

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING MINISTER LOUIS FARRAKHAN AND THE NATION OF THE ISLAM ON REOPENING OF THE SALAAM RESTAURANT IN THE CITY OF CHICAGO.

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Minister Louis Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam for implementation of a tremendous economic development project in the Auburn-Gresham community of Chicago, Illinois.

After being closed for twelve years, on Sunday July 1, 2012, at 706 W. 79th Street, 17 Ward, where the Honorable Latasha Thomas is Alderman. The Nation of Islam re-opened the beautiful five (5) million dollar renovated Salaam Restaurant. In the Webster Dictionary, Salaam is defined as meaning peace. And peaceful it is.

The Nation is reported to have spent in excess of \$5 million dollars to renovate the facility and make it a top of the line, first class community venue.

The Salaam has already attracted family gatherings, dinner parties, ministers meetings, business group meetings and visitors from across the nation.

At one meeting with ministers, Minister Farrakhan is reported to have said to the group "We built the Salaam restaurant with steel and concrete, that's why we could close it for twelve years and come and find it still here! Because brothers and sisters; for you, there is nothing too good."

For you, we call this, "The Palace of the People." "From our bakery, we intend to give out your daily bread, freshly baked bread made of the finest ingredients. The Salaam restaurant also has wonderful vegetarian cuisine. But for those who just must have a tenderloin steak, or lamb, come on here to the Salaam."

"Up stairs on the second floor is a private banquet hall, along with the Ministers' private dining room and adjacent is a piano room."

Currently the restaurant employs forty people and is eager to expand. Many people have called this magnificent creation the "jewel of 79th street" and is a wonderful place for tourist and visitors when they come to Chicago."

Once again, my hat is off to Minister Louis Farrakhan and the Nation of Islam for putting their money where their mouth is and adding another level of pride for Alderman Latasha Thomas and the people of the 17th Ward in the City of Chicago.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 31, 2012*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, the majority claims that there is no war on women, but here is yet another example of their attempt to restrict women's access to reproductive health care. H.R. 3803 is quite simply another attempt by anti-choice Republicans to reverse the freedoms women have gained over the last several decades regarding reproductive choice in health care.

Once again, the majority has sought to restrict women's access to reproductive healthcare by threatening doctors with prison (two years) and other penalties if they perform abortions after 20 weeks. With doctors fearful of yet even more restrictions to their practice, many will simply refuse to treat women who want to obtain a safe and legal abortion, thus achieving the majority's intended goal.

Unbelievably, this bill also allows the woman who obtains the abortion, the father, or the maternal grandparents to press civil charges against the doctor! In addition, there are no exceptions to this ban for rape, incest, fetal anomaly, or a woman's health, and with only a narrow exception for a woman's life. This bill also uses the term "unborn child" which is a very slippery slope.

The fact that H.R. 3803 is blatantly unconstitutional has been over-looked by the majority. It clearly violates two Supreme Court decisions regarding pre-viability and exceptions for a woman's life and health.

There can be no doubt about the national implications of a bill with D.C.'s name on it as a cover for attacking the reproductive rights of the Nation's women. The citizen's of the District of Columbia are being unfairly attacked. It is absolutely shameful that the sponsors of this legislation are trying to impose their will on the women of D.C. because they know for a fact they could not pass this policy at the national level.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3803 is just another attempt by the majority to wage a war upon women—unfortunately, this time it is directed at residents of the District of Columbia.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL HEALTH CENTER WEEK

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) for 47 years of service during National Health Center Week.

In Cleveland, the celebration honoring National Health Center Week will take place on Tuesday, August 7th, and be hosted by the members of Cleveland's Federally Qualified Community Health Network which consists of: Care Alliance Health Center, Neighborhood Family Practice, Northeast Ohio Neighborhood Health Services and The Free Medical Clinic of Greater Cleveland.

The theme for this year's event is "Celebrating America's Health Centers: Powering Healthier Communities." The focus will be on the success of Cleveland's FQHCs over the years, as well as how the community will welcome new movements in the health sector.

The event will feature local and state experts to discuss health disparities in the Cleveland area. A representative from the Ohio Department of Health will provide the keynote address.

