

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker on rollcall No. 381, I was absent due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5972) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Chair, I rise to note a provision in H.R. 5972, the Transportation-HUD Appropriations legislation for FY2013 which appears to have been accepted with virtually no debate and contains even less merit.

H.R. 5972 contains a provision redirecting funds from the Maglev Deployment Program to other programs. Section 154 reads—

SEC. 154. The unobligated balance of funds provided under sections 1101(a)(18) and 1307 of Public Law 109–59 shall be used for the elimination of hazards at railway highway crossings described in section 104(d)(2) of title 23, United States Code, to remain available until expended.

In a statement in support of this amendment, the claim was made that these "unobligated funds" were somehow lying dormant on the projects they were intended to support. In my opinion, and weighing the available facts, that was not an accurate statement. While one may sympathize with the need for safe grade crossings, the United States already has a well funded program to meet these needs.

The Maglev Deployment Program (MDP) was authorized for far different purposes—to promote leading-edge high speed rail/technologies. And as is the case with all major multistate undertakings, the planning processes that precede construction take time and coordination to complete. Under the Federal Railroad Administration's program for the MDP, a feasibility study must have been completed, followed by detailed environmental re-

view—either a full-scale Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a phased approach, requiring a Tier 1 EIS followed by a Tier 2 EIS.

Anyone who has observed the NEPA process knows that it sometimes proceeds in fits-and-starts. And even if it appears that at times not much is happening, these detailed planning phases sometimes take years to accomplish. The funds in question date to SAFETEA-LU, passed in 2005, and the SAFETEA-LU Technical Corrections, passed in 2008.

As the result of these two statutes, the Federal Railroad Administration issued a Notice of Funds Availability or NOFA, in 2008, inviting applications for a portion of these funds. Applications were due in early 2009. Several projects applied competitively, and the Administration deliberated carefully over the applications. Two projects which had applied were awarded funds; the Atlanta-Chattanooga and Pittsburgh projects.

The FRA advised a third project applicant, a route from Baltimore to Washington, DC, that there was a deficiency in Maryland state law that prevented FRA from awarding funds. Far from standing still, my State of Maryland worked to cure that deficiency, and last year repealed the offending section of its state law, with the Governor's support. Since then, various stakeholders have been working with the Congress to ensure that SAFETEA-LU provisions were carried over in the Surface Transportation reauthorization legislation, which was passed by a bipartisan vote in the House after a conference with the Senate. Thus, I am pleased to report my understanding that the Maglev Program was preserved, and, in fact, maglev was specifically advanced in various sections of H.R. 4348, Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century, or "MAP-21".

We can understand from this congressional action that there remains broad support for the program, its promise for the future, and the need for our nation to pursue, not curtail, next generation high speed rail technology. The remaining projects, I am told, have been striving in good faith to complete their required planning phases. Indeed, one project has been working with the FRA to obligate its funds even as Congress voted to approve the MAP-21 conference report.

Mr. Chair, the Congress as a whole authorized and funded the Maglev Deployment Program in 1998 and 2005 and 2008. My State of Maryland competed successfully to become one of the original seven maglev programs, and then on the basis of the merits of our Feasibility Study, one of two projects was down-selected for further work. We are pledged to continuing that work, and have acted in our state in the good-faith knowledge that those funds were secure.

For that reason, I would like to urge the sponsors of the relevant language to look elsewhere for funds for their initiatives, and I stand ready to work with the leadership of the House and of the Committee to return the

MDP funds to their historic purpose, to help build infrastructure and to promote economic revitalization.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF NORA EPHRON

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Nora Ephron, an iconic journalist, novelist, playwright, screenwriter, actress, director, and producer.

Nora was born into a Jewish family in New York City on May 19, 1941. She spent most of her childhood in Beverly Hills, California with her parents, who were also screenwriters, and her three younger sisters. Nora graduated from Wellesley College in Massachusetts in 1962 with a degree in political science.

Nora's many talents, in addition to her unique personality, equipped her for a long and very successful career that included a variety of roles. She began as an intern in the Kennedy White House upon graduation from college. Nora then moved to New York where she was a columnist and essayist for major newspaper publications including The New York Post and The New York Times Magazine. Nora later enjoyed success in the film industry. Some of her most famous films include hits such as When Harry Met Sally (1989), Sleepless in Seattle (1993), and You've Got Mail (1998), all of which were nominated for major awards. Recently, in 2009, Nora was the writer, director, and producer of the film Julie and Julia, fulfilling three of the roles traditionally not held by women in Hollywood. In addition to her ambitious career, Nora was the mother of two children, Jacob and Max Bernstein.

She will be greatly missed by those who knew her, as well as by all who enjoyed reading her work and watching her films.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Nora Ephron, a woman who contributed invaluable works of literature and film during her lifetime and set an example for women everywhere.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 454 on H.R. 5892, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a weather delay.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

● 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.

HONORING PINE TREE LEGAL
ASSISTANCE

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pine Tree Legal Assistance in celebration of their 45th anniversary this month.

Pine Tree Legal Assistance is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing high quality, free, legal assistance to low-income individuals. Serving as the primary legal aid provider in Maine with six offices ranging from Presque Isle to Portland, Pine Tree Legal strives to provide access to legal assistance in all corners of the state.

Since its founding on July 19, 1967, Pine Tree Legal Assistance has worked to remove the barriers to justice that can be experienced by low-income Mainers. Their services range from providing basic legal advice to active representation in the most serious cases. The organization continues to place a priority on helping individuals and families meet their basic human needs, such as access to housing, food, income, safety, and education. Pine Tree Legal also boasts innovative, issue-specific divisions such as a Native American Unit and KIDS LEGAL, as well as providing help with unemployment issues and foreclosure prevention. More recently, they have been responsible for the development and ongoing support of Stateside Legal, which is an online resource to provide legal information to veterans and military families.

Pine Tree Legal Assistance maintains an excellent reputation in the field of legal advocacy. They also serve as one of six Maine nonprofits that meet the Better Business Bureau standards for charitable accountability. I am pleased to share in the celebration of Pine Tree Legal Assistance's 45th year of exemplary legal assistance to the people of Maine.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Pine Tree Legal Assistance on achieving this tremendous milestone.

IN HONOR OF THE 20TH VENTURA
COUNTY STAND DOWN

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the outstanding achievements of Ventura County Stand Down, which next week will mark 20 years of helping homeless veterans combat life on the streets.

During the three-day, two-night Stand Down, veterans will live on the campus of the California Army National Guard Armory in military-style tents erected by the Seabees. They will have access to showers, toiletries, new and used clean clothing, and hot meals each day.

Working in conjunction with dozens of public and private agencies, Stand Down 2012 will provide homeless veterans with a myriad of services such as medical treatment, legal services, prescription lenses, employment counseling and referrals, VA benefits, drug and alcohol counseling, general relief information, transitional housing information, along

with a range of other government and social services.

It's a monumental undertaking. Ventura County Stand Down would not be a success—or have even been launched—without the skill and perseverance of Claire Hope, the founder and chairperson of Ventura County Stand Down. The daughter of a World War II veteran and mother of a veteran of Desert Storm, Claire Hope has a soft heart for veterans and a strong will to help those in need.

About 300 volunteers help Claire each year. Another nearly 300 companies, corporations, and non-profit organizations are on board. About 20 service providers take part and 20 committees oversee all aspects of the event, from planning, to execution, to cleanup, to follow-up.

Many of the volunteers have been with Claire since the beginning. While I can't name them all, I would be remiss without noting several key people whose efforts have meant so much to our veterans. They include 20-year Executive Committee Chairs J. Roger Myers, Herb Williams III, Dr. Cal Farmer, Madeline Lee, Gene Ogden, Jean Farley, and Hal Nachenberg. Other Executive Committee Chairs include Judge Pro-Tem Nancy Aronson, Jodi Prior, Yasmin Morrison, Mary Gene Ryan, Betty Zamost, Charles Lane, Jane Towley, Bob Shiverdecker, Carl Lanterman, Gary Erland, Connie Biggers, Carol Rogers, and Jim Rogers.

