WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16, 2011

House of Representatives

HONORING UNITED FOOD & COMMERCIAL WORKERS LOCAL 135, LABOR UNION OF THE YEAR!

HON. BOB FILNER
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a very dedicated Labor organization that has distinguished itself in San Diego County.

In Labor, we realize that hard-fought victories can only be accomplished if we stand together to reach a common goal.

This is especially true when unions come together to stand up for issues that don't directly affect their membership. The United Food and Commercial Workers Local 135 is an example of how all unions can contribute to Labor's victories.

The blue and yellow of UFCW Local 135 can be seen at nearly every Labor Council event.

From precinct walks to rallies and job actions, UFCW Local 135 understands that Labor must stand up for each other in order for it to achieve success.

In the weeks leading up to June's primary election, at least a dozen UFCW Local 135 members volunteered for each precinct walk and weekly phone banks to protect union jobs in construction, an industry in which they have no members.

This was repeated in the fall as UFCW Local 135 strongly supported the election of Jerry Brown for governor.

This leadership by example was rewarded throughout 2010 as members from other unions supported UFCW Local 135's priority issue of requiring large big box retailers to prove they don't have a negative economic impact on neighborhoods.

The desire of other unions to write letters, make phone calls and attend community planning meetings was a result of the respect won by UFCW Local 135 for the solidarity they've shown other unions.

For their exemplary display of leadership and volunteerism, I join with the San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council in honoring United Food and Commercial Workers Local 135 as 2011—San Diego and Imperial Counties Labor Council's Union of the Year.