

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

EMILY CARRUTHERS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Emily Carruthers for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Emily Carruthers is an 8th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Emily Carruthers is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Emily Carruthers for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

ALAN SKOBIN

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to pay tribute to Police Commissioner Alan J. Skobin for his outstanding contributions to both community and civic service in Los Angeles County.

Alan Skobin was appointed to the Board of Police Commissioners by Mayor James K. Hahn in July 2003 and reappointed by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, serving two five-year terms as Police Commissioner. His breadth of experience as Commissioner includes unwavering leadership on various fronts including the establishment of the LAPD Purple Heart Award—an award recognizing the sacrifice of officers seriously injured or slain while on duty; the development of a program to regularly replace outdated, vital police equipment, and the initiation of a prevention program for officer-involved traffic collisions.

Commissioner Skobin has also served as a Reserve Deputy Sheriff with the Los Angeles County Sheriffs Department (LASD) for more than 30 years, currently holding the rank of Reserve Chief. If that weren't enough, Commissioner Skobin is also the Vice President and Counsel at Galpin Motors in the San Fernando Valley.

Commissioner Skobin's accomplishments have been recognized with commendations and awards from virtually every level of the government and the private sector, including the California Peace Officers Association, naming him Officer of the Year, and

Baseballers Against Drugs, which honored him with their Positive Image Award. Additionally, he was honored as one of the top 25 lawyers of the San Fernando Valley, and has received awards from the Los Angeles Police Reserve Foundation.

As a longtime San Fernando Valley resident, Commissioner Skobin's tremendous legacy in both law enforcement and the community is nothing short of remarkable. His unwavering dedication to public service has brought about significant positive impacts on the communities of Los Angeles. As his tenure with the Los Angeles Police Commission comes to an end, I am grateful that he will continue serving our community with the Los Angeles Fire Commission.

Mr. Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in recognizing Police Commissioner Alan Skobin for his years of service and dedication to protecting the citizens of Los Angeles.

HONORING 100 YEARS OF FT. WORTH'S GLEN GARDEN GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a longtime American institution, the Glen Garden Golf and Country Club of Fort Worth, Texas, celebrating its centennial anniversary. Founded in 1912 by Mr. H.H. Cobb, it was at the time one of only two country clubs in Fort Worth and was a popular spot for activities in addition to golf for picnics, walks and family outings. Most notably, the club's place in history serves as the starting point for three great talents who changed the game of golf immeasurably.

Two of the greatest names in golf, Byron Nelson and Ben Hogan, began their long, successful golf careers as caddies for the club in the early 1920s. They honed their skills on the fairways and greens of the club after hours. Nelson and Hogan developed a friendly rivalry early, when 15-year-old Nelson beat Hogan in a caddy tournament by one stroke. From those humble beginnings, these two greats rose to become cultural icons not just in golf, but throughout American popular culture as well. Hogan would win a career 64 tour wins, including nine majors. Nelson's career was shorter but equally illustrious with 52 tour wins; five of them majors. In 2006, for his significant contributions to the game of golf as a player, a teacher, and a commentator, I was pleased to sponsor the resolution awarding Byron Nelson the Congressional Gold Medal.

Women also honed their skills on Glen Garden's links. LPGA great Sandra Palmer was still in high school in the late 1950s, developing her golf game when she was not on the basketball court. She would go on to win 19 tournaments, including two majors. Sandra

Palmer remains active in golf today, on the LPGA Legends tour and serving as a role model for girls and young women achieving in sports.

From its humble beginnings as a small nine-hole course, to a beloved Fort Worth institution today, the last 100 years have been an unqualified success for Glen Garden. I express my best wishes for Glen Garden's next 100 years to be equally successful. I am proud to represent the City of Fort Worth in the U.S. House of Representatives.

HONORING A CHAMPION OF LITERACY AND PUBLIC SERVICE, MRS. SHIRLEY MORGAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a true champion of literacy, Mrs. Shirley Morgan. Mrs. Morgan serves as librarian at Madison Shannon Palmer High School in Marks, Mississippi. She is the wife of Elton Morgan, mother of one daughter, the second of twelve siblings and a 26-year resident of Crenshaw, Mississippi.

Shirley is a graduate of Grambling State University where she received her Bachelor of Arts in Journalism. She has also received her certification in Library Media Science from Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi, which allowed her to further her career as a teacher consultant with Mississippi Valley State University Writing Project and serve as a mentor for new teachers. Mrs. Morgan has also worked as Site Coordinator with the North Delta 21st Century Community Learning Center's after school tutorial program for the Quitman County School District.

Mrs. Morgan believes reading is a tool of empowerment and a lifelong skill that increases one's ability to learn. She encourages reading at all levels, so much that she urges pregnant women to read to their unborn children with hopes of increasing their learning capabilities.

In addition to her commitment to education, Mrs. Morgan has a firm commitment to public service. She formerly served as Alderwoman for the Town of Crenshaw for 4 years and volunteered extensively with the Crenshaw Interested Community Builders, Inc., Food Bank of Crenshaw and the Tri-County Workforce Alliance in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

Mrs. Morgan is also active in her church, New St. John Missionary Baptist Church, where she serves as church clerk and Sunday School Superintendent.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Shirley Morgan as a committed educator, public servant, mother and wife.

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

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

IN RECOGNITION OF IRA LOMIS
FLOWERS OF THOMASVILLE,
GEORGIA

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to extend my personal congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Ira Lomis Flowers, a beloved citizen of Thomasville, Georgia, who will be honored at the 23rd Annual Black and White Scholarship Ball hosted by the Thomasville, Georgia Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc.

The upcoming Black and White Scholarship Ball will take place on Friday, June 1, 2012 at 1200 West Jackson Street in Thomasville. During the event, Mr. Flowers will be presented with the Joseph R. Jenkins Award, the highest award that can be bestowed upon a member of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc.'s Southeastern Province.

A native of Thomasville, Mr. Flowers is a graduate of Thomasville High School. Following high school, he went on to complete his undergraduate studies at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Mr. Flowers also has his Certification in Secondary Education in English and Reading from Valdosta State University.

Mr. Flowers spent most of his professional life working as an educator and serving as a positive role model and influential mentor to children in Middle and Southwest Georgia. Throughout his dynamic and distinguished career he served as the Director of the Francis F. Weston YMCA in Thomasville; CEO & General Director of the A.J. McClung YMCA in Columbus, Georgia; Executive Director of the Thomasville Community Resource Center; and Senior YMCA Director for the USA YMCA Institute.

Despite the multiple and pressing demands associated with his professional career, Mr. Flowers always has and continues to play an integral role in several social, civic and community service oriented organizations in Georgia. He is a member of Kappa Alpha Psi, Inc. and has held memberships in the S.P. Masonic Lodge #118 and the Jones Masonic Lodge #118.

Mr. Flowers has achieved numerous successes in his life, but none of this would have been possible without the grace of God and the love imparted upon him by his late wife, Thedora Belinda Flowers, and his wonderful daughter Hope Allen Ellis-Flowers. He is also the proud grandfather of his adorable grandchildren Brianna and Christen.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to Mr. Ira Lomis Flowers, an outstanding individual who has tirelessly devoted himself to progressively developing the academic and social skill sets of youth throughout the State of Georgia.

On a personal note, my wife, Vivian, and I would like to applaud Mr. Flowers and his family for his distinguished record of service on behalf of our Nation's children and his outstanding legacy of service to the communities of Middle and Southwest Georgia.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on May 8, 2012, I missed rollcall votes 202–223 because of my primary election in Indiana. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall 202, “no” on rollcall 203, “no” on rollcall 204, “yes” on rollcall 205, “no” on rollcall 206, “no” on rollcall 207, “no” on rollcall 208, “no” on rollcall 209, “yes” on rollcall 210, “no” on rollcall 211, “no” on rollcall 212, “yes” on rollcall 213, “yes” on rollcall 214, “no” on rollcall 215, “no” on rollcall 216, “no” on rollcall 217, “no” on rollcall 218, “no” on rollcall 219, “no” on rollcall 220, “no” on rollcall 221, “no” on rollcall 222, and “no” on rollcall 223.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE OF C. DONALD BABERS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished federal public servant, Mr. C. Donald Babers, as he retires from his position as the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Southwest Regional Administrator on June 1, 2012. Over the last 42 years, all of it with HUD, he has provided dedicated service to the American public in a variety of positions.

Mr. Babers began his career in June 1970 as an unpaid intern in HUD's Fort Worth Office. He then moved on to Little Rock, Arkansas working in the local field office as an Equal Opportunity Specialist before being appointed the Acting Director of the Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity. He was next assigned to the Dallas Field Office where he held a number of positions, including 15 years as the Field Office Director.

In 2002, he was promoted again, this time to the position of Deputy Regional Director in the Fort Worth Regional Office. In 2006, he assumed additional responsibilities when he was appointed by the Secretary of HUD as the Recovery Advisor and Chairman of the Board for the Housing Authority of New Orleans, where he oversaw recovery efforts due to Hurricane Katrina. On May 27, 2010, he was recognized again for his hard work and dedication to the mission of HUD with a promotion to Regional Administrator of HUD's Region VI in Fort Worth. In this position, he is responsible for managing the operations of the Fort Worth office as well as eleven field offices in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana.

Over the years, Mr Babers has been the recipient of many prestigious awards for his work. In 2006, he received the Presidential Rank Award for Meritorious Executive, one of the highest awards given to career civil servants and restricted to no more than five percent of executives per year. In 2007, he also

received the Interagency Resources Management Conference Award from the General Services Administration, which is given to those government employees who have shown exceptional ability to operate across organizational boundaries and improve the public's experience with the government.

As Mr. Babers retires from a long and dedicated career, I would like to recognize his service and congratulate him on a job well done. His experience and skills will certainly be missed by both the employees he worked with and the citizens he served. I wish Don Babers and his wife Sheila a long and happy retirement.

CONGRATULATING THE CITY OF
LANCASTER, WISCONSIN, ON ITS
175TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise before you today to honor the historic City of Lancaster as we celebrate its 175th anniversary.

Lancaster was established for its central location in Grant County. Though it wasn't located on a stream or major source of power, its location was ideal for the efficiency and accessibility of a county government. Shortly after its founding, Lancaster was named the seat of Grant County. In fact, the county courthouse was built before Lancaster's founding, creating a unique opportunity for entrepreneurs once Lancaster was established. Hotels and stores were among the first establishments to be built. But, growth in Lancaster was slow with only 350 residents in 1853. However, the dedication of a few people, including Wisconsin's first Governor, Nelson Dewey, was all Lancaster needed to thrive. After the construction of houses, commercial buildings, warehouses, stores, and a railroad depot, Lancaster's population surpassed 1,000 residents by 1880, enough to allow incorporation.

Just as Lancaster was beginning to mature, a fire destroyed half of the square and the city was faced with the challenge of starting anew. The folks of Lancaster took on that challenge and as they always have; the people of Lancaster worked together and the square was built again. Many of these buildings still stand today, signifying the deep historical roots in Lancaster and its ability to endure the test of time. The Grant County Courthouse, Lancaster Municipal Building, and the Lancaster Post Office are all listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Today, Lancaster is home to more than 3,800 people. Lancaster embodies the quintessential small town that is a staple in rural Wisconsin. The historically rich community still thrives on the agricultural successes of surrounding farms and its quaint and pure atmosphere make Lancaster a beautiful place to call home. I wish the City of Lancaster and its residents a happy 175th anniversary and all the best in the years to come.

DONOVAN NICHOLS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Donovan Nichols for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Donovan Nichols is a 12th grader at Jefferson High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Donovan Nichols is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Donovan Nichols for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

HONORING ROBERT F. JORDAN

HON. RANDY HULTGREN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring the attention of the House of Representatives to a momentous occasion, the 85th birthday of Mr. Robert F. Jordan, to be celebrated on May 25, 2012, and to recognize the work he has done, first as a United States diplomat for more than 36 years, and in retirement, as an integral part of the US-Asia Institute.

Mr. Robert F. Jordan was born and raised in Framingham, Massachusetts. He served overseas in the U.S. Army from 1945 to 1947 and then attended the University of Massachusetts, graduating in 1951. From 1951 to 1956 he was a high school teacher of Algebra and Spanish.

In 1956 he started a 36-year diplomatic career with the U.S. Information Agency, serving as the Public Affairs Officer and director of the United States Information Service in 11 countries in Asia, Europe and Latin America with responsibility for all U.S. government press and cultural exchange programs. Mr. Jordan learned four foreign languages—Spanish, Italian, French, and Portuguese. He was president of the Fulbright Commission in several countries and was also president of the Government of Ireland's scholarship board. While on a Washington tour he was assigned to USIA's inspection corps and conducted policy and public diplomacy inspections of American embassies in some 40 countries worldwide.

Mr. Jordan is the recipient of several meritorious and superior honor awards and performance pay awards from USIA, the Department of Defense and the Department of State. He also received the Order of Merit from the Government of Portugal.

Following retirement in 1992 Mr. Jordan was called back by both USIA and the Department of State to conduct policy inspections of some

20 embassies worldwide. Then from 1995 to 2001 he worked for the Federal Emergency Management Agency handling the Spanish-speaking media on disasters around the country. All total during his career, he has honorably represented the United States in over 100 countries around the world.

In 1994–95 and then since 2007, Mr. Jordan has volunteered his time at the US-Asia Institute as a senior advisor and serving as Vice President of International and Government Affairs. In this role, he works closely with the Asian diplomatic community as well as with the U.S. Congress, and numerous delegations from Asia. He is committed to the mission and goals of the US-Asia Institute, promoting dialogue on international issues of common interest to the United States and Asian nations, whenever and however possible. In the course of his work, Mr. Jordan has led numerous delegations of Congressional staff to China and Singapore. He spent his 80th birthday on the Great Wall of China.

In his retirement, Mr. Jordan continues to work tirelessly to promote mutual understanding and communication between the U.S. and the countries and people of Asia. As he celebrates this latest milestone, we say thank you to Mr. Jordan for his sage counsel, his inimitable vision, his quiet behind-the-scenes diplomacy, and his unwavering commitment to the U.S.-Asia relationship.

IN HONOR OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF FLORENCE LARIVIERE**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Florence LaRiviere, a passionate citizen activist responsible for creating our country's first urban national wildlife refuge. Without Florence, it is safe to say that thousands of acres of wetlands and salt ponds along the San Francisco Bay would have been destroyed and developed. The Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge, in my Congressional District, is the result of her tireless commitment to preventing urban sprawl from taking over unspoiled natural area.

On May 10th, Florence is being rightly honored for her decades of environmental and community service with the National Wetlands Award from the Environmental Law Institute of Washington, DC. Although Florence is being honored now, at the age of 88, her work to preserve the Bay spans seven decades.

