyné College in Memphis in 1940.

Prior to completing his studies at LeMoyné College, Mr. Lockard chose to postpone his education to serve his country in the Army Medical Corps during World War II which included three and half years in North Africa, Italy, France and Germany. After his discharge in 1945, he continued his studies at Sorbonne University in Paris before returning to LeMoyné where he attained his bachelor's degree in 1947. After finishing at LeMoyné, H.T. Lockard was not allowed to attend a Tennessee law school due to segregation. Undeterred by challenges he faced in Tennessee, he pursued his Juris Doctorate by attending Lincoln University Law School in St. Louis, Missouri where he graduated in 1950. While in law school, H.T. Lockard observed that conditions for African-Americans in St. Louis were far better than those in Tennessee. After much debate, he made the tough decision to move back to Memphis where he began practicing law and working with the National Association of the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, to improve race relations in Memphis.

Mr. Lockard once recalled how at a NAACP meeting, the topics of police brutality and segregation in public facilities were like music to his ears. He said, ". . . Good music, because that's what I wanted to get involved in and help bring about the change . . . I was ready to roll up my sleeves and go and ready to tackle anything that needed to be tackled." In

1955, he assumed the presidency of the Memphis Branch of the NAACP and served in that position until 1958. H.T. Lockard headed up their legal committee and contributed to national efforts. During this time, H.T. Lockard was joined by Russell Sugarmon, Vasco and Maxine Smith, Jesse Turner, Billy Kyles and the late Benjamin Hooks and A.W. Willis. Together, these stalwarts of the civil rights movement fought for and won many victories including desegregating Memphis Street Railway Co., public buildings, restaurants and the University of Memphis, formerly Memphis State University.

H.T. Lockard broke significant barriers and paved the way for future African-American politicians in Memphis. In 1964, Mr. Lockard became the first African-American to hold elective office in Shelby County by being elected to the Shelby County Quarterly Court, now known as the County Commission. He then became active in local African-American political clubs and played a key role behind the scenes as an advisor on civil rights issues to President Lyndon B. Johnson. H.T. Lockard was appointed to serve as Administrative Assistant to Tennessee Governor Buford Ellington from 1967–1971 thereby becoming the first African-American cabinet member in the State of Tennessee. In 1975, H.T. Lockard became a Criminal Court judge and served until 1994.

Judge Lockard later served as a board member of the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis from 1989–1999. He gave much of his time to the Memphis Charter Commission, a non-partisan group that reviewed the city Charter and made recommendations for changes to be presented to the citizens of Memphis through voter referendums. Mr. Lockard was awarded the Benjamin L. Hooks Award by the Memphis Bar Foundation in 2010 in recognition of his lifelong commitment to social justice and his prominence on the national stage.

Some of his closest colleagues and friends recounted his dedication to the civil rights movement while he was a lawyer and president of the NAACP. The late Vasco Smith, a former Shelby County Commissioner, said ". . . Lockard was pretty much the whole show. He did an outstanding job, and he probably laid the foundation for a lot of things that happened later on." His wife, Maxine Smith, a former executive secretary of the Memphis Branch of the NAACP described him as the inner circle of the civil rights movement in Memphis. Former General Sessions Court Judge Russell Sugarmon commented on H.T. Lockard saying "When he put his mind to something, he was a plow. He dug in and dug in and wouldn't let up . . . If Lockard was on the other side, you'd better be prepared."

Judge Lockard was an exceptional judge, leader and gentleman. I had the pleasure of meeting him in 1970 when he and I supported Senator Stan Snodgrass for Tennessee governor. In addition to the legacy he leaves behind, I will remember Judge Lockard for his service to the community and his dedication to the bench. As an admirer of classic cars, I will also remember his convertible Thunderbird.

Judge Hosea T. "H.T." Lockard passed away on December 12, 2011 at 91 years of age. He leaves to memory his wife of 49 years, Ida Walker Lockard; three brothers, Emmitt Lockard, Albert Lockard Jr. and Lorenza Lockard; and one sister, Lydia Mor-

gan. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Judge H.T. Lockard. Judge H.T. Lockard will be remembered by many. His was a life well lived.

CONGRATULATING SILVER CROSS  
HOSPITAL

**HON. ADAM KINZINGER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KINZINGER of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Silver Cross Hospital, which is located in my district, for expanding its facilities to New Lenox, IL. In this new facility, the wonderful caregivers of Silver Cross will be better able to serve the many residents of Will County. Each and every day, healthcare professionals across the country provide life saving and sustaining help to those most in need. The professionals at Silver Cross exemplify the best qualities we have come to expect from our healthcare professionals. Their distinguished history provides a tremendous example for others to follow.

I would like to highlight just a couple of their accolades as they continue construction of their new state-of-the-art 289-bed hospital. First, Silver Cross Hospital has been named a 100 Top Hospital Award recipient for seven consecutive years by Thomson Reuters Healthcare, a leading provider of information and solutions to improve the quality and cost of healthcare. Only four hospitals in the nation have won the award for the last seven consecutive years. Secondly, new programs including an enhanced partnership with Children's Memorial Hospital, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and University of Chicago Medical Center will bring new services to patients and improve the health of the community.

It is a true pleasure to represent Silver Cross Hospital. This new facility will allow the Silver Cross family to better fulfill their vision, which is "We, the Silver Cross Family, are committed to our culture of excellence, and will deliver an unrivaled healthcare experience for our patients, their families and the community."

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF  
JOHN SULLIVAN

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize John Sullivan on his retirement after 40 years in public service, including 38 with the Social Security Administration.

John Sullivan began his career in public service in 1972 when he joined NASA as a Budget Specialist. Two years later, Mr. Sullivan transferred to the Social Security Administration, where he would spend the next 38 years. Mr. Sullivan started in the Social Security Administration as Mail Clerk, quickly rising through the ranks to positions including Claims Representative, Quality Review Specialist, Supervisory Resident Representative, Branch Manager, Project Manager, and District Manager.



Mr. Sullivan is an assiduous worker, and his professionalism, dedication, outstanding initiative and resourcefulness have been recognized on multiple occasions. He has been awarded more than 30 performance awards, including the Social Security Administration Regional Commissioners Citation, the Social Security Commissioner's Team Award and Biltmore's Who's Who of American Empowering Executives and Professionals.

In addition to his tireless work with the Social Security Administration, Mr. Sullivan is actively involved in his Church and local community. He has served on the St. Anne's Catholic Church Parish Council, as well as its Finance Council. Mr. Sullivan has also volunteered for more than 25 years with the Boy Scouts of America, where he is currently the Vice President of Programs Gulf Coast Council, and numerous scouts in his troop, including three of his sons, have gone on to become Eagle Scouts.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress it is my honor to recognize Mr. John Sullivan for his dedicated career as a public servant and thank him for his service to Northwest Florida. My wife Vicki and I wish Mr. Sullivan, his wife Jennie, and his sons—Richard, John, Matthew, Michael and Taylor—all the best.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, due to the death of a close friend, I was absent from the House on Thursday, December 15th and Friday, December 16th. Had I been present, I would have recorded the following votes:

Rollcall 933—aye;  
 Rollcall 934—aye;  
 Rollcall 935—aye;  
 Rollcall 936—aye;  
 Rollcall 937—aye;  
 Rollcall 938—aye;  
 Rollcall 939—aye;  
 Rollcall 940—aye;  
 Rollcall 941—aye;  
 Rollcall 942—aye;  
 Rollcall 943—no.

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#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, due to a personal family matter on December 15, 2011, I was absent from votes. As such, I am submitting these remarks to indicate how I would have voted if I were here: I would have voted No on the Journal Vote, and Yes on H.R. 886, H.R. 2719, and H.R. 443.

RECOGNIZING THE WEST SPRINGFIELD DANCE TEAM ON THEIR TREMENDOUS ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the West Springfield Dance Team for their incredible run on the nationally televised show, "America's Got Talent". The West Springfield Dance Team progressed to the semi-finals with their professional grade choreography, distinct style, and superb dancing talents.

Under the tutelage of their coaches, renowned choreographers Tara Perez and Jason King, and with the full support of the West Springfield High School community, including principal Mark Greenfelder and Director of Student Activities Andy Muir, the West Springfield Dance Team has received numerous awards and recognitions including back-to-back Championship titles from the National Dance Alliance, including the "Innovative Choreography" and "Best in Category" awards. West Springfield Dance Team has distinguished itself as the dominant team in local and national competitive dance, and it is now a national celebrity for its run on "America's Got Talent" and a recent appearance on "The View" Halloween episode.

Their eye-popping performances were a delight to watch, and these young people served as tremendous ambassadors not only on behalf of their dance team, but also their school, their families and our community. They and their families should be proud of these accomplishments. I know we are, and I want to congratulate the following members of the West Springfield Dance Team for their many successes in the area of competitive dance, their achievements on "America's Got Talent", and recent appearance on "The View":

WS Dance Team 2010–2011 (performers on "America's Got Talent"): Chelsea Kopf and Julian Asuncion

WS Dance Team 2010–2011 and 2011–2012 (performers on "America's Got Talent", and "The View"): Emily Barnes, Dori Shapiro, Katie Lee, Riley O'Rourke, Nicole Mobley, Breezy Thompson, Sarah Thompson, Kristen Toler, Natalie Wawrzeniak, Jordan Penrod, Hannah Ernst, Jordan Dey, Nicky Ditnoy, and May Ditnoy

WS Dance Team 2011–2012 (performers on "The View"): Ellen Abood, Madeline Diez, Victoria Diez, Brianna Burns, Lauren Rader, Danny Lora, and Collin Hensley

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the West Springfield Dance Team on their many accomplishments and awards and for making it into the semi-finals of "America's Got Talent." I thank the team's coaches, Tara Perez and Jason King, Principal Mark Greenfelder, Director of Student Activities Andy Muir, and the entire West Springfield High School community for their robust support of these exceptional students.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. HOUSE SERGEANT AT ARMS WILSON "BILL" LIVINGOOD

### HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a man who may not be a household name in most American towns and cities but who, over the past two decades, has become an integral part of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Honorable Wilson "Bill" Livingood, our outstanding Sergeant at Arms, who will be retiring next month.

Known around the Capitol as the "protector" and "keeper of the House," Bill Livingood has etched his name in the history books for serving the third longest term as Sergeant at Arms of the U.S. House of Representatives. To most Americans, he is the man—and the voice—who for 15 seconds every year announces at the beginning of the annual State of the Union address, "Mr. Speaker, The President of the United States."

Bill was first sworn in as House Sergeant at Arms by Speaker Newt Gingrich on January 4, 1995. He is only the thirty-sixth person to hold this post since the House of Representatives first met in New York City in 1789.

Bill Livingood's remarkable record of public service is even more noteworthy because of the unique experience he brought to the position. He was the first House Sergeant at Arms to possess considerable expertise in law enforcement, an asset that has served the House well during his tenure.

Prior to his appointment, he was Senior Advisor to the Director of the U.S. Secret Service from 1989 to 1995, and a Special Agent with the Secret Service for a total of 33 years. His background includes service on then-Vice President Lyndon Johnson's security detail, as well as spending more than a decade aboard Air Force One.

As an elected officer of the House of Representatives, the Sergeant at Arms is the chief law enforcement and protocol officer of the body, and is responsible for maintaining order on the House side of the United States Capitol complex.

The Sergeant at Arms reviews and implements all issues relating to the safety and security of Members of Congress and the Capitol complex. The Sergeant at Arms also coordinates extensively with the U.S. Capitol Police and various intelligence agencies to assess threats against Members of Congress and the Capitol complex.

Every visitor to the U.S. Capitol, whether it be the President of the United States, a foreign head of state or one of our youngest citizens, can roam safely around the vast Capitol complex because of Bill Livingood's professionalism, his dedication to duty and his considerable experience.

When this most recent chapter of American history is written, it will be noted that Bill served the House during some of the most challenging times in its history, including the 1998 shootings of two U.S. Capitol Police officers, the 9/11 attacks on our country, as well as the anthrax threats to Congress that came in the wake of the 2001 terror attacks. Make no mistake, House security has undergone significant improvements over the last decade

and Bill Livingood's contributions are evident in what is, today, a much safer environment for lawmakers, staff and the public here on Capitol Hill.

As an added tribute to his good stewardship of this important job, Bill served under four speakers, both Democrat and Republican, starting with Speaker Gingrich, then Speaker Dennis Hastert, Speaker NANCY PELOSI and our current Speaker, JOHN BOEHNER. He and his office have been completely above reproach and non-partisan. To say that Bill Livingood is a consummate professional with a sterling reputation for honesty, integrity and class would be a fair way of describing the respect every Member of this House has for Bill.

Mr. Speaker, we are all indebted to Bill Livingood's stewardship and watchful eye over this historic chamber. As he prepares to leave the House in the coming weeks, I join my colleagues and the American people in offering him a hearty "job well done" and wish him all the best in his well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE FOR ITS TRIBUTE TO OUR FALLEN HEROES

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Hillsborough County Sheriff David Gee for his efforts to honor fallen military heroes from the Tampa Bay area. At the direction of Sheriff Gee, the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office has instituted a program to conduct honor escorts for every fallen hero from Tampa Bay who returns to Hillsborough County. To date, Sheriff Gee and the Hillsborough County Sheriffs have conducted 12 honor escorts for fallen heroes since the escorts were implemented in 2009. While that is 12 honor escorts too many, I am proud to represent a community with an institution as respectful and dignified as the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office.

