

In 2001, as it was mentioned, Lance Mackey was diagnosed with throat cancer. He continued to run in the 2002 Iditarod with a feeding tube in his stomach, but had to pull out of the race halfway through. After extensive surgery, radiation treatment, a year-long break from racing, and the loss of an index finger, he is now fully recovered and cancer-free.

Lance Mackey is married to his high school sweetheart, Tonya, who is also a musher. They have four children: Amanda; Brittney; Alanah; and Cain. Together they run the Comeback Kenel in Fox, Alaska.

Lance Mackey is a real-life hero and an inspiration to thousands of Alaskan Americans who religiously follow the Iditarod. I want to commend Lance for the great achievement of winning the four straight Iditarods. This is a great Alaskan. Thank you, Lance.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1189, commending Lance Mackey on winning a record 4th straight Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race. This resolution not only congratulates Mackey on his incredible successes but also recognizes the importance of the Iditarod race and all of the prestige that it brings to Alaska every year.

Since the 1970s, the Iditarod Sled Dog Race—frequently referred to as the ‘Last Great Race on Earth’—has attracted the best dog sled racers (known as mushers) and dog teams from around the world to compete in Alaska. The 1,150 mile Iditarod trail race is famous around the world because of its difficulty and because of the incredible talent that it attracts every year. The Iditarod’s official site explains the extreme difficulty of the trail saying that nature “throws jagged mountain ranges, frozen river, dense forest, desolate tundra, and miles of windswept coast at the mushers and their dog teams.

Add to that temperatures far below zero, winds that can cause a complete loss of visibility, the hazards of overflow, long hours of darkness and treacherous climbs and slide hills, and you have the Iditarod.” In addition to a very exciting race, the Iditarod race every year attracts fans and spectators from around the world and creates many important jobs for Alaskans.

Lance Mackey who won this year’s Iditarod race provides an inspiration not only to fans of the Iditarod but to all Americans.

Mackey grew up in a family of dedicated and victorious mushers as both his dad and his brother have won the Iditarod race. In 2001, Mackey suffered a severe career and life set back when he became sick with throat cancer. However, after a year of treatment and away from dog sledding, Mackey recovered from his cancer and was able to resume his career. Just a few years later he won his first Iditarod race and then went on to win three more times for a record four consecutive wins.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution. The annual Iditarod race is an amazing event not just for Alaska but for the entire country, and Lance Mackey, the champion for the last four years, deserves our recognition and congratulations.

I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman for his thoughtful remarks and ask Members on both sides of the aisle to support Mr. YOUNG in his resolution.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1189.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair’s prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

CELEBRATING ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1316) celebrating Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1316

Whereas the United States joins together each May to pay tribute to the contributions of generations of Asians and Pacific Islanders who have enriched the Nation’s history;

Whereas the history of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States is inextricably tied to the story of the Nation;

Whereas the month of May was selected for Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month due to the following two historical events, first, May 7, 1843, when the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States, and second, May 10, 1869, when, with substantial contributions from Chinese immigrants, the first transcontinental railroad was completed;

Whereas today, according to the United States Census Bureau, the Asian American and Pacific Islander community is one of the fastest growing and most diverse populations in the United States, comprised of over 45 distinct ethnicities and over 28 language groups in the community;

Whereas the United States Census Bureau estimates that there are 15,200,000 United States residents who identify themselves as Asian alone or in combination with one or more other races, 1,000,000 United States residents who identify themselves as Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander alone or in combination with one or more other races, and projects that by 2050, there will be 40,600,000 United States residents identifying as Asian alone or in combination with one or more other races, to comprise 9 percent of the United States population;

Whereas section 102 of title 36, United States Code, officially designates May as Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, and requests the President to issue each year a proclamation calling on the people of the

United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities;

Whereas significant outreach efforts to the Asian American and Pacific Islander community have been made through the reestablishment of the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to coordinate multiagency efforts to ensure more accurate data collection and access to services for this community;

Whereas the Presidential Cabinet includes a record three Asian Americans, including Energy Secretary Steven Chu, Commerce Secretary Gary Locke, and Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki;

Whereas there has been a commitment to judicial diversity through the nomination of high caliber Asian Americans and other minority jurists at all levels of the Federal bench;