Special recognition for their ongoing major contributions to Stand Down belongs to: International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 952; California Army National Guard Armory, Ventura; American Legion Auxiliary; American Legion; Beacon House—San Pedro; Salvation Army of Ventura; Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 11395 Thousand Oaks; Marjorie Mosher Schmidt Foundation; New Directions Technologies, Inc.; U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs; Beacon House San Pedro; Naval Facilities Expeditionary Logistics Center & the Thirty-First Seabee Readiness Group; Ventura County Bar Association Ventura County Public Defenders; Chief's Council of the 146th Airlift Wing of the California Air National Guard; Ventura Superior Court Homeless Court; and Neal C. Green, DDS.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be affiliated with Ventura County as Honorary Cochairman for the 20th year. I know my colleagues will join me in recognizing the importance of Ventura County Stand Down and in thanking Claire Hope and her myriad of volunteers for their selfless efforts in helping those who served our country and who fell on hard times to have a fighting chance to resume a life of stability and peace. It's a yeoman's effort, and one worth undertaking.

STAND WITH THOSE WHO SERVE

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. REICHERT. Mr. Speaker, today, I honor "Stand With Those Who Serve Week" in my home state of Washington. Governor Christine Gregoire today urged all citizens to join her in "this special observance to support the many activities and efforts of Washington's public safety personnel and services."

The public safety and law enforcement community in Washington State has endured a lot of heartache over the past years, and those losses are always at the forefront of our thoughts. Such terrible incidents remind us that despite the risk, our police officers and other public safety personnel do not pause for fear or self-interest. They serve bravely, boldly and selflessly and continue every day to earn our respect, admiration and gratitude.

Mr. Speaker, the support that my colleagues across state and party lines have shown demonstrates our commitment to the brave men and women in the law enforcement and public safety professions. It is my hope that through all of this support they continue to have the tools and encouragement that they need.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I join with Governor Gregoire today, along with other elected representatives in Washington, community leaders and private citizens in standing in solidarity with our brave public servants and law enforcement personnel. While they work to reduce crime, protect the vulnerable and keep our communities safe, we will stay mindful of their efforts and in turn serve them, wherever and whenever possible.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4348,
MOVING AHEAD FOR PROGRESS
IN THE 21ST CENTURY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act. After nearly two years of Republican control, there is finally a true jobs bill on the floor of the House.

MAP-21 will protect and create 3 million American jobs. This two year transportation authorization will also provide much-needed certainty for state departments of transportation, construction companies and construction workers after nearly three years without a long term authorization.

Passage of this bill was inexcusably delayed by House Republicans for four months—first due to their refusal to negotiate with the Senate and then, due to a long list of misguided policy riders. I am pleased that a prohibition against coal ash regulation and many other unrelated riders were stripped from the final bill.

While I support the underlying legislation, I am concerned about reduced support for bicycle and pedestrian projects such as Safe Routes to School. This funding is necessary to create a modern, multimodal transportation system that gives commuters and families more choices. Under MAP-21 funding for these programs is cut by 34 percent. This is a disappointing step backwards at a time when Americans are seeing their budgets' under pressure from high gas prices. Moreover, the authorization timeframe should be longer, and the overall funding level for this bill should be higher in order to meet the country's mounting infrastructure needs.

This legislation represents a compromise between the House and Senate that is far worse than the original Senate bill. It is long overdue and far from perfect. Still, despite

these shortcomings, I will vote for H.R. 4348. I refuse to gamble with the 3 million jobs that are at stake in this bill. Our country needs these jobs and our communities need the predictable funding this bill provides.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 4348.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 382 I was absent due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF EASTERN NEBRASKA VETERANS' HOME

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home on its fifth anniversary.

The facility and its dedicated staff have successfully provided care to 117 members during this time in the areas of assisted living, intermediate care, skilled care and Alzheimer's care. The facility is specifically designed to meet the different mobility needs of each of its members.

The ENVH stands as a testament to Nebraska's commitment to our veterans by providing them with a state of the art facility and the services that they deserve.

I also want to point out that this facility is a result of the public and private sectors working together to meet the needs of our Nation's heroes. Multiple agencies at all levels of government worked together on this project to better the lives of these individuals.

The Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home has provided quality care for our veterans and their dependents for five years and I wish them many more years as they continue to serve our veterans and their families.

CONGRATULATING RICE UNIVERSITY ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, for the last one hundred years Rice University has made unique and important contributions to our Nation and the world. Despite its small size, Rice has stood as one of the most forward-thinking institutions, contributing monumental advances in science and technology, as well as to the liberal arts. It was Rice University that opened the Nation's first department of space physics and produced American business magnates like Howard Hughes. It was Rice University

that was the decades-long teaching home to Nobel Prize winners Richard Smalley and Robert Curland, and it is Rice University that continues to educate some of the brightest minds in the world. At this moment, Rice students are developing coated sand that can purify water in countries without access to clean drinking water and lithium-ion batteries that can be painted onto any surface.

In 2008, Rice University was ranked the number one institution for "industry impact." Education is the key to our Nation's future, and it is institutions like Rice University that will ensure that America's greatest days are not in the past. Please join me today in celebrating the many accomplishments that Rice has achieved over the last one hundred years, and many more surely to come.

RECOGNIZING MR. JEFFREY MEEK

HON. TIM GRIFFIN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. GRIFFIN of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Mr. Jeffrey Meek of Hot Springs Village, Arkansas, for his dedication to preserving the stories of Arkansas's World War II veterans.

Jeff's interest in the stories and lives of World War II veterans began when his own son enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps. At that time, Jeff started researching the experiences of his father and his wife's father during World War II. Then, after joining the Akansa Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Jeff's wife, Jeanne, recommended that Jeff get involved in the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project (VHP), which is preserving oral histories of our veterans. Each oral history is recorded on a DVD and, along with VHP documentation, is sent to the Library of Congress to be preserved and made accessible to researchers, educators, and the general public.

Jeff conducted his first oral history for the VHP in 2007 and started reporting some of the stories in his local newspaper, the Hot Springs Village Voice. He later published 75 accounts in his book *They Answered the Call: World War II Veterans Share Their Stories*. Jeff has spent over one thousand hours collecting the moving stories of hundreds of our World War II veterans, and he has brought them to life during three sold out programs honoring them.

Jeff's dedication to World War II veterans extends beyond recording their oral histories. He accompanied a group of veterans as they participated in the "Honor Flight" program. This program flies World War II veterans to Washington, D.C., free of charge, so they may visit the World War II memorial and some of the other memorials in Washington, D.C.

For his devotion to our veterans, Jeff has been recognized by a number of organizations, including the Akansa Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and each of Hot Springs Village's five military organizations. In addition, he received a letter of commendation from the Veterans History Project itself for his attention to detail in preserving the treasured chronicles of our nation's heroes.

Because of volunteers like Jeff, our veterans will be forever honored through the preserva-

tion of their memories. I commend Jeff for his outstanding service to Arkansas's veterans, and I would encourage other Americans to become involved with the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project by recording the stories of veterans in their own communities. I thank Jeff for giving these veterans the opportunity to tell their stories and for allowing these stories to become priceless pieces of American history.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF RICE UNIVERSITY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th anniversary of Rice University. Throughout the last century, Rice has not only developed into one of the most prestigious and exemplary academic institutions in Texas, it has also matured into one of the leading research universities in the United States.

The first president of Rice University was Edgar Odell Lovett, and he set forth an ambitious vision to become a premier research university. However, since its inception in 1912, Rice has been exceptional in both academics and athletics. Rice now plays a leading role in research in many fields including nanotechnology, space, cellular technology, bioinformatics, energy, health, and the environment. Their athletic program is constantly one of the best in Conference USA and their championship win in the 2003 College Baseball World Series serves as further evidence that the Rice Owls are extraordinary across the institutional spectrum.

Rice has been ranked among the top 20 universities in the country by U.S. News & World Report every year since the rankings began in 1983. In recognition of their dedication to keeping high quality education affordable, Princeton Review ranks Rice among the top 10 best value private colleges.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of Rice University. Rice has pushed the boundaries of education and research since 1912, and this institution will undoubtedly be a leader for years to come.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5972) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 5972, the Transportation,

Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2013. This legislation underfunds needed investments in America's transportation system and seriously undercuts needed public housing programs, a vital part of our country's safety net.