At the direction of Sheriff Gee, and with the permission of the fallen hero's family, any fallen hero that arrives in Hillsborough County is escorted to any destination. These escorts involve multiple motorcycle deputies, patrol cruisers, and other Sheriff's vehicles, including members of the Sheriff's aviation unit, as the hearse and the family's vehicles are led through the county. Each family is given a copy of a DVD and photo album commemorating the escort to help them heal, remember, and recall that their loved one was a real American hero.

Many of us recall the unfortunate response that many of our veterans received upon their return from Vietnam. One of the great lessons of that tragedy was to always remember the sacrifices of the service member. As Vice-Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I constantly find myself in awe of the sacrifices and efforts that have been made on behalf of our great country by the men and women who have worn the uniform of our Armed Services. Regardless of the politics of the conflicts that our country has engaged in over the course of the last decade, I am proud of and appreciative of the efforts

that Sheriff Gee and the Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office have taken to honor and respect our fallen heroes. Mr. Speaker, I salute the efforts of not only our brave men and women in uniform, but also that of Sheriff Gee and the Hillsborough County Sheriffs to honor their brothers and sisters in arms and to protect the safety and security of the citizens of Hillsborough County.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. PIERRE BEJJANI

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Pierre Bejjani, the president of the Northeast Ohio Lebanese American Association, NOLAA, as he is honored by the American Nationalities Movement.

Mr. Bejjani was born in Lebanon and immigrated to Cleveland, Ohio 1981. He attended The Ohio State University where he earned a degree in civil engineering. He returned to Cleveland after graduating and began working as a construction manager. Mr. Bejjani started his own business in 1991. Today, he serves as the managing director/executive editor of Profile News Ohio and is the senior partner for Diversity Advertising Agency.

Mr. Bejjani has served the Cleveland community since the mid-1990s. He organized the first Annual Lebanon Day on November 22, 2011. He currently serves as the president NOLAA and vice president of the Cleveland American Middle East Organization. He is also on the boards of Worldwide Intercultural Network of Cleveland, Global Cleveland Initiative and the Recruiting Battalion of Northern Ohio.

As a result of his dedication to the community, Mr. Bejjani has been received numerous awards. He received NOLAA's Community Recognition Award in 2009. In 2010 he was the recipient of the Census 2010 Partnership Award. Mr. Bejjani was also recognized for his work on the U.S. Army Strength in Diversity Program in April, 2011.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the life and achievements of Mr. Pierre Bejjani and congratulating him on being this year's American Nationalities Movement's honoree.

THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF RICK CASE AUTOMOTIVE

**HON. ALLEN B. WEST**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. WEST. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend and constituent, Rick Case, who will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of Rick Case automotive in early 2012.

Rick discovered his true passion at an early age, selling used cars in high school from the front yard of his family home in Akron, Ohio. In 1962, he opened his first dealership, Moxie Motors, in Akron, followed by Sharp Used Cars in Barberton, Ohio in 1963.

Rick Case is as excited today about his business as he was 50 years ago and aggres-

sively seeks opportunities to grow the Rick Case Auto Group which currently encompasses 15 dealerships in Ohio, Georgia and Florida and employs more than 900 people.

Recognized as leaders in the auto industry, Rick and Rita Case have received numerous awards; including National Dealers of the Year by USA Today, Time and Sports Illustrated magazines, the American International Automobile Dealers Association and the National Automobile Dealer Association. Most recently Rick and Rita Case were the 2011 recipients of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year Award. Additionally, in 2012, they also became the first couple to ever win the American International Automobile Dealers Association David F. Mungenast National Lifetime Achievement Award.

Beyond running a successful business, Rick and Rita Case founded the Rick Case "Bikes for Kids" program in 1962 and have collected and donated more than 100-thousand bicycles to children in need in their community.

As Rick celebrates this incredible milestone, I am proud to support him here on the floor of the House of Representatives, and am honored to call him a friend.

POVERTY AND THE HALF IN TEN CAMPAIGN

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, at this holiday season, it is proper for us to pause and consider the major threat that poverty poses to our nation, and how the path we take to address that challenge will determine whether we succeed in improving America's long-term social, economic, and moral well-being.

Income inequality has risen sharply over the past 30 years. Since 1979, the gap in after-tax income between the wealthiest one percent and middle- and low-income quintiles has more than tripled. Adjusted gross income for working-class families has seen the least growth, and the economic collapse of 2008 put many out of work.

Last year, 49 million Americans—including almost 17 million children—lived in poverty. One in four children in America is considered "food insecure," sometimes going to bed hungry. That number is unconscionable. But poverty is not just a statistic—it impacts our families, neighbors, and communities in many ways.

Shirley G. is a Social Security beneficiary in Harwood Heights, Illinois, who suffers from severe asthma, diabetes, high cholesterol and high blood pressure. On September 1, she learned that due to state budget shortfalls, she would have to pay out-of-pocket for her medications. Shirley elected to pay her basic health insurance, rent, gas, electric and telephone bills and NOT buy food. She signed up for a "meals on wheels" program to provide her with one meal per day and relies on a local food pantry for her remaining food needs. She was also forced to ration her medication. The unpredictability of food and medicine has wreaked havoc on her health and she cannot stabilize her asthma or diabetes.

Jack K. worked for decades as a taxi cab driver, but retired with very little wealth. He

now lives in subsidized housing and depends on soup kitchens and food pantries to stave off hunger.

Yesterday I met with two outstanding young people—Starnica Rodgers and Brandon Dunlap—who have struggled with homelessness their whole lives. During high school, both were what is called “unaccompanied homeless youth,” meaning they were underage and without a home.

Against those odds, both Starnica and Brandon are now thriving. Starnica is enrolled in college and is an expectant mother. Brandon is a college graduate with a good job and a bright future. Both are incredible success stories, but they are the exception to the rule—particularly in today’s economy. More common are the homeless to whom I passed out sandwiches on a recent cold Chicago night, working with the Night Ministry.

Too many Americans born in poverty don’t have the tools to escape it. And too many formerly middle-class Americans are falling into poverty. We must promote and protect affordable housing, nutrition assistance, good schools, and other services to enable everyone to have a chance at the American Dream.

We have a responsibility to reduce poverty so that no one has to make the choice between medication and heat, and so that every child has a place to call home and food to eat. We owe it to our constituents and our country to buffer existing social safety net programs so that Shirley, Jack, Starnica and Brandon can keep a roof over their heads and put food in their stomachs.

I am troubled with the vitriol that many public figures have directed at those struggling with poverty and at the programs that give them a chance to thrive. This is a time when all Americans need to help one another succeed.

The Half in Ten Campaign has set an ambitious but achievable goal of cutting poverty in half in ten years. I am an original cosponsor of Congresswoman BARBARA LEE’s Half in Ten Act, which would strengthen anti-poverty initiatives by creating a national plan to meet the goal of reducing poverty by 50 percent, eliminating extreme poverty, and eliminating child poverty over the next decade.

This task will be difficult. It will require an honest assessment of the successes and failures of our social safety net programs, and make recommendations on how to improve the effectiveness of those programs. It will also seek solutions to the causes of poverty; income inequality, economic instability, lack of living wages, and lack of investment in low-income communities.

Poverty touches every community in America, and we should be able to formulate a robust, bipartisan solution to the crisis. I thank Congresswoman LEE for her leadership on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to come together in support of the Half in Ten Act.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1540,  
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION  
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2011*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, some have raised concerns about potential

ambiguities in section 2207 of the FY2012 National Defense Authorization Act and I wanted to provide clarification on some of these matters. It was asked whether section 2207 restricts the obligation of funds for contract modifications to ongoing projects or awarding minor supporting contracts required to complete projects that have already begun. First, it is not the intent of the bill to restrict the Department of Defense from modifying current contracts or awarding required ancillary contracts in support of active projects because those prior-year funds have already been obligated and therefore are not subject to the restrictions set forth in section 2207. We understand that minor additional obligations may be required to complete those previously authorized projects, and we do not object to such minor obligations as long as they are within the scope of the original authorizations.

Others have asked me, can the Department of Defense use any funding to continue planning and program management activities or begin new studies that will help inform or develop any of the five requirements that are outlined in section 2207 that must be met before further funds are obligated? The language in section 2207 is not indented to restrict the Department of Defense’s ability to use prior-year funding to conduct program management activities, planning and further studies or complete ongoing studies that will better inform or allow the Department to complete work on the five requirements that are called out in section 2207 of this bill. This provision is not intended to stop the military buildup, but there are questions that remain outstanding.

I am committed to working with the Gentlady from Guam to continue to address these issues regarding the stationing of Marine Corps forces on Guam.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. WILLIAM  
MOBLEY

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Dr. William C. Mobley, Distinguished Professor and Chair of the Department of Neurosciences at the University of California San Diego. On December 8th, Dr. Mobley was awarded the International Sisley-Jerome Lejeune Prize, in Paris, France, for his therapeutic research on Genetic Intellectual Disabilities.

Dr. Mobley’s many contributions in the field of Down Syndrome have been truly valued in the special needs community. His research to identify causes of neurodegenerative disorders has brought new optimism to those afflicted with diseases from Alzheimer’s to Down Syndrome.

As the parent of a child with Down Syndrome, I understand first-hand the daily challenges that families are facing. We are the beneficiaries of Dr. Mobley’s important research and future generations will be enabled as a result.

Dr. Mobley has used his expertise to serve this Congress. As the expert advisor for the Congressional Down Syndrome Caucus, Dr. Mobley has educated Members of Congress on this important issue, raising public awareness while advancing critical research.

This award is a well deserved recognition of his life’s work to eradicate debilitating neurological diseases and disorders. I applaud Dr. Mobley on his outstanding commitment to this vital research and look forward to a continuing partnership.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in congratulating Dr. Mobley. Because of his efforts, I know that those with Down Syndrome, and their families, will see easier days ahead. With Dr. Mobley’s work, we will one day see a world free of these devastating neurological disorders.

TRIBUTE TO JANICE “TEKO”  
WISEMAN

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to offer this tribute to Janice “Teko” Wiseman, a native of Mobile, AL, who recently passed away at the age of 83. She spent her life in active service to her community and her family.

Married for 62 years, Teko and her husband, Dr. Hollis Wiseman, originally met as high school sweethearts.

During the 1960’s—a decade of turmoil in Alabama—Teko and Hollis set an example of courage and commitment to justice and the city they loved by founding ABLE (Alabamians Behind Local Education), an organization to help peacefully integrate the Mobile County schools. Although opposed by some political leaders at the time, the Wisemans stood fast and eventually saw their goals realized. Their efforts received international attention on a Voice of America broadcast.

In 1983, Teko helped found Keep Mobile Beautiful and worked as its coordinator for ten years. Her energy and creativity resulted in a beautification competition called No More Eyesore, which engaged residents from schoolchildren to bank presidents to clean up and beautify the ugliest eyesores around town. Other projects included planting the intersection of I-65 and I-10 and landscaping the entrance to Bankhead Tunnel. Her impact on the city is visible to this day.

When they retired twenty years ago, Teko and Hollis moved to Fairhope, Alabama. There, Hollis, who had built the University of South Alabama Neonatal Intensive Care Unit named in his honor, became president of the Fairhope Library Board and spearheaded the drive to raise approximately seven million dollars to build the current state of the art library.

Meanwhile, Teko Wiseman turned her attention to the lack of sidewalks along the Bay and conceived a project to building a hike/bike trail beginning at the Battleship on the Causeway and extending along the Eastern Shore to Weeks Bay. The organization she founded in 1995 to realize this dream, the Eastern Shore Trailblazers, has raised over \$6.5 million through private donations and grants. The 32 mile trail is only two miles short of completion.

Mr. Speaker, Teko was a treasure to South Alabama and her loss is one that is shared by our entire community.

I offer my heartfelt condolences to her husband, Hollis; her sister, Merrellyn Miller; their six children, Holly Wiseman, Merrell Wiseman, Valery De Laney, Carole Norden, Jay

Wiseman, and David Wiseman; and their six grandchildren and many friends. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. DAVID  
DAWSON

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. David Dawson as he retires after 40 years of service at the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

Legal Aid Society of Cleveland is a law firm for low-income individuals and provides services in the areas of consumer rights, domestic violence, education, employment, family law, health, housing, foreclosure, immigration, public benefits, utilities and tax. It was founded as a nonprofit in 1905 and until 1966 operated primarily with volunteers. In 1966, staff attorneys were hired and today there are 53 attorneys, 40 staff members and more than 1800 volunteers that serve Cleveland's low-income individuals. Legal Aid's mission is to secure justice and resolve fundamental problems for those who are low income and otherwise vulnerable by providing high quality legal services and working for systemic solutions.

Mr. Dawson attended Kenyon College where he received a degree in English in 1964. He earned his Juris Doctor in 1971 from Vanderbilt University. He bravely served with the United States Navy between 1964 and 1967. He began working at the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland in 1971 as a staff attorney in the Hough Neighborhood Office. Throughout the past 40 years Mr. Dawson has also served as an Attorney in Charge, the Civil Director, and today serves as the Deputy Director for the Main Office and Interim Managing Attorney for the Lorain County Office.