In the 1950's Florence would take her children to enjoy the Bay's natural marshes and wetlands. Even then, development was steadily encroaching on this fragile ecosystem and threatened its very survival. Marshes were being drained and filled and the Bay's health was in severe decline. Florence organized other concerned citizens and launched a battle to preserve the wetlands and restore the Bay. They took their fight to then Representative Don Edwards, who championed legislation to create the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge in 1972. She didn't stop there. In the 1980s, she established the Citizens Committee to Complete the Refuge and led the fight to expand the refuge by 20,000 acres.

After all these accomplishments, Florence LaRiviere still works to preserve and protect California's wetlands. In the last few years, I've been honored to work with Florence to restore the Eden Landing salt ponds along the Hayward Shoreline. Now, instead of sterile ponds, we have a thriving marsh where hundreds of bird species can be seen and the public can access the bay for hiking and kayaking.

The National Wetlands Awards are presented annually to individuals who have excelled in wetlands protection and is administered by the Environmental Law Institute and is supported by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA Forest Service, and Federal Highway Administration. A committee of wetlands experts representing federal and state agencies, academia, conservation organizations, and the private sector selects the Award recipients.

Florence is well deserving of this award. Her work to create and preserve the refuge has produced enormous benefits. It has sustained an immense number of birds and endangered species. It has also brought awareness to the Bay Area of the value of wetlands, and vastly improved residents' quality of life by providing them with public spaces to escape from the hustle and bustle of urban life. Florence is an inspiration to all of us who care about passing on a healthy environment to future generations.

RECOGNIZING DOWNTOWN
WASHINGTON INC.**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Downtown Washington, Inc. On April 2, 2012, Downtown Washington was named a recipient of The Great American Main Street Award. The winners of this award are recognized for their exceptional accomplishments in revitalizing the nations' historic Main Street commercial district by using the National Trust's Main Street Four-Point Approach.

I ask that you join me in recognizing Downtown Washington, Inc. for its work to nurture and enhance its downtown area. A key part of Downtown Washington's success is due to the dedication and determination of Downtown Washington, Inc.'s board of directors and staff. With its outstanding leadership, the board of directors and staff have spearheaded the renovation of several historic buildings that have and will continue to attract fellow residents and visitors to the downtown area for years to come.

In addition, one of their top priorities is business retention, and Downtown Washington, Inc. works to make sure business owners have the latest information on grants and other incentives. Through their partnerships with the local chamber of commerce and city government, Downtown Washington, Inc. organizes many public events throughout the year, which truly help showcase the city's success.

In closing, I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing the members Downtown Washington, Inc. congratulations on receiving this award.

DRISZELLE RICHARDSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Driszelle Richardson for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Driszelle Richardson is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Driszelle Richardson is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Driszelle Richardson for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING MRS. SHIRLEY W. SIMMONS FOR HER COMMITMENT TO LITERACY

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mrs. Shirley W. Simmons. Mrs. Simmons is a lifelong resident of Jackson, Mississippi and a graduate of Brinkley High School and Jackson State University. After college, Mrs. Simmons worked in early childhood education for a number of years. She then took time off from education to focus on raising her children. During those years, she took an active interest in the Parent Teachers Association, PTA, and volunteered with school fundraisers and local Girl Scout troops.

In 1996, she was hired as a Circulation Assistant with the Jackson/Hinds Library System-Medgar Evers Branch. While there, she was promoted to Professional Assistant and then to her current position of Branch Supervisor.

As Branch Supervisor, Mrs. Simmons continuously seeks new ways to involve the community in programs and activities being held by the library and has planned and participated in many library activities. Some of these include library story times, Medgar Evers celebrations, Medgar Evers parades, the Books for Tots program, the Medgar Evers Book Club, and annual summer reading programs.

Mrs. Simmons assists annually with the Jackson State University Alumni Association fundraising initiatives and participates in breast cancer awareness activities. She is also a Sil-

ver Life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP. Mrs. Simmons is a devoted wife and mother and grandmother of three children and one grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Shirley W. Simmons for her commitment to the community and others.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE JACQUELINE H. NGUYEN

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorable Jacqueline H. Nguyen of California, whom the Senate confirmed yesterday to the United States Court of Appeals for The Ninth Circuit by a vote of 91–3. Judge Nguyen becomes the first woman of Asian descent to serve on the federal bench. What a wonderful way to begin Asian Pacific Islander Heritage Month!

Mr. Speaker, Judge Nguyen is a testament to this truly being the land of opportunity. She was born in Dalat, Vietnam and at the age of nine, she fled Vietnam with her family during the fall of Saigon. Upon arriving in the United States, her family lived for a time in a refugee tent city at Camp Pendleton before settling in the Los Angeles area. She helped her family operate a doughnut shop in North Hollywood, where she studied between helping customers. At a very young age she was put in a difficult situation but her circumstances did not deter her from her dreams.

Judge Nguyen received her A.B. from Occidental College in 1987, and her J.D. from UCLA School of Law in 1991. From 1995 to 2002, she worked in the United States Attorney's Office in the Central District of California. Serving in the criminal division as an Assistant United States Attorney, she worked as a federal prosecutor in the General Crimes section from 1995–1996 and in the Public Corruption and Government Fraud section from 1996–1999. She took on the role of the General Crimes section's Deputy Chief from 2000–2002.

In 2002, she was appointed to serve on the state bench as a Judge of the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles, becoming the first female Vietnamese-American judge in California's history. In July 2009, President Obama nominated Judge Nguyen for a seat on the bench of the United States District Court for the Central District of California. After being confirmed 97–0 she became the first Vietnamese-American to serve on the federal bench. Judge Nguyen brought to the federal bench substantial civil and criminal experience both as a lawyer and as a judge.

Like many other great Americans, she has followed in the American tradition of giving back. She is a founding member of the Asian Pacific American Bar Association. She is the recipient of numerous awards from legal associations, including the Women's Leadership Award, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (2010), and the Trailblazer Award from both the National Conference of Vietnamese American Attorneys (2009) and the

National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (2006).

I congratulate Judge Nguyen on her appointment and looking forward to having this exceptional jurist serve with distinction for many years to come.

H.R. 4967, THE "TEMPORARY BANKRUPTCY JUDGESHIPS EXTENSION ACT OF 2012"

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following exchange of letters:

MAY 9, 2012.

Hon. LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN SMITH: I am writing concerning H.R. 4967, the "Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012," which is scheduled for Floor consideration today.

As you know, the Committee on Ways and Means maintains jurisdiction over revenue measures generally. H.R. 4967, contains a provision that raises revenue by increasing the Chapter 11 filing fees for the operation and maintenance of the courts of the United States, which falls within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Ways and Means. In order to expedite this bill for Floor consideration, the Committee will forgo action on the bill. This is being done with the understanding that it does not in any way prejudice the Committee with respect to the appointment of conferees or its jurisdictional prerogatives on this or similar legislation in the future.

I would appreciate your response to this letter, confirming this understanding with respect to H.R. 4967, and would ask that a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter be included in the Congressional Record during Floor consideration.

Sincerely,

DAVE CAMP,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY,
Washington, DC, May 9, 2012.

Hon. DAVE CAMP,
Chairman, Committee on Ways and Means, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CAMP: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 4967, the "Temporary Bankruptcy Judgeships Extension Act of 2012," which is soon scheduled for consideration by the House.

I am most appreciative of your decision to forgo consideration of H.R. 4967 so that it may move expeditiously to the House floor. I acknowledge that although you are waiving formal consideration of the bill, the Committee on Ways and Means is in no way waiving its jurisdiction over the subject matter contained in the bill. In addition, if a conference is necessary on this legislation, I will support any request that Ways and Means be represented therein.

Finally, I shall be pleased to include this letter and your letter of even date herewith in the Congressional Record during floor consideration of H.R. 4967.

Sincerely,

LAMAR SMITH,
Chairman.

EDWIN SAENZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Edwin Saenz for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Edwin Saenz is a 10th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Edwin Saenz is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Edwin Saenz for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and missed rollcall vote No. 206 on the evening of May 7, 2012. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: rollcall vote No. 206—Scalise (LA) Amendment: “no.”

2012 14TH CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT ART COMPETITION**HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the artistic ability of a young woman from my Congressional District, Iesha Grady from Penn Hills High School. Ms. Grady is the winner of the 2012 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania's High School Art Competition, “An Artistic Discovery.” Ms. Grady's artwork, a composition in oil pastels entitled “Harmless Apple Juice?” was selected from a number of outstanding entries to this year's competition.

In fact, 45 works from ten different schools in Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District were submitted to our panel of respected local artists. It's a real tribute to her skill and vision that her work was chosen as the winner of this year's competition. I am certain that Ms. Grady's family is proud of her artistic talents and this impressive accomplishment.

Ms. Grady's artwork will represent the 14th Congressional District of Pennsylvania in the national exhibit of high school students' artwork that will be displayed in the United States Capitol over the coming year. I encourage my colleagues as well as any visitor to

Capitol Hill to view Ms. Grady's artwork, along with the winning entries from the high school art contests held in other Congressional Districts, which will be on display in the Capitol tunnel. It is amazing to walk through this corridor and see the interpretation of life through the eyes of these young artists from all across our country.

Maggie Morgans from West Mifflin High School was awarded second place for her pastel composition “Snowmageddon.” Sara Hopkins from Northgate High School received third place for her pencil drawing entitled “Britney.” Jasper Means from Penn Hills High School was awarded fourth place for his watercolor “Life Saving Station #7.” Stephanie Taylor from South Allegheny High School was given fifth place for her oil painting “Shades of Green.” I should note, by the way, that this is the third year in a row that one of Stephanie's works has placed in this competition. Last year she took Second Place, and in 2010 her painting was the winner. Clearly, this young lady has a lot of talent.

In addition, Honorable Mention Awards were presented to works by Erin Hart of Riverview High School, Julian Moriarty from Woodland Hills High School, Alexis Yauch of McKeesport High School, Morgan Turner of Northgate High School, Mikaila Hoffman from Pittsburgh Allderdice High School, Dan O'Leary of Riverview High School, Stephanie Taylor of South Allegheny High School, Elizabeth Thornton from Sto-Rox High School, Sara Hopkins of Northgate High School, and Ashley Reid of Riverview High School.

I would like to recognize all of the participants in this year's 14th Congressional District High School Art Competition, “An Artistic Discovery:” from the Pittsburgh High School for the Creative and Performing Arts, Adam Linn; from McKeesport High School, Jordan Armstrong, Jake Hall, Cortez Snooks, and Alexis Yauch; from Northgate High School, Sara Hopkins and Morgan Turner; from Penn Hills High School, Ebony Black-Yancey, Serena English, Stephan Godbolt, Iesha Grady, Jasper Means, and Roomel Reese; from Pittsburgh Allderdice High School, Justin E. Dumas, Sarah Fehl, Mikaila Hoffman, Asma Qutyan, and Olivia Savisky; from Riverview High School, Bailey Conroy, Erin Hart, Demetrius Kokales, Lauren McKee, Dan O'Leary, and Ashley Reid; from South Allegheny High School, Eric Raynes and Stephanie Taylor; from Sto-Rox High School, Shane Jenkins, Melissa Fowkes Palitti, Samantha Reiss, and Elizabeth Thornton; from West Mifflin High School, Kasey Angel, Victoria Cooper, Chelsey Earnest, Katie Fahringer, Kristine Lype, and Maggie Morgans; and from Woodland Hills High School, Madison Harding, Julian Moriarty, Manuel Russell, and Jacqueline Zollner.

I would like to thank these impressive young artists for allowing us to share and celebrate their talents, imagination, and creativity. The efforts of these students in expressing themselves in a powerful and positive manner are no less than spectacular.

I hope that all of these individuals continue to utilize their artistic talents, and I wish them all the best of luck in their future endeavors.

HONORING TOM LEONARD

HON. JOHN F. TIERNEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. TIERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and commend, Tom Leonard, who will be receiving the 2012 Essex Heritage Hero Award tonight.

Having championed heritage preservation and responsible stewardship of the region's historic, cultural, and natural resources during his eight-year tenure as the founding president of the Essex National Heritage Commission and now as its president emeritus, Tom is certainly deserving of this honor.

However, those in attendance at tonight's award dinner will know that Tom's service to his community did not begin with nor is it limited to his work with the Essex National Heritage Commission. Throughout his life, Tom has been dedicated to making our neighborhoods better places to live, work, and raise a family as well as increasing opportunities for children and young adults, particularly those who attend his alma mater, St. John's Preparatory School in Danvers. Tom is a selfless leader, a man of integrity, and a true citizen.

Tom's awards and accomplishments are too long to list, but I would be remiss if I did not mention that, in 2006, Essex Heritage established the Thomas M. Leonard Partnership Grant Program. This unique effort is focused on educating our youth and increasing their awareness about our region's natural and historic resources. Grants have been awarded to local schools and the National Park Service to enable more kids from outside of Salem to visit the Salem Maritime and Saugus Iron Works National Historic sites. Additionally, over the years, Tom has been recognized by the American Cancer Society, the Salem Harbor Community Development Corporation, the Salem Chamber of Commerce, the Salem Rotary Club, and the Danvers Community Council.

Mr. Speaker, that impressive list will grow when Tom receives the 2012 Essex Heritage Hero Award this evening. I want to congratulate Tom and his wife, Marge, and their sons, Michael and Mark, and their entire extended family on this great honor.

EDITE MALOKU

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Edite Maloku for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Edite Maloku is an 11th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Edite Maloku is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Edite Maloku for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

PRIVATE SECTOR GROWTH
SUFFOCATED BY HIGH TAXES

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I highlight an example of how private sector businesses grow and contribute to our society when they're not suffocated by unnecessarily high taxes, and to dispel a myth that our colleagues continue to perpetuate about energy taxes. On April 24, The Wall Street Journal ran an article calling Apple Inc. "the most valuable company" in the world.

Am I happy about that? Am I happy about Apple's success? You bet I am, and so are most people in the United States.

Later that week, on April 28, The New York Times wrote a similar article that reported on Apple's creative, but legal, tax strategy that saves them billions in tax payments each year. The Times article reported "the company paid cash taxes of \$3.3 billion around the world on its reported profits of \$34.2 billion last year, a tax rate of 9.8 percent." Comparatively, Wal-Mart paid a tax rate of 24 percent.

When Apple was asked for comments on their exceptionally low tax rate, they responded: "By focusing on innovation, we've created entirely new products and industries, and more than 500,000 jobs for U.S. workers—from the people who create components for our products to the people who deliver them to our customers."

They also mentioned: "In the first half of fiscal year 2012, our U.S. operations have generated almost \$5 billion."

Mr. Speaker, Apple's experiences are instructive to us.

