

teacher and member of the United Federation of Teachers myself, I can personally attest to her strength of conviction and determination. Having known her for many years, it is also a great privilege to count her a personal friend.

Throughout her career, Sandra Feldman became known as an authority on urban education and an advocate for children. No stranger to activism, she began her advocacy work during the 1960s civil rights movement. A former public school student herself, she then taught in one of New York City's public elementary schools. I had the privilege of working with Sandra Feldman when she was President of the United Federation of Teachers in New York City, the largest union local in the United States. She later took over as President of the American Federation of Teachers in 1997, leading its more than 1 million members.

Throughout her career, U.S. presidents, governors and mayors have appointed her to numerous commissions and task forces tackling educational, economic and child-welfare, labor and social issues. However, Sandra Feldman's interests went beyond the field of education; she serves as a board member or activist in many community and civic organizations.

A dedicated activist, educator and leader, I thank Sandra Feldman for her work throughout her career and sincerely congratulate her on her retirement as president of the AFT.

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join my colleagues in honoring a wonderful leader and educator, Ms. Sandra Feldman, as she retires from her role as President of the American Federation of Teachers.

As the 15th president of the American Federation of Teachers and the union's 1st female president since 1930, Ms. Feldman has led the more than 1 million members of her union since 1997.

A native of New York, Sandra Feldman is a self-described "kid from Coney Island." She grew up in a city-owned slum in Brooklyn that was condemned for all the years she lived there and worked her way through the public education system. She attended Brooklyn College on a scholarship and later received a master's degree in English Literature from New York University.

Sandra Feldman is a lifelong civil rights and union activist. She rose from union ranks to serve as president of the United Federation of Teachers in New York City, a post she held from 1986 to 1997, when she was elected AFT president. She recognizes that children are America's most valuable resource and, as such, they must have guidance from able-bodied professionals to develop into productive members of society.

Recognized as an authority on urban education and an advocate for children, her longstanding commitment to social justice dates back to her involvement with the early Civil Rights movement. As such, she has been recognized by many United States Presidents, governors and mayors to tackle the social issues of education, the economy, child-welfare and labor.

Mr. Speaker, I thank her for her many efforts and sacrifices, as she continues to work to increase the rights of public school teachers and the quality of education for our young children and I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating this wonderful American.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise with words of strong praise for Sandra Feldman, a

woman who has spent her life in service to others, as she retires from the presidency of the American Federation of Teachers.

Sandy Feldman's educational journey took her first to children as a teacher in the New York City Public Schools, continued with her service to teachers, children and working people, and culminated in her seven outstanding years as President of the AFT.

Equal rights has been an overarching theme of Sandy Feldman's life. I met Sandy when we both were kids in the civil rights movement. The movement was nascent, but Sandy already was deeply engaged. It was no surprise to me that Sandy Feldman would become the leader of a great union or that she would fight so effectively and productively for the rights of its members. However, for Sandy and the American Federation of Teachers, the value added has been the union's leadership on education itself.

In many circles, Sandra Feldman is equally well-known as an educational innovator. She has regarded her work for the advancement of teachers as part and parcel of the advancement of education for children. She has understood that it is impossible for children to get what they need and deserve if teachers are underpaid and without a say in the working conditions under which they teach.

One example of her forward thinking is her handling of charter schools. Recognizing how they were embraced by many families seeking public school alternatives, Sandy Feldman has been able to reconcile charter school popularity with the maintenance of strong public schools and the rights of teachers in districts willing to work in the same spirit of respect for all concerned.

Sandy's energy, ability to move people and fertile mind for unique educational innovation will be missed, but she has set such a high mark that unions and school districts alike will long be following the path she has so ably laid out.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF ASSISTANT OF HON. MARCY KAPTUR, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Dan Foote, Staff Assistant of the Honorable MARCY KAPTUR, Member of Congress:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, July 16, 2004.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that I have been served with a civil subpoena for testimony issued by the Court of Common Pleas for Lucas County, Ohio.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is inconsistent with the precedents and privileges of the House.

Sincerely,

DAN FOOTE,  
Staff Assistant.

#### RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 40 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess until approximately 6:30 p.m.

□ 1830

#### AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. BURGESS) at 6 o'clock and 30 minutes.

#### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed.

Votes will be taken in the following order:

H.R. 1587, by the yeas and nays;  
Senate Concurrent Resolution 114, by the yeas and nays; and

Senate 2264, by the yeas and nays.  
The first and third electronic votes will be conducted as 15-minute votes. The second vote of this series will be a 5-minute vote.

#### VIET NAM HUMAN RIGHTS ACT OF 2004

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question of suspending the rules and passing the bill, H.R. 1587, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1587, as amended, on which the yeas and nays are ordered.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 323, nays 45, not voting 65, as follows:

[Roll No. 391]

YEAS—323

Ackerman	Bereuter	Boswell
Aderholt	Berkley	Boucher
Akin	Berman	Boyd
Alexander	Berry	Bradley (NH)
Allen	Bilirakis	Brady (PA)
Andrews	Bishop (NY)	Brady (TX)
Baca	Bishop (UT)	Brown (OH)
Bachus	Blackburn	Brown (SC)
Baird	Blumenauer	Brown, Corrine
Barrett (SC)	Blunt	Brown-Waite,
Bartlett (MD)	Boehert	Ginny
Barton (TX)	Boehner	Burgess
Bass	Bonilla	Burns
Beauprez	Bono	Burr
Becerra	Boozman	Burton (IN)