Because of his dedication to serving the people of Cleveland and vast expertise in poverty law, Mr. Dawson was honored by the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation in 2010.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Mr. David Dawson as he retires after 40 years of dedicated service to the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST  
CHRISTOPHER KURTZ

**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a true American hero, Army Specialist Christopher Kurtz of the 1st Platoon, Apache Troop, 1st Squadron, 75th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the 101st Airborne Division. This month marks the one year anniversary of an IED blast that nearly took his life and left him without his legs and took from him part of his hand.

As a Lieutenant Colonel in the Ohio Army National Guard, I have had the honor and privilege of witnessing firsthand the heroism, selflessness, and dedication of those who serve in our military. We enjoy unparalleled

freedom and opportunity in this country, because brave Americans like Christopher Kurtz have dedicated their entire lives to building and preserving the United States as the greatest nation on earth. I truly am grateful for this opportunity to pay tribute to Christopher Kurtz.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this poem penned in his honor by Albert Caswell be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

In . . .

All In That Fight!

Are but all of those courageous brave hearts,  
who must bring their light!

Whose most magnificent hearts, must somehow reach upward but to the greatest heights!

Who are all Airborne, with but their fine hearts so worn . . .

Who so courageously must ignite!

While, moving all out there into that darkness of war . . .

Armed, but only with their most courageous of all lights to victory to insure!

To So Find That Courage . . . To So Find That Faith . . .

All in how their fine hearts have so behaved . . .

All with such Strength In Honor, so all in place . . .

To so win that battle, to so win that fight!

As from out of such darkness, they so bring their light!

While, one and all are so willing to face!

That Face of Death!

And not so ask why, while there all of their fine hearts so crest!

Armed but with only your saw gun in hand,  
as Chris you so heroically went out ahead . . .

As was heard your most courageous battle cry,  
all in your stead!

As from out of such darkness as said!

As from out of all of your heartache, as your great heart so led . . .

With such courage and faith, all in this your most amazing grace . . .

Excepting this fight!

Because, from hearts of courage full like yours,

America's Sons over darkness have so shown their might!

Because with only such fine men as you Christopher, will we so win that fight!

As on that day, when you so walked through that valley death . . .

Armed with but only your courage as so left,  
as with your Brothers In Arms as you had all so pledged!

When, a bomb almost left you for dead!

While, lying there all between life and death!

As you had so died several times, as when you said the Lord came to you and so said!

So said, "don't give up, I have more work for you to do!"

As from that moment on, you began your new fight as onward you so moved!

So on that next morning as you so awoke, so close to death . . .

As in that moment, your fine heart so spoke . . .

So spoke to you about all what you had so left!

As into the future, with all of your courage our nation would so bless!

As you had lost your two strong legs, and part of your hand . . .

But, somehow your great heart still found the strength to stand!

As we so watched you Chris, so watched you grow . . .

As you so came back from the dead, and all of that pain and woe!

As what a fine work of art, your life to our world would show!

To So Teach Us All! To So Beseech Us All!

As it was you who so led!

To take us to higher places, with tears upon our faces . . . with but your heart so pledged!

To places where only hearts of courage, have so sped!

For you will walk again my son, and you will so run!

As you rebuild your life, America's most brilliant of all sons!

For from what you've lost . . . far much more you've gained!

But, with your iron will, the price you paid . . .

With your beautiful children and wonderful wife!

Oh yes you are now so winning that fight!

For heroes like you are put upon this earth, to so teach us all what so comes first!

And if ever I have a son, I wish he could but be as brilliant as you this one!

Who All In The Fight, so did what must be done!

And led with his heart of honor, upon battlefields so on!

And came back home, through all of this pain and heartache . . . as Thy Will Be Done!

Who has taught us even greater things, showing us all to what new heights hearts can run!

And one day for all of your sacrifice, you will shine . . . all up in Heaven's sun!

For up in Heaven, you need not arms or legs!

And that's where Christopher you are going one day!

All for what you gave! And what you've done!

But your life here on earth, is not finished! Is not so done, because our Lord has more work for you my son!

All In That Fight!

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PHOEBUS  
HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

**HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise, on behalf of Congressman ROB WITTMAN, Congressman SCOTT RIGELL, and myself, to call attention to a group of young students from Hampton, Virginia, who have, for the fourth year in a row, distinguished themselves, their school, their community and the Commonwealth of Virginia.

The Phoebus High School Phantoms football team had a remarkable season. On December 10, Coach Stan Sexton and the Phantoms won their fourth consecutive Virginia state football championship, defeating South County High School of Lorton 20-10 at Scott Stadium in Charlottesville, Virginia.

After overcoming injuries to finish 8-2, Phoebus High entered the postseason tournament as the number three seed. Led by Coach Stan Sexton, after a series of close games, including a come from behind fourth quarter win in the regional semifinals, and a 27-26 win in the state semifinals, Phoebus High entered the state championship game.

To cap what Coach Sexton could only call "an unusual season," Phoebus High turned to their defense to bring home a championship. The Phantoms forced five turnovers over the course of the game on their way to a 20-10 win, and another state championship. The Phantom's excellence in football is characteristic of the quality of athletics on the

Lower Peninsula area of Virginia. Phoebus High School's championship this year marked the 13th time in the last fifteen years that a Peninsula District team has won a state title in football.

Although very accomplished in football, Phoebus High's legacy of excellence is not limited to the field of athletics. Under the Direction of Principal Robert Johnson, the Phoebus faculty seeks to inspire all students to strive for excellence and achievement in the classroom, in their extracurricular activities and in their communities.

Phoebus has two innovative programs aimed at expanding the learning experience outside of the traditional classroom. One of them involves courses that prepare students for careers in technology. As host of the Hampton School Division's Information Design and Engineering Academy (IDEA), Phoebus offers magnet career classes in pre-engineering, design and information technology, and media technology and design. These courses provide the students a foundation to prepare for college classes and jobs in the technology sector. Phoebus is also home to the Blue Phantom Inn, a student-run restaurant that gives students an opportunity to develop their culinary arts skills. The restaurant program was nationally recognized in Southern Living magazine.

So we would like to extend our enthusiastic congratulations to Coach Stan Sexton, his coaching staff, the players on the Phoebus High School Phantoms and to all of Phoebus High School students, families, friends and fans, for their continued dedication to excellence in winning the Group AAA Division 5 Virginia High School League state football champions of 2011.

#### ENDING AMERICA'S WAR IN IRAQ

### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, President Obama deserves tremendous credit for ending America's war in Iraq, honoring his commitment to bring all U.S. troops home by the end of 2011. As commander-in-chief he has always set the appropriate course of action in Iraq while always honoring the service and sacrifice of our troops and our military families.

The Iraq War has been a tragedy for far too many American and Iraqi families. The human costs of this war—in deaths, suffering, and permanent loss—cannot be calculated. U.S. troops served and fought with a profound sense of duty to our country. For this, all Americans should be grateful. The family members and loved ones of our brave troops also endured tremendous sacrifices that can never be repaid. Those selfless Americans who sacrificed their lives and bodies in service to our country, must always be remembered and Congress must always fulfill the promises it has made to our veterans and their families.

At home we cannot ignore the war's other costs. The Iraq War directly added \$800 billion to the nation's debt—a bill that will be paid by our children and grandchildren. Meeting the long-term health care needs of Iraq war veterans will require hundreds of billions more for

decades to come and that's an obligation Congress must never balk at paying.

Over the past nine years, my opposition to this war has been well known. Iraq was a war of political choice, not strategic necessity. While Iraq is no longer ruled by a dictator, the human price the Iraqi people paid in death, destruction, violence, and misery casts a very dark shadow over their country's future.

In the final analysis, America's war in Iraq was a strategic and human tragedy that must never be repeated. Now, as armchair generals in their disgraced neo-conservative pinstripes plot a new misadventure, this time with Iran, the American people must not be deceived, not be driven by fear, and not yield to another expensive and painful war of choice.

Mr. Speaker, I request the attached New York Times editorial regarding the end of America's war in Iraq entitled "A Formal End" be included.

[From the New York Times, Dec. 15, 2011]

#### A FORMAL END

It is a relief that the American role in the misguided Iraq war is finally over. It came to an official close on Thursday with an appropriately subdued ceremony in Baghdad. We mourn the nearly 4,500 American troops and tens of thousands of Iraqis who lost their lives.

After so much pain and sacrifice, Iraqis now have the responsibility for making their own better future. The fighting is not over, and success is still a long shot. The United States has a major role to play: encouraging, supporting and goading Iraq's leaders to make the long-delayed political compromises that are their only hope for building a stable democracy.

The fact that Saddam Hussein is gone is a genuine cause for celebration. But the list of errors and horrors in this war is inexcusably long, starting with a rush to invasion based on manipulated intelligence.

The Bush administration had no plan for governing the country once Saddam was deposed. The Iraqi economy still bears the scars from the first frenzied days of looting. The decision to disband the Sunni-dominated Iraqi Army helped unleash five years of sectarian strife that has not fully abated. Iraq's political system remains deeply riven by ethnic and religious differences.

America's reputation has yet to fully recover from the horrors of Abu Ghraib. The country is still paying a huge price for President George W. Bush's decision to short-change the war in Afghanistan. American policy makers, for generations to come, must study these mistakes carefully and ensure that they are not repeated.

As for Iraq today, the authoritarian tendencies of Prime Minister Nuri Kamal al-Maliki are deeply troubling. A member of the Shiite majority that was badly persecuted under Saddam, he has been far more interested in payback than inclusion.

Washington has pushed him over the years—but, often, not hard enough.

The Baghdad government promised jobs to 100,000 members of the Sunni Awakening movement—insurgents whose decision to switch sides helped end the civil war—but only half that have been hired. Parliament still needs to enact a law, called for in the Constitution, that would provide a legal basis for determining who should be prosecuted for supporting Saddam's Baath Party or other extremist ideologies. Iraq's leaders have many more issues to resolve. Incredibly, they have still not decided how to divide the country's oil wealth. There is no agreement on who will control the oil-rich city of Kirkuk, which is claimed by both

Baghdad and the semiautonomous Kurdish regional government.

Iraq's oil production still has not rebounded, and basic services like electricity are still woefully inadequate. Iraq needs an impartial justice system. Washington has pressed Baghdad for years to end corruption and build a representative government. It will need to keep pressing.

After investing billions of dollars, the United States has had more success rebuilding Iraq's security forces. But Iraqi and American commanders say these forces are not ready to fully protect the country against insurgents or potentially hostile neighbors. There are critical weaknesses in intelligence, air defenses, artillery and logistics.

The Obama administration was unable to reach a new defense agreement with Baghdad that would have allowed several thousand American troops to stay behind as backup. We hope that the Iraqi Army will do better than expected. The administration must be prepared to offer limited help if the army does get into serious trouble.

President Obama, who first ran for office campaigning against the war, has never wavered on his promise to bring the troops home. The last few thousand will be out of Iraq by year's end. We celebrate their return. But this country must never forget the intolerable costs of a war started on arrogance and lies.

#### RECOGNIZING CROSSROADS INDUSTRIAL SERVICES, BOSMA INDUSTRIES AND THE ABILITYONE PROGRAM

### HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize two organizations in Indianapolis, Crossroads Industrial Services and Bosma Enterprises. Both of these organizations are a part of the AbilityOne Program, which has helped more than 47,000 Americans who are blind or who have significant disabilities gain skills and training that ultimately led to gainful employment.

Together, these organizations employ 189 people in Indianapolis, jobs made possible by the AbilityOne Program. This critical program harnesses the purchasing power of the federal government to buy products and services from participating community-based nonprofit agencies that are dedicated to training and employing individuals with disabilities. It affords Americans with disabilities the opportunity to acquire job skills and training, receive good wages and benefits, and gain greater independence and quality of life.

This segment of the population has suffered from significant unemployment. Federal opportunities through the AbilityOne Program have played an important role in bringing people with disabilities into the workforce. For example, one of Bosma Enterprises' employees Kevin Mossberger exemplifies how training and the AbilityOne Program can make a real difference in the life of someone. Kevin, who is in his early twenties obtained a degree in Business Management, but because of a genetic eye disease called Retinitis Pigmentosa was unable to find work in his small, southern Indiana hometown.

His parents suggested he go to Bosma Enterprises' Rehabilitation Center to receive additional training to live independently and to

help find employment. He did so and is now employed at Bosma Enterprises. Kevin says that the instruction he received taught him “to live on his own and to have a whole new outlook.”

Kevin is not alone, earlier this year I was able to visit Crossroads Industrial Services and see firsthand the impact of the AbilityOne Program on not only its employees, but also the impact it has on our men and women in uniform. Crossroads employees are responsible for producing items that our service members rely on, like ballistic helmet pad sets, combat identification panels, and rocket launcher spare parts. It is with these important contributions that Crossroads, like Bosma, exemplifies the quality of work and determination to enhance the lives of disabled Americans that make the AbilityOne Program so invaluable.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I extend my support to the AbilityOne Program. I also want to commend the dedication and commitment to Jim Vento of Easter Seals Crossroads, Lou Moneymaker of Bosma Industries, and their staffs, for helping individuals who are blind or have a significant disability find employment. The impact of their work and that of each AbilityOne employee has an undeniably positive impact on our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND  
MARVIN McMICKLE, PH.D.