First, the Federal Tax Code is too complicated. It allows only the largest companies who can afford to hire tax code interpreters to benefit from lower taxes. We should simplify the tax code by closing the loopholes and lower rates across the board to boost American competitiveness for all companies, large and small.

Both history and Apple's experience underscore how increasing taxes without accompanying comprehensive reform has never and will never represent a sustainable, long-term strategy to any budgetary problems. On the contrary, cutting taxes does create economic growth, which fuels Federal revenue windfalls for reducing the deficit.

These lessons should be applied to the entire tax code. Instead of increasing taxes on American energy producers, we should focus on simplifying the federal code to encourage the development of domestic energy resources which, in turn, bolsters employment opportunities here at home.

Again, am I pleased about Apple's success? Absolutely.

But we never hear from our Democrat friends about the low tax rates paid by companies like Apple. However, they attack domestic

energy producers and ignore the simple truth that it is the American people who actually own these companies and benefit from the respective profits that they make. According to the American Petroleum Institute, mutual funds hold almost 30 percent of oil stocks; pension funds hold 27 percent; individual investors hold 23 percent; 14 percent is held in individual retirement accounts; other institutional investments hold 5 percent; and corporate management holds just 1.5 percent.

Despite what liberal Democrats would have you believe, increasing domestic energy production not only helps lower prices and produce jobs; it also helps boost stocks, mutual funds, IRAs, and pension funds owned by millions of Americans.

It is also worth recognizing how hypocritical it is for liberal Democrats to complain about the federal tax treatment of domestic energy production while ignoring the market distorting impact of their favored subsidization of failed wind, solar and "green car" projects. The simple truth is that American energy producers, such as those in the oil development business, receive the same tax treatment as other U.S. industries. For those truly interested in "fairness," the difference between "subsidies" and "deductions" should not be ignored or distorted.

It's time that we as government officials get out of the way. Instead of increasing the bureaucracy and red tape, we need to focus on creating an environment for American private sector businesses to compete more easily in the global marketplace and give back to local communities in the form of jobs rather than sending more money to the Federal Government.

HONORING THE LATE MRS.
CRYSTIANA SMITH RANDLE FOR
HER COMMITMENT TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, the late, Crystiana Smith Randle. Mrs. Randle was born August 26, 1924 in Gulfport, Mississippi to John and Annie Bell Smith.

She was a graduate of Thirty-Third High School in Gulfport, Mississippi. Later she attended Tougaloo College, in Tougaloo, Mississippi, receiving a Bachelors of Arts in English and Atlanta University in Atlanta, Georgia, with a Masters in Library Science.

After completing her college education, she worked at Mileston High School and Harmony High School before her tenure at McNair High School and Humphreys County High School as the school's librarian.

She worked delightfully and diligently for thirty-four years teaching and illuminating the lives of thousands of boys and girls until her retirement in 1986.

She was active in many professional organizations and served as a member of the Humphreys County Library Board. She dedicated her years as her family's personal Genealogist.

She was married to Thomas C. Randle and was the mother of two daughters, Santa and

Regina. Mrs. Randle passed away on April 20, 2005.

Mr. Speaker, I ask our colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Crystiana Smith Randle for her dedication to serving others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday on rollcall 214, I inadvertently voted "no." I should be recorded as voting "aye."

ELIZABETH BLUE-NORTON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Elizabeth Blue-Norton for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Elizabeth Blue-Norton is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Elizabeth Blue-Norton is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Elizabeth Blue-Norton for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING COLONEL MARY G.
LOCKHART ON THE OCCASION OF
HER RETIREMENT FROM THE
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Colonel Mary G. Lockhart on the occasion of her retirement from the United States Air Force. I have a great appreciation for Colonel Lockhart's professional and distinguished career, and her dedicated service to our great Nation. Although it is difficult to encapsulate her Air Force career of 30 years in just a few brief remarks, I would like to highlight her contributions to the Air Force and our country by offering the following tribute.

In some aspects, Colonel Lockhart's career may appear to be similar to those of the many thousands of senior officers who have served in the Air Force since its creation in 1947. However, upon closer examination, it becomes clear that Colonel Lockhart has performed highly sensitive roles in critical Air Force missions with a level of skill that few other officers

can match. Equally important, she has served as a mentor to numerous young officers throughout her career, inculcating them with the Air Force's core values of integrity first, service before self, and excellence.

Colonel Lockhart received her commission in 1982 through the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) at the College of Holy Cross. As a freshly minted 2nd Lieutenant, she attended meteorology school for a year, where she began to build the skills necessary for a successful career in the Air Weather Service. Shortly after arriving to her first duty station at Griffiss AFB, NY she was recognized for her initiative, intellect, and quick grasp of the operational requirements. She was given responsibilities generally reserved for more senior weather officers in SAC and NORAD, and continued to establish herself as an exceptional meteorologist. As a 1st Lieutenant, she was credited with improving the overall readiness of her squadron and wing, and protecting valuable resources with her accurate forecasts and astute weather warnings. She was routinely tasked to handle the most delicate and time sensitive weather briefings to missile warning and space surveillance centers. In 1986, Colonel Lockhart transferred from active duty to the Air Force Reserve as a Captain, and continued to serve in the weather field as an Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) at Peterson AFB, CO. Her active duty experience would prove invaluable as a new Reservist who would go on to provide years of support to the Air Force's active, guard, and reserve components in a variety of positions and assignments.

As an IMA weather officer, she helped develop combat plans to support strategic, conventional, and special operations, to include leading weather forces for a deployment of KC-135 aircraft during Operation DESERT STORM. As a Major assigned to Eglin AFB, FL, she was handpicked to provide specialized on-site support to two high-visibility Space Shuttle landings at Edwards AFB, CA. While serving as an IMA Weather Officer at McConnell AFB, KS, she provided operational forecast, weather advisories, watches and warnings to a major refueling wing, and the Kansas and Oklahoma Air National Guard. Colonel Lockhart became an expert and innovator in the electro-optics arena, provided exceptional weather support during Hurricane Opal, and prepared critical climatology packages for the wing's F-16 deployments around the world. While assigned to an operations support squadron at Nellis AFB, NV, Col Lockhart commanded a weather flight that provided 24-hour weather support to the HQ Air Warfare Center and two of Air Combat Command's busiest and complex wings. Her successes and expertise led to her being selected as the first weather officer assigned to the Air Force's Weapons School. There, she helped to integrate and establish 21st century combat weather support into the warfighter's contingency operations. She was tasked to model critical targets post 9/11, maintain direct contact with Operation ENDURING FREEDOM deployed units and aircrew, and cited as the most operations oriented, bombs-on-target-on-time weather officer ever assigned to her wing. Colonel Lockhart was asked to bring her experience and natural diplomatic talents to Washington, D.C. to serve as the IMA to the Chief of the Air Force House Liaison Office on Capitol Hill.

Over the past four years Colonel Lockhart has carried out the delicate tasks of managing the House Liaison Office while her active duty colleagues have traveled on CODELs and deployed. She has been an important part of building strong relationships between Capitol Hill, the Pentagon, and senior Air Force leadership. Colonel Lockhart is trusted and relied upon by Members of Congress and their staffs to help facilitate legislative and programmatic matters. We have benefited greatly from her kind, professional, and capable ways.

Throughout Colonel Lockhart's career, her commanders have referred to her as, "the brightest junior officer on my staff", "brilliant", "superior and visionary leader", and "Total Force ace." Simply stated, Colonel Mary Lockhart has made lasting and important contributions to the United States Air Force. Our Nation is indebted to her and her family for their selfless years of service and unquestioned devotion to peace and security at home and abroad. Mr. Speaker, I wish Mary, her husband Paul, and daughters Jenna and Marisa, Godspeed and much happiness as she begins her retirement from the United States Air Force.

RECOGNIZING RONNIE CHIH-CHIEN
LU

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise, along with the other co-chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus—Representative SHELLEY BERKLEY, Representative MARIO DIAZ-BALART, and Representative PHIL GINGREY—to recognize the service of Ronnie Chih-chien Lu. Mr. Lu is the outgoing Senior Officer in the Congressional Liaison Division of the Taipei Economic and Cultural Representative Office, TECRO. Mr. Lu is returning to Taiwan for his next assignment as a diplomat. During his service as the TECRO contact for the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Congressional Caucus on Taiwan, Mr. Lu has served as an invaluable resource for us.

In 2005, Mr. Lu was hand-picked to serve as a congressional liaison for TECRO. During his almost 7 year tenure in this position, Mr. Lu oversaw Congressional Delegation visits for over 30 Members of the House of Representatives and organized 12 Congressional Staff Delegation visits to Taiwan. Mr. Lu was also part of the TECRO team that worked toward the passage of House Concurrent Resolution 55, which commemorated the 30th Anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979. He also worked to garner support for House Concurrent Resolution 266 (H. Con. Res. 266), which called for Taiwan's active participation in the International Civil Aviation Organization. H. Con. Res. 266 passed the House of Representatives in 2010.

Mr. Lu has served in Taiwan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2000. Early in his diplomatic career, he served in both the Department of Protocol and Department of African Affairs. Mr. Lu received a Master of Arts degree from National Chengchi University in Taiwan.

Though he secured many legislative victories for Taiwan while he served in Wash-

ington, DC, he made even more long-lasting relationships. My colleagues and our staff are proud to call him a friend, and we hope to see him back in Washington, DC one day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 222, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

RECOGNIZING THE REPUBLIC OF
TURKEY

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize our strong friendship and strategic alliance with the Republic of Turkey.

Turkey has continuously stood with the United States in our efforts to promote democracy and freedom throughout the world. As a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO, Turkey has committed troops and necessary resources to efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan through the years, and serves as a crucial transit point for supplies and personnel going to these countries. Additionally, Turkey announced last year that it would lead the International Security Assistance Force, ISAF, regional command in Kabul for a third year. Turkey is also at the beginning operational stages of a NATO radar facility in its southeast region as part of a missile defense system intended to protect NATO allies from ballistic missiles.

In addition to cooperation on NATO-led efforts, Turkey plays a critical role in promoting democracy throughout the region. Over the last year, Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan has traveled throughout Egypt, Tunisia, and other countries affected by uprisings to encourage secular constitutions and democratic reforms that are vital to U.S. interests. Turkey has also taken a leading role in addressing the ongoing situation in Syria, opening its borders to tens of thousands of Syrian refugees and encouraging Arab countries to lead a coordinated effort to find a peaceful resolution in Syria.

Turkey continues to increase efforts to support religious minorities in its own borders as well. Last August, Turkey issued a decree for the return of hundreds of properties, including cemeteries, hospitals, and schools, to non-Muslim communities. This announcement also provides compensation to the non-Muslim community foundations for properties currently registered to third parties. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton applauded Turkey's efforts to "take serious steps to improve the climate for religious tolerance."

Turkey remains a vital ally of the United States, and I am encouraged by the steps that Turkey has taken to improve its own commitment to democracy and to promote democracy throughout the Middle East. Turkey has

earned our respect, gratitude, and recognition for its efforts over the last 60 years. I look forward to continuing to work in support of our mutual interests.

DENIS ANGHEL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Denis Anghel for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Denis is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Denis Anghel is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Denis Anghel for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

HONORING VICE ADMIRAL (VADM)
SALERNO FOR HIS SERVICE IN
THE U.S. COAST GUARD

HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. LOBIONDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a true leader for his extraordinary service in the United States Coast Guard, Vice Admiral (VADM) Brian M. Salerno. VADM Salerno served his country for 37 years in the Coast Guard and on June 5th, he will retire as the Deputy Commandant for Operations at Coast Guard Headquarters, a position he has held since May 2010. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for his commitment to service and to our country.

As the Deputy Commandant for Operations, Vice Admiral Salerno oversaw policy development and strategic planning for all Coast Guard maritime safety, security and response operations. Assuming the duties as the Deputy Commandant for Operations shortly after the initial response to the Deepwater Horizon oil spill, Vice Admiral Salerno was responsible for the Coast Guard's in-depth investigation and after action review of the incident, and directed implementation of numerous improvements to the Coast Guard's Spill of National Significance response and management protocols. He was also instrumental in establishing vital joint operating plans and processes, such as the Maritime Operations Coordination Plan, which greatly advanced the Department of Homeland Security's "One-DHS" initiative to increase the Nation's ability to respond to maritime threats. When Somalian pirates began attacking merchant vessels in the Gulf of Aden, Vice Admiral Salerno led the United

States' efforts to establish internationally accepted and highly effective shipboard procedures to minimize the likelihood of a successful attack. These measures have proven essential to helping mariners and the shipping industry protect themselves and combat piracy while transiting in high-risk waters. Using his nearly four decades of experience working on some of the most complex maritime safety and security issues, Vice Admiral Salerno laid the foundation for the continued development of interagency, international, and industry partnerships that will prove increasingly more important to national security, sovereignty and prosperity as emerging threats and opportunities in the Arctic and other outer-continental shelf maritime activity increases.

Vice Admiral Salerno was commissioned as an Ensign in December 1976 after attending Coast Guard Officer Candidate School. His assignments have predominantly been within the Coast Guard's marine safety program, where he commanded Coast Guard units in Boston, MA and San Juan, PR, and was responsible for carrying out vital Captain of the Port, Officer-in-Charge of Marine Inspection, Federal Maritime Security Coordinator, and Federal On-Scene Coordinator duties. His other field assignments include units in Baltimore, MD, Port Arthur, TX and Portland, ME as well as serving as the marine safety advisor to the Panama Canal Authority. Prior to assuming his current position, Vice Admiral Salerno was the Assistant Commandant for Marine Safety, Security and Stewardship and he also served as the Assistant Commandant for Policy and Planning and as the Director of Inspections and Compliance at Coast Guard Headquarters.

Vice Admiral Salerno is a 2000 graduate of the U.S. Army War College, with a master's degree in Strategic Studies. He is also a graduate of the Naval War College and holds a master's degree in Management from the Johns Hopkins University. He is a licensed master of small passenger vessels. His personal military decorations include three Legion of Merit Medals, two Meritorious Service Medals, two Coast Guard Commendation Medals, and the Coast Guard Achievement Medal.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my constituents and a grateful Nation, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the extraordinary career of Vice Admiral Brian M. Salerno. There are few opportunities for us to recognize the accomplishments of those who selflessly dedicate their lives to the service of our country, and having had the pleasure of working with Vice Admiral Salerno as the Chairman of the Coast Guard's oversight Subcommittee, I cannot thank him enough for everything he has done to protect our Nation's waters and the millions of Americans who live, work, and visit them every day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION RE-
GARDING RECORDED VOTE ON
ROLL CALL 220 DURING CONSID-
ERATION OF H.R. 5236

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, during Floor consideration of H.R. 5326 on May 8, 2012, I mis-

takenly recorded my vote on rollcall 220 as "yea" on the question on agreeing to the amendment offered by Ms. BLACK of Tennessee.