The House Republican's "highways only" mentality is revealed in H.R. 5972, which significantly cuts funding for transit and, once again, eliminates all funding for high speed rail. Communities in the East Metro are working hard to advance new transit corridors in our region including Gateway, Robert Street, Rush Line, Riverview and Red Rock. The Republicans' proposed cuts to federal matching-funds would stop most of these projects in their tracks, resulting in the loss of thousands of construction jobs and billions of dollars in new economic development. Eliminating high-speed rail funding risks losing a new high speed link between Chicago and the Twin Cities at St. Paul's Union Depot.

In addition, I am concerned with the House Republicans' refusal to fund the TIGER Discretionary Grant program. This program helps states and local governments construct major infrastructure projects. It is hugely popular across the country and has helped to transform communities since it was first established in the 2009 Recovery Act. A \$35 million TIGER grant is helping restore the historic Union Depot in Lowertown St. Paul into a modern, multi-modal transportation hub. This project alone has created 3,000 jobs and opens to the public this fall. In addition, the City of St. Paul received a TIGER planning grant to better integrate biking and walking into the local transportation system. Last year, Minneapolis received a \$10 million TIGER grant to construct the new Interchange station near Target Field. The TIGER program is vitally important to modernizing our region's infrastructure. That is why I offered an amendment to H.R. 5972 with Congresswoman MAXINE WATERS of California to restore the TIGER program to the bill. Unfortunately, my Republican colleagues rejected this \$500 million investment in American infrastructure and jobs. Overall, the transportation provisions of this bill ignore the needs of the communities I represent. H.R. 5972 would cost my community thousands of jobs and reverse years of work by business, government and citizen-leaders in my District to build new and needed infrastructure.

H.R. 5972 also seriously underfunds critical housing programs that provide shelter for our country's most vulnerable, including low-income families, seniors and the disabled. The inadequate funding in this bill for Project Based Section 8 vouchers could jeopardize housing for 3,000 families in my District. The cuts to McKinney-Vento Homelessness Grants would eliminate beds for homeless individuals and families in Minnesota. These cuts have real, human costs. Fewer people will find a warm, safe place to sleep. Fewer people will be able to overcome the most difficult times in their lives and get back on their feet. In my district there is a young man, a veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan, who is struggling with profound PTSD and now facing homelessness. The instability of homelessness makes it much harder for him to get the treatment he needs and begin the process of recovery. This young man pledged his life to his country when we needed him. Now, he needs us.

This bill does not represent my priorities or the priorities of the Minnesotans I am proud to represent.

I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 5972.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker on rollcall No. 383 I was absent due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WOMEN LAWYERS DIVISION OF THE NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Women Lawyers Division, WLD, of the National Bar Association, NBA, on its 40th Anniversary Celebration in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The Women Lawyers Division was formally established in 1972 as a vehicle for women in the practice of law to address the issues and problems that particularly affect the interests and concerns of African-American women.

The WLD had its genesis during 1971 when an informal coalition of 19 women members of the National Bar Association discussed soliciting new NBA members to run for national offices. These women decided there were many issues they should consider addressing. Therefore, on August 5, 1971, Ruth Harvey Charity convened the first organizational meeting of NBA women lawyers in Atlanta, Georgia.

In 1975, the Women Lawyers Division sponsored its first seminar at the NBA national convention. The WLD hosts seminars at each annual convention, addressing the following subjects: impact of juvenile law on the family; domestic violence; energy law; sexual harassment; child advocacy; international law; professional ethics; post conviction relief; law teaching and trial techniques; ascending to the bench and judicial selection methods; the Internet and personal computer technology; rainmaking and leadership for women.

In 1977, Ruth Harvey Charity was elected a Vice President of the National Bar Association, which was the first time in 25 years a woman held so high a position within the NBA. In 1981, another WLD member, Arnette R. Hubbard, was elected the first President of the NBA, and Alice Bonner, another founder of the WLD, was installed as the first woman President of the NBA Judicial Council Division. Since that year, eight other WLD members have served as President of the NBA.

The Supreme Court swearing-in tradition began in 1981 and continues today. Each spring, the Women Lawyers Division supports a group of National Bar Association members for admission to appear before the U.S. Su-

preme Court. This ceremony is held annually in an effort to enhance the posture of African-American lawyers as legal advocates and to increase the number of minority lawyers who are readily available to represent their clients before this nation's highest court.

The WLD will kick off its 40th Anniversary Celebration with its Inaugural "Respect Yourself" Day, which will be a special salute to African-American women and girls to encourage love and respect for themselves and their fellow sisters. The WLD will host its Fourth Annual "Respect Yourself" Mentor Program to educate young, at-risk and disadvantaged African-American girls on the importance of self-respect.

Through the Women Lawyers Division, women have made a significant impact on the goals and directions of the NBA by participating at all levels of the organization. The WLD has achieved its goal of adding positive direction to the NBA by contributing and establishing a new dimension and sensitivity of the NBA as it addresses legal issues affecting women, children, the family, and the African-American community as a whole.

As the Representative for Nevada's First Congressional District, it gives me immense pride to honor the Women Lawyers Division of the National Bar Association on its 40th Anniversary Celebration in Las Vegas, Nevada, and I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of this crucial organization and its admirable efforts.

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN WILBUR D. JONES

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise and ask you to join me in recognizing Captain Wilbur D. Jones, of Wilmington, North Carolina, who has earned the StarNews Lifetime Achievement Award. The StarNews Lifetime Achievement Award was established in 2003 to honor individuals who have given substantially of themselves for the improvement of the communities of Southeastern North Carolina. Captain Jones is very worthy of this honor, and I salute him for his legacy of service to our state and nation.

Captain Jones stands out as a distinguished former member of the United States Navy, historian, preservationist and award-winning author and lecturer. Born in the middle of the Great Depression, Captain Jones was only seven years old at the outset of World War II, but this history-shaping era sparked an ongoing passion for military history within him that continues to this day.

After graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Captain Jones made the decision to enroll in Officer Candidate School. Beginning in 1956, he served as both a Regular Navy and Ready Reserve officer, finally retiring in 1984. During this time his tact for leadership earned him the rank of Naval Captain. He honorably commanded two Reserve units with the same dedication and strong, personal leadership that he is known for today. As Captain Jones said himself, "Remembering how I began, I was born to be a military historian and career Armed Forces Officer in service to my country."

Concurrently with his service to our nation, Captain Jones spent 41 years in the U.S. Department of Defense, while maintaining a role as a civilian professor and Associate Dean of Information at the Defense Acquisition University. His service included more than seven years in the Pentagon as a Captain on active duty and as a civilian assistant to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition. His career took him and his family around the globe, but Captain Jones returned to his home of Wilmington, North Carolina in 1997, where he remains today.

These unique experiences would later serve him well in his role as a historian, author, lecturer and preservationist. He has produced an impressive and important collection of works on World War II. To date, he has authored 17 books on military history and national defense, along with collecting and publishing innumerable research papers, encyclopedia entries, interviews and photographic documentaries.

With his natural energy and intelligence, Captain Jones is not just North Carolina's treasure, but also a treasure to our country. The StarNews Lifetime Achievement Award Captain Jones receives today is a major honor, and is also just one of the many awards that Captain Jones has earned in his lifetime, from the National Defense Medal, North Carolina Historian of the Year, Senior Service Award, and countless others recognizing the quality of his writing, research and dedication to leadership.

Captain Wilbur D. Jones serves as an example across generations by acting as a man of courage, a man of duty, and a man who is devoted to serving his homeland. Mr. Speaker, I wish to thank you for allowing me to honor one of North Carolina's most distinguished Naval Officers and historians, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a man whom North Carolina and the United States is proud to call their own.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MR. JIMMY BIVINS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Cleveland, Ohio's famous boxer, Mr. Jimmy Bivins.

Bivins was born in Dry Branch, Georgia on December 6, 1919. He moved to Cleveland at the age of three and attended Central High School, where he was an honor student. Weighing only 112 pounds, Bivins began his boxing career in 1936.

Bivins' professional boxing career began in 1940 and lasted until 1955. He boxed in 112 professional fights, accumulating 86 wins and 31 knockouts. Between June 22, 1942 and February 25, 1946, he went unbeaten in 26 consecutive bouts. During his fifteen year career, Bivins defeated eight of eleven world champions and four of the seven fellow Hall of Famers he faced throughout his career. Although he was never able to compete for the world title, Bivins remains the only boxer to date that has ranked as the No. 1 contender in both the Light Heavyweight and the Heavyweight divisions.