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Reverend Marvin McMickle and congratulate him on his retirement after twenty-four years of service as the pastor of Antioch Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio. Rev. McMickle will become the president at Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School.

Rev. McMickle was born in 1948 in Chicago, Illinois. He was ordained as a reverend in New York City in 1973. Rev. McMickle served as the pastor of St. Paul Baptist Church in Montclair, New Jersey and as the associate pastor for the Abyssinian Baptist Church in New York City prior to becoming the pastor of Antioch Baptist Church in Cleveland, Ohio in 1987.

In addition to being a staple in Cleveland's spiritual community, Rev. McMickle is also a major influence in academia and politics. He earned his undergraduate degree from Aurora College, a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary, a Doctor of Ministry degree from Princeton Theological Seminary and a doctorate in philosophy from Case Western Reserve University. Over the years, Rev. McMickle has taught at several colleges and universities including Ashland Theological Seminary, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland State University, Fordham, Princeton and spent a semester as a visiting professor at Yale University.

Rev. McMickle has served as president of Shaker Heights School Board and Montclair Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He has also served on the boards of Greater Cleveland Roundtable, United Pastors in Mis-

sion, Urban League of Greater Cleveland, Gateway Economic Development Committee and United Way Services of Greater Cleveland.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in thanking Rev. Marvin McMickle for more than two decades of leadership and service to the congregation of Antioch Baptist Church and residents of Cleveland. I wish him luck in his new position.

INTRODUCING WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON HAITI ACT OF 2011

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the White House Conference on Haiti Act of 2011. This important piece of legislation would call on the President of the United States to convene a White House Conference on Haiti within the next calendar year.

As we are all well aware, in January of last year, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake rocked the already struggling nation of Haiti. Approximately three million people were affected and 230,000 are estimated to have died. Those who survived continue to face unimaginable conditions with a crumbling infrastructure and recurring Cholera outbreaks.

If there is a silver lining to this unimaginable tragedy, it is that out of this, the Haitian people have been given the incredible opportunity to right the wrongs of the past and rebuild their nation stronger than ever before. Millions of dollars in aid have flooded into the country and thousands of aid organizations are committed to building a sustainable recovery.

Immediately following the earthquake, we all witnessed countless foreign governments and aid organizations pledging to stand with Haiti, and I have been inspired by the countless individuals throughout the globe who have donated their talents and services to the recovery and the many more who are eager to help, but simply don't know how.

We cannot let this opportunity go to waste. However, with the possibility to do good comes the very real possibility of waste, duplication, and inefficiencies in the rebuilding and recovery process.

Under this bill, the major stakeholders in the rebuilding, along with other interested parties, will come together to share their knowledge and best practices and identify gaps in the recovery process. It is my hope that out of this Conference, opportunities for collaboration and coordination in projects big and small will emerge.

The Conference will also highlight innovative ideas for rebuilding and redevelopment in Haiti. From inexpensive hurricane and earthquake proof housing and green building techniques to sustainable economic practices and urban development. There are countless companies and individuals who have developed groundbreaking concepts in response to this tragedy, but they have yet to be connected with those who can put these ideas into practices or with others pursuing similar goals who may be able to improve upon their initiatives. Innovation does not happen in a bubble; great things can happen when great minds come together.

Further, Haitians living abroad are eager to help their brothers and sisters in Haiti, but many simply do not know where to begin. The White House Conference on Haiti will tap the immense resource that is the Haitian Diaspora by bringing their abilities together with those who are in a position to use them.

Most importantly however, the White House Conference on Haiti will help ensure that the challenges facing the Haitian people remain in the public eye and in the minds of all Americans.

While the United States has been instrumental in the recovery and rebuilding from countless natural and man-made disasters throughout the world, few international tragedies have had as deep an impact on the United States, and particularly the State of Florida, as this one.

Helping our Haitian neighbors is not only the right thing to do; it is also in our own nation's best interests. Just a stone's throw from our shores, instability in Haiti impacts our own economy and immigration levels.

Our nation's rapid, comprehensive response, from our government down to everyday Americans, has been commendable, but the President and this administration are in a position to do more. This legislation would not be a costly endeavor, but could stand to save millions of dollars that could be used to improve the lives of the Haitian people for generations to come.

At a time of continued instability and crisis, the United States must do all within its power to help ensure a long-term sustainable recovery for Haiti.

I ask my colleagues to support this legislation and urge the House Leadership to bring it swiftly to the House floor for consideration.

IN HONOR OF RADIO STATION  
KZRG'S RESPONSE TO THE JOP-  
LIN TORNADO

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the service of one of the 7th District of Missouri's radio stations, KZRG.

KZRG is an AM radio station broadcasting from Joplin, Missouri that does news broadcasting for Missouri, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Kansas, or as they call it, “the four state” area.

On May 22, 2011, an EF-5 tornado struck Joplin, Missouri, devastating a once quiet Missouri town. On that Sunday evening, Joplin was forever changed. Much was destroyed. Family, friends, neighbors, homes and businesses disappeared in the blink of a tornado's eye. After the winds stilled, over 160 people, 8,000 homes and 500 businesses were lost.

The early days were tough. Shock and disbelief, chaos and devastation, but out of that wreckage came hope and inspiration. We found out there are a lot of heroes in Joplin. During those dark hours they stood up and came to the aid of their community when their neighbors needed them most. There is no better example of that than the associates at KZRG.

Despite the fact that seven KZRG associates lost homes during the tornado, despite

seeing their town in ruins, despite the horror and devastation of one of the most destructive tornados in American history, KZRG continued to broadcast and report, 24 hours a day, on-air and in the field.

The tornado's widespread devastation damaged or destroyed much of Joplin's cell phone towers and phone and electrical lines. This left much of the community powerless and unable to communicate. However, the radio broadcasts of KZRG continued. KZRG remained on air, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, giving folks critical and time-sensitive information as it was happening. KZRG was there, helping the police dispatch their officers, helping loved ones find each other, helping community leaders coordinate disaster recovery efforts. Truly, journalism at its finest.

They also launched a relief collection effort, which collected food, clothing, and toiletry items to listeners in need. In fact, their station became a meeting place of sorts, for emergency personnel and volunteers. They became a symbol of the community getting back on its feet.

Folks in Southwest Missouri should be proud to know that in times of trouble, KZRG was and will always be there. I too am proud and honored to call the associates of KZRG my fellow citizens and neighbors in the 7th Congressional District of Missouri.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1540,  
NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION  
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

SPEECH OF

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 14, 2011*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I voted against the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 (NDAA). While nothing is more important than providing the resources needed to keep America and our men and women in uniform safe, this authorization spends too much and is a missed opportunity for much needed reform.

First, however, I would like to thank Chairman MCKEON and Ranking Member SMITH of the House Armed Services Committee for including elements of all three of my amendments in this final conference bill. One amendment lifts the veil on classified immunity for defense contractors, a practice that exposed 36 of our Oregon National Guardsmen to toxic chemicals in Iraq. The other two will help protect our troops on the battlefield and save billions of dollars through energy efficiency initiatives. Their inclusion, however, does not offset the overall authorization which fails to reflect America's priorities or our national security realities.

It is deeply unfortunate that this legislation includes the appalling detention provisions and that the bill continues to tie the President's hands by restricting his ability to transfer detainees to the United States for trial in Federal Court are appalling. Preventing the administration from closing Guantanamo only serves to bolster Al Qaeda and erode America's security. There is no excuse—even in the name of fighting terrorism—for undermining our ideals. Beyond the practical security considerations, terrorism is an assault on those ideals and we

should not further erode them in response to that threat.

One thing that most of the Occupy Wall Street and majority of the Tea Party advocates agree upon is that the United States is on an unsustainable path.

The economy is still floundering. We are losing the competition with other countries in the international arena when it comes to rebuilding and renewing America's infrastructure and making advances in education. Even our health care system, improved by the Affordable Care Act, still falls short of the systems in use by most of our major European competitors.

These glaring examples of un-sustainability for our infrastructure, our education system and our health care system are all troubling. None of this, however, compares with the un-sustainability of our massive defense and security spending. U.S. defense spending is bloated and not strategically oriented. We cannot continue to spend almost as much as the rest of the world—friend and foe alike—combined. We spend 6 times as much on defense as China, and 12 times that of Russia. Our Navy is larger than the next 13 navies combined.

People who are at the front deserve our best in terms of equipment, and they and their families need to be well-cared for, not just in the field, but when they come home. Our armed forces are stressed and continue to be hobbled by the reckless actions in Iraq and further challenged by the war in Afghanistan, and need to come home. We continue to spend in Afghanistan with no clear plan for withdrawal.

Today we have a reauthorization of the defense bill that fails to lay the foundation for the dramatic changes that are needed. Scaling back our open-ended spending commitments, nuclear weapons systems that we spend more on today than during the Cold War and are far more out of proportion to what we will ever need or use, patterns of deployment, for example, with our Navy, all cry out for reform. Long overdue elements to deal with cost effectiveness and the environmental footprint, energy costs at \$400 a gallon for fuel at the frontlines in Afghanistan, and tens of billions of dollars lost to inefficient air conditioning are missing.

The greatest threat to our future is losing control of our ability to make tough decisions that will enable us to sustain our military and, more importantly, to sustain the economy. In short, the NDAA ignores the big picture.

We should reject this blueprint and begin the process now of right-sizing the military, trimming our burdensome nuclear stockpiles and unnecessary programs, eliminating costly weapons programs, ending our misguided mission in Afghanistan, and moving away from a Cold War model of deployment with U.S. military bases all over Europe.

We have the most powerful military in the world and will by far even if we invest substantially less. Our problem is that the American public is being ill-served by government. We're not investing in our future, and our economy will not be able to sustain this ever-increasing military commitment, to say nothing of the demands of investing in our communities and our people, especially the young. This is another missed opportunity to set down a marker for real change, and to lead responsibly.

THANKING BILL HARRIS

**HON. MAC THORNBERRY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, each Member of this body is assisted by those who serve on our staffs. The roles and responsibilities of a Member of Congress make it impossible for any one individual to do it all. It takes a team.

Today I wish to recognize and express appreciation to a key member of my team as he retires from official public service.

Bill Harris has served as my Chief of Staff and then Senior Counselor since 2004. But his service to the country began in 1968 as a member of U.S. Army Signal Corps and his service to the Congress began in 1972, when he took a job as a staff assistant to Congressman Mike McCormack of Washington State. Earning his law degree from Georgetown, he was Congressman McCormack's Counsel until 1976.

Between his stints with the Congress, Bill worked for the Atomic Industrial Forum, the Committee for Energy Awareness, the U.S. Council for Energy Awareness (which is now the Nuclear Energy Institute), and the University Research Alliance. In each of these positions, Bill's focus was energy and the tremendous possibilities that can come from nuclear research and development.

In 2004, I enticed Bill back into government service to serve as my Chief of Staff. He led my team by helping each staff member develop his or her talents and interests to grow and serve the people of the 13th district. His expertise in energy and in management, as well as his background in the law, were invaluable. But, perhaps most importantly has been his character and strong, steady leadership.

Too few individuals possess the modesty that puts the good of the organization and the mission ahead of any personal considerations. Yet some of the strongest leaders and those with the most to say are those persons of character whose soft-spoken demeanor quiets the noise with intellect, honesty, and sound judgment. Bill is just such a leader.

He has helped ensure that we made decisions based on the concerns of the people in Texas, not how policy in Washington should control the lives of people back home. No matter what the task, my staff and I counted on Bill's guidance and sense of duty to the people we represent.

Of course, Bill's commitment to service goes beyond his profession. He spends his free time engaging with all corners of the community. For example, he is currently a Mission Pilot with the Civil Air Patrol, a long-serving board member of the Harrington Cancer Center of Amarillo, and a member of the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Executive Committee. But that is just a sampling. Over the years, Bill and wonderful wife Bev have become fixtures in the community when it comes to serving others and the community as a whole. Bill has been on more committees and organizational projects than anyone could count.

President Reagan put a premium on principle-based leadership. He kept a small plaque on his desk in the Oval Office with a quote that read, "There is no limit to what a man can do or where he can go if he does not

mind who gets the credit." Bill's example of servant leadership is one that has shaped the lives of many individuals and shown that a benevolent heart earns the respect of others.

It is for this spirit of service and dedication to the highest standards of excellence that I am honored to recognize the contributions and to acknowledge the retirement of a man who is a credit to my office, his family, and our country.

As he moves into the next phase of his life, I want to express my gratitude, not only for all of his help with my work in representing the 13th district, but for all he has done so far to make our community and our region a better place to live.

HONORING AND COMMEMORATING  
THE LIFE OF JAMES E. BURCH

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the life of James E. Burch, military veteran, advertising executive and lifelong anti-war and environmental activist. A renaissance man with a passion for leaving the world better than he found it, Jim spent his life acting on the life philosophy passed along to him by his mother, "I am my brother's keeper."