I intended to vote "no", on the Black amendment, which sought to prohibit the Attorney General of the United States from using any funds appropriated by H.R. 5326 for the purpose of originating or joining in any lawsuit which seeks to overturn, enjoin, or invalidate a series of specified statutes related to immigration. Again, I would like reiterate my strong opposition to the Black amendment and express my significant concern that its language of limitation would unduly abrogate the longstanding prosecutorial discretion of the Department of Justice as well as undermine and violate the basic principle of separation of powers embodied by our Constitution.

TEURLINGS CATHOLIC HIGH
SCHOOL LADY REBELS SOFT-
BALL TEAM CROWNED STATE
CHAMPIONS

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Teurlings Catholic High School Lady Rebels softball team for recently being crowned class 4-A state champions by the Louisiana High School Athletic Association. This team truly has the heart of a champion. En route to the state championship, the strength and will of this team was tested time and time again. In the end, this team triumphed and defeated the Leesville High School Lady Cats to become the undisputed state champions on April 28, 2012.

The team's five seniors: Corin Voinche, Halie Green, Delilah Melancon, Julieanne Broussard, and Megan Fuselier, tasted additional success each year they played. In 2009, the team made the state quarterfinals. In 2010, the team reached the state semifinals. In 2011, the team played in the state finals. This year, it attained the ultimate goal and won the state championship. This group embodies the term perseverance. Having overcome adversity and never allowing its determination to waver, I commend the efforts of the entire Teurlings Lady Rebels softball team.

Congratulations to coach Callie Gautreaux and her coaching staff of Lana Bowers, Vallie Gaspard, and Caleb Castille. This team had an outstanding year and saved its best performance for the year's largest stage. I look forward to next year's softball season and wish the Lady Rebels team good luck in defending its crown.

HONORING TUTT S. BRADFORD

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I wish today to honor one of the most well-known and selfless men in my District.

Tutt S. Bradford passed away recently at the age of 94 following a long life of community service and philanthropy. I knew him as a

good family man, but he was also a long time friend of my father.

He is perhaps best known as the former owner of The Daily Times newspaper in Maryville, Tennessee, a scenic community in my District located in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains.

The Daily Times had a circulation of only 7,500 when Tutt took it over in 1955; by the time he sold it in 1989, circulation had grown to 22,000. A close friend of Tutt, Sam Kennedy, told The Daily Times on the news of his passing that, "He had the ability to understand what his people wanted. He knew how to produce a local, small daily newspaper that contained news that people were interested in."

He transformed the paper into the pride of Blount County, and it still operates today as a model newspaper, frequently being ranked among the top three newspapers in the Nation in penetration of its circulation area. It has also been recognized as the fastest growing daily newspaper in Tennessee.

When Tutt sold The Daily Times, he devoted the rest of his life to philanthropy. His support of educational institutions, charities, and various causes is too great to list in this space, but Blount County and this Nation are better places because of his life and work.

When trying to decide whether to support a cause, Tutt would simply ask one question: Will it help the community grow? He undoubtedly touched the lives of thousands of people in my District in many positive ways.

I offer my condolences to his two daughters, Nancy and Debbie; step daughter, Frances; five grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; sister, Dot; and brother, Randolph.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD to join me in celebrating the remarkable life of Tutt S. Bradford.

I can think of no more fitting tribute to Tutt than to request The Daily Times article highlighting his life and accomplishments be reprinted into the RECORD below.

TUTT BRADFORD, NEWSPAPER OWNER,
COMMUNITY LEADER, DIES AT 94

(From staff reports)

Tutt S. Bradford, publisher/owner of The Daily Times for 34 years and a tireless community leader and philanthropist, died at Shannondale of Maryville Friday afternoon. He was 94.

Bradford became the fifth owner of The Daily Times in November 1955, and served as publisher until 1984. He continued as chairman of the board until the paper was sold in 1989.

Funeral arrangements are incomplete and will be announced later by McCammon-Ammons-Click Funeral Home.

Gregg Jones, president and CEO of Jones Media, parent company of The Daily Times, said, "Blount County has lost a wonderful citizen, and my family and the staff of The Daily Times have lost a dear friend. Few have worked harder for the progress of this community than Tutt Bradford. He was never bashful about volunteering his time, leadership and personal financial resources to help Blount County address its challenges and fight for its opportunities. We all are better off because of Tutt's passionate love for his home. To his family we offer our deepest condolences for his loss as well as our heartfelt gratitude for having been blessed to have crossed his path."

SUCCESSFUL CAREER

Bradford was born in Columbia, S.C., the second of five children. His first venture into

print media began when he had a paper route as a child in the 1920s.

After his military service during World War II, Bradford moved into newspaper advertising. His successes led to his promotion to publisher of a newspaper in Cleveland, Tenn., then later as publisher of a Bristol newspaper.

In a 2008 interview with Daily Times reporter Linda Braden Albert, Bradford said, "When (the Southern Newspapers Group) bought the paper in Bristol, it was just barely breaking even. In five years, I made \$5 million. So the president of the company called me and said, 'Tutt, what would you like to do next?' I said, 'What do you mean?' He said, 'Well, wouldn't you like to own a paper?'"

Bradford replied that he would if he had the money, and he was offered the opportunity to purchase The Daily Times with financing from the Southern Newspapers Group.

When Bradford—who served as owner, publisher and occasionally, editor—bought The Times in 1955, circulation was 7,500.

He involved his daughters Nancy Cain and Debbie Bradford Moon in the publication. Jerome F. Moon, a native Blount countian and husband of Debbie Bradford, became president and publisher in 1984.

When Bradford sold the newspaper to the Persis Group of Honolulu, Hawaii, in 1989, circulation had increased to 22,000.

In the 2008 interview, Bradford said one of the highlights of his career at The Daily Times was bringing a new press to the company. A repairman working on the old press told him about a three-color unit that would do all the colors in one unit.

"Every time we did a color we had to clean off everything, rollers and everything, and put the right ink on them," Bradford said. "This way, they were put all in one unit like we have there now. It was really great." Bradford put in his order for one of the units and he said The Daily Times was one of the first newspapers in the country to get a press where the colors were "left in there."

"I knew him quite well," said Sam Kennedy, former owner of the Kennedy Newspapers and Columbia Dispatch. "He took the Maryville paper and literally outdid the Knoxville papers.

"He had the ability to understand what his people wanted," Kennedy added. "He knew how to produce a local, small daily newspaper that contained news that people were interested in."

COMMUNITY ICON

During his newspaper career and long after he retired, Bradford remained very active as a community leader and benefactor.

"Will it help the community grow?" Bradford asked himself when he needed to decide what causes he would support.

One such project dear to his heart is the Hearing and Speech Foundation, cofounded by Bradford and John Berry, owner of Blount Hearing and Speech Services, to provide such services for people who could not otherwise afford them.

"The reason I started the foundation was that my ears were blasted out during World War II," Bradford said in the 2008 interview. He sought treatment at many places for his hearing loss but none helped him until he met Berry. In 2003, Bradford was honored for his continuing support of the foundation.

According to long-time Daily Times Editor Dean Stone, Bradford also worked for funding for the still-uncompleted Foothills Parkway in Great Smoky Mountains National Park. First it was to get the state to purchase the right-of-way for federal construction. Later it was for federal construction money.

Bradford also worked successfully to get Cades Cove placed into a historical district in the Smokies' master plan in order to preserve some of the structures and its open nature, protecting the Cove as we know it for the enjoyment of millions annually.

BECAUSE OF RELIGION

Bradford also served on the boards of many organizations. A few of the beneficiaries were Maryville College, Blount County Chamber of Commerce, Blount County Industrial Development Board, United Way of Blount County, Pellissippi State Community College and the Blount County Public Library.

In 1991, he was named Outstanding Philanthropist of the Year by the National Society of Fundraising Executives.

"It's because of my religion," he said. "The Lord said to love other people, and I have. I've really tried to help other people, particularly when they were down."

HONORING ARTHUR EDWARDS

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Arthur Edwards who has been an outstanding citizen and a major figure in promoting the arts in Annapolis. His unceasing devotion to Maryland Hall, the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra, ASO, and other art activities has raised the visibility and quality of those organizations.

When working with the ASO, Mr. Edwards embodied its core values. His commitment to the highest quality of music, outreach and engagement with the community, the cultivation of its legacy, and his creativity all helped to mold the ASO into the premier orchestra it is today. Through the Patricia and Arthur Edwards Family Foundation charitable trust, Mr. Edwards was able to fund the Orfeo Alliance, a partnership between The Key School and the Annapolis Symphony Orchestra that produces an annual artist-in-residence program that benefits music education programs at Key School as well as artistic programs for the Orchestra. By supporting this program, Mr. Edwards ensured that the ASO would have a long term, tight knit relationship with its surrounding community as well as the opportunity to influence young minds through the arts.

Arthur has been a driving force for the betterment of the City of Annapolis and its citizens. He is the kind of person every community cherishes. Arthur's generosity with his time is well known and is only matched by his good humor. From the first day I met him, I have been amazed at the quiet humility of this man who has done so much for so many. The Annapolis area will forever be indebted for his outstanding work in bringing music and the arts to the community as a whole.

DITZA PEREZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Ditza Perez

for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Ditzza Perez is a 12th grader at Arvada Senior High and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Ditzza Perez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Ditzza Perez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EAST SIDE CLUB

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 100th anniversary of the East Side Club and to recognize its outstanding commitment and contribution to our community.

In 1912, a group of businessmen from Madison's East side formed the East Side Advancement Association, which would eventually become the East Side Businessmen's Association (ESBMA) in 1922. Originally, the clubhouse was located in the old Hudson Hotel on Atwood Avenue and served as a place where members could gather for both business and recreational purposes. In 1947, as membership grew, the members purchased a prime piece of land located on the banks of Lake Monona and opened their new clubhouse on the site in 1955. This scenic location is where the East Side Club stands to this very day.

The East Side Club, as it has been known since 2006, is a hub for activity. The location along Lake Monona makes the club ideal for celebrations and has hosted countless weddings, birthdays, anniversaries, class reunions, and much more. In addition to private events, the East Side Club's Tiki Bar and Grill, bocce ball courts, Friday fish fry, and Sunday brunches offer families and friends a great setting to not only unwind and catch up with old friends, but also meet new ones.

Over the past century, the East Side Club has also proven to be much more than a social gathering place. The members' long-standing commitment to the surrounding community is an invaluable asset. For 72 years, the club held an annual Fall Festival establishing itself as an organization that cares deeply about the community. From hosting fundraisers for local charities to providing scholarships for local students, the East Side Club is always searching for new ways to give back to the community.

The East Side Club has provided entertainment and support to our community for 100 years and I offer hearty congratulations to the past and present staff and members on the celebration of this tremendous milestone. It is because of organizations like the East Side Club that I am so proud to represent the Sec-

ond Congressional District of Wisconsin. I wish the club and its members nothing but the best and many more years of continued success.

IN HONOR OF MR. LARRY BALDWIN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Larry Baldwin as he is celebrated for his dedicated work on behalf of the environment.

In 2001, Larry graduated from Shippensburg University with a degree in GeoEnvironmental Studies. While earning his degree, Larry worked as an intern with the Chesapeake Bay Foundation where he was also an active volunteer for more than a decade. He began working for the Neuse River Foundation (NRF) in North Carolina in October, 2002 as the Lower Neuse RIVERKEEPER®.

During his nine years with NRF, Larry worked to engage countless volunteers and raise educational awareness on the importance of a healthy Neuse River. He was instrumental in establishing the Neuse RIVERKEEPER® RiverKids program and mobilizing RiverWatch and Muddy Water Watch volunteers to help monitor the Neuse River and its tributaries.

Today, Larry serves as the North Carolina Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) Coordinator for Waterkeeper Alliance. He is focused on training and educating Riverkeepers worldwide on CAFO pollution. Additionally, his expertise has given Larry the opportunity to educate not only the public, but the government on environmental issues. Just last month, Larry was in Washington, D.C. educating Congress on the public health and environmental hazards created by factory farm facilities.

He is also active with numerous environmental groups including the Waterkeeper Alliance, America Rivers, River Network, North Carolina Conservation Network and the Eastern Carolina Coastal Caucus. He is a member of the Craven County Water Use Reduction Committee, Emergency Planning Committee and the Crystal Coast Disaster Coalition.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Mr. Larry Baldwin, an outspoken advocate for environmental protection.

A TRIBUTE TO ALFRED L. DESERIO

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alfred L. DeSerio. A 42-year veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and respected member of the community, Alfred died Saturday at the age of 105.

DeSerio was born and raised in Philadelphia where his family operated a bakery. He would help deliver Italian bread on a horse-drawn carriage. Before his 18th birthday, he lied

about his age to enlist in the Marines where he attained the rank of master sergeant.

Mr. DeSerio was a perfect example of the "Greatest Generation." He served our nation with distinction in the Pacific Theater of World War II and in the Korean War. During World War II, one of DeSerio's duties was to escort the honored remains of fellow Marines home to their families. It was a job he took very seriously.

Mr. DeSerio served his country twice during the Vietnam War.

After retiring from the service in 1970, DeSerio moved to Collingdale. He was a maintenance worker at Mercy Fitzgerald Hospital in Darby until his retirement in 1988. Unfortunately, he lost his wife Mary in 1985.

A resident at St. Francis Country House since 2002, he was often recognized for his years of service while receiving proclamations from state government and a challenge coin from the commandant of the Marine Corps. His military decorations include the World War II Victory Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal with one star, the Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palms and frame, the National Defense Service Medal and the United Nations Service Medal.

DeSerio was a longtime member of the Upper Darby Marine Corps League Detachment No. 884, which named him Citizen of the Year in January.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you, and my other distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing the life of Alfred L. DeSerio and his service to our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall 223, I was away from the Capitol due to prior commitments to my constituents. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

ONE LAPTOP PER CHILD

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ketaki Desai, Elizabeth Cullinan, Tim Kelly, and Reginald Cox, four graduate students from Carnegie Mellon's Heinz School of Public Policy and Management, for their first place finish at the Hult Global Case Challenge.

Their innovative program, One Laptop Per Child, seeks to provide durable, low energy laptops for children in 3rd world countries with limited educational resources. This idea garnered the top prize at the Hult Challenge, where these CMU grad students were awarded \$333,000 to encourage and further their initiative.

The Hult Global Case Challenge, now in its third year, is focused on bringing some of the brightest minds in the world together to find ways to solve key social challenges. This year, the three categories—education, energy,

and housing—had hundreds of entrants from over 130 countries around the world. Such luminaries as Muhammad Yunus, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize judged the final round; and President Bill Clinton handed out the top awards for each category. CMU's Ketaki Desai, Elizabeth Cullinan, Tim Kelly, and Reginald Cox won first place in the education category.