In 1999, Bivins was inducted into the International Boxing Hall of Fame. That same year,

Sports Illustrated said that Bivins may have been the greatest modern heavyweight who never got a shot at the title crown. He was best known for his powerful left jab.

Following his boxing career, Bivins joined the Teamsters and drove bakery and snack trucks around the City of Cleveland. He was active in the community, spending time at the gym with local kids teaching them how to box, telling them stories and giving them fatherly advice. He also cooked food for them every Sunday to make sure that they did not go hungry as he had in the past.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the life of Jimmy Bivins.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 452 on H.R. 4155 I am not recorded because I was absent due to a weather delay.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING LAURIANNE CORMIER

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 100th birthday of Laurianne Cormier. Born on July 12, 1912, in Lewiston, Maine, Mrs. Cormier has two daughters, seven grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Cormier has dedicated much of her life to working and volunteering in her community. Like many other Franco-Americans growing up in Lewiston during the Great Depression, Mrs. Cormier helped to support her family by working in a local shoe factory. After her retirement, Mrs. Cormier kept busy by volunteering at the YWCA and at St. Mary's Regional Medical Center in Lewiston. In fact, thirty-five years later, Mrs. Cormier is still volunteering there and has devoted over 18,500 hours of her time and energy to the community she loves.

Mrs. Cormier's co-workers admire her work ethic, spirit and passion for her job. In October of 2010, she was presented with the Mayoral VIBE Award (Volunteers Inspire By Example) and in April of this year, she was nominated for one of the Maine Commission for Community Service's annual Governor's Awards for Service and Volunteerism. Mrs. Cormier was recognized as a special "Volunteer Hero" at that ceremony.

On Tuesday of this week, her colleagues at St. Mary's hosted a birthday party for her and on Sunday, July 15, her family and friends will gather for a second celebration that will take place at the Franco-American Heritage Center. I am very much looking forward to congratulating Mrs. Cormier in person at Sunday's celebration.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Laurianne Cormier on this special day. She is truly an exemplary citizen whose dedication to

her community and to her family is certainly an inspiration to us all.

EXPRESSING CONCERNS REGARDING THE NEGOTIATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS ARMS TRADE TREATY

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my significant concerns over the negotiations with the United Nations regarding the United Nations Arms Trade Treaty (ATT). As it stands currently, the actions of the United Nations indicate that this treaty will pose serious threats to the personal freedoms, national security, foreign policy, and economic interests of the United States. Yet, the Administration has voted to participate in negotiations, despite this impact.

Our Second Amendment rights are fundamental individual rights that must be protected. However, the United Nations Arms Treaty poses a potential threat to this right held by every United States citizen. This treaty cannot be allowed to jeopardize our ability to own small arms, rifles or ammunition. Furthermore, the ATT must recognize and respect one's right of self defense and our nation's legacy of hunting and participation in shooting sports.

This treaty also has the potential to threaten our national security and foreign policy. Democracies and totalitarian regimes should not be given the same arms transfer rights, nor can we legitimize the arming of terrorists or countries that do not recognize the International Criminal Court. Importantly, the ability of the United States to provide arms to trusted allies, such as Israel, should not be infringed.

Finally, the United Nations Arms Treaty should not do anything that would hurt our economic interests here at home and abroad. American businesses should not be burdened by increased regulatory and reporting requirements that could damage domestic manufacturing, particularly in our already difficult economic times. We cannot allow the ATT to jeopardize American jobs or American industry.

Unfortunately, I am concerned that this treaty will impact all of these interests, and potentially more. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I strongly support and urge the Administration to consider and uphold the sentiment displayed in the bi-partisan letter that my colleague MIKE KELLY and 130 co-signers sent to President Obama and Secretary Clinton.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 384 I was absent due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

REMEMBERING MICHIGAN STATE
SENATOR BILL VAN
REGENMORTER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a leader in the victims' rights movement, former Michigan State Senator Bill van Regenmorter.

It was fitting that flags in Michigan were flown at half-mast following Bill's death. Many news reports in Michigan detailed his significant contributions to the people of his beloved state and, most especially, his long advocacy and legislative accomplishments on behalf of crime victims and survivors. I feel it is fitting to equally recognize that Bill's contributions go far beyond the borders of Michigan. As one of the earliest state legislators to draft and enact crime victims' rights legislation, Bill was extraordinarily generous in sharing his experiences, insights and innovations with those of us in other states dedicated to the same cause. His hand can indeed be seen in similar laws in dozens of other states. Bill's tireless efforts were recognized in 2009 by the U.S. Department of Justice, when he received the Ronald Wilson Reagan Public Policy Award from the Office for Victims of Crime.

There is no question that without Bill van Regenmorter, we could not have made as much progress as we have in securing crime victims' rights throughout our entire nation. As a Texas judge, I can attest that we tapped Bill's wisdom and expertise in the late 1980s to develop our own "Victims' Bill of Rights"—an important law that, to this day, provides a strong foundation for the fair treatment of crime victims in my state.

In Bill's own words, "victim empowerment has brought integrity to the system that wasn't there before." Bill's legacy can be found in his pioneering efforts that empowered countless crime victims and those who serve them to stand up for victims' rights, and his inspiration for anyone concerned about individual and community safety to, as he did throughout his entire life, get involved and make a positive difference.

The U.S. Congressional Victims' Rights Caucus sends its condolences to Bill's wife Cheryl and his family, and his "extended family" of crime victims, survivors and victim advocates who benefit today and in the future from his pioneering efforts.

And that's just the way it is.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF RICE UNIVERSITY

HON. BILL FLORES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. FLORES. Mr. Speaker, as a Representative of the great state of Texas, I am honored to be a citizen of a state which is home to an outstanding institution like Rice University. Rice is celebrating its 100 year anniversary, as it was inaugurated in October 12, 1912, in Houston, Texas.

Rice has consistently been ranked as one of the top 20 national universities in the United

States by U.S. News & World Report every year since the rankings began in 1983.

Rice also ranks among the 10 best value private colleges by Princeton Review.

The James A. Baker III Institute for public policy at Rice is world renowned for its contributions as a think tank.

Rice has constitutively been ranked among the top 20 universities in the U.S. overall and for Hispanic students.

Rice University is one of three Tier One research and education universities in Texas. Rice is ranked the number 4 best value among private Universities.

Rice plays a leading role in research in many fields, including nanotechnology, space, cellular technology, bioinformatics, energy, health, and the environment.

I congratulate Rice University for 100 years of preparing its students to succeed in a highly competitive and complex world, and look forward to 100 more.

HONORING ADOLFO CALERO
PORTOCARRERO

HON. DAVID RIVERA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. RIVERA. Mr. Speaker, businessman, entrepreneur, freedom fighter and long-time friend of the United States Adolfo Calero Portocarrero died in Managua, Nicaragua on June 2.

Mr. Calero was best known as an ally of the United States in our efforts to prevent the spread of communism in Central America in the 1980s. He was leader of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, the largest group in the broad anti-Sandinista coalition.

Mr. Speaker, I personally knew Adolfo Calero and I can attest that he was a great friend of the United States. He went to high school in New Orleans, received degrees from Notre Dame and Syracuse University, managed the Coca-Cola bottling plant in Nicaragua, and occasionally lived in Miami, Florida.

Calero was a member of the Conservative Party in Nicaragua and after the communist Sandinista (FSLN) overthrow of the Somoza regime in 1979, he was jailed and later went into exile in Florida. Eventually he joined the political directorate of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force and became its president.

What is lesser know is that Calero had also been twice jailed by the Somozas in the 1970s. He was an advocate and friend of democracy and an opponent of dictatorship whether it was on the right or left.

In the 1980s, saddened and angered by Nicaragua's fall to communism and Daniel Ortega's abuse of human rights, Calero joined the United Nicaraguan Opposition (UNO) in an effort to unify the various anti-Sandinista factions. Nicaragua's "counter-revolutionary" fighters or Contras were largely made up of 18–22 year olds, independent rural farmers and indigenous Christian Indians from the Caribbean Coast. The Contras also filled their ranks with disenchanting Sandinistas—at one time 6 Of 14 Contra regional commanders and 13 Of 52 Contra task force commanders were Sandinista defectors who wanted true freedom. At the peak of their strength, UNO had

30,000 men in the field—more than the Sandinistas ever had in their fight against the Somoza regime.