Born in Evanston, Illinois on February 27, 1926, Jim served in the United States Infantry in the South Pacific. At age 19, he became the program director of the Armed Forces Radio Service station WVTQ in Osaka, Japan. He was honorably discharged in May 1946. After working in the radio business in Hollywood, he moved to Arizona where he met and married his wife of 61 years, Wileta. In 1951, Jim, Wileta and their two children, Bill and Barbara moved to northern California where Jim began a 23-year career working with the San Francisco-based advertising agency Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn where he created numerous award winning advertisements.

Jim left his professional position and began his second career as a volunteer activist. Instrumental in the beginnings and ongoing work of Sequoia Seminar, Creative Initiative, Project Survival, Beyond War and the Foundation for Global Community, Jim contributed his many talents to groundbreaking projects. Among them were, the beginning of a recycling program in Palo Alto, California that became a model for the Nation, the first space bridge to connect the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War (1984), the first satellite space bridge connecting seven countries on five continents (1985) and the creation of a series of nature documentaries that were featured on PBS. Jim served as a Member of the Board of Trustees for the Foundation for Global Community until December of 2010.

Launching yet a third career, Jim was elected to the Palo Alto City Council in 1999. In 2005, at the age of 78, he was elected mayor, the oldest mayor in the city's history. While knowing that the job required a local focus, Jim continued to bring his understanding of global interconnectedness to city government. He observed on more than one occasion that, "It's one world, it's one Earth, it's one planet; it's one ecosystem. We're either all going to make it or nobody's going to make it."

Jim is survived by Wileta, his son Bill Burch, (Bill's wife, Kathy), his daughter Barbara Lindsay, (Barbara's husband, Targe) and grandchildren Merrill Burch, David Lindsay, (David's wife, Stephanie), Kristina Lindsay, and his many friends and colleagues whose lives were enriched by his sense of humor, creativity and generosity.

**ROBERT GRIFFIN III—BAYLOR  
HEISMAN**

**HON. TED POE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, each year the Heisman Memorial Trophy is presented to the "outstanding college football player whose performance best exhibits the pursuit of excellence with integrity." The 2011 winner, Baylor University Quarterback Robert Griffin III, or RG3 as he's known to fans, highly deserves American collegiate athletics most celebrated honor.

Robert was born in Okinawa, Japan to two U.S. Army Sergeants. They would eventually settle in football-mad Texas, home of the original Friday Night Lights, but Robert's talents could not be contained to the gridiron. He was a three sport star for Copperas Cove High School, excelling in baseball, football, and track.

Recruiters came from across the nation to bring Robert's talents to their University, but he believed in the message of Head Coach Art Briles and followed him to Baylor, not known as a football powerhouse. In 2008 Robert shined, starting 11 of his 12 games and winning the Big 12 Freshman of the Year honors. The Bears finished 4-8 but their future was bright.

2010 was the breakthrough year for RG3 and the Baylor Bears. They fought to a 7-5 record and played in their first bowl game in over 15 years and also ranked in the national top 25 for the first time in 30 years. Robert dug deep inside himself and vowed to lead the Bears through uncharted waters—football prominence.

The 2011 season started off with a bang. The Bears defeated #14 TCU, the previous year's Rose Bowl winner. Robert would command the Bears to a 9-3 record, their best in over 25 years, including upsets of Texas and, for the first time in school history, then #5 Oklahoma. Griffin was dangerous in the air and on his feet, passing for 3,998 yards and 36 touchdowns while rushing for 644 yards and 9 touchdowns. He led the nation with a 192.31 passing efficiency, on pace to shatter the all-time record. The success propelled the team into a bowl for the second consecutive year and made Griffin the 77th Heisman Trophy winner and first from Baylor University.

Robert was a leader both on and off the field. The perennial Honor Roll student graduated in three years with his political science degree and will finish his Masters in Communication next spring. He is as known for his faith as he is his football abilities. Upon winning the trophy in New York City, he and his military family immediately headed to the Ground Zero 9/11 memorial for some reflection. Robert never forgot his roots.

Mr. Speaker, it is always refreshing to see good things happen to good people, and Rob-

ert Griffin III deserves all the success and more. I am honored to commemorate his accomplishments and proud to call him a Texan. And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GEOFF DAVIS**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, December 15, 2011, I was unable to vote due to an important family event.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

On rollcall No. 933—"yes"—Approval of the Journal.

On rollcall No. 934—"yes"—H.R. 886—U.S. Marshals Service 225th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act.

On rollcall No. 935—"yes"—H.R. 2719, Rattlesnake Mountain Public Access Act.

On rollcall No. 936—"yes"—H.R. 443, To Provide for the conveyance of certain property from the U.S. to the Maniilaq Association in Kotzebue, AK.

RECOGNIZING 16TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF DAYTON PEACE ACCORDS

**HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I am glad to recognize the 16th anniversary of the Dayton Peace Accords.

On December 14, 1995, the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, known as the Dayton Peace Accords, ended a conflict that threatened to destabilize Europe and resulted in the death of approximately 250,000 people, and the displacement of more than 2,000,000 men, women, and children.

Negotiations began on November 1, 1995, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, and concluded there on November 21, 1995, when the leaders of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia all agreed to a breakthrough peace settlement that sought to halt conflicts that began in Bosnia and Herzegovina in April 1992.

Previous attempts to negotiate peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina had been unsuccessful; and the negotiations were initiated under intense pressure by many of the world powers, particularly the United States and Russia, prompting the leaders of the three sides to attend the negotiations in Dayton, Ohio.

The United States negotiating team, led by Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, guided peace negotiations endorsed by members of the European Union (EU) and Russian Federation; and 21 days of intense negotiations occurring at the Hope Hotel at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base brought hope and an opportunity for peace.

The negotiations succeeded, against all predictions, due to the visionary leadership, the determination of all involved, the desire for peaceful resolution of the conflict, and the extensive community support. Wright-Patterson Air Force Base was chosen as the site of the



negotiations due to its diversity and security, which offered an environment where the warring parties could focus on negotiating peace out of the spotlight of the media and away from distracting geopolitical pressures.

The Dayton community unexpectedly became part of the process as its people became proud to be part of history, holding candlelight vigils, placing 'candles of peace' in their front windows, congratulating and praying for the negotiators, forming a human peace chain around Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and continuing to study peace and human rights based on the community's experiences hosting these historic negotiations.

The negotiators highlighted Ohio's ethnic diversity to show the warring parties that people from disparate ethnic histories could live everyday life in peace; and the Dayton Peace Accords provided a framework and common agreement to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) implementation and stabilization force missions which provided security for the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia.

The Dayton Literary Peace Prize, established in 2006, remains the only literary peace prize awarded in the United States, and continues the legacy of the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords by honoring authors who write about peace and whose work provides enduring literary value.

The Dayton International Peace Museum in downtown Dayton, a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization, is one of the few community-based institutions with a focus on peace in the United States, and the Museum honors Dayton's history as the host of the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords, offering nonpartisan educational programs and exhibits featuring themes of non-violent conflict resolution, social justice issues, international relations, and peace.

Mr. Speaker, the Dayton, Ohio, community supported the peace negotiations and worked to create a strong, lasting relationship with Bosnia and Herzegovina by hosting numerous visiting delegations, creating a sister city relationship with Sarajevo, and hosting an international anniversary commemoration. Bosnia and Herzegovina has received a conditional Membership Action Plan to join NATO pending continued progress on reforms. Croatia is progressing on the path to join the EU, became a NATO member in 2009, and has deployed troops around the world, including in Afghanistan, fighting alongside the United States Armed Forces to bring peace, stability, and prosperity to others. The Montenegrin Parliament declared independence from Serbia on June 3, 2006, and thus created a multi-ethnic country with a viable economy, professional military and democratic institutions.

The entire State of Ohio has contributed to stability and prosperity in the Balkan region by fostering an exemplary relationship between the Ohio National Guard and the Serbian Armed Forces; and the Dayton Peace Accords effectively ended the conflict, created a multi-ethnic country in the Balkans, and addressed topics critical to the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including regional stabilization, a constitutional framework, the repatriation of refugees, and internal security.

HONORING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF  
HILL-MURRAY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the students, alumni, parents, faculty and staff of Hill-Murray School in Maplewood, Minnesota on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary. This educational institution has a distinguished record on academics, community involvement and athletic success.

Archbishop Murray Memorial high school was founded in 1958 by the Benedictine Sisters as a school for young women. In 1959, just a few blocks down the street, the Christian Brothers founded the Hill High School as a school for boys. Classes officially began in both schools in 1951, and in 1971 the schools merged and the Hill-Murray School was born.

During the past 50 years, Hill-Murray has strived for excellence in all areas. Its mission statement declares the school "is committed to developing creative and responsible leaders for tomorrow's world who will provide effective moral leadership in their local and global communities". This charge is reflected in both the school's design and its results: from its students, 92% of whom enroll in post-high school educational institutions; to its classrooms, where the student-teacher ratio is 14:1; and to its teachers 79% of whom hold advanced degrees and 80% of whom have more than 5 years of experience.

Following the school's mission to prepare students not only for college but for the broader journey of life, Hill-Murray students in grades nine through twelve complete two service requirements per year helping the economically disadvantaged, the physically or mentally impaired, and the elderly. With its emphasis on developing the entire person, 90% of the student body participates in extra-curricular activities.

The Hill-Murray athletics department has one of the finest histories in the State of Minnesota. In the past 5 years, Hill-Murray teams and individual athletes advanced to the Minnesota State Tournament in boys and girls basketball, boys and girls track, boys and girls golf, girls tennis, competitive cheerleading, and danceline. The boys Hockey team is regarded as one of the best in the state, and earned its 3rd State Championship in 2008.

Additionally Hill-Murray has produced 6 National Hockey League players, 3 World Hockey Association players, over 70 Division I NCAA players; 2 Major League Baseball players, and 3 Olympians including a member of the gold-medal winning 1980 U.S. Hockey team responsible for the 'Miracle on Ice.'

Mr. Speaker, in honor of all members of the Hill-Murray family, I am pleased to submit this statement for the Congressional Record recognizing the many contributions this school has made to the State of Minnesota and the United States of America during the past 50 years.

THE DECLARATION OF OCCUPY  
D.C.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

THE DECLARATION OF OCCUPY D.C.  
CONSENTED TO BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
NOVEMBER 30TH, 2011

We have been captives of corrupt economic and political systems for far too long. The concentration of wealth and the purchase of political power stifle the voices of the increasingly disenfranchised 99 percent. Corporate dominance subverts democracy, intentionally sows division, destroys the environment, obstructs the just and equitable pursuit of happiness, and violates the rights and dignity of all life.

Occupy D.C. is an open community of diverse individuals, facing different forms of oppression and impacted by economic exploitation to differing degrees, but united by a shared vision of equality for the common good. The harsh economic conditions that have plagued the poor, working class, and communities of color for generations have begun to affect the previously financially secure. This acute awareness of our common fate has united us in our struggle for a better future. We recognize that inequality and injustice systemically affect every aspect of our society: our communities, homes, and hearts. To build the world we envision, we commit ourselves to overcoming our personal biases so we can successfully challenge systems of oppression in solidarity.

We are peaceably assembled at McPherson Square, practicing direct democracy on the doorstep of K Street, the epicenter of destructive corporate and governmental relationships. Recognizing that the term "occupy" is associated with exploitation, violence, and imperialism, we are reclaiming it to mean the peaceful liberation of public space. In this disenfranchised city, we are insisting that our economic and political systems serve the people's interests. Now is the time to advance and complete the struggles of the many who came before us.

We are assembled because . . . It is absurd that the 1 percent has taken 40 percent of the nation's wealth through exploiting labor, outsourcing jobs, and manipulating the tax code to their benefit through special capital tax rates and loopholes. The system is rigged in their favor, yet they cry foul when anyone even dares to question their relentless class warfare.

Candidates in our electoral system require huge sums of money to be competitive. These contributions from multi-national corporations and wealthy individuals destroy responsive representative governance. A system of backroom deals, kickbacks, bribes, and dirty politics overrides the will of the people. The rotation of decision makers between the public and private sectors cultivates a network of public officials, lobbyists, and executives whose aligned interests do not serve the American people.

The entrenched two-party system overlooks public interests by pursuing narrow political goals. This climate encourages candidates to polarize voters for individual power and personal gain. Citizens' meaningful input has been compromised by gerrymandering, voter disenfranchisement, and unresponsive politicians. Residents of Washington, D.C., continue to lack autonomy and legislative representation.

The 1 percent benefits from economic, political, and legal structures that oppress

communities long targeted by displacement, denial of sovereignty, slavery, and other injustices. These persecuted but resilient communities continue to suffer through generations of disproportionately higher rates of unemployment, poverty, criminalization, and homelessness. Facets of the 1 percent campaign to blame these groups for these problems while obstructing healing and restoration.

Those with power have divided us from working in solidarity by perpetuating historical prejudices and discrimination based on perceived race, religion, immigrant or indigenous status, income, age, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, and disability, among other things. These divisions have inhibited our ability to work in solidarity, though today we recognize the power of uniting as the 99 percent.

Financial institutions gambled with our savings, homes, and economy. They collapsed the financial system and needed the public to bail them out of their failures yet deny any responsibility and continue to fight oversight. Corporations loot from those whose labor creates society's prosperity, while the government allows them to privatize profits and socialize risk.