Whereas the civic engagement of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders and community-based organizations has increased throughout the years;

Whereas the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, a bipartisan, bicameral caucus of Members of Congress advocating on behalf of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, has reached a record 30 Members this year;

Whereas today, Asian American and Pacific Islander leaders serve in local and State legislatures across the Nation, in States as diverse as California, New York, Texas, Connecticut, Maryland, Ohio, and Iowa;

Whereas, even with these exceptional milestones crossed by the community, there remains much to be done to ensure that linguistically and culturally isolated Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have access to resources and a voice in the United States Government;

Whereas learning from injustices faced by Asian American and Pacific Islander communities throughout United States history, such as the Chinese Exclusion Act, the Japanese American internment, unpunished hate crimes such as the murder of Vincent Chin, and other events, can help perfect the Nation;

Whereas Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, such as civil rights activist Yuri Kochiyama, Medal of Honor recipient Herbert Piliilau, the first Asian American Congressman Dalip Singh Saund, the first Asian American Congresswoman Patsy Mink, the first Asian American member of a presidential cabinet Norman Y. Mineta, and others have made significant strides in the political and military realms; and

Whereas celebrating Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month provides the people of the United States with an opportunity to recognize the achievements, contributions, history, and address the challenges faced by Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes that Asian American and Pacific Islander communities enhance the rich diversity of the United States; and

(2) celebrates the contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the United States.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) and the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. LUETKEMEYER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Massachusetts.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to add any extraneous materials.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Massachusetts?

There was no objection.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, I present House Resolution 1316, as amended, for consideration. This legislation celebrates Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month, which is celebrated during the month of May.

House Resolution 1316 was introduced by my friend and colleague, Representative MIKE HONDA of California, on April 29, 2010. In addition, this resolution was favorably reported out of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee by unanimous consent on May 6, 2010. This House Resolution enjoys the support of over 55 Members of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the Asian American and Pacific Islander community is composed of over 15 million people, who on a daily basis, make significant contributions to the betterment of our country. In addition to being one of our country's fastest-growing minority groups, the Asian American and Pacific Islander community is also responsible for generating an estimated \$326 billion annually for our economy as entrepreneurs and owners of over 1.1 million businesses.

While Asian/Pacific American heritage is certainly worth recognizing and celebrating year round, the country and the Asian/Pacific American community have traditionally come together in the month of May to celebrate and commemorate Asian and Pacific American heritage.

This celebration began back in 1977 when Representatives Frank Horton and Norman Mineta and Senators DANIEL INOUE and Spark Matsunaga introduced resolutions asking the President to declare the first 10 days of May as Asian/Pacific Heritage Week.

The selection of the month of May stems from the fact that May marks the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants to the United States in 1843. In 1978, President Carter made Asian/Pacific Heritage Week an annual event. In 1990, President George H. W. Bush proclaimed the entire month of May to be Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

Mr. Speaker, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders have also made great strides in the area of civil rights and public policy. Led by such notable Americans as Patsy Mink, the first Asian American congresswoman, the President's current Cabinet includes three Asian Americans: Energy Secretary Steven Chu; Commerce Secretary Gary Locke; and Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki.

In closing, let us as a body take a moment to recognize the valuable contribution of the Asian and Pacific American community and celebrate their rich cultural heritage by supporting House Resolution 1316.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1316, celebrating Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month.

Asian American and Pacific Islanders have been an integral part of the fabric of American life since Japanese immigrants first arrived in the United States on May 7, 1843.

Asian Americans worked as coal miners on farms and helped with the completion of the first continental railroad. Rising from their humble beginnings, Asian Americans have been instrumental in the building of this country from the 19th century onwards. In arts, sciences, math and sports, commerce, and every other aspect of American culture, the contributions of Asian Americans have enhanced and benefited our rich cultural heritage.

The U.S. Census estimates that over 15 million Americans trace their ethnic heritage to Asia or the Pacific Islands and projects that by 2050, there will be approximately 40 million United States residents identifying as Asian alone or in combination with one or more races.

The month of May once again provides the people of the United States with an opportunity to recognize the achievements and contributions, history, and concerns of Asian Americans. Today we had the opportunity to increase our body here by one with an Asian American, Mr. DJOU of Hawaii, who we welcome and again give him the opportunity to serve his people and his heritage in this great body.