The decade-long effort to oppose the Sandinistas received typical on-again off-again support from a fickle U.S. Congress. During that time, Soviet-Cuban support for communist governments and insurgencies in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico was steadfast. Their goal was to spread communism throughout the hemisphere and up to the southern border of the United States. Central America was engaged in an epic struggle and Nicaragua was the epicenter. More than 3000 Cuban military intelligence and State security officers set up the repressive internal security apparatus in Nicaragua, advised the Sandinista armed forces, and participated in combat. The PLO sent 100 experienced combat officers, Libya and Iran shipped tons of weapons, the Cubans sent tens of thousands of AK-47s, Soviet Mi-8 helicopters and SA-7 missiles.

Thousands of Contras were killed and maimed, but they held fast. The struggle culminated in a ceasefire in 1988 and democratic elections in 1990. In those elections, UNO's coalition of 14 political parties led by Violetta Chamorro scored an upset victory over the Sandinistas.

Calero's efforts ultimately led to victory and the restoration of democracy. Calero's dedication to freedom and democracy also led to the beginning of the end of Soviet-Cuban penetration of Central America.

REPEAL OF OBAMACARE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 6079. Though the Supreme Court opinion didn't strike down the entire law, it did prohibit the federal government's ability to coerce state governments in accepting major expansions to Medicaid.

Now that many states have indicated they will not accept the Medicaid expansion, this seriously undermines a major premise of Obamacare. Even before the Supreme Court's ruling on Medicaid, patients were already seeing higher premium costs and fewer choices.

We need to start over and craft a health care plan that will actually increase patient access and lower premiums. We can do this while working with our state governments rather than trying to force a Washington-knows-best plan.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 385, I was absent due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF PAT
LUCE-AOELUA

HON. ENI F. H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of a pioneer, a leader, an advocate, and a dear friend, Pat Luce-Aoelua, who recently passed away in Los Angeles, California.

Pat was born in Fagatogo, American Samoa in 1944 to loane Afele Levi and Fanuaea Vaitupu Tu'ufuli Levi and was adopted by American missionaries, Maurice and Corabelle Luce, in 1946. Later, Pat and her adoptive parents immigrated to California in 1952 where Pat attended school and began her career. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from California State University at Sacramento and her Master of Science in Counseling from the University of California at Davis.

Pat was the Executive Director of the National Office of Samoan Affairs (NOSA) that was based initially in San Francisco and later moved its headquarters to Carson, California. She, together with other Samoan community leaders in California, founded NOSA in 1976 to bridge the federal and state agencies with the local Samoan communities. Some of the community leaders included Senator and Paramount Chief Galeai Tu'ufuli, High Talking Chief Leuluso'o Leatutufu, and Matau Taele. Pat and NOSA made sure that they worked closely with the elder chiefs and local Samoan church organizations in advocating for Samoans and Pacific Islanders both on the state and federal level, in better assisting the needs of the elderly, and providing opportunities for the younger generation.

In the late 1970s, Pat was very active within the Samoan community in northern California. As she became more involved in the 1980s, Pat was instrumental in allowing American Samoans to become eligible for Federal funding and programs through the Native American programs. She also spearheaded the movement in passing state legislation in California providing for the identification and tabulation of Pacific Islanders as an ethnic group in the California state and county systems.

Pat is not only a leader amongst the Samoan community but especially within all of the Asian and Pacific American communities throughout all the U.S. In 1980, through Pat's leadership and diligence, she was able to fight for the inclusion of Pacific Islanders as an identifier in the U.S. Census, a category that remains today. Pat's philosophy was ensuring that much of the needs of the Pacific Islanders could be addressed with the use of data collected through the decennial census and other government surveys.

Although Pat has left us and began a new journey, her legacy will remain vigilant through torch bearers made up of the many new young Pacific Island leaders who have been under Pat's tutelage over the past three decades who today are working closely with their communities and advocating for those who are disenfranchised.

I want to take this time to offer my personal condolences to Pat's husband, Tuimavave Aoelua, their only daughter—Corabelle, and to their many families and friends who are

mourning the loss of one of Samoa's strongest daughters. I pray the Lord will comfort them during this tragic time.

Pat will be greatly missed. la manuia lau malaga.

CELEBRATING THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF GREATER PITTSBURGH'S 100 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE GLOBAL JEWISH COMMUNITY

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh for reaching its 100th year of service to Jewish communities around the globe. Since 1912, the Federation has been capably serving Jewish needs in the areas of healthcare, education and social welfare.

Since its inception, the Federation has never taken its finger off the pulse of the global Jewish community. Its efforts have always kept pace with the dynamic challenges facing Jews living in Pittsburgh, Israel and elsewhere throughout the world. The Federation serves as the central Jewish fundraising organization for Greater Pittsburgh, and has undertaken a number of initiatives to build solidarity and promote prosperity within western Pennsylvania's Jewish community.

In 1984, the Federation conducted a Comprehensive Jewish Community Study to highlight the needs of Greater Pittsburgh's Jewish population. The results led to the creation of a Jewish Community Center in Pittsburgh's South Hills and Jewish Residential Services for special needs individuals of the Jewish faith. After conducting a similar demographic study in 2002, the Federation established new outreach programs and created the Centennial Fund for a Jewish Future through the Jewish Community Foundation.

The Federation has also done a significant amount of philanthropic work abroad. Federation leaders have done a great deal to promote the Buncher Community Leadership Program, which trains Jewish professionals from vulnerable Jewish communities throughout the world. They have also played an active role in programs such as Spectrum and Passover in the FSU, which focus on rebuilding Jewish communities in the former Soviet Union. Furthermore, the Federation was on the front lines of the humanitarian responses to Hurricane Katrina, the 2004 tsunami in Asia and the 2010 earthquake in Haiti.

In Israel, the Federation has actively helped to respond to terror attacks and promote economic development in recent years by raising more than \$5.5 through its Israel Emergency campaign and by sponsoring numerous educational and solidarity programs. Historically, the Federation has also helped to raise money for Israel during times of conflict. Currently, the Foundation is working to advance the Jewish Agency for Israel's Partnership Together Program, which is focused on strengthening relationships between Jews in Israel and the Diaspora, and on promoting economic development within Israel's Karmeil and Misgav region.

Mr. Speaker, the Jewish Federation of Greater Pittsburgh's long history of promoting

solidarity and prosperity within Jewish communities throughout the world is a testament to its abiding commitment to philanthropy. I offer this great organization my most heartfelt congratulations on 100 years of fruitful community service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 386. I was absent due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

HONORING THE DEDICATED SERVICE OF PAUL HAMANN

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today the White House honors leaders who had made a significant difference in the way their communities combat homelessness among children and youth. I am so proud that one of the 13 "Champions of Change" is my constituent, Paul Hamann, President and C.E.O. of the Night Ministry.

In the wealthiest nation on earth, any amount of homelessness is unacceptable, yet nearly one million Americans currently do not have a roof over their head. They include men, women and children. This Congress must do more to eradicate homelessness, and we should support people like Paul and organizations like the Night Ministry that are working to provide help and hope to the homeless.

The Night Ministry is Chicago's safety net of last-resort social services, health care, housing and outreach for homeless youth and adults and those who are isolated from the community. I have had the pleasure to witness and take part in the great work the Night Ministry does at their Health Outreach Bus and their Youth Outreach Van in the Uptown and Lakeview neighborhoods in Chicago.

Paul has dedicated his life to helping those in need through his work for non-profit organizations. He has been with the Night Ministry for 10 years and has led the organization since 2007. Under Paul's direction, the Night Ministry has broadened its impact on the Chicago community through health outreach, short-term housing assistance, support and instruction for pregnant teens, and transitional housing. His tireless work has made a difference for thousands of Chicagoans who would otherwise go without healthcare, housing, or food.

I thank Paul Hamann for his outstanding leadership of the Night Ministry and I wish him many years of continued success. He is a true Champion of Change.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, on July 9 and July 10, 2012, I was in California attending to family obligations. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall vote No. 452, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 453, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 454, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 455, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 456, I would have voted "nay" on the previous question, so that instead of voting on the Patients' Rights Repeal Act, the House could instead vote on H.R. 5542, a bill that focuses on jobs and working families.