Corporate interests threaten life on Earth by extracting and burning fossil fuels and resisting the necessary transition to renewable energy. Their drilling, mining, clear-cutting, overfishing, and factory farming destroys the land, jeopardizes our food and water, and poisons the soil with near impunity. They privilege polluters over people by subsidizing fossil fuels, blocking investments in clean energy and efficient transportation, and hiding environmental destruction from public oversight.

Private corporations, with the government's support, use common resources and infrastructure for short-term personal profit, while stifling efforts to invest in public goods.

The U.S. government engages in drawn-out, costly conflicts abroad. Numerous acts of conquest have been, and continue to be, pursued to control resources, overthrow foreign governments, and install subservient regimes. These wars destroy the lives of innocent civilians and American soldiers, many of whom suffer adverse effects throughout life. These operations are a blank check to divert money from domestic priorities.

Government authorities cultivate a culture of fear to invade our privacy, limit assembly, restrict speech, and deny due process. They have failed in their duty to protect our rights. Exacerbated by profiteering interests, the criminal justice system has unfairly targeted underprivileged communities and outspoken groups for prosecution rather than protection.

Corporatized culture warps our perception of reality. It cheapens and mocks the beauty of human thought and experience while promoting excessive materialism as the path to happiness. The corporate news media furthers the interests of the very wealthy, distorts and disregards the truth, and confines our imagination of what is possible for ourselves and society.

Leaders are trading our access to basic needs in exchange for handouts to the ultra-wealthy. Our rights to healthcare, education, food, water, and housing are sacrificed to profit-driven market forces. They are attacking unemployment insurance, Medicare, Medicaid, and Social Security, creating an uncertain future for us all.\*

A better world is possible.

To all people,

We, the Washington D.C. General Assembly occupying K Street in McPherson Square, urge you to assert your power.

Exercise your right to peaceably assemble and reclaim the commons. Re-conceive ways to build a democratic, just, and sustainable world.

To all who value democracy, we encourage you to collaborate and share available resources.

Join your voice with ours and let it amplify until the heart of the movement booms with our chorus of solidarity.

\*These grievances are not all inclusive.

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## OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

### HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 26, 1995, when the last attempt at a balanced budget amendment passed the House by a bipartisan vote of 300-132, the national debt was \$4,801,405,175,294.28.

Today, it is \$15,098,098,486,788.82. We've added \$10,296,693,311,494.54 dollars to our debt in 16 years. This is \$10 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. CLYDE MCINTOSH OF NORTH CAROLINA

### HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. SHULER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an outstanding public servant and dedicated volunteer in Yancey County, North Carolina. Mr. Clyde McIntosh of Burnsville committed his life to service and activism. After graduating from Burnsville High School in 1950, Mr. McIntosh proudly served four years in the United States Navy. Upon completion of his service, he moved back to the mountains of Western North Carolina where he built a successful real estate and development business and operated a dairy farm. During this period, he worked diligently toward the goal of preserving the rural heritage of the area.

Mr. McIntosh assumed public office when he was elected Sheriff of Yancey County in 1986. From 1999 to 2005, he served on the Board of Directors of the Yancey County Department of Social Services, spending a portion of his tenure as Chair. For many years, Mr. McIntosh was an active community volunteer for the Lions Club and Meals on Wheels.

Mr. McIntosh worked for years to educate Yancey County youth on the importance of civic engagement and community involvement. He acted as a mentor for the Young Democrats organization of Yancey County, encouraging young people to be politically active.

I commend his outstanding contributions to the Democratic Party. In April 2001, he was named Mountain Democrat of the Year and also served as the Yancey County Democratic

Party Chair. He served as Precinct Chair for both Jacks Creek and Burnsville Townships.

Our mountain community is a better place because of Mr. McIntosh's devotion to activism and service. Mr. McIntosh was an invaluable presence in the lives of the many people he inspired and helped through his work. Though he will be missed, I know this legacy will live on for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the exemplary life of Mr. Clyde McIntosh of Yancey County, North Carolina.

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## WE MUST GET OUR FISCAL HOUSE IN ORDER

### HON. SCOTT DESJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I have made it clear from the beginning that until the Senate leadership can pass a budget, the House should be using the baseline off of the framework included in the House-passed 2012 budget. The Path to Prosperity is a credible and commonsense proposal that would put our nation on the path to balanced budgets and debt reduction.

Unfortunately, the spending levels set forth in today's omnibus appropriations package exceed those numbers established in the Path to Prosperity. For this reason, I had to cast my vote against the legislation considered in the House today.

It is impossible to get our nation's fiscal house in order unless we have a budget framework to work off of. House Republicans have done their job and passed a budget, it is now time for Senate Democrats to do the same.

My constituents sent me to Washington to make the difficult spending decisions, and I'm more than willing to make them. Continuing Resolutions and omnibus packages are not the sort of bold action that the people in Tennessee's Fourth Congressional District expect. I applaud efforts by the House Leadership in which a number of our appropriations bills were considered this year under regular order and under open rules which allowed for debate and amendments. Unfortunately, this process was unable to be completed and many of the bills passed by the House have simply languished in the Senate without consideration.

I am hopeful that United States Congress will restart a process in which budgets are passed and the 12 appropriations bills are considered in an open process. Omnibus bills are unpopular to our constituents. They invite poor legislating and lead to increased spending. Our constituents expect and deserve more.

I have made a commitment to continue the fight for long-term solutions to rein in Washington's out-of-control spending, and I am appreciative of the constituents in the Fourth District of Tennessee who have sent me to Washington to do that very thing.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR PATRICIA GRIFFIN CARDWELL, NCANG, RET.

### HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Command Sergeant Major Patricia Griffin Cardwell. CSM Cardwell passed away last week on December 7. She was a veteran of the North Carolina Army National Guard (NCANG) and is survived by her mother, two brothers, and her niece and nephew.

CSM Cardwell was the daughter of Betty Nowarah Griffin and the late Reginald Griffin. She was a native of Martin County, a graduate of Williamston High School, and a member of the First Christian Church.

CSM Cardwell began her distinguished 28-year career with the NCANG on December 5, 1979, as a Specialist, and became a full-time member of the Guard in 1984. From 2001–2002, she attended the United States Army Sergeants Major Course at the USA Sergeants Major Academy in Fort Bliss, Texas. CSM Cardwell made history on April 1, 2004, when she was promoted to the rank of Sergeant Major, becoming the first woman to rise to this rank in the NCANG. She was later laterally appointed as a Command Sergeant Major of the 217th Human Resources Battalion Headquarters, and served in a dual status in both this post and as the Chief, Personnel Services of the Human Resources Section at Joint Forces Headquarters in Raleigh until her retirement on December 31, 2007.

CSM Cardwell served our country for three decades with tremendous character and devotion. She deserves the highest appreciation and commendation. I pray that her family is able to find peace in this difficult time. I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring her today.

220TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE RATIFICATION OF THE FIRST 10 AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION, THE BILL OF RIGHTS

### HON. CORY GARDNER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. GARDNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 220th anniversary of the ratification of the first 10 amendments to the Constitution, the Bill of Rights. The Bill of Rights serves to check the power of government and preserve the freedom of Americans. Our founding fathers realized that even well intentioned governments answerable to the will of the voters can grow to be tyrannical. They recognized that protections were needed to guard against government interference and so they enshrined those protections in the highest law of the land. The Bill of Rights is unique in that it is a document that outlines government power not by what the government can do but by what it CAN'T do. The spirit of our nation is in that distinction. We are a nation built on the

idea that private individuals could create private industry with private interests and build a great society without an all knowing bureaucracy telling them how to do it. Times have changed since 1791. Our nation has grown, our government has grown, and today we inhabit a different world. There is no way that Madison and Jefferson and the rest of the founders who fought for a Bill of Rights could have envisioned the country we have become. Over the years we have fought many battles over the interpretation of these amendments and these principles have stood the test of time. The Bill of Rights is a fundamental feature of our country and a beacon to the rest of the world that freedom works, it is to be celebrated, and not repressed.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. HAROLD L. WILLIAMS

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Harold L. Williams as he retires after 35 years of service at the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

Legal Aid Society of Cleveland is a law firm for low-income individuals and provides services in the areas of consumer rights, domestic violence, education, employment, family law, health, housing, foreclosure, immigration, public benefits, utilities and tax. It was founded as a nonprofit in 1905 and until 1966 operated primarily with volunteers. In 1966, staff attorneys were hired and today there are 53 attorneys, 40 staff members and more than 1800 volunteers that serve Cleveland's low-income individuals. Legal Aid's mission is to secure justice and resolve fundamental problems for those who are low income and otherwise vulnerable by providing high quality legal services and working for systemic solutions.

Mr. Williams began working at Legal Aid Society of Cleveland in 1975 in the Law Reform Unit. Since 2003, he has served as the managing attorney of Legal Aid's Consumer Law Unit. Mr. Williams also supervises Legal Aid's law participation in Ohio's Save the Dream foreclosure prevention program. He is the editor and principal author of Ohio Consumer Law.

Because of his dedication to serving the people of Cleveland and his vast expertise in consumer law, Mr. Williams was the recipient of the William J. Brown Consumer Protection Award from the Ohio Attorney General in March 2010.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating Mr. Harold L. Williams as he retires after 35 years of dedicated service to the Legal Aid Society of Cleveland.

END OF THE WAR IN IRAQ

### HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, this week America solemnly observes the end of an era. After almost nine years of war in Iraq, our

troops are finally coming home, and Iraqis will assume the full responsibilities of self-government. The Obama Administration's leadership and the skill and bravery of our military men and women have made this moment possible. But as we welcome those troops returning home to their families, we must also remember the tens of thousands who came home with wounds both seen and unseen, the more than 1.5 million Americans who served in Iraq, and most of all the nearly 4,500 brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice in pursuit of this day. America's military families have born a heavy burden, and we must continue our commitment to support our troops, veterans, survivors, and families.

Iraq will face significant challenges in the days ahead. But America has an interest in Iraqi security and stability, as with all of our friends and allies in the Middle East. So when Iraq encounters those challenges, it will do so as a sovereign nation, with America as its partner.

HONORING MR. MIKE BUNCH, DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE JOINT MANUFACTURING AND TECHNOLOGY CENTER AT ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL

### HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. LOESACK. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to recognize the long, successful, and highly dedicated career of Mr. Mike Bunch, the Deputy Commander of the Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center, which is located at the Rock Island Arsenal. Mr. Bunch has served our country as an employee of the United States Army for over 34 years. A native of Moline, Illinois and a proud graduate of Upper Iowa University, Mike followed his great-grandfather, grandfather, grandmother, mother, and father to work on the Rock Island Arsenal. His first job on the Island was as a second shift keypunch operator earning \$3 an hour. Since then, he has worked on Rock Island Arsenal for all but three years of his adult life, even meeting his wife of 34 years, Julie, on the Island.

During that time, Mike served with the Army Material Command, Information Systems Command, and the Army Corps of Engineers. He has dedicated his career to ensuring that our Soldiers have the equipment they need to safely carry out their missions. I have not met a person more dedicated to our Soldiers, the United States Army, or Rock Island Arsenal than Mike. His expertise has served the Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center and our nation exceedingly well, and I have often relied on his years of knowledge and expertise in my work for the Rock Island Arsenal and our Soldiers.

Mike is very humble and most likely would not admit this himself, but, while his retirement is well-deserved, it is also a significant loss to the Rock Island Arsenal. His commitment to the Arsenal and the work of the Joint Manufacturing and Technology Center to equip our troops is unparalleled. Whether it was during his time as a tool grinder at the Arsenal or his four years as Deputy Commander, his commitment to producing nothing but top quality

equipment and carrying on the proud tradition of the Rock Island Arsenal has been demonstrated in every position he has held. Under his leadership, production rates at the Arsenal have gone up, prices have been reduced, and the Arsenal was able to meet the needs of our troops more quickly. Fortunately, Mike's retirement is not the end of the family legacy on the Island his—son Ryan began as a pipe fitter at the Arsenal and currently works at Army Contracting Command-Rock Island.

On behalf of all of my constituents, I would like to thank Mike for his years of service to Rock Island Arsenal, the United States Army, and our nation. I know I join his colleagues, friends, and loved ones in wishing him well in his retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, due to a family medical issue, I was unable to cast the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 913—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 914—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 915—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 916—I would have voted "no"  
 Rollcall vote 925—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 926—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 927—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 928—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 929—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 930—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 931—I would have voted "no"  
 Rollcall vote 932—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 933—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 934—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 935—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 937—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 938—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 939—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 940—I would have voted "yes"

#### COMMENDING TIME WARNER CABLE

### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Time Warner Cable for its dedication to keeping citizens informed about what is going on in Washington. The better informed our citizens are, the better it is for our democracy. As our founding father Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1789, "Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government."

At a time when news coverage budgets are being cut, I applaud Time Warner cable for expanding their presence in Washington, DC with the opening of a new bureau.

I have always been a champion for transparency in government. News coverage is one of the ways that sunlight is shined into government operation. This increased presence will lead to a more informed citizenry, and I congratulate Time Warner Cable for making this investment in democracy.

#### HONORING BILL BUCHANAN OF KSHN IN LIBRARY

### HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share with all of you an American success story built on hard work and an overflowing community spirit.