One Laptop Per Child seeks to provide greater educational resources for children ages 6 through 12 in impoverished areas of the world. OLPC has designed laptops with several key features geared towards helping these children. They cost significantly less to manufacture than the standard laptops we use here in the US; they are pre-loaded with lots of educational software, and have wireless internet built in; they are low energy, ensuring that even children in communities without electricity can use them, then recharge the laptops using solar energy; the laptops' screens can be read in sunlight—an important feature because so many of these children go to school outside; and, perhaps most importantly, these laptops are extremely durable and rugged, because, let's face it, kids are going to be kids, no matter where they are in the world.

By providing children with these laptops, One Laptop Per Child hopes to broaden children's worldview, and enrich their educational experiences, because, as they see it, education is the foundation for the other solutions to problems like a lack of shelter or running water. Their goal is to donate and distribute 20 million laptops to poor children throughout the world over the next 5 years.

This is just one more example of the innovative work that's being done in Pittsburgh, and I am proud to be their representative. Congratulations to these grad students and to all the bright minds in Pittsburgh working so hard to solve the world's problems. I thank them for their dedication.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT
CHRISTOPHER OSBORNE

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Christopher Osborne of Labadie, Missouri, who was awarded the Purple Heart due to injuries he sustained while serving in Afghanistan. I am honored to recognize Sergeant Osborne for his service to our nation.

Sergeant Osborne was presented the Purple Heart medal on December 29, 2011, at Bagram Airfield by Major General Stephen L. Danner, adjutant general of the Missouri National Guard. The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who has been wounded or killed.

Sergeant Osborne serves in the 1138th Transportation Company, a medium truck unit headquartered at Jefferson Barracks in south St. Louis County. The 1138th has been per-

forming convoy operations, delivering supplies to coalition forces throughout Afghanistan. On a night mission in October 2011 while serving as a Scout truck commander, Sergeant Osborne and his convoy came under attack from an improvised explosive device (IED). The IED heavily damaged Sergeant Osborne's vehicle, but he and his three fellow crew members survived the assault. Sergeant Osborne returned to full duty within a few weeks of the attack.

He is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom and is currently serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Sergeant Christopher Osborne and thanking him for his continued service to our country.

CONGRATULATING MR. MA YING-
JEUO, PRESIDENT OF TAIWAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the people of Taiwan on the occasion of their presidential inauguration this May 20. Mr. Ma Ying-jeou was re-elected to a second term on January 14th. May the long-term ongoing relationship between Taiwan and the United States continue to develop and grow and may there be permanent peace and security in the Taiwan Strait. Congratulations to President Ma Ying-jeou and his people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 215 I inadvertently voted "aye" when I intended to vote "no" on the Huizenga Amendment to H.R. 5326, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

I would like the RECORD to reflect this error as I reiterate my strong opposition to this amendment and reaffirm my support for our nation's public sector employees, who are adversely affected by OMB Circular A-76's methodology.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
NURSES WEEK

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Nurses Week.

This week it is important for us to come together and pay special tribute to the women

and men who make up the largest segment of our healthcare workforce.

Nurses are truly the backbone of our healthcare system.

They not only work in our hospitals and clinics, but are present in our schools, our workplaces, and in so many facets of our everyday lives.

However, our increasing demand for nurses continues to grow at a rate faster than the current supply can alleviate.

By 2020, the overall need for new nurses is expected to reach a staggering 1.2 million.

For the nursing workforce to meet this demand, we must ensure that federal investment in nursing does not falter.

The Nurse Reinvestment Act, which I authored and was signed into law in 2002, set the framework to do this.

But we all must come together, on both sides of the aisle, to support these crucial programs and to support nursing education and a robust nursing workforce.

I encourage my colleagues and all Americans to take time out this week to thank the nurses in your life and to join me in recognition of these professionals who tirelessly care for the health of ourselves and our loved ones.

RECOGNIZING LT. COL. DAVID
CARROLL FOR HIS TWENTY-FIVE
YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE U.S.
AIR FORCE.

HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Lieutenant Colonel David Carroll for his twenty-five years of honorable service to our country and the United States Air Force.

Our community is proud of all our men and women in uniform and it is always a great experience to see so many of them thrive and succeed in service to their country.

I join the United States Air Force and wish Lt. Col. Carroll all the best in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I submit a clarification of my vote on rollcall No. 233 the Flores Amendment No. 10, to H.R. 5326. I mistakenly voted "nay" when I intended to vote "yea". The amendment would remove a standing prohibition on federal purchases of coal-to-liquid fuels, which have the potential to greatly increase our energy security.

I am a strong supporter of coal-to-liquid technology and am a cosponsor of H.R. 2036, the American Alternative Fuels Act, which would repeal the very same prohibition this amendment defunds. My vote against the Flores amendment was accidental. I regret my error and appreciate the opportunity for clarification.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOHNNY MAESTRO

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great singer and humanitarian, John Mastrangelo, known to his fans, friends, and fellow musicians as Johnny Maestro. Johnny would have been 73 years old this week, and his influence on popular music and on the New York neighborhoods he loved so dearly is still being felt.

John Mastrangelo was born on Manhattan's Lower East Side on May 7, 1939, graduated from Charles Evans Hughes High School in 1956, and attended Borough of Manhattan Community College.

In 1956, John Mastrangelo joined four teenage singers from Manhattan's Lower East Side to form The Crests. Their vocal harmony was innovative, combining elements of jazz, R&B, and early rock 'n' roll to become true pioneers of rock and roll music. They were one of the first integrated popular vocal groups. While the rest of the country was still struggling with the legacy of Jim Crow, The Crests—Johnny Maestro, who was Italian-American; three African Americans: J. T. Carter, Talmouge Gough, and Patricia Van Dross (older sister of R&B great Luther Vandross); and Harold Torres, who was Puerto Rican—were recording groundbreaking music. With Johnny Maestro as the lead singer, The Crests recorded hits like "16 Candles," "Trouble in Paradise," "The Angels Listened In" and "Step by Step."

Following his time with The Crests, Johnny Maestro had a short solo career, and then joined another popular New York group, the Del-Satins, as lead singer. In 1968, they merged with a Long Island group, The Rhythm Method, to form The Brooklyn Bridge. The Brooklyn Bridge recorded a series of hits, including "Welcome Me Love," "You'll Never Walk Alone," and "Your Husband, My Wife." They had their biggest hit with Jimmy Webb's "The Worst That Could Happen." Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge continued to perform for forty-two years. Johnny Maestro's exceptional tenor voice won accolades from fans and fellow musicians alike. His distinctive voice remained vibrant and strong throughout his fifty-three year career.

Johnny Maestro was more than a great musician; he was also a great humanitarian. Johnny and the Brooklyn Bridge gave generously of their time, performing benefit concerts for numerous good causes.

He performed at many fundraising events on Staten Island such as the Borough President's "Back to the Beach" concert. He also performed for the New York City Fire Department and Police Department, the United States Military, Italian American Association, as well as church and school fundraisers. He performed on the Jerry Lewis Telethon and as part of "We Are the World," which raised funds for worldwide hunger relief.

Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame in 2005, the Long Island Hall of Fame in 2006, and the South Carolina Rhythm and Blues Hall of Fame, just to name a few of their many honors.

On March 26, 2011, the City of New York honored him by renaming the intersection of Mason Avenue and Midland Avenue on Staten Island as "Johnny Maestro Way."

Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge were unswerving supporters of our police, fire, military, and Italian-American benevolent associations. The communities I represent warmly remember the benefit concerts Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge participated in to aid 9/11 responders and their families. In 2007, Johnny Maestro sang at a concert digitally filmed and sent to bases of our Armed Forces overseas. Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge ended their concerts by singing "You'll Never Walk Alone" and dedicated the song to the men and women in uniform. Today, the surviving members of The Brooklyn Bridge continue to honor Johnny's legacy by performing the songs he sang with The Crests and The Brooklyn Bridge, and supporting the humanitarian causes he held so dear.

Sadly, that great voice was stilled when Johnny Maestro died at the age of 70, following a valiant struggle with cancer. He continued to perform up until two months before his death.

Mr. Speaker, Johnny Maestro was the consummate New Yorker. He was talented, and he gave of his gifts and his success for the betterment of his City and those most in need. His life and his art are an example of what is best in our City and in our Nation. I urge all members of the House to join me in remembering and honoring Johnny's Maestro's life and work, and to remember a man whose musical accomplishments and humanitarian deeds have touched the lives of so many people.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5326) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Chair, I oppose H.R. 5326, the FY13 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations and am deeply concerned about provisions included in the bill that will roll back important civil rights protections and undermine key protections for youth in the juvenile justice system.

SECTION 540: EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION RIDER TO UNDERMINE THE AGE DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT ACT

Despite passage of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, ADEA, forty-five years ago, older workers continue to face discrimination in the workplace. They are demoted, denied promotions and fired simply because of their age. While the ADEA provides important protections, older workers continue to be hard hit during these difficult economic times. The challenges they face are substantial. As com-

pared to their younger colleagues, older workers have greater difficulty finding new employment and are twice as likely to be out of work for 99 weeks or longer. The EEOC reports that the number of age discrimination charges filed increased by over 70 percent between 2006 and 2011. And according to the AARP, 60 percent of workers interviewed report experiencing or witnessing age discrimination in the workplace.

The protections afforded older workers have been under assault in recent years. In 2009, the Supreme Court rolled back workplace protections for older workers in *Gross v. FBL Financial* decision. In this case, the Supreme Court held that victims of age discrimination must meet a higher burden than other forms of workplace discrimination when bringing a claim. Rather than having to prove age was a motivating factor for an adverse employment action, older workers are now required to show age was the decisive factor when raising an ADEA claim.

The bill before us today would be another significant setback for older workers in this country. H.R. 5326 would prohibit funds made available by the Act to be used to implement, administer, or enforce the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's, EEOC, final regulations on Disparate Impact and Reasonable Factors Other than Age under the ADEA published in March 2012. According to the EEOC, the rider in H.R. 5326 "would undermine vigorous enforcement of the nation's age discrimination laws at a time when older workers are particularly vulnerable."

The EEOC regulation at issue should not be controversial. It gives employers greater clarity on how to avoid unlawful disparate impacts under the ADEA. This clarity should be welcomed not rejected. EEOC's intent behind the regulation is straightforward, "to bring . . . existing [EEOC] regulation into conformance with . . . Supreme Court precedent and to explain the meaning of RFOA [Reasonable Factor Other than Age] defense to employees, employers, and courts."

Eliminating this regulation would create new confusion on what standards—even outdated ones—might apply in its stead. As a result, H.R. 5326 would create legal uncertainty and uneven results in these cases and would also eliminate important tools for EEOC to use to help employers comply with their obligations under the law.

Instead of spending time rolling back the rights of older workers and creating more legal uncertainty for those who are victims of age discrimination, Congress should be fighting for the rights of older workers in the workplace and working together on a bipartisan basis to reverse the Supreme Court's decision in *Gross v. FBL Financial Group*.

I am also deeply concerned that H.R. 5326 would fund the EEOC at a level which is \$7 million less than the President's request. Last year, the agency received nearly one-million discrimination charge filings—the fourth straight year of record filings. The EEOC must have the resources necessary to combat workplace discrimination and retaliation. Without it, workers will see longer waits as case backlogs increase and the agency's ability to enforce nondiscrimination protections will be undermined.

SECTION 218: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE RIDER TO WEAKEN AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT PROTECTIONS

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, ADA, is intended "to provide a clear and comprehensive national mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities." The ADA provides nondiscrimination protection to ensure that individuals with disabilities have access to and can participate in all aspects of society.

A component of these protections requires that public accommodations construct facilities to be accessible and that existing facilities become accessible when it is "readily achievable." The "readily achievable" expectation is defined as "easily accomplishable and able to be carried out without much difficulty or expense." There is considerable flexibility to determine what is achievable based on a business' particular circumstances.

The Department of Justice has the authority to carry out the mandate to eliminate discrimination against individuals with disabilities under the ADA. In doing so, the Department of Justice finalized regulations in September 2010 which included regulations regarding accessibility of swimming pools. These regulations are based on accessibility standards established by the Access Board that takes into consideration the needs of individuals with disabilities as well as the needs of business.

To comply with the regulation, businesses would need to make an assessment and take steps to accomplish what is "readily achievable" for swimming pool accessibility for that business. For some businesses that may require fixed or portable lifts, while for other business if may not require doing anything until increasing accessibility is "readily achievable" for that business. H.R. 5326 rolls back protections within the ADA by prohibiting the Department of Justice to use funds to implement the standards for swimming pool accessibility. This bill would establish an extremely dangerous precedent weakening the Department of Justice's authority to enforce the ADA weakening critical civil rights protections.

Regardless of whether a person has a disability or not, that person should have the right to access swimming pools. To enable individuals with disabilities to participate fully in their communities, their communities must be accessible to them. Congress should focus on increasing access to community life rather than establishing dangerous precedents which prevent individuals from accessing their communities.

TITLE II

I am strongly opposed to the funding cuts for Title II of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency and Prevention Act, JJDP. The JJDP is first written in 1974 with the goal of supporting states' actions to prevent youth crime and provide certain core protections for children. The law rightfully recognized that clear biological differences between teenagers and adults meant that youth should not be treated in the same manner as adults. Without question, youth must be held accountable for their actions. But justice should not be driven by fads or politics. The juvenile justice system in this country currently affects thousands of children and youth, and the core protections in JJDP are critical to efforts that help reduce youth crime, keep our communities safe, and ensure our juvenile justice system preserves basic rights for the children it serves. The juvenile justice system can be a place of redemption

and rehabilitation or a place where children are thrown away. The funding cuts to Title II of JJDP threaten the existence of these protections, and if this appropriation were enacted, our nation's children, families, and communities would undoubtedly suffer.

LINCOLN HIGH SCHOOL WE THE PEOPLE COMPETITION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, last week an outstanding group of young men and women from Portland, Oregon's Lincoln High School placed first in the national "We the People Competition," a contest sponsored by the Classroom Law Project. It is an extraordinary program that allows young men and women to dive deeply into constitutional theory and the legislative process, and understand what it all means for contemporary America in an all-too-often dysfunctional political arena.

Over the years, it's been my privilege to work with instructors and students on these programs, to have watched them prepare for hours at a time, and watch them celebrate their successes. In the Portland Public School District, we are particularly proud of our high schools Lincoln and Grant, who have competed against each other for the State title for more than 2 dozen years, and consistently are strong contenders at the national level.

Their achievements are testimony not only to the hard work and intelligence of the student competitors, but also to a dedicated core of teachers and citizen volunteers, often prominent judges and lawyers, and alumni of the program who continue their involvement long after they cease to be students. A special shout-out this year and every year should go to Lincoln instructor Tim Swinehart, local attorney Steve Griffith and his volunteer team, and the extraordinarily supportive principal, Peyton Chapman.