On rollcall vote No. 457, I would have voted "nay" on the rule that will govern the 31st attempt this Congress to take away healthcare benefits and patient protections from millions of Americans.

On rollcall vote No. 458, I would have voted "nay."

 TRIBUTE TO RICE UNIVERSITY'S
CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Rice University for celebrating 100 years of achievement in private higher education.

Since its foundation, Rice University has left its mark on the advancement of arts and sciences as one of America's premier schools. They have consistently been at the forefront in many areas of medical research, and played a key role in the academic and physical foundation of the Johnson Space Center, turning the dream of manned space flight into a reality.

Be it through elite research or first-rate student education, the contributions of Rice University have undoubtedly reverberated through the many areas of scientific advancement throughout the past 100 years. It is an honor to represent this university in our great State of Texas, and it is an honor to have them represent our state to the country and the world.

 CONGRATULATING THE LOS ANGELES
KINGS ON THEIR STANLEY
CUP VICTORY
HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate an historic occasion in the history of Los Angeles sports teams. On June 11 the Los Angeles Kings of the National

Hockey League won their first national championship. Today the Stanley Cup calls LA "home", and the nation joins us in calling the Kings, "champions".

The Kings' championship was 45 years in the making. They began the playoffs as the number eight seed. They quickly dispatched the Vancouver Canucks, the number one seed team, four games to one. Next they took on the Saint Louis Blues and swept this number two seed team in four games. They then took on the third seed team the Phoenix Coyotes and earned the title of Western Conference champions for only the second time in Kings' history. This was the first time in NHL history that an eighth seed team beat the first and second seed teams. But our champion Kings went even further by also beating the third seed team as well.

The championship series against the New Jersey Devils was a thriller and the Kings quickly took a commanding three game lead. After a couple of Devil victories, in game six of the series, the Kings regained their momentum and put New Jersey away with a 6-1 victory to clinch the Stanley Cup.

The Kings are only the second number eight seed team in NHL history to advance to the championship series and the first number eight seed team to win the Stanley Cup. Their game six victory on their home ice at the Staples Center was cause for celebration by thousands of Kings fans in Los Angeles and throughout Southern California.

In winning the NHL championship, the Kings join the prestigious ranks of Los Angeles sports teams who have brought championship titles to the City of the Angels, including the Lakers, the Dodgers, the Galaxy, UCLA Bruin and USC Trojan teams, the Strings of the World Team Tennis League, and yes, the former-Los Angeles Raiders.

Congratulations to the Kings team: Jeff Carter, Kyle Clifford, Colin Fraser, Simon Gagne, Dwight King, Anze Kopitar, Trevor Lewis, Andrei Loktionov, Jordan Nolan, Scott Parse, Dustin Penner, Mike Richards, Brad Richardson, Jarret Stoll, Kevin Westgarth, Justin Williams, Drew Doughty, Davis Drewiske, Matt Greene, Alec Martinez, Willie Mitchell, Rob Scuderi, Slava Voynov, Jonathan Bernier and Jonathan Quick.

Special congratulations to Coach Darryl Sutter, General Manager Dean Lombardi and team captain Dustin Brown for leading the team to victory, and to AEG and the entire staff of the Kings organization whose work supports, trains and promotes the team. Thank you all for giving the city of Los Angeles our first Stanley Cup win!

Mr. Speaker, the Los Angeles Kings are the kings of hockey! Let's all celebrate their historic victory!

 PERSONAL EXPLANATION
HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 387, I was absent due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,876,457,645,132.66. We've added \$5,249,580,596,219.58 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

Today marks the 150th anniversary of the authorization of the Medal of Honor by Congress. We must balance the budget so that we may continue to honor properly those who have served this country valiantly.

 HONORING ZACH HUDSON, A TRUE
COMMUNITY HERO
HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Officer Zach Hudson of the Lake Mary, Florida Police Department.

Officer Hudson has dutifully served the citizens of Florida for ten years and the Lake Mary community since 2007 as their Community Relations Officer. His dedication to public safety serves as an example to his fellow officers and neighbors.

Shortly after joining the Lake Mary force, Officer Hudson was dispatched to a residence that housed two elderly ladies. Upon arriving, he realized the home contained no food and had no electricity. The little money they did have, they told Hudson, was alternated each month between food and medicines. He had seen instances such as these on his beat in the past, but he decided, in his own words, that "I'd had enough and I realized something had to be done."

Soon after, Hudson started the Seniors Intervention Group in Lake Mary. With the help of Hudson and hundreds of volunteers, this program provides seniors with essential assistance such as food, money, transportation, vehicle maintenance and help around the house. From helping change doorway illuminating light bulbs to fixing leaky sinks, tasks we can perform easily, no job is considered too small when the safety and well-being of our seniors is concerned.

In early 2010, Hudson's vision had become so popular, it became a non-profit and expanded to all of Seminole County and continues to this day as a crucial resource for hundreds of elderly seniors in Central Florida.

Officer Hudson's contribution is not merely recognized within his community, but the nation as well. Earlier this month, CNN recognized his good work by naming him one of their CNN Heroes of 2012.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of Officer Zach Hudson's service to his community, I have asked the Architect of the Capitol to fly an American Flag over the U.S. Capitol Building.

Officer Hudson represents the very finest of our nation's law enforcement. I am honored

and humbled that he has served the district I represent. I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the heroic duty of Officer Zach Hudson.

IN HONOR OF THE ERICK J.
UMSTEAD MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sabrina Umstead Smith, and her husband Roosevelt Smith, for their work to provide resources and financial support for the families of chronically ill children by founding the non-profit organization, The Erick J. Umstead Memorial Foundation, Inc.

In 1988, Sabrina lost her first husband in an apartment fire while expecting a child. As a result of oxygen deprivation caused by the fire, the child was born with underdeveloped lungs and cerebral palsy. Tragically, just three years later her young son succumbed to these medical disabilities.

Sabrina knows the challenges of caring for a chronically ill child. Motivated by a desire to make a tangible difference in the lives of chronically ill children and their parents and caregivers, she founded the Erick J. Umstead Memorial Foundation.

The foundation provides numerous services, to the families of chronically ill children, students, and medical professionals. Caregivers Count provides grants to financially disadvantaged parents and caregivers. Future Health Care Leaders offers scholarships for undergraduates who intend to pursue providing care to chronically ill pediatrics. The Assistive Technology Program awards grants to hospitals and pediatric facilities to purchase specialized equipment and devices that facilitate the developmental progress of chronically ill children. In addition to financial aid, the foundation also provides a resource center for parents on their website, and distributes donated pajamas for chronically ill children.

Mr. Speaker, Sabrina's endless dedication to chronically ill children and their families should not go unrecognized. I join all of South Jersey in thanking her for her efforts.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF
PASTOR EMERITUS LOCKS

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, the Reverend Sidney A. Locks, Jr., retired from the helm of Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church (CMBC) in Greenville, North Carolina as a legendary figure in the Greenville community. Under the directive of Pastor Emeritus Locks, CMBC honed its capacity for community outreach and effected "giving" as an inseparable hallmark of CMBC's congregation.

Pastor Locks was born the son of a preacher in Opelousas, Louisiana. Through his father's ministry he was called to spread the word of God to others. After earning a Master's in Divinity from the Interdenominational

Theological Center (ITC) in Atlanta, Georgia, Pastor Locks embarked on a 30 year career in the ministry, preaching to congregants about the love and compassion of God.

Determined to reflect the same spirit of love and compassion regularly evoked in his sermons, Pastor Locks weaved those virtues into the fabric of Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church, where he began pastoring in 1989. Ten years later, Hurricane Floyd presented Locks and CMBC congregation with the opportunity to demonstrate its unwavering commitment to service. When Hurricane Floyd ravished North Carolina's shores—destroying homes and disrupting lives—CMB gathered resources to feed, clothe, and provide refuge for the victims of the storm.

CMBC leadership during the storm's recovery efforts won the Pastor and the CMBC congregation many followers, helping to position the church as an epicenter for community work. Even today, community leaders recall being cared for by the church after surviving days without food. Others starkly remember the congregation's efforts to lift the spirits of the families who felt hopeless at that time.