Bill Buchanan is one of the newest members of the Texas Radio Hall of Fame. He got there the old fashioned way—he went to work everyday to keep his community both informed and entertained and his peers honored him for it.

Let me tell you a bit about Bill. He didn't get his start in Texas radio. He started making his way selling appliances in Kentucky and working part-time as a radio sports announcer and writing copy for the Indianapolis Star.

He then packed his bags and headed south landing at KGTV in Georgetown, Texas where he started making a name for himself selling radio commercials.

In 1977, he got the news that would change his life forever. He learned that a radio station was for sale in Liberty. He bought what was then KPXE and put down roots in Liberty. In the last nearly quarter century, he's made the switch to the FM dial and kept providing Liberty County with "music mixed with things that matter."

Engineering publications and even Readers Digest took note of the station's "split-channel" innovations.

Bill remains very hands on at KSHN and many people in Liberty still talk about how his coverage of The John Hebert Distributing Fire was heard around the world and how KSHN has been in lifeline in floods and Hurricanes Rita and Ike.

Bill Buchanan and KSHN are a huge part of the community of Liberty. The Texas Radio Hall of Fame is lucky to have Bill Buchanan because he keeps local radio local by refusing to let his station be simply a jukebox.

#### STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN JOHN B. LARSON AND EULOGY DELIVERED BY SENATOR SHELDON WHITEHOUSE HONORING THE LIFE OF GOVERNOR BRUCE SUNDLUN

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, Bruce Sundlun was a remarkable man and an outstanding public servant. His daughter Kara and son-in-law Dennis and their children are constituents of mine. I was fortunate to be chatting with Senator SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, who was recalling his life. Senator WHITEHOUSE delivered the eulogy for Governor Sundlun, and on behalf of Congressman JIM LANGEVIN and DAVID CICILLINE, it is my honor as Democratic Caucus Chair to submit these thoughtful and poignant remarks for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

EULOGY FOR GOVERNOR BRUCE SUNDLUN AS DELIVERED BY U.S. SENATOR SHELDON WHITEHOUSE  
 What a man. What a life.

Bruce Sundlun's accomplishments—as a record-breaking athlete, as a resourceful war hero, as a superb lawyer, as a successful business entrepreneur, and as political leader of our state—would each on their own be significant. You could probably write a book about each. Together, packed all into one energetic life, it makes Bruce Sundlun one of the most accomplished and remarkable men in our state's history.

And that's not even counting five marriages, four children, three unsuccessful runs for governor, two dead raccoons, and one long escape on the loose, behind enemy lines.

There's really just no way to fit it all in.

Let me step into my role as a Sundlun staffer, and ask you to think just of his brief four years as governor. Hit (on Day One of his administration) by an unprecedented bank failure affecting 300,000 Rhode Islanders, AND by the worst budget deficit in state history, AND by an implosion of the state's entire worker's compensation system, AND with the urgent need to restore ethics in government, Bruce was the man for that moment, and swung into his customary decisive action.

The budget was promptly and fairly balanced and the whole budget process improved.

Inventive solutions to repay the depositors and clean up the RISDIC mess were found and implemented, and those at fault were made to pay—over a hundred million dollars.

His worker's compensation reform moved the state from an embarrassment to a model, moving what was then the business community's worst problem completely off the problem list for now going on 20 years.

As a problem solver, he had no peer.

And that alone would be pretty extraordinary. But there was that ethics gap. So Bruce wrote Executive Order 91-One, the ethics executive order that succeeding governors renewed virtually unchanged. He reformed our Ethics Commission. He changed the way we appoint judges, to reduce the politics. He changed the way we fund elections, with a public finance plan and donor limits. Through an intense storm of legal and political opposition, he opened up the pension records; putting an end forever to backroom special pension bills. He got our State Police nationally accredited.

He even cleaned up the Capitol literally!

All that was extraordinary—but still not enough.

In the worst economic times the state had seen since the Depression, with a shrinking budget, he decided to extend universal health care to children—and started the program that became Rite Care. Against immense opposition, he built our new airport terminal. He embarked on the Westin Hotel, the Convention Center, and the Providence Place Mall. He finished the Jamestown Bridge and built the Expressway. And even that's not the end of it.

It was an amazing burst of activity. I will bet that almost every Rhode Islander, almost every day, is somehow touched by something Governor Sundlun did.

And through it all, he drove his staff crazy. He was irrepressible, impatient, imperial, unscriptable, combative, frustrating, willful, constantly threw caution to the winds, impossible to keep up with—he drove us nuts.

And we loved him.

We loved him because he was bold and brave, and was warm-hearted and trusting and generous, and because he was willing to throw caution to the winds to do what was right. We loved him because he never once had us make excuses or try to shift the blame.

That was not his style. "Never complain; never explain."

We all remember his Bruce-isms:

"Always touch base with those concerned before taking action."

"How fast would you get it done if the Russians were in South Attleboro?"

"When you've won, stop talking, close your briefcase and leave."

"Message to Garcia."

"Who, what, where, when; don't bother me with why."

The phone calls, at all hours, that began with no "hello" and ended with dial tone.

The road shows known to his staff as "Dome on the Roam", or more precisely, "Bruce on the Loose."

And sometimes just that big foxy grin.

We saw that his qualities of friendship and loyalty had an almost physical force; that he had your back even if you made mistakes (no one ever was thrown under the bus); and that he was a better friend the more the chips were down.

Politics is full of fair weather friends; Bruce Sundlun was your stormy weather friend. Politics is full of people who take tiny cautious steps with their finger up constantly testing the winds; Bruce stepped boldly down the path he thought was right, even if that meant stepping right in it.

People wonder what lives on after they die. Well, Bruce, we do. And every one of us has been changed: made better, and stronger, harder-working and more resourceful, by your vibrant elemental force in our lives.

We've gone on to be judges and lawyers, to run state and federal agencies, to become Senators and councilmen and Lieutenant Governors, banking leaders and senior partners in national accounting firms, but none of us ever will be more proud of anything than the simple title: "I was a Sundlun staffer."

Soozie and Marjorie, Tracey and Stuart and Peter and Kara: Thank you. Thank you for sharing your husband and father with our state. For those who loved and were changed by him, I thank you. For those who knew and were touched by him, I thank you. And for those who never knew him directly, but whose lives are better today because of what he did, I thank you.

As I close, I want to take you back to a scene from that wonderful movie I saw as a kid, "To Kill A Mockingbird." As you'll recall, Atticus Finch takes on the courageous but unpopular defense of a black man wrongfully accused of rape. At the end of the trial, Atticus's daughter Scout—proper name Jean Louise—is up in the gallery of the courtroom, with the black townspeople, who aren't allowed down on the regular courtroom floor. The courtroom floor empties, but they remain, and slowly stand. As Atticus packs his papers together, closes his bag, and walks out, an elderly man leans down to the little girl and says, "Stand up, Miss Jean Louise. Your father's passing."

At the end of this service, as Bruce is taken to his gravesite after 91 years of a life well and fully lived, we will all stand up. And rightly so. A governor will be passing.

**FELLOWSHIPS FOR UNDERGRADUATE TRAINING AND USEFUL RESEARCH IN ENERGY-RELATED SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS FIELDS ACT OF 2011**

### HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the FUTURE STEM Act. This legislation

will give undergraduate students opportunities to expand both the breadth and depth of their education in multidisciplinary science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields in real world research settings from National Labs to businesses. An American workforce that is highly skilled in STEM fields is necessary for the United States' economic competitiveness and job creation in innovative industries.

Industries that drive Washington state and our nation's economy, such as health care, biotechnology, information technology, manufacturing, aerospace, transportation, construction, and energy efficiency and clean technology, all need career-ready STEM-trained graduates to remain competitive and cutting-edge. In fact, workforce projections for 2014 by the U.S. Department of Labor show that 15 of the 20 fastest growing occupations require significant science or mathematics training to successfully compete for a job. Yet, despite our high unemployment rate, the U.S. is falling behind in STEM graduates and many of these job openings are not being filled by American workers. The U.S. Department of Education reports that America now ranks 20th internationally in our share of graduate degrees awarded in engineering, computer science, and mathematics.

We need focused programs to ensure that the next generation of high-tech workers is prepared to enter the strongest STEM-related industries in Washington state and across the nation. The FUTURE STEM Act seeks to address these problems by exposing students to STEM fields as undergraduates, getting young people early experience in professional settings.

The FUTURE STEM Act establishes a pilot undergraduate student fellowship program to award competitive grants to partner institutions to provide student work experience that will overall improve education and training in support of STEM fields. Under the grants, students will engage in a 10-week fellowship and be placed in real research settings at community colleges, universities, businesses, National Laboratories, and other research settings. The fellowships will pay \$4,500 to the student for a ten-week project, plus up to \$2,000 reimbursement for housing and travel expenses. An additional \$3,500 per project is reserved for equipment, instrumentation, and other educational and training materials needed for the project; supporting outreach efforts to recruit students; encouraging collaboration between government, industry, and academic partners; and assessing the activities funded under the Act. These allowances are on par with existing fellowship programs.

Industries such as aerospace, solar power, and advanced biofuels would be eligible to compete to host STEM students in the pilot program. In Washington state, students could be employed at Boeing, Washington State University, Everett Community College, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), or at countless other locations. PNNL's Energy and Environment Division currently employs some undergraduate and community college students as interns and I am told that they would be eager to employ more under the program created by this Act.

All of America's students deserve the opportunity to pursue a STEM career. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, STEM fields are expected to add 2.7 million new jobs

by 2018, yet women and minorities are vastly underrepresented in those fields. In a survey of female and minority chemists and chemical engineers, 77 percent said significant numbers of women and minorities are missing from the U.S. STEM workforce because "they were not identified, encouraged or nurtured to pursue STEM studies early on." For that reason, this legislation will give preference to students from groups that have been historically underrepresented in STEM fields.

It is crucial that we support, promote, and encourage students to pursue pathways toward careers in STEM fields. The FUTURE STEM Act will facilitate an overall improvement in STEM education and help prepare our nation's students for a high-tech future, while helping to maintain and improve our global excellence in science and technology. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which will help to ensure America has the high-skilled STEM workforce that is necessary to increase our global competitiveness.

### REMEMBERING AND HONORING OFFICER PETER FIGOSKI

#### HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor New York Police Officer Peter Figoski, who made the ultimate sacrifice on December 12th. Peter Figoski will be remembered as a man of service to his country. A 12-time decorated NYPD veteran from West Babylon, Officer Figoski was a loving father to four daughters and a respected member of his community. There is no question that he will be greatly missed by the New York police community and by the many others he touched. The 200 officers that lined up outside the Jamaica Hospital Medical Center to salute their fallen colleague is a true testament to that. I am proud that Officer Figoski was my constituent.

As the son of a New York police officer, I understand the selfless and vital role played by our first responders. They put their lives on the line day in and day out to keep us safe. My thoughts and prayers are with the family and loved ones of Officer Figoski. In closing, I would also like to commend his partner, Officer Glenn Estrada, for risking his life to bring the killer to justice. I yield back.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 12, 2010, I requested and received a leave of absence for the rest of the week.

For the information of our colleagues and my constituents, below is how I would have voted on the following vote I missed during this time period.

On rollcall 927, To strengthen Iran sanctions laws for the purpose of compelling Iran to abandon its pursuit of nuclear weapons and

other threatening activities, and for other purposes, I would have voted "present."

On rollcall 928, To provide for the application of measures to foreign persons who transfer to Iran, North Korea, and Syria certain goods, services, or technology, and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 929, To award Congressional Gold Medals in honor of the men and women who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 930, To designate the property between the United States Federal Courthouse and the Ed Jones Building located at 109 South Highland Avenue in Jackson, Tennessee, as the "M.D. Anderson Plaza" and to authorize the placement of a historical/identification marker on the grounds recognizing the achievements and philanthropy, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 931, To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 932, To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 933, On Approving the Journal, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 934, To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation's first Federal law enforcement agency, the United States Marshals Service, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 935, To ensure public access to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain in the Hanford Reach National Monument for educational, recreational, historical, scientific, cultural, and other purposes, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 936, To provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 937, On Ordering the Previous Question, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and related agencies Appropriations for FY 2012; I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 938, On Agreeing to the Resolution, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and related agencies Appropriations for FY 2012; I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 939, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Concur in the Senate Amendment, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012; I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 940, To provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado; I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 941, On Agreeing to the Conference Report, Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs; I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 942, Directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections

in the enrollment of H.R. 3672; I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 943, On Passage, Making appropriations for disaster relief requirements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012; I would have voted "aye."

I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the RECORD.