With that, I would like to thank my respected colleague Mr. HONDA for introducing this important legislation.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

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Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. CAO).

Mr. CAO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1316, celebrating Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. I commend the gentleman from California (Mr. HONDA) for introducing this legislation, of which I am a proud cosponsor.

The month of May is Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. During this time, we celebrate the contributions of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to their communities and to this Nation. As we do, we also must pause to recognize the struggles they have faced and continue to face.

Today, we face a crisis in our community. Right now along the gulf coast, Asian Americans in particular are struggling because of the impacts of the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. This economic, environmental, and health disaster is disproportionately affecting those who rely upon the resources of our coastal waters for their livelihoods. Many of those affected are Vietnamese American fishermen living in Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and my home State of Louisiana. While they are struggling, I know one thing for sure: they will persevere and overcome the effects of this catastrophe, relying upon the perseverance and the strength of family that runs throughout Asian American communities.

We have seen Asian American communities forced to start over to begin a new life, and I would like to use my family as an example. My mother and father were born in North Vietnam. In 1945, when the Communists took over North Vietnam, my family lost everything. They were forced to leave their home, their families, and their possessions to escape the Communists. They migrated to South Vietnam, where they started over.

After many years of struggle and much hard work, again they lost everything they possessed, even their children, when, in the spring of 1975, the Communist forces took over South Vietnam. My father then spent 7 years in Vietnamese re-education camps, during which time my mother single-handedly cared for my father, my brother, and my five sisters.

Once again, in 1991, they left everything they owned to come to the United States to begin a new life. Tragically, that new beginning, once again, was taken from them by the destruction of Hurricane Katrina; but they, like many who were in the same position, are survivors and they continue to thrive.

My family is but only one example of the thousands of Asian American families that have faced and overcome struggles with dignity and bravery. This just gives you a glimpse of the resiliency and the strength that is inherent in the Asian American culture, allowing those like my family to survive, just as those along the gulf coast will.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a Vietnamese American representing the wonderfully diverse constituency in Orleans and Jefferson Parishes in the U.S. Congress, and I am proud to be associated with this important resolution honoring Asian Americans.

I urge my colleagues to support this important resolution as a tribute to the accomplishments of Asian Americans everywhere.

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I thank my fellow members of Congress who join us today in honoring Asian Pacific Heritage Month and I thank the gentleman from California, Mr. HONDA, for sponsoring this resolution to recognize and honor the contributions of our Asian Pacific American community to this great nation. I also thank my colleagues

who are members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and all those who continue to address the issues facing the Asian Pacific American community, and ensure that our community has access to resources and a voice in government.

Originally, Congress in 1978 designated the first week of May to commemorate the arrival of the first Japanese immigrants and the completion of the transcontinental railroad that was built by the Chinese laborers. Every year since then, the President would issue an Executive proclamation from the White House to honor this month and direct all federal agencies and military installations throughout the country to conduct special events and ceremonies to honor our Asian-Pacific American communities throughout our country.

The achievements and successes of Asian-Pacific Americans demonstrate, above all, that the greatness of our nation lies in its diversity and ability to accept peoples from all over world, as they pledge themselves to become fellow citizens of this great nation.

Americans of Asian and Pacific Islander descent, over 16 million strong, are among the fastest growing demographic groups in the United States today, even though they make up only 9 percent of our nation's population. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the Asian American and Pacific Islander community is comprised of over 45 distinct ethnicities and over 28 language groups. In recent years, the Asian-Pacific American population has more than doubled and this rapid growth is expected to continue in the years to come—reaching 40.6 million by 2050, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

There are an unprecedented number of Asian-Pacific Americans in the fields of medicine, business, sports, academia, entertainment, and government, just to name a few. As Asian Pacific Americans serve in their respective fields, they share vast knowledge, experience and viewpoints that their unique backgrounds have contributed to.

When I envision America, I don't see a melting pot designed to reduce and remove racial differences. The America I see is a brilliant rainbow—a rainbow of ethnicities, cultures, religions and languages with each person proudly contributing in their own distinctive and unique way for a better America. Asian-Pacific Americans wish to find a just and equitable place in our society that will allow them—like all Americans—to grow, to succeed, to achieve and to contribute to the advancement of this great nation.