As I met with the Lincoln team earlier this spring in preparation for the national championships, it was clear to me that this was a stellar team even by the standards of this terrific program. That they won this year with a team largely composed of sophomores makes it all the more an extraordinary accomplishment. I would willingly grant them voting privileges here in Congress.

In addition to the dedicated coaches and volunteers, I want to recognize this year's winning student team. They are: Avery Ballato, Catherine Barton, Marty Berger, Hallie Blashfield, Ryan Bloom, Danny Brillhart, John Carey, Julian Dann, Julia Eckelmann, Michael Field, Natina Gilbert, Nikhil Goyal, Kendra Hong, Robin Jayaswal, Katie Kelly, Sierra Killian, John Kim, Emma Lane, Duncan MacEachern, William Mao, Olnita Martini, Evan Neuhausen, Sara Newman, Vicki Niu, Sammy Purnell, Justin Richter, Beckett Rueda, Emma Simmons, Sage Smiley, Nita Sridharan, Eri Stern, Mara Strauss, Molly Walls, Carolyn Wheatley, Ajeya Woods and Cole Zollinger.

I urge my colleagues to become acquainted with their local high school constitution competition. I hope the day will come when Con-

gress again gives the financial support to the Classroom Law Project for the civic education that is so important and so critical to preparing students to participate as citizens. With a stronger investment in the Classroom Law Project and programs like We the People, I believe we would all feel better about the future of the Republic.

TRIBUTE TO HONOR FLIGHT OF OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 28 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial this Saturday in Washington, DC through Honor Flight of Oregon. On behalf of a grateful state and country, we welcome these heroes to the nation's capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are: Melvin Dagsland, U.S. Army; Kenneth Graves, U.S. Army; Frank Hernandez, U.S. Army; Jesse Pollard, U.S. Army; Harold Hayes, U.S. Army; Milton Anderson, U.S. Army Air Forces; James Holbrook, U.S. Army Air Forces; Clarence Mahan, U.S. Army Air Forces; Paul Nielsen, U.S. Army Air Forces; Carl Orndoff, U.S. Army Air Forces; Jack Owens, U.S. Army Air Forces; Donicio Padilla, U.S. Army Air Forces; James Stone, U.S. Army Air Forces; James Hanley, U.S. Army Air Forces; Melvin Pearigen, U.S. Coast Guard; Floyd Burt, U.S. Marine Corps; Delbert Littrell, U.S. Marine Corps; Edward Montagne, U.S. Marine Corps; Eldon Branson, U.S. Navy; Calvin Gorte, U.S. Navy; GL Hamblin, U.S. Navy; Lester Herring, U.S. Navy; Richard Laubert, U.S. Navy; Donald Lister, U.S. Navy; Vincent Monzel, U.S. Navy; Otis Pierce, U.S. Navy; Forest Scott, U.S. Navy; Raymond Woods, U.S. Navy.

These 28 heroes join more than 81,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, DC to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans and the volunteers of Honor Flight of Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize and thank Gail Yakopatz for her tireless work as president of Honor Flight of Oregon.

RECOGNIZING THE RESILIENCE OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the resilience of the Joplin, Missouri community.

One year ago the Joplin community was devastated by an EF-5 tornado but showed the Nation and the world what it means to help your neighbors in their greatest time of need.

The tornado that wreaked havoc on our friends and neighbors was a ½ mile to ¾ mile wide and traveled approximately 13 miles, forever changing the landscape of the community and lives of those who call Joplin home. This destructive force of nature claimed 161 lives, damaged an estimated 7,500 residential dwellings, damaged nine schools, and damaged 545 businesses.

I saw the immediate aftermath of this disaster with my own eyes, and I know it is vital to get the right resources to the right people as quickly as possible, because lives depend on it. As Joplin's representative in Congress it was my job to make sure the Federal Government worked with local and state officials to provide disaster relief. As a neighbor it was my job to help in any way I could, from setting up cots in aid stations with other volunteers to helping with search and rescue. Missouri is called the Show-Me State, and Missourians and Americans from across our great country showed the Nation and the world the compassion and generosity of the American spirit. Over 120,000 volunteers poured into the Joplin area to offer their help and support, and some are still assisting with rebuilding efforts.

Before the life-changing event of May 22, 2011, Joplin was just a town in Missouri, but now its sense of community is known throughout the Nation. While the Joplin community is still picking up the pieces from that fateful day, I know they have a bright future ahead. Though lives were lost and homes and businesses destroyed the one thing the tornado did not take is the sense of community that makes Joplin a welcoming place to live, work and visit. Joplin is stronger despite this unfortunate disaster.

As we commemorate the one-year anniversary which changed the lives of all families impacted by this horrific disaster we treasure the good times in the past and look forward to a promising future for Joplin and all who call this wonderful place home.

Even though we can't explain why tragedy strikes, we can use what happened here to remind us of the good inside us all and to remind us that even though we lost a lot, we did not lose everything. Joplin has faced challenges that most communities will not ever experience, but the outpouring of support is also something any community would be fortunate enough to receive.

If anyone thinks that there are not good, generous and compassionate people in this world, then they need to come down to Joplin to see firsthand how this community came together during their time of need.

MISSING CHILDREN'S AND
EXPLOITED CHILDREN PROGRAMS

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, child abuse is an unacceptable behavior in our society that must be condemned and prevented. Our children deserve to grow up in safe and loving environ-

ments. As a parent and teacher, I am always in search of ways to eliminate this problem in homes, schools and child care centers. I would like to commend the committee for its support of the Missing Children's and Exploited Children programs. This funding is essential to combating child abuse, which is a national problem.

In order to end child abuse, it is essential we support programs that train child protection professionals to better recognize, react and respond to abuse. Each and every day, child protection professionals work directly with maltreated children across the country. They fight tirelessly to reduce cases of child abuse and to respond effectively to child maltreatment. Unfortunately, the vast majority of these professionals leave college inadequately trained to handle cases of child maltreatment. And, once in the workforce, it is often far too difficult for them to access the quality training they need to do their jobs more effectively.

In my district, I am proud to have the National Child Protection Center located in my district at Winona State University. The National Child Protection Center works to end child abuse, neglect and other forms of child maltreatment through education, training, awareness, prevention, advocacy and the pursuit of justice. The Center trains future and front-line child protection professionals around the nation so that they will be prepared to recognize and report the abuse of a child. This work should be applauded and supported.

I would like to commend the Senate Commerce Justice and Science committee for including language in their Committee report that would support efforts to train current child protection professionals, continue prevention programs and to develop undergraduate and graduate curricula on the maltreatment and exploitation of children. As we continue through the appropriations process, I would like to encourage my colleagues in the House to support this language and to include it in the final report.

BAHRAIN

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, tonight I wish to call the attention of my colleagues to the situation in Bahrain. Since gained independence from the British in the 1970's, Bahrain has forged close links with the United States, and become one of our most important allies in the strategically important Persian Gulf region. In fact, Bahrain is home to the U.S. Navy's Fifth Fleet.

Since last year, however, the country has been disrupted by a series of anti-government demonstrations. Understanding how important our relationship with Bahrain is, especially to our efforts to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons, I recently traveled to Bahrain to assess the situation first-hand. And I would like to thank Dr. Al Khalafalla and the Bahrain American Council for helping to make my visit a success.

I think it's important that we get the proper perspective on what's going on over there. There is no question there have been problems in the past. There has been overreaction

by the police in certain instances in the past year, year and a half. As a result, there were people who were hurt severely when they were demonstrating in the streets of Bahrain. But the King and the Crown Prince have worked very hard to solve this problem. As a matter of fact, the King appointed an outside commission, and the commission's report and reform recommendations are strongly supported by both sides of the dispute. Yet, the parties involved seem to be having difficulty approaching the conference table. Why?

One of the problems they have over there is the Iranian Government is working to try to undermine many of the countries in the Persian Gulf, and Bahrain is one of them. Some have suggested that the demonstrations have been infiltrated by outside radical elements—supported by Iran—dedicated to destabilizing and undermining the Bahrain Government. The evidence is inconclusive but the possibility of Iran doing just that is plausible. Whatever the reasons, for the demonstrators, this conflict is not going to be resolved in Bahrain, it must be resolved through negotiation.

I am submitting an article from the May 1, 2012 edition of the New York Times for the RECORD which I believe lays out the case for the United States to actively encourage both sides to take a step back, take a deep breath, and commit to resolving their differences around the conference table. I strongly urge my colleagues to read these articles.

[From the New York Times, May 1, 2012]

THE PRINCE AND THE AYATOLLAH

(By Ed Husain)

When I was invited to visit Bahrain by members of the royal family, I hesitated. They had crushed peaceful protesters last year, and their police had used tear gas against human rights activists. Like everybody else, including some of the Bahraini policemen I later spoke with, I was appalled at the violence and thought the monarchy had blood on its hands. But I felt that declining the offer was irresponsible. I wanted to know the monarchy's side of the story. So I accepted the invitation—on the condition that I was free to meet Bahrain's opposition.

Bahrain is a tiny island nation of 600,000 citizens, with a Parliament of only 40 members, and it cannot be understood if looked at in isolation. For one thing, it stands at the forefront of a regional cold war. Saudi Arabia lies to the west, connected by a 25-kilometer causeway built jointly by the Saudis and Bahrainis. To the east, across the waters of the Gulf, lies Iran. Both Tehran and Riyadh have major stakes in Bahrain.

En route to Bahrain, I stopped by in Riyadh and had many conversations with top government officials, journalists and academics. Their views were clear: Saudi Arabia would not stand by and see Bahrain's ruling al-Khalifa family fall from power. The Saudis sent in soldiers to help the al-Khalifas regain control of Bahrain in March 2011 and are prepared to do so again.

If King Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa abdicates, they asked, then who would be next among Arab kings? What consequences would the ensuing chaos have on global energy supplies? If power falls into the hands of the main Shiite opposition group, Bahrain could join Hamas, Hezbollah, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon under the Iranian sphere of influence in the Middle East.

In Bahrain, I was a guest of the king's son, Crown Prince Salman bin Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa, who, in the context of the country's current political climate, is a liberal's liberal. Educated in Washington and Cambridge, England, the 42-year-old prince spoke

about Britain's constitutional monarchy, the dire need for political reform in his country, and his yearning for a political settlement with the opposition.

He appeared genuinely contrite about the excesses of the government in Bahrain, but also convinced that the opposition has no vision of how to improve matters. "The path to hell is paved with good intentions," he said. Constantly, he referred to the need for "evolution" rather than "revolution."

Within the ruling family, he led the charge for reform last year, but was abandoned by Al Wefaq, the main opposition party, midway through discussions. The party kept changing its demands and the leaders were divided over what they wanted. This strengthened the hand of the more conservative wing of the royal family, led by the conservative, long-serving prime minister, Prince Khalifa bin Sulman al-Khalifa, 74.

The opposition wants the prime minister to resign, but neither the king nor the crown prince can dare ask a family elder to depart in ignominy.

Just as there are divisions within the royal family, there are serious splits in Bahrain's Shiite political scene. Not all the Shiites in Bahrain want to topple the monarchy. Nor is the opposition composed only of democrats who simply want to oust a monarchy.

Again and again, in villages and in meetings with Shiite opposition figures, one name kept coming up: Ayatollah Issa Qassim, spiritual leader of Al Wefaq, whose writ runs large across the Shiite opposition movement. Educated in Iran, his sermons are generally anti-American, anti-democracy and vehemently pro-Iran. When Iran's green movement challenged the mullahs in Tehran, Ayatollah Qassim accused the West of "trying to divide an otherwise peaceful country" and of "hatred toward Islam."

He is also intolerant of Shiites with divergent views back home. Three Shiite members of Bahrain's Parliament explained to me the consequences of daring to challenge Ayatollah Qassim. When they decided not to honor Al Wefaq's call to boycott elections last October, Al Wefaq-controlled mosques called on people to attack them; firebombs were thrown at their homes and their children were harassed on the streets. They live in fear for their lives, and they are not alone.

Ayatollah Qassim's supporters not only undermined the crown prince's efforts at reconciliation, but in recent weeks have taken to rioting in villages across Bahrain. In Sitra, one such village outside Manama, I spoke in Arabic with a police official, a Shiite, who said: "I am Bahraini before I am Shiite. We must live as Bahrainis and do what's right for our country, and not be controlled by Iran's clerics."

Like Bahraini Sunnis, the official felt the monarchy was not giving him the means to respond to the rioters. They have no guns, he complained, which left them at the mercy of rioters with home-made arrows and Molotov cocktails. "Last year, my colleagues in the army and interrogation units were wrong to torture protesters," he said. "But what about the attacks on us now? How are we to defend ourselves?"

Ayatollah Qassim has not called on his supporters to cease violence against the police, government and dissenting Shiite leaders. Instead, he has demanded that Jawad Hussain, one of the legislators I spoke with, and other dissenting Shiite political leaders and clerics come to the ayatollah's mosque during Friday services and publicly repent for betraying "the community."

Ayatollah Qassim's message does not justify the torture and human rights violations exercised by the government of Bahrain. The demands of the opposition for an end to discrimination in government jobs and for

greater political freedoms are valid. But calls for greater human rights must not be selective. Last year the opposition blocked bills that gave women equality and freedom in Bahrain because the ayatollahs opposed it, while the monarchy and Sunni parties supported it.

Bahrain is an important nation because it is a focal point of what is happening in the Middle East today—the battle to find a balance between preserving the best values of the Islamic tradition while the region eases its way into the modern world.

It is crucial that Western nations help the country achieve this balance, and that they not provide diplomatic cover for rioters and clerics in the name of human rights and democracy.

Instead, they should be using every pressure point to strengthen the reformist strands within the monarchy in support of political change, equal rights for women and an end to the language of Shiite sectarianism in Bahrain. Negotiations around the political table are the only way forward in Bahrain.

Ed Husain is a senior fellow for Middle Eastern Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations.

HONORING AWARD-WINNING
BROADCAST JOURNALIST STEPHEN DEAN

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor award-winning broadcast journalist Stephen Dean, whose dedicated investigative reporting exposes abuses of power and government missteps. Arrests and indictments tend to follow his in-depth reporting of shady dealings, including those by judges and other elected officials.

A master of the hidden camera, Stephen Dean and his team at Local 2 Investigates get results from Houston to Austin to Washington, DC. Even the venerable Washington Post has reported on one of his award-winning investigations.

From catching seven Houston law enforcement officers cheating in a traffic investigation class to reporting that Houston police were using mentally ill prisoners to practice drawing blood for DWI arrests, Stephen Dean has never been afraid to dig for information no one else will.