RECOGNIZING KELLY MEARS, ADRIAN PARSONS, SAM JEWLER, AND JOE GRAY WHO ARE ENGAGED IN A HUNGER STRIKE FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VOTING RIGHTS

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to recognize the extraordinary dedication of four young people who are engaged in a hunger strike for District of Columbia voting rights, budget autonomy and legislative autonomy, an unprecedented step in the District's 210-year struggle for equal citizenship. D.C. residents Kelly Mears, Adrian Parsons, and Sam Jewler, in the tradition of Mahatma Gandhi, began their hunger strike on December 8, and were joined the next day by Joe Gray, a Maryland resident. Unfortunately, this unusual journey ended for one of the strikers, twenty-four-year-old Kelly Mears, who was unable to continue with the three other strikers due to medical complications. The four visited members of Congress during the final days of negotiation on the fiscal year 2012 appropriations bills, and as the District government faced a possible shutdown over a federal spending bill and payroll tax fight. The hunger strikers have written a declaration of grievances. They are asking members of Congress to find ways to show solidarity with them. Representative KEITH ELLISON of Minnesota came to the floor during my special order on the shutdown threat and the spending bill's prohibition on the District's use of its local funds for abortions for low-income women. We are grateful to Representative ELLISON for reading the declaration of the hunger strikers into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and for his decision to abstain from food and water for 24 hours in solidarity with them. Since the fiscal year 2011 spending deal was announced in April 2011, which prohibited the District from spending its local funds on abortion services for low-income women, 72 people, including D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray and D.C. Council members, have been arrested for acts of civil disobedience in protest of the treatment of D.C. residents as second-class citizens. However, the D.C. hunger strikers will always be remembered as a special inspiration and for a special sacrifice. It is a sacrifice we had no right to ask for. Even now, we ask these young people not to endanger their health. They have been heard. We will never forget them. I ask the House to join me in honoring Kelly Mears, Adrian Parsons, Sam Jewler, and Joe Gray.

STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN JOHN B. LARSON AND EULOGY DELIVERED BY HIS SON, THOMAS S. BRENNAN, HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE JOHN D. BRENNAN

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. John Brennan was a venerated citizen of my hometown, East Hartford. He served his country, his state, and his community in several elected, appointed, and volunteer positions; most recently he presided as a Judge where he served until he was 93, and did so with vigor, and a sense of humor. Growing up in East Hartford when you're poor John Brennan, if you were type casting, you'd say he looked like Henry Fonda, and we along with his beautiful wife Mary, raised four children, Susan, Jack, Peter, and Tome, all of who I was fortunate to know, and know how devoted to their father they are. At his funeral service it was his youngest son Tom, who gave the eulogy on behalf of the family, there is so much I could say about John Brennan, he commanded blind respect and rightfully so. Nothing I could say however captures the feeling, the sentiment, the public servant, and the father as Tom Brennan's remarks on his father that follows.

EULOGY HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE JOHN D. BRENNAN

(By Thomas S. Brennan)

First of all I'd like to thank everyone for coming to join our family today. I know how absolutely thrilled my father would be to see all of you here, even though I know also that he was a little disappointed to have only made it to the age of 94, when he was still in his youthful prime with so much left to be done. But in many ways he almost was still in his prime, and I think that said a lot about how he lived his life—he never lost his youthful enthusiasm and he had a genuine appreciation for whatever the moment offered. He was someone who from the beginning was endowed with many gifts and he made use of those gifts in a variety of arenas throughout his life.

My father often described his childhood growing up in East Hartford of the 1920s as an almost idyllic "Huck Finn" sort of existence—kids running free playing baseball down in the meadows, riding a rope swing into the Connecticut River or racing carrier pigeons that neighborhood kids would keep in backyard coops. Like many of the Irish back then, his father worked on the trains and would release the carrier pigeons when he was way down the lone toward New York. In that era, those pigeons making their way home might very well have sailed past Yankee Stadium when Babe Ruth was slugging a home run, or over houses where families were gathering around a radio waiting for FDR to speak, before circling down over the farms and tobacco fields that once surrounded this town. It was a simple working class world and he grew up during the Depression, so there wasn't any choice then but to make the most out of whatever you were lucky enough to have.

The arrival of World War II took him far away from the innocent small town life and it became one of the defining experiences of his life. The world was suddenly opened wide and he was thrilled to be riding on the tide of history. And of course, to hear him tell it, it was one giant adventure—we never knew

war could be so much fun. He especially loved to tell us old stories of how he and his Army buddies played pranks on one another all the way across the Pacific but there was one story in particular I always liked: It was right after the war had ended and he was on an island off of South Korea where he had been assigned to accept the transfer of all Japanese back to Japan. It just so happened that there had been a tailor who had worked on the island for the previous 40 years who was originally Japanese and so his family was extremely upset that he was being forced to completely uproot everything. My father had ordered him to bring all his things in a suitcase and be on the dock ready to leave the next morning. When the appointed hour arrived, he saw that practically the whole town had come out to bid goodbye to the old tailor, nearly all of them in tears. So he looked around for a minute, gathered in the scene and then called the tailor forward before the crowd and announced to everyone (in his best gruff military voice): "You are free to stay" at which point the entire town erupted in chaotic celebration, they lifted my father up and carried him through the streets on their shoulders. To me, that moment expressed something essential about him—that he felt pretty instinctively that a certain humanity and practicality should determine a decision, rather than blind adherence to some order from headquarters. And also that though he could have a tough exterior, it wasn't very hard to penetrate beyond it and ultimately he always was guided by a very innate sense of fairness.

After the war, he returned home to East Hartford and remained there for the rest of his life. He practiced law, built a family, became involved in local politics, was elected Mayor and later appointed as a judge in the Connecticut Superior Court. Many of you here today knew him through the variety of activities that evolved out of his many years of public life in town. In East Hartford, he was in his element, he flourished and he never wanted to live anywhere else.

Long before we had Google to research any topic or answer any question, there was John Brennan. And when you spoke to him, you were instantly transported back over a remarkable span of history by someone who could remember all the details and bring the back to life—in fact, you were actually talking to someone who remembered speaking to veterans of the Civil War. He was renowned for his ability to recall little known historical facts and had immediate access to a treasure trove of information that he would eagerly dispense on subjects as diverse as the dates of the major battles of the Boer Wars or the work of some obscure German poet. But despite his ability in this arena, it was always balanced with a pronounced disregard for anything that smacked of "unnecessary pretense" or "excess", which perhaps explained his lifetime loyalty to Maxwell House coffee, Prell shampoo, and \$5 sunglasses. In fact, my sister reminded me yesterday that he was perfectly happy to drive his Buick into the ground, much to the dismay of the salesman down at Dworin Chevrolet, of course. And always, no matter how distinguished his career in the law may have been or how adept he was with the life of the mind, he took a certain pleasure in making fun of himself too, as if he were really just a regular guy. So if I were to say now that he had an "indefatigable" spirit, he would feign an innocent look, lean forward helpfully and add "tireless too". As if he didn't know what the word meant. It was one of his favorite jokes and in fact I have since stolen it for myself.

He reached mandatory retirement as a Superior Court judge in 1986 and then continued

to work for another 24 years—almost a full career for some people. He loved being over at the courthouse in the middle of the action, surrounded by the friends and comforts of his profession and he showed little sign of stopping, right up to the age of 93. So we knew it was trouble when the day finally came that he said he didn't want to go to work anymore.

Yet even near the end of his life, when he was going through radiation treatments, his face could light up at the sight of a simple cup of chowder that my sister might bring over to the hospital for him. Or he would shuffle outside to the hospital parking lot, take a sip out of a flask of bourbon that my brother had smuggled in, look around and say "Isn't this the life!" And he really meant it. That was his rare gift—to be able to genuinely appreciate and make the most of whatever the moment held and still find an upside to it. If you asked him how he was feeling, he'd say "Raring to go!" and it really wasn't much of an exaggeration. And his amazing work ethic refused to quit. Just a few weeks ago, he woke up from a nap and asked my sister Suzie where he was and what day it was. So she told him, it's Wednesday and you're at home". He sounded absolutely aghast in his response: "Home? What am I doing home in the middle of the week—I'm supposed to be at work!" In a way, he was kind of like one of those characters from an old John Wayne movie that you just couldn't keep down, where even after being hit with 100 rounds from the enemy, he would still somehow stagger back to throw that one decisive final grenade.

So today we lay to final rest an old soldier who embraced battle and celebration with equal relish, who demonstrated that he could not just endure, but do it with "pizzazz" and certainly for far longer than we had any right to ask for. It was once said, by the Civil War veteran and Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendall Holmes, that "to act with enthusiasm and faith is the condition for acting greatly". To our father and your friend, we can now rightfully say without hesitation: you met that test—mission accomplished. Of course we will miss you greatly, but you had one heck of a run and we're really very grateful and proud of that. And so we promise to pass along your sense of humor, to keep telling our favorite stories about you and to still be toasting you at some cocktail hour far into the future with warm memories to always keep you very much alive in our hearts.

STATEMENT ON THE SCHRADER  
AMENDMENT TO H.R. 10, THE  
REINS ACT

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to the Schrader amendment to H.R. 10, the REINS Act. The REINS Act makes certain regulations that protect American priorities like public health, our economy, and workers' rights, extraordinarily difficult to enact by requiring Congressional approval even though Congress already has the power to disapprove any regulation. The Schrader Act further hobbles regulatory efforts by requiring an additional cost-benefit analysis, which is heavily biased against regulations which protect things that are not usually monetized like clean air, clean water, and public health protections. I could not support it.

HONORING DAVID LONG

**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the lengthy public service career of David Long, Chief of the Norwich Township Fire Department. David Long has served the Hilliard, Ohio community as a member of its fire department for 36 years, serving more than 7 years as Chief of the department.

Born and raised in the Hilliard area, David joined the Norwich Township Fire Department in 1975 as a part-time firefighter. On September 9, 1976 he earned a full-time position from which he moved up the ranks, becoming a lieutenant on July 1, 1984, Assistant Chief on April 1, 1996, and finally Chief of the department on April 2, 2004. He is a certified paramedic, fire instructor, and fire inspector.

David Long has played a critical role in keeping the Hilliard community safe for more than three and a half decades. He has literally run into burning buildings to protect his neighbors. David's willingness to put his own life at risk in service to others is truly inspiring and exemplifies the courage that makes America great.

As Chief, David has led the department during an important time for the community and has presided over some major departmental milestones, including relocating the department to the Hilliard Joint Safety Services Building. David has been a sound and stable leader, admired both by his firefighters and the community at large.

Chief David Long has touched many lives and inspired others to service at this critical time in our history when we need dedicated public servants the most. I thank David for all that he has done for the Hilliard community and congratulate him on concluding an impressive and inspiring career.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF  
CAPTAIN ERWIN J. KORCZYNSKI

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of Captain Erwin J. Korczynski, a Chicago native whose contributions to our country should not be forgotten. Mr. Korczynski passed away in January of 2011, but his impact on the nation and those who knew him will last forever.

Erwin Korczynski was a quintessential American. Born and raised with his twin brother in Chicago, Illinois, Mr. Korczynski's youth was busy: he was an avid boy scout, marched with the Chicago Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps and was a competitive member of his high school's Track and Field team.

After high school he pursued the priesthood, but in 1963, Erwin felt a need to serve his country directly, and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps. He served with the Marine Attack Squadron, VMA 131. While in the Marine Corps, he had moved up the ranks and attained the rank of Sergeant before he was honorably discharged in 1969.

After spending several years of his life in the Marines, Mr. Korczynski became a civilian airline pilot. He flew for a number of different airlines over the years, logging hundreds of hours aloft as he piloted aircraft between six different continents.

In 1990, Captain Korczynski was drawn to again serve his country. He volunteered to serve with the Civil Reserve Air Fleet and was sent to the Persian Gulf. Mr. Korczynski subsequently commanded twenty-five Civil Reserve Air Fleet missions during Operation Desert Storm.

Mr. Korczynski's selfless actions on behalf of this nation make him a true citizen soldier, following in the footsteps of our nation's minutemen. His bravery and self sacrifice have earned him not only my admiration, but the admiration of the American people.

In his later years, Captain Korczynski's passion for flight did not wane. While he was unable to continue flying commercial aircraft after age sixty, Captain Korczynski remained able and active, training future pilots and instilling the knowledge and wisdom earned through his decades of pilot experience.

Captain Erwin Korczynski lived an honorable life, and he contributed much to the com-

mon good. On behalf of a grateful nation, I want to express our thanks for his life of service.

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HONORING LARRY GALLA OF K-STAR IN CONROE

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share with America something very good about America—a true blue American success story in a cowboy hat and boots—my friend, Larry Galla, one of the newest members of the Texas Radio Hall of Fame.

When Larry opens up the microphone, you know magic is about to happen. Not the flashy magic of a Vegas stage show, but the magic of listening to an old friend spin yarns and records without skipping a beat. Larry's magic is in making all of us feel right at home.

But, to many stars in the country music scene, praise from Larry is a different kind of magic. It's the kind of magic that turns ordi-

nary records into gold records and musicians into stars.

Larry Galla has been a staple on the Houston area airwaves for nearly four decades making the leap to Houston—a top 10 radio market.

After spending nearly half his career at KIKR, Larry returned to Conroe and his roots at K-Star where he gets to share the microphone with another Hall of Famer, Mary McCoy.

Conroe has celebrated with a Larry Galla Day, but it's time the rest of the country knew Larry's name as well as some of the great legends of country music do.

From Johnny Cash to Ernest Tubb to George Strait and Billy Currington, when Larry plays their songs, people listen. When Larry interviews an artist, we all learn a lot more about the music Texans love to sing along to, because to Larry, it's the sound music makes over the radiowaves that matters the most and his dedication to the music is second to none.

That's why so many musicians have asked him to take the stage with them over the years. Today, the spotlight is all on Larry.