Under Pastor Lock's leadership, Cornerstone secured 44 apartment units to convert into a senior living facility; built a Family Life Center; and founded numerous programs to assist members of the congregation and the community.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the extraordinary work of Pastor Sidney Locks, Jr., and ask that my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives join me in honoring his commitment to God, to country, and to community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 388 I was absent due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

H.R. 4402

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I was disappointed that the House passed the National Strategic and Critical Minerals Production Act of 2012 (H.R. 4402). Like many people, I am deeply concerned about our country's, and the world's, increasing dependence on unstable and unreliable Chinese mining practices to provide the "rare earth minerals" that our industries need. However, the legislation passed by the House waives almost all environmental laws for all types of hardrock mining, even though the mining of these materials can be extraordinarily dangerous and toxic. This incredibly broad waiver hurts communities, public lands, and the environment, and supports big, mining industries at the expense of the American taxpayer.

I had hoped that H.R. 4402 would serve as an expression of our commitment to make

sure the United States is properly supplied with these minerals that are essential for the economy and our national security. Instead, I am disappointed because my colleagues failed to tailor the legislation to specifically meet this need and included an overly broad definition of "rare earth minerals." This bill would have benefited from a clear definition of what the rare earth minerals are, which would have been achieved by an amendment offered by my colleague, Representative TONKO. Instead, the sweeping exemptions from environmental regulations have created a partisan issue where none existed before.

I sincerely hope that when this issue is revisited in the future, we are able to work in a bipartisan manner to strike a balance that allows us to acquire our necessary supplies in a way that is efficient, safe for our workers, and protects the environment.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND
URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RE-
LATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5972) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chair, I regretfully rise in opposition to the FY13 Transportation Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Bill. I would like to extend my appreciation to Chairman LATHAM and Ranking Member OLVER for their hard work on this bill. They were forced to make difficult decisions due to the low allocation that the Ryan Budget provided. Regrettably, this violation of the Budget Control Act, which was agreed to last year, led to devastating cuts to the Housing and Urban Development housing assistance program.

At a time when so many Americans have lost their homes or are struggling to keep them, this bill falls far short of meeting our nation's housing needs.

This is especially true for those who have fallen on hard times and those who are the poorest and most vulnerable among us.

By systematically underfunding HUD's three major rental assistance programs: Housing Choice vouchers, Public Housing and Section 8 Project-based Rental Assistance this bill increases the chances of greater homelessness in our country especially for those already living in unstable housing conditions.

My home state is a perfect example of how the deep cuts to housing assistance in this bill will negatively impact those with the greatest housing needs.

California has an estimated shortage of 1.6 million affordable rental units and an average wait of 37 months for HUD-assisted housing.

Further reducing funding for affordable housing will only increase the number of extremely low income households who are living

in unstable housing situations, paying the majority of their incomes towards rent and who remain at risk of becoming homeless.

Nationally it puts at risk the approximately 4.5 million low income families who depend on HUD programs for their housing needs, more than half of which include seniors and persons with disabilities.

The FY13 THUD bill underfunds Housing Choice vouchers by as much as \$440 million, which translates into 55,000 vouchers for low income families in FY13. That's 55,000 families with an average annual income of \$12,568 that will lose access to affordable housing.

Project-Based Rental Assistance is also underfunded and the legislation would only extend year-long contracts to certain property owners, leaving investors, owners and tenants uncertain about the future of the program. The consequence of this uncertainty could be fewer owners renewing their contracts and a reduction in the number of Section 8 units available to low-income families.

The bill continues to woefully underfund public housing. Capital funding for public housing has been shortchanged for the past decade, and without an increase, 1.1 million low income households will continue to be exposed to deteriorating living conditions and potential safety hazards.

This legislation also weakens federal efforts to assist those already homeless by underfunding Homeless Assistance Grants by more than \$200 million. This means fewer permanent housing units, which have been shown to prevent homelessness and are less costly than the alternative of providing emergency shelter and services. For example, the Economic Roundtable found that individuals who are homeless in Los Angeles utilize an average of \$34,000 a year in county services (not including costs to the city, state or federal government) and that once permanently housed that number drops to \$14,000 (including housing capital, federal rental assistance and services).

Now is the time to protect low income families by prioritizing funding for affordable housing during these tough economic times. Unfortunately this bill falls short in that regard and puts far too many families in jeopardy of finding themselves without a safe and affordable home to call their own.

I regret that in good conscience I cannot support this bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 412, I was absent due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. HOWARD
R. MAIER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mr. Howard R. Maier, who is retiring after

23 years as Executive Director of the Northeast Ohio Area-wide Coordinating Agency, better known as NOACA. He is being honored on July 12, 2012, on his retirement at the City Club of Cleveland.

As the region's Metropolitan Planning Organization, or MPO, NOACA serves Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, and Medina Counties in Northeast Ohio, including all of Ohio's 10th Congressional District. NOACA prepares the region's Long Range Transportation Plan and the Transportation Improvement Program. NOACA also conducts water quality and air quality planning.

Mr. Maier has overseen an annual budget of \$6.5 million, a staff of 42, and a governing board of 44 elected and appointed officials. Under Howard's leadership, NOACA has received awards from the National Association of Regional Councils, the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations, the Ohio Department of Transportation, and Eco-City Cleveland, among others.

Howard Maier is a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners. After receiving his Bachelor of Arts in Economics and his Masters in City Planning from Ohio State University, Howard earned his Master of Science in Public Management from Case Western Reserve University in 1974.

He was Director of Planning and Development for the City of Cleveland Heights and the Principal Planner for the Cuyahoga County Planning Commission before joining NOACA. He was asked by the NOACA board to step up as Acting Executive Director in 1989 when there was a leadership crisis at the agency. He was then appointed as Executive Director in 1991, where he served until his recent retirement in June 2012.

Howard Maier has distinguished himself with many awards and honors during his years with NOACA, including Honorary Membership in the American Institute of Architects, Mayfield High School Hall of Fame, Ally of the Year for the Northeast Ohio Alliance for Hope, Distinguished Alumnus of Ohio State University's College of Engineering, and NOACA's "Wally," the Walter F. Ehrnfelt Award for Outstanding Regional Contribution.

Mr. Speaker, and distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Howard Maier as he enjoys his well-earned retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 453 on H.R. 4367, I am not recorded because I was absent due to a weather delay.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

REPEAL OF OBAMACARE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JEFF FLAKE

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of repealing the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

It's no secret that the U.S. health care system is broken; however, instead of strengthening the system, the Affordable Care Act took a top-down approach that will leave patients and taxpayers worse off than they were before.

I believe Americans should have access to effective and affordable care. This can best be accomplished by using market forces to improve quality and control cost.

I support allowing individuals to purchase health insurance across state lines and the expansion of associated health plans, health savings accounts, and other free-market reforms that allow individuals to be in control of their own healthcare decisions.

Americans have a choice when they buy a car or go to the grocery store. Why can't they have that same choice when purchasing something as important as health care?

I also support allowing small employers and individuals to pool together to purchase health insurance, thereby giving them greater buying power to negotiate when purchasing a plan.

Expanding health savings accounts not only gives individuals maximum flexibility in determining how to spend their health care dollars, but it encourages saving and helps reduce the overall cost of health care.

Finally, I support reforming the tax code so individuals get the same incentives that employers currently have for purchasing health care.

These measures will make health care more affordable, and unlike the law we are repealing today, they are sustainable.

I yield back the balance of my time.

RECOGNITION OF BRIGADIER GENERAL GWEN BINGHAM (U.S. ARMY)

HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize a significant milestone being reached this year by Brigadier General Gwen Bingham. Brig. Gen. Bingham has been given the assignment to be the first woman ever to take command of the White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico. The White Sands Missile Range encompasses nearly 3,200 square miles and is the largest military installation in the United States, used by the Army, Navy, Air Force, NASA, and other government agencies and private enterprises for research, development and training.

Prior to this assignment, Brig. Gen. Bingham was also the first woman to hold the position of Quartermaster General and Commandant of the U.S. Army Quartermaster School at Fort Lee (Virginia). As Quartermaster General, she was responsible for overseeing the training of more than 20,000 military students annually.

This milestone marks yet another impressive achievement in an already distinguished 31-year career for Brigadier General Bingham. It is a testament to her professionalism, character, and selfless sacrifice to her country. I am honored to recognize her continued achievements.

HONORING THE 70TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF MR. AND MRS. JOHN UNDERWOOD

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate and extend my best wishes to Mr. and Mrs. John Underwood of Paris, Tennessee, on the seventieth anniversary of their wedding date.