For nearly three decades, Stephen Dean's hard work has earned him award after award including the highest honor in broadcasting. He was honored with a Peabody Award for his series of reports on how the U.S. military used to investigate crimes. Dean's reporting documented how the armed services were ignoring crucial evidence in crimes against their own soldiers, prompting Congress to force changes with a law that was signed by the President.

For nearly two decades from radio to television, the Houston area has counted on Dean's watchdog eye on law enforcement. His dogged pursuit of M.U.D. policing led to a change in Texas law.

In addition to the Peabody Award, his national investigative reporting honors include the Society of Professional Journalists' Sigma Delta Chi Award, the Radio Television News Directors Edward R. Murrow Award and sev-

eral State Bar of Texas "Gavel Awards" for legal reporting. In 2005, Dean was named Best Reporter by the Texas Associated Press Broadcasters for his live coverage of breaking news. The TAPB also named him the sole winner of its "Freedom of Information Award" four years in a row for his ability to overcome obstacles in digging through public records.

A nationally published author, Dean's 2011 book "PR Misfires Under the Gun", detailed costly public relations mistakes that people make in emergencies. Stephen Dean, his wife Cindy, and his precious Harley Davidson will soon ride out of Houston to start a new journalistic chapter in their home state. We wish them safe travels and we feel obligated to warn Ohio wrongdoers, he is on the way.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANCISCO "QUICO" CANSECO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. CANSECO. Mr. Speaker, due to a family emergency that required me to return to Texas, I missed several votes during two separate vote series on April 26, 2011 and April 27, 2011. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 184, "aye" on rollcall vote 185, "aye" on rollcall vote 186, "aye" on rollcall vote 187, "aye" on rollcall vote 188, "aye" on rollcall vote 189, "aye" on rollcall vote 190, "nay" on rollcall vote 191, "aye" on rollcall vote 192, "aye" on rollcall vote 193, "nay" on rollcall vote 194 and "aye" on rollcall vote 195.

RECOGNIZING CITIZENS' VIETNAMESE HUMAN RIGHTS PETITION TO WHITE HOUSE

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, in honor of the 18th annual Vietnam Human Rights Day on Friday, May 11, 2012, I would like to highlight a petition that can be found on the "We the People" section of the White House's Web site. This particular petition, which collected over 150,000 signatures from across the country, urges the administration to "stop expanding trade at the expense of human rights."

Vietnam's human rights record remains disgraceful and I look forward to the day when we can gather together to celebrate true freedom in Vietnam. This administration must show the world that promotion of human rights is a priority in U.S. foreign policy.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. PEDRO R. PIERLUISI

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 5326) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. PIERLUISI. Mr. Chair, I rise to reinforce the comments made by our colleague from Guam, Ms. BORDALLO, regarding the importance of funding in Fiscal Year 2013 and future years for coral reef research conducted by NOAA and its external partners. I represent Puerto Rico, one of the several U.S. jurisdictions that has tropical shallow-water coral reefs located off its coasts. Additionally, last year as a result of a federally-funded mission led by NOAA deep sea corals located off the southwestern coast of Puerto Rico were discovered at a depth of 500 feet and in an area spanning 12 miles across.

These reefs are the "rainforests of the sea" and their protection is linked to the success of our ecotourism economy, the integrity of our coastlines, the quality of our water, and the health of the rich and diverse marine life that surrounds our islands. Corals are threatened by a variety of stressors. Last month, NOAA released a status review of 82 coral species currently being evaluated for potential protection under the Endangered Species Act. The report indicates that 50 coral species found in U.S. waters are likely to become extinct, with seven Caribbean corals extremely likely to go extinct, five of which are among the most imperiled species.

Simply put, corals are decreasing around Puerto Rico and elsewhere in U.S. waters. The science that stands to be funded by this bill, H.R. 5326, is important for both monitoring the health of these corals and understanding the causes of their decline. Once understood, local, state and federal managers will be able to work together on mitigation and protection strategies. The decisions made in the final bill will determine whether and to what extent NOAA will be able to engage external partners, especially in the jurisdictions where coral reefs are located, to conduct this important science. I hope that, at the end of this process, NOAA will have the resources it needs from Congress to increase its collaboration with external research partners and to fund the science needed to inform management decisions for protecting coral reefs in U.S. waters. I, too, thank the Chairman, Mr. WOLF, and the Ranking Member, Mr. FATTAH, for their commitment to work with the other body in ensuring this priority is sufficiently funded during the conference process.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
TEACHERS APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize our teachers for their dedication and tireless efforts in educating America's students. National Teachers Appreciation Week is a wonderful opportunity to honor the hard work our teachers perform daily to make a difference in the lives of students across the country.

While teaching is one of the most challenging jobs in the world, it is undoubtedly one

of the most rewarding. I strongly believe that we must give unconditional support to our educators so that future generations of young Americans will have the ability to succeed in a global economy and face the challenges of tomorrow.

On National Teachers' Day, we honor our local educators and acknowledge the crucial role each teacher plays in making sure that every child receives a quality education. Throughout my Congressional District there are stories of young people who are succeeding, not only because of test scores, but also because of a teacher who realized their talent, believed in them, and helped them to believe in themselves. It is because of these great teachers who make a positive impact on the youth, achievements gaps between poor and minority students and their non-minority peers are beginning to close.

It is also my pleasure to thank our teachers in the military community this week. More than 1.2 million school-age military children are being educated by dedicated teachers in classrooms across the country. These educators help young ones ease transitions into a different school and a new community as they relocate from a military base to another.

This week and throughout the year, I encourage parents to thank teachers for their hard work, care and sacrifice. I will continue to offer my gratitude and appreciation to our spirited teaching champions for their outstanding achievements on behalf our nation's students and their future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE OVER-
DRAFT PROTECTION ACT OF 2012

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Overdraft Protection Act of 2012.

With the rise of debit cards and the constant presence of swipe terminals to use those cards to pay for everything from McDonald's to gas to candy bars, it's easier than ever for consumers to overdraw their checking accounts and incur overdraft fees.

That's how a fancy \$5 cup of coffee can become a \$35 cup of coffee faster than you can say "overdrawn"! Some institutions have responded to consumer outrage over these fees by implementing a policy of denying debit card transactions that would overdraw an account and I applaud them.

But too many financial institutions don't make consumers aware of the perils of overdrafts, and most reorder the posting of transactions in a way that maximizes their fees.

Although the Federal Reserve issued a rule requiring institutions to obtain affirmative consent from consumers to opt into overdraft coverage two years ago, it is quite clear more needs to be done in the area of consumer disclosures and to help consumers avoid multiple overdrafts.

A survey released last week by Pew Charitable Trusts highlights the need for the bill I am introducing today.

More than one-third of those surveyed—people who had overdrawn their accounts in the past year—didn't know their bank offered overdraft coverage until they incurred a pen-

alty fee, and more than half of people did not believe they had opted in. The Pew study also found that most of the people who overdraw their accounts do so more than once.

According to Moebs Services, overdraft fees brought in over \$31 billion dollars in revenue to financial institutions in 2011.

As a result of the Federal Reserve's opt-in requirement the number of overdrafts has fallen, but some institutions have responded to the drop by increasing the cost of overdraft fees and continuing to intentionally manipulate the transactions' posting order in a way that maximizes the fees they can earn from this service.

My bill increases disclosure to consumers, limits the fees' price and frequency, and bans the manipulation of transactions.

Specifically, the Overdraft Protection Act will:

Require consumer consent before banks can permit overdraft fees to paper checks, automated charges and debit card swipe-terminal transactions.

Require that fees be 'reasonable and proportional' to the amount of the overdraft.

Cap the number of fees that can be charged at one per month and six per year.

Prohibit banks from manipulating the sequence in which checks and other debits are posted if it causes more overdrafts and maximizes fees paid to banks.

Require that consumers be warned at ATMs if their withdrawals will trigger an overdraft.

Require the CFPB to study the practices of pre-paid cards and if necessary extend these provisions to those products.

The Overdraft Protection Act will ensure consumers are protected from misleading practices and I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

HONORING DR. LYNDA YOUNG

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Dr. Lynda Young on her successful term as President of the Massachusetts Medical Society.

Dr. Young has a long and distinguished record of activity in organized medicine. She practiced at Chandler Pediatrics in Worcester, Massachusetts for 34 years and was Chief of the Division of Community Pediatrics at the University of Massachusetts Memorial Children's Medical Center for over 30 years.

During her presidency, Dr. Young expertly and deftly represented the interests of physicians and their patients throughout the pioneering state negotiations over health care delivery and payment reform. At the national level, her expertise and leadership style have frequently been recognized as other policy-makers learn from the Massachusetts experience.

She has also served as president of the Massachusetts Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and has chaired its Committee on Continuing Education. A past president of the Worcester District Medical Society, she has held every office in the district. She has served as MMS President-Elect and Vice President, respectively, and has been a member of the Board of Trustees and House of Delegates.

Dr. Young's dedication to her patients, her family and physician colleagues has earned her a number of professional and civic accolades, including from the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Pernet Family Health Service, the YWCA of Central Massachusetts, the Montachusett Girl Scout Council, Notre Dame Academy in Worcester, and the City of Worcester's Advisory Committee on the Status of Women. This year Dr. Young will serve as the commencement speaker at the Mass. College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, where she will receive an honorary Doctorate of Science.

In addition to her busy pediatric practice, Dr. Young is a respected presence in the Worcester community. She is active in a number of Worcester organizations, serving as a member of the Board of Directors of the Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts, the International Center of Worcester, the Parent Family Health Service, and the City of Worcester Board of Health, among others.

I have had the utmost pleasure of knowing Dr. Young both professionally and personally for a number of years, including as my own children's pediatrician. Dr. Young epitomizes the compassionate pediatrician. Her exuberance and enthusiasm for her young patients are matched only by her expertise and medical knowledge.

I want to thank Dr. Young for her immense contributions and dedication to the pediatric and larger medical community in Central Massachusetts, and I wish her continued happiness with her family, Dr. Bob Sorrenti, their two sons and daughters-in-law and their precious grandson, Jack.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. MARY RITTLING, PRESIDENT OF DAVIDSON COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an outstanding leader in the North Carolina community college system, Dr. Mary Rittling, president of Davidson County Community College.

Dr. Rittling was honored in April as the 2012 North Carolina Community College President of the Year.

This award is designed to honor outstanding leaders within North Carolina's community college system.

Dr. Rittling's relentless focus on "what can be" versus "what is" drove critical changes to the college that helped the community adapt during a time when Davidson County and the rest of America suffered from job loss.

This is not the first time Dr. Rittling has been recognized for her efforts on behalf of the students and the community.

She has been recognized in the Triad as an Exceptional Leader in both 2009 and 2010. She was also named as the Outstanding Woman in Business by the Lexington Area Chamber of Commerce in 2009.

Thanks to Dr. Rittling for her dedication to serving her community and her investment in Davidson and Davie Counties. Congratulations on her many achievements and recognition of her student-centered philosophy.

HANOVER TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Hanover Township Police Department, which will celebrate its 100th anniversary on May 14, 2012.

Hanover Township was founded in 1770 by Captain Lazarus Stewart who fought for Connecticut against the Pennsylvanians in the Wyoming Valley. For his services, Captain Stewart and his company of forty men were granted the tract of land which became Hanover Township. Captain Stewart named the town after his hometown of Hanover in Dauphin County. In the 1820's, coal was discovered and by 1838, mining became a leading industry in the area. However, prior to the 1900's Hanover Township had very little in the way of municipal services.

Therefore in 1912, the Hanover Township Commissioners established a paid police force to secure the safety of persons and property within Hanover Township. The first force consisted of six officers and was led by Police Chief James H. Campbell. Today, there are fourteen officers, eight cruisers and a K-9 unit which provide for the safety of Hanover Township residents under the leadership of Police Chief Albert Walker.

Mr. Speaker, for the last 100 years, the Hanover Township Police Department has proudly served the citizens of Hanover, Pennsylvania. Therefore, I commend all those officers who have dedicated their lives to protecting their community and to all those who have gone on to their eternal rest.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was absent on May 8, 2012, because I was in my home state for the Indiana primary elections. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall votes 199, 200, 201, 203, 204, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 215, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223 and "nay" on rollcall votes 202, 205, 213, 214, 216.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. VIOLA JACKSON

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of Mrs. Viola Jackson, my constituent. Mrs. Jackson was born May 9, 1912 in Sharon, Taliaferro County, Georgia. She was the eleventh of thirteen children born to Tom and Mary Edwards. She has managed to outlive both her parents and siblings. Throughout her life, Mrs. Jackson has worked tirelessly to provide a better life for herself and her family.

From her childhood into her early adulthood, Mrs. Jackson worked on a farm as a tiller. However, her life would change considerably after meeting sharecropper Johnny Jackson, in 1938—a period of racial prejudice and injustice. After marrying Mr. Jackson, she continued working on the farm, where she later gave birth to Virginia Jackson on January 25, 1939, the couple's first child. In pursuit of better educational opportunities for Virginia, Mrs. Jackson sent her to live with her brother, in Miami Florida. In 1950, the Jacksons relocated to Miami, FL.

Shortly after arriving in Miami, Viola was employed by John Lieberman as a live-in housekeeper and nanny in Sunny Isles, FL. There, she worked six days a week, with only Thursdays off to spend with her family. However, her husband was gainfully employed in the saw mills of Opa-Locka as a lumberjack. Together, they saved enough money to buy their first home on Washington Street in Opa-Locka, which is located in the heart of District 17.

After years of working with the Lieberman family, Viola transitioned to the Frances Liebler family, where she worked as a housekeeper in their residence and hotel. Her work ethic and loyalty earned her a promotion as the Housekeeping Manager, a position she held until her retirement in 1965. However, she resumed working in 1973, after her love of children inspired her to launch a day care. Throughout her life, Viola was known for being more than an exceptional caretaker and employee; she was also known for her faith.

Her journey with God led her to many churches including Greater New Macedonia Missionary Baptist Church, Greater Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church, United Christian Baptist Church, Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church and New Christ Tabernacle Church, where Mrs. Jackson serves as Church Mother. Her faith has sustained her through 100 years of hardships, health challenges and losses. I am hopeful that she will continue to serve as a role model and an inspiration to everyone around her.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to represent Mrs. Viola Jackson. She's not only a treasure to my district, but also to our nation. I encourage members of Congress to join me in celebrating her 100th birthday. Lastly, I pray that she may continue to have longevity and happiness for many more years to come.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5326) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I rise today out of concern for the language in this bill that would hinder the access of people with disabilities to swimming pools.

The standards that this language would undermine were based on standards first adopted under the Bush Administration. They are common-sense, flexible, and an important step for our constituents with disabilities.

Yet the language in this bill would prohibit the Department of Justice from enforcing these regulations, even though swimming venues only need to satisfy these standards if doing so is "readily achievable" and does not cause an undue burden.