Surely Asian Pacific Americans have achieved many important milestones in the history of this nation. Yet while there remains much to be done, I am hopeful that the character of this great nation will ensure equity and access to all of our fellow American citizens from every racial, cultural, ethnic, and socioeconomic background.

I would like to close my remarks by asking all of us here—what is America all about? I think it could not have been said better than on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in that summer of 1963 when an African American minister by the name of Martin Luther King Jr., poured out his heart and soul to every American who could hear his voice, when he uttered these profound words, "I have a dream. My dream is that one day my four little children will be judged not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character."

That is what I believe America is all about. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1316 to celebrate Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and pay tribute to the many achievements of Asian Pacific Americans across our Nation.

The month of May marks several historical events in Asian Pacific American history. On May 7, 1843, the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States, paving the way for a great movement of Asian and Pacific peoples to immigrate to the United States. Only 26 years later, on May 10, 1869, the transcontinental railroad was finished, the completion of which is largely credited to Asian Pacific Americans. Due to these vents it is appropriate to celebrate the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and honor the sacrifices and contributions of this great community.

Through the years, the Asian Pacific American Communities have made significant contributions to Texas's diverse culture. In Dallas, I am privileged to represent the largest Asian American Chamber in the United States. I believe that we all learn from those who come from different backgrounds, and I can truly say that I have learned a great deal from my Asian Pacific friends and constituents.

Today, there are over 15.2 million Asian Pacific Americans living in the United States, representing nine percent of the population. The rich history associated with the Asian Pacific American community has left a lasting and important imprint on our country.

I would like to acknowledge the devastating earthquake that shook Yushu County in the Qinghai province of China on April 14, 2010 which killed or injured over 10,000 civilians. My deepest condolence goes out to the friends and families of the victims.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support this resolution and the Asian Pacific American communities in North Texas and across the United States.

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Asian/Pacific American Heritage Day 2010 and to celebrate the many cultural and societal contributions of the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities throughout Northeast Ohio.

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Day provides us with an opportunity to celebrate the numerous achievements of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders throughout Northeast Ohio and across the nation. Cultural diversity is a foundation of our community and it has allowed our residents to experience traditions from around the world.

The heritage of Asian Americans has been preserved and reflected by each generation. It shows the spirit, hope and courage of all of our ancestors who braved treacherous journeys along the road to freedom and opportunity in America.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in celebrating Asian/Pacific American Heritage Day and honoring the contributions of all Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in our Greater Cleveland community.

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I urge Members to support the passage of House Resolution 1316, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask all Members to join with Mr. HONDA and

Mr. CAO and other Members in support of this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. LYNCH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1316, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES AND VETERANS

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1385) recognizing and honoring the courage and sacrifice of the members of the Armed Forces and veterans, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1385

Whereas May is commonly known as National Military Appreciation Month;

Whereas during World War I, more than 4,700,000 Americans served in the military, more than 116,000 Americans lost their lives, and more than 204,000 Americans were wounded;

Whereas only one American World War I veteran, Frank Woodruff Buckles, survives today;

Whereas during World War II, more than 16,000,000 Americans served in the military, more than 405,000 Americans lost their lives, and more than 670,000 Americans were wounded, and today more than 74,000 Americans remain unaccounted for;

Whereas during the Korean War, more than 5,700,000 Americans served in the military, more than 36,000 Americans lost their lives, and more than 103,000 Americans were wounded, and today 8,026 Americans remain unaccounted for;

Whereas during the Vietnam War, more than 3,400,000 Americans served in the military, more than 58,000 Americans lost their lives, and more than 150,000 Americans were wounded, and today 1,720 Americans remain unaccounted for;

Whereas during the Persian Gulf War, more than 2,200,000 Americans served in the military, 383 Americans lost their lives, and 467 Americans were wounded;

Whereas since 2001, more than 1,000 Americans have lost their lives and more than 5,500 Americans have been wounded in Operation Enduring Freedom;

Whereas since 2003, more than 4,300 Americans have lost their lives and more than 31,000 Americans have been wounded in Operation Iraqi Freedom;

Whereas members of the Armed Forces answer the call to serve the United States,