This is truly an event to commemorate. Seventy years of marriage is a milestone that speaks to the Underwood's dedication and love to one another. No doubt their relationship has been through both times of joy and sorrow, and it has served as a stable influence in the lives of their family.

The seventieth wedding anniversary is often called the "platinum" anniversary. This is a fitting name, because what John and Grace share with each other, and with God, is indeed precious. The Underwoods are proud Americans and role models for us all. I am honored to salute their commitment to one another, their family, our community, and our nation. May God bless them with many more happy years together.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIX ASSURANCES AND THE LIFTING OF MARTIAL LAW IN TAIWAN

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate two important anniversaries that are coming up this July 14th in relation to our close friend and ally: the country of Taiwan.

Since the end of World War II, the United States and Taiwan have fostered a close relationship that has been of enormous strategic and economic benefit to both countries. When the United States shifted diplomatic relations from Taiwan to the People's Republic of China in January 1979, Congress moved quickly to pass the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) to ensure that the United States would continue its robust engagement with Taiwan in the areas of commerce, culture, and security cooperation. On April 10, 1979, this important and lasting piece of legislation became the "Law of the Land" and has since served as the statutory basis for U.S.-Taiwan relations going forward.

After 33 years, the TRA still stands as a model of Congressional leadership in the history of our foreign relations, and, together with the 1982 "Six Assurances," it remains the cornerstone of a very mutually beneficial relationship between the United States and Taiwan.

These "Six Assurances" were designed by President Reagan to further clarify U.S. policy toward Taiwan (in particular to the sale of arms to Taiwan,) to reiterate our commitment to Taiwan's security under the TRA and to reaffirm our position on Taiwan's sovereignty. It also stipulated that we would not pressure Taiwan to enter into negotiations with the PRC.

This coming July 14 marks the 30th anniversary of President Reagan issuing said Six As-

surances in 1982. It also marks the 25th anniversary of the lifting of martial law in Taiwan in 1987.

Martial law was promulgated in Taiwan on May 19, 1949 by Chiang Kai-shek's Chinese Nationalist government. Its end 38 years later marked the longest imposition of martial law by a regime anywhere in the world. Even after the end of martial law, tight restrictions on the people of Taiwan's freedom of assembly, speech and the press remained in place. Nevertheless, July 14, 1987 set the stage for a momentous process of democratization in Taiwan that continues to this day.

Over the past three decades, Taiwan has remained a trusted ally of the United States that shares with us the ideals of freedom and democracy. However, the people of Taiwan continue to live day after day under the ominous shadow cast by over 1400 short and medium-range ballistic missiles that the People's Republic of China (PRC) has aimed at them. The PRC persists in claiming Taiwan as a "renegade province," refusing to renounce the use of force to prevent Taiwan's formal de jure independence.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commemorating this July 14 the 30th anniversary of the Six Assurances and the 25th anniversary of the lifting of martial law in Taiwan, to further underline our unwavering commitment to the people of Taiwan and to affirm our support for the strong and deepening relationship between the U.S. and Taiwan.

H. RES. 711, RECOMMENDING THAT THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FIND ERIC H. HOLDER, JR., ATTORNEY GENERAL, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, IN CONTEMPT OF CONGRESS FOR REFUSAL TO COMPLY WITH A SUBPOENA DULY ISSUED BY THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, the Resolution holding Attorney General Eric H. Holder, Jr. in contempt of Congress and the accompanying report approved by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform have significant flaws. Although some are simply misleading, others are significant legal deficiencies and factual errors that may call into the question the validity of the Resolution itself. These flaws are described in detail in a document available at <http://go.usa.gov/vSU> and are hereby incorporated for the record into these remarks.

For example, the Resolution and report would hold the Attorney General in contempt for not producing documents that were never demanded by the Committee's subpoena. The Committee's subpoena was issued on October 11, 2011, and it explicitly demanded documents up to the date it was issued. Documents created after October 11, 2011, clearly fall outside of the scope of the subpoena.

Yet, the Resolution and report would hold the Attorney General in contempt for not producing documents created between October

11, 2011, and December 2, 2011. The Resolution states, "That Eric H. Holder, Jr., Attorney General of the United States, shall be found to be in contempt of Congress for failure to comply with a congressional subpoena." The report explicitly covers documents from the date the Department sent a letter to Senator CHARLES GRASSLEY on February 4, 2011, to the date it formally withdrew that letter on December 2, 2011. The report states that the Attorney General should be held in contempt for not producing documents regarding "why it took so long for the Department to withdraw the letter."

Committee Chairman DARRELL E. ISSA reiterated his demand for documents covering this time period before an "emergency meeting" of the Rules Committee. When asked about this deficiency, the interpretation he provided of his own subpoena was incorrect. He stated: ". . . [runs to the end of this Congress]." In contrast, the text of the subpoena itself states: "With the exception of paragraphs 4 and 5, the time period covered by this subpoena is from August 1, 2009 to the present, unless otherwise specified." Since the subpoena was issued on October 11, 2011, it clearly covered documents only until October 11, 2011. Under the Chairman's interpretation, the subpoena's reference to "the present" actually would mean "the future."

The Committee's full subpoena is available for review at <http://go.usa.gov/wuD> and is hereby incorporated for the record into these remarks.

It should come as no surprise that the Resolution and Committee report contain such obvious deficiencies because Republican House leaders rushed to schedule the Floor vote only one week after the Committee voted on a strictly party-line basis to approve them.

REPEAL OF OBAMACARE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of the measure before us today. While the Supreme Court may have ruled Obamacare constitutional on the basis that it is a tax, that doesn't make it good policy. We owe it to the American people to repeal this middle-class tax hike and instead enact real reform that will rely on reasonable and proven market-driven solutions that do not trample on individual rights.

As we craft our replacement to Obamacare, however, we must protect one positive provision that was enacted as part of the law: the Medicaid funding included beginning addressing the longstanding disparity for Puerto Rico and the other U.S. territories compared to the states. This funding represented a shared commitment between the federal and territorial governments to ensure the fiscal solvency of the territories' Medicaid programs. Although this additional funding was added to Obamacare legislation, it represents the culmination of years of discussion between the federal government and the territories, and is entirely separate from the rest of the law. If this funding is not replaced, Puerto Rico will

once again be forced to cover 80 percent of the cost of its Medicaid program—a burden that would be unfathomable and fiscally unsustainable if placed on the states. If hundreds of thousands of Puerto Ricans have willingly served in the U.S. military with honor, wearing the U.S. flag proudly on their uniform, then surely we can treat the U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico fairly in Medicaid.

When Puerto Rico Governor Fortuño took office in 2009, he inherited a \$3.3 billion budget deficit. A true fiscal conservative, he made the difficult choices necessary to reduce this deficit by 90 percent in FY2013. Failure to replace this Medicaid funding would not only have dire consequences for the neediest residents of Puerto Rico, but would also jeopardize the Island's economic recovery and marginalize the tough choices and sacrifices made by Governor Fortuño and the 3.7 million U.S. citizens of Puerto Rico over the past 3½ years. With this in mind, I would like to express my commitment to work with my colleagues to ensure we restore this vital funding.

HONORING THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF TELSTAR

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th Anniversary of the first successful transatlantic television signal between Andover Earth Station, Maine, and Pleumeur-Bodou Telecom Center in Brittany, France, which took place on July 12, 1962.

As a Co-Chair of the Congressional French Caucus, it is often my great honor to commemorate special moments in history that recognize the historical relationship of the United States and France. It is a particular honor to recognize an event that my home State of Maine played a key part of.

Five decades ago, Andover, Maine, and Pleumeur-Bodou, France, were connected for a short 22 minutes. In our digital world, sometimes it is hard to believe how far we have come. But that short bond, less than a half an hour, played a historical role in advancing science and telecommunications forever.

Former Senator Margaret Chase Smith is synonymous with statesmanship across Maine

and the United States. How proud Senator Smith, who played an important role in Telstar's success, must have been when the first image shown across the Atlantic Ocean was a live shot of the American flag being held in Andover, Maine.

Because of the unique partnership formed between Maine and France five decades ago, the world saw the potential in space and satellite communication, and in the power of sharing information around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing this special occasion.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 12, 2012

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 413, I was absent due to personal reasons.

Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."