These regulations would allow disabled Americans seeking to swim for physical relief, emotional therapy, or simple enjoyment the ability to do so, thus enjoying the same benefits that you or I would receive from swimming. And the regulations ensure that no business faces an undue hardship in doing so.

I'm disappointed that this language made its way into the bill.

Sometimes it feels like there is little we can agree on here, and I would hope that providing physical, emotional, and social relief to Americans struggling with physical disabilities while not imposing on businesses would be something we could come together on. I hope that as this bill goes to conference, this harmful language is removed so that all Americans—regardless of abilities—can enjoy one of life's simple pleasures.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
TEACHER APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, during National Teacher Appreciation Week, I rise to honor our teachers.

Teachers are at the heart of our community, and this week we commemorate the hard-working men and women who educate and inspire our children. As part of National Teacher Appreciation Week, I was asked by the National Education Association to name a teacher who had a significant impact on my education. My journalism and debate coach, Mr. Ralph Chavez, quickly came to mind. He was not only a teacher but a mentor, friend and counselor. He inspired me to push myself, and helped me become the person I am today. This week, I am proud to help recognize all of our dedicated teachers who, like Mr. Chavez, have educated and motivated their students. As a parent and grandparent, I am grateful for the contributions of all of our educators, and am particularly proud of the teachers in the El Paso community.

As a Member of Congress, one of the best ways I can help make National Teacher Appreciation Week more meaningful is to continue working to provide our teachers with the resources they need to educate their students. Today's teachers face many challenges and deserve not only our recognition, but our full measure of support for their efforts.

Education has always been one of my top priorities, and I will continue to fight for our teachers, our students, our school districts, and for parents who want their children to have the best education possible.

HONORING DR. F.X. JAMES
KENEALY

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I want to commend Dr. F.X. James Kenealy for his successful tenure as Chair of the Massachusetts Medical Society Committee on Legislation. Dr. Kenealy is a practicing otolaryngologist and a partner at Metro West ENT Associates, with locations in Framingham and Milford, Massachusetts.

The Massachusetts Medical Society Committee on Legislation is comprised of physicians responsible for advising the Society on its legislative positions at both the federal and state levels. Dr. Kenealy led the committee through its negotiations on some of the most pivotal legislative issues of this decade, including the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

He masterfully led the Committee and helped establish the Massachusetts Medical Society as a leading voice on health care reform initiatives in Massachusetts, many of which have served as the model for national legislation. Under his tutelage, physicians in Massachusetts have become better informed and more engaged in the grassroots legislative process.

Dr. Kenealy's commitment to his family, patients, local community, and the legislative process are exemplary. He brings his expertise as a physician to public policy discussions and reminds us how essential civic engagement is to the democratic process. I wish Dr. Kenealy continued success and happiness in his future pursuits and with his family, Vanessa and Aidan.

HONORING SOPHIA GREENWALT
OF MISSOURI

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Sophia Greenwalt, a truly outstanding young Missourian.

Sophia is a seventh grade student at Reeds Spring Middle School in Reeds Spring, Missouri. She was recently honored by the American Red Cross with their Everyday Hero Award for her charitable activities.

While in sixth grade, Sophia came up with a plan to help others. In consultation with her mother, Nettie Greenwalt, teachers and school district administrators, she received approval to create the Helping Hats program for students in the Reeds Spring school district. The Helping Hats program grants students the privilege to wear hats to school once a month for a one-dollar fee. The fees collected from the Helping Hats program are distributed to local charities monthly. Currently, the program has collected over \$13,000 for local charitable organizations. Sophia's endeavors are a truly exemplary investment in our community.

On May 22, 2011, an EF-5 tornado struck Joplin, Missouri, devastating the once quiet Missouri town. Based on Sophia's efforts, the

Helping Hats program was able to raise more than \$8,000 to donate to the Joplin school district to help with recovery and rebuilding.

Sophia has also been honored for her outstanding charitable activities by the Missouri House of Representatives and the Reeds Spring Board of Education. I would like to add my voice to the growing choir praising the accomplishments of this truly exceptional young woman.

I am proud and humbled by the accomplishments of Sophia Greenwalt and look forward to following her future in the 7th Congressional District of Missouri.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5326) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Chair, Aloha. I rise today in support of the Lee-Pascrell-Pierluisi-Welch-Sherman-Hirono-DeLauro-Israel-Himes amendment, which reverses the \$126 million cut to the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Program in H.R. 5326, the Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2013. While I am a proud cosponsor of this amendment, last night I voted for the Grimm amendment to restore this important funding to keep our neighborhoods safe, which passed by two votes.

COPS grants provide funding to state, local, and tribal law enforcement agencies to hire, preserve and/or rehire career law enforcement officers to increase their community policing capacity. COPS has been an unqualified success. Since this program was established, back when President Clinton was in office, violent crimes have declined throughout the country.

Our state and local law enforcement agencies in Hawaii and across the country have had to make tough choices and tough cuts to weather this economy. To date, COPS grants have funded over 500 additional law enforcement officers in the State of Hawaii, contributing to additional community patrols and other crime prevention efforts to protect lives and property. The restoration of COPS Program funding is critical to ensuring the safety of all our communities, while also protecting and creating jobs for the American people.

I urge my colleagues to support the amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, during the evening of Tuesday, May 8, and during the

day of Wednesday, May 9, I missed House votes in order to attend the college graduation of my daughter, Elisa. Up to this point, I was proud to boast a 100 percent voting record in the Second Session of the 112th Congress. However, if I had been present for these votes, here is how I would have voted:

Davis (IL) amendment rollcall No. 213 vote no; Grimm amendment rollcall No. 214 vote no; Huizenga amendment rollcall No. 215 vote yes; Johnson (GA) amendment rollcall No. 216 vote no; Flake amendment rollcall No. 217 vote yes; Westmoreland amendment rollcall No. 218 vote yes; Scott (GA) amendment rollcall No. 219 vote yes; Black amendment rollcall No. 220 vote yes; Blackburn amendment rollcall No. 221 vote yes; Broun amendment rollcall No. 222 vote yes; Southerland amendment rollcall No. 223 vote yes; H.R. 2072 rollcall No. 224 vote no; H.R. 4133 rollcall No. 225 vote yes; Chaffetz amendment rollcall No. 226 vote yes; Tierney amendment rollcall No. 227 vote no; Blackburn amendment rollcall No. 228 vote yes; Duncan (SC) amendment rollcall No. 229 vote yes; Garrett amendment rollcall No. 230 vote yes; Schweikert amendment rollcall No. 231 vote yes; Webster amendment rollcall No. 232 vote yes; Flores amendment rollcall No. 233 vote yes; Flores amendment rollcall No. 234 vote yes.

STATEMENT ON SEQUESTER REPLACEMENT RECONCILIATION ACT

HON. DAVID RIVERA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, tomorrow I am going to vote in favor of the Sequester Replacement Reconciliation Act of 2012 (SRRA) because I firmly believe the government's budget deficit is far too big, bad for the economy, and compromises our Nation's future. Additionally, the automatic across-the-board sequestration enacted last year is not targeted and does not reflect good policy.

Most proposals to reduce the deficit are painful measures, requiring tough choices and trade-offs. On the whole, this legislation is a step in the right direction. It sends an important message about our seriousness in righting the Federal fiscal ship, and includes sup- portable measures.

But one provision of the bill in particular is inadvisable. The provision that would cut the Federal share of Medicaid in the territories approximately two-thirds through Fiscal Year 2019 should not be included in any budget legislation.

The Federal government already underfunds Medicaid in Puerto Rico and other territories, as the Republican Governors Association has recognized. The territories' Medicaid programs have not provided all services provided in the States and do not cover people who would otherwise be eligible in the States. If Puerto Rico were treated as a State, the Federal share of its Medicaid program would be about 80 percent. The unwise proposal in SRRA would cut the federal share of Puerto Rico's program by 65 percent, with the territory left to cover the bulk of the program with local funds. This inequitable treatment would not stand in

any of the 50 states, and it should not be imposed on Puerto Rico.

Puerto Rico and other territories do not have votes in the Federal system. This imposes on us a responsibility to ensure that their needs are met.

While I will be casting a yes vote for the SRRA today, I urge removal of this provision unfairly treating Puerto Rico's Federal Medicaid Funding. 4 million American Citizens in Puerto Rico deserve equal treatment as those living in the States.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5326) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the Lewis-Johnson amendment to H.R. 5326, the Fiscal Year 2013 Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations bill. This amendment prevents funds in the FY13 CJS Appropriations bill from being used to shut down the regional Department of Justice Antitrust Division Offices in Atlanta, Dallas, Cleveland, and Philadelphia. These closures will have a serious adverse effect upon antitrust enforcement in 21 states including Texas, and my district in particular. The Dallas Antitrust Office has been responsible for approximately \$1 billion in criminal fines to date. It has been a priority of this Administration to reign in waste, fraud, and abuse, and that is exactly what the Dallas Antitrust office has been doing.

Mr. Chair, I would ask to submit into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a copy of my April 23, 2012, letter to Attorney General Holder highlighting the critical role the Dallas Field Office serves upholding vital antitrust laws in our region and the United States.

APRIL 23, 2011.

Hon. ERIC H. HOLDER, Jr.,
Attorney General, Department of Justice,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. ATTORNEY GENERAL: In October 2011, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) announced its plans to close the Dallas Antitrust Division Field Office. The Dallas Field Office is joined by three other offices planned for closure in Atlanta, Cleveland, and Philadelphia. I strongly oppose this proposal and believe that millions of Americans and many U.S. companies across multiple states stand to be severely impacted by this closure.

The Dallas Field Office serves Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Oklahoma in enforcing antitrust laws. By closing the Dallas Field Office and reassigning those enforcement positions to the remaining field offices, the Department is seriously curtailing the government's ability to enforce lawful business practices. DOJ's Antitrust Division has an extensive history of promoting fair competition in the marketplace. Shutting the Dallas Field Office will sig-

nificantly undo the progress that has been made during this Administration, paving the way for future corruption and abuse.

In DOJ's October 2011 press release, you cite the potential cost savings of nearly \$8 million as one of the primary factors behind this decision. I respectfully reject any arguments for cost savings in this context, particularly because there is a failure to consider the millions of dollars that the Dallas Field Office has brought in through criminal fines. While the Dallas Office costs roughly \$3.5 million to operate each year, it has returned approximately \$1 billion in criminal fines to date. These gains do not include criminal fines levied through the Atlanta, Cleveland, or Philadelphia field offices. Thus, closure of the Dallas Field Office is short-sighted for both long-term enforcement of federal antitrust laws, and the lost revenues that criminal penalties bring back to the American people.

Another aspect of your reasoning centers around consolidating offices in order to focus on larger international investigations. Aside from the obvious implications that this would have for local or regional enforcement of antitrust laws, history has demonstrated the ongoing need to keep that focus at home in a similar, if not greater, capacity. The Dallas Field Office has served a vital role in numerous cases here in the U.S., while still managing to have an effective international presence, as demonstrated in the case of Hoffman-LaRoche. The \$500 million fine paid by the global healthcare company still represents the largest criminal fine ever collected by the Antitrust Division or Department of Justice.

Understanding this, I am respectfully requesting additional insight into the agency's rationale behind this proposal. The Dallas Field Office serves a critical role in upholding vital antitrust laws in the United States. Closing this office will open the doors for further violations of federal antitrust and competitive bidding laws.

Should you have any questions or comments, please contact Justin Maturo of my staff at Justin.Maturo@mail.house.gov or (202) 225-8885.

Sincerely,

EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON,
Member of Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BETTY SUTTON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, as a strong supporter of the Export-Import Bank, I regret that I was delayed in a constituent meeting and unable to reach the floor to cast my vote on rollcall No. 224, and I am glad to see it passed overwhelmingly, as I have advocated for. Had I not been delayed, I would have voted "yes," consistent with my position of working to create jobs and economic opportunities for working families.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference.

This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, May 10, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 15

- 10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine tax reform, focusing on what it could mean for tribes and territories. SD-215
- Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Primary Health and Aging Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the cost of HIV/AIDS drugs and the Prize Fund alternative. SD-430
- 2:30 p.m.
Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219
- Aging
To hold hearings to examine solving the long-term unemployment crisis for older workers. SD-562

MAY 16

- 10 a.m.
Environment and Public Works
Children's Health and Environmental Responsibility Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine growing long-term value, focusing on corporate environmental responsibility and innovation. SD-406
- Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine identifying opportunities for health care delivery system reform, focusing on lessons from the front line. SD-430
- Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. SD-342
- Judiciary
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation. SD-226
- Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine seamless transition, focusing on a review of the Integrated Disability Evaluation System. SH-216

- 10:30 a.m.
Appropriations
Department of Defense Subcommittee
To receive a closed briefing on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for Northern Command and Southern Command Programs. SVC-217

- 2 p.m.
Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine how the taxation of labor and transfer payments affect growth and employment. SD-G50
- 2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission. SR-253
- Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Peter William Bodde, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, Piper Anne Wind Campbell, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to Mongolia, and Dorothea-Maria Rosen, of California, to be Ambassador to the Federated States of Micronesia, all of the Department of State. SD-419

MAY 17

- 9:30 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine S. 2146, to amend the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act of 1978 to create a market-oriented standard for clean electric energy generation. SD-366
- 10 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
To hold hearings to examine creating positive learning environments for all students. SD-G50
- 2 p.m.
Appropriations
Department of Defense Subcommittee
To receive a closed briefing on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2013 for European Command and Special Operations Command Programs. SVC-217

- 2:15 p.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine fulfilling the Federal trust responsibility, focusing on the foundation of the government-to-government relationship. SD-628

MAY 22

- 9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
SeaPower Subcommittee
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013. SR-232A
- 11 a.m.
Armed Services
Readiness and Management Support Subcommittee
Business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013. SD-G50

- 2 p.m.
Armed Services
Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013. SR-232A

- 3:30 p.m.
Armed Services
Airland Subcommittee
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013. SR-232A
- 5 p.m.
Armed Services
Personnel Subcommittee
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013. SR-232A

MAY 23

- 9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
Strategic Forces Subcommittee
Closed business meeting to markup those provisions which fall under the subcommittee's jurisdiction of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013. SR-232A

- 2:30 p.m.
Armed Services
Closed business meeting to markup the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013. SR-222

MAY 24

- 9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
Closed business meeting to continue markup of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013. SR-222

- 2:15 p.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine programs and services for native veterans. SD-628

MAY 25

- 9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
Closed business meeting to continue markup of the proposed National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2013. SR-222

JUNE 7

- 2:15 p.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine Universal Service Fund Reform, focusing on ensuring a sustainable and connected future for native communities. SD-628

POSTPONEMENTS

MAY 15

- 10 a.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine assessing grants management practices at Federal agencies. SD-342