As of 2011, the Cleveland Community Health Center Network has served more than 66,000 patients; Nationwide FQHC's have served over 20 million people. Community Health Centers all across America are partnering with local healthcare providers, social service agencies, and visionaries to ensure that quality health care is available to all.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Cleveland Community Health Center Network as well as the Federally Qualified Health Centers for their dedication and service to our communities and country.

IN SUPPORT OF WOMEN'S ACCESS TO PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, beginning today, August 1, preventative health care provisions for women under the Affordable Care Act will begin going into effect for new insurance plans.

As an increasing number of health insurance policies come under the reach of the Affordable Care Act, a growing number of women will finally be able to access—with no co-payments or deductibles—important preventative services including breastfeeding support, counseling for domestic violence, screenings for HIV, and well-woman visits.

Also importantly, women with these new insurance policies will have access to all FDA-approved forms of contraception. This is an unprecedented victory for women in every district and for women of all backgrounds.

The use of birth control is nearly universal, with 99 percent of women using contraception at some point in their lives. A June Hart Research poll also found that 80 percent of all American women agree that cost should not be a barrier to using effective birth control.

In addition, a letter released by leading law-and-religion scholar Leslie Griffin, and co-

• 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.

signed by 170 law professors at top religiously affiliated and non-religiously affiliated law schools clearly explains why the contraceptive-coverage benefit protects the rights of individual employees and in no way violates religious freedom. I ask unanimous consent to include the letter in the RECORD.

Mr. Speaker, I agree with the majority of Americans that all women have the right to affordable and effective birth control, and I am proud to have fought for this great achievement.

Even before the Affordable Care Act went into effect, the benefits of publicly-funded family planning services could be seen, as these programs have assisted 7 million women each year and have prevented 2 million unintended pregnancies.

Every dollar spent on family planning services is also estimated to save four dollars on future Medicaid costs for prenatal services, delivery, and one year of the baby's medical care.

Affordable birth control and preventative health care services help women plan the timing and size of their families and protect their health. There is a direct link between increased access to birth control and declines in maternal and infant mortality.

The critical provisions within the Affordable Care Act will therefore allow us to expand on these previous successes and give women the freedom to make their own private health decisions.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand with my colleagues and to acknowledge the hard work and long hours we devoted to ensuring that women have access to health care they deserve and I pledge to continue championing women's access to these important preventative services.

AUGUST 1, 2012.

TO PRESIDENT BARACK OBAMA AND THE CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP: We are law professors concerned about the Constitution, religious freedom, individual liberty, and gender equality. Today, the egalitarian notion that every American deserves to enjoy religious freedom is under attack from those who would cede employees' religious-liberty rights to corporate executives and nonprofit directors. In this cramped and one-sided view of religious freedom, supervisors are entitled to decide, based on their religious sentiments, whether their employees will be permitted to enjoy essential health benefits without the slightest concern for their religious beliefs. In particular, advocates claim that the Constitution gives all employers the right to veto their employees' health-insurance coverage of contraception.

This view, which is espoused by the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and others, is both wrong as a matter of law and profoundly undemocratic. Nothing in our nation's history or laws permits a boss to impose his or her religious views on non-consenting employees. Indeed, this nation was founded upon the basic principle that every individual—whether company president or assistant janitor—has an equal claim to religious freedom.

Nor does religious freedom provide a constitutional entitlement to limit women's liberty and equality, which are protected by the Fourteenth Amendment. Throughout the 1960s, religious leaders advocated laws banning contraception because they believed contraception was immoral. Nonetheless, in 1965 the Supreme Court held that contraceptive use enjoys constitutional protection in *Griswold v. Connecticut*. Moreover, the

Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment requires that women enjoy the same health and reproductive freedom enjoyed by men.

Women's liberty and equality are well-settled constitutional law and must remain so. Just as the Court ruled in 1983 in *Bob Jones* that the free exercise of religion may not override government policies against racial discrimination, today free exercise must not undermine women's liberty and equality.

The diminishment of women's liberty and equality will be the result if organizations claiming a religious affiliation are granted an exemption from the Obama administration's policy requiring all employers to provide contraceptive insurance to their employees.

The battle against legal contraception has been fought and lost before, not only in the 1960s, but also in the 1990s, when state legislatures and courts repeatedly rejected the argument that religious liberty provides a justification for undermining women's equality and denying them contraceptive insurance.

The same principle must apply today in the battle between the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and their allies and the Obama administration over insurance coverage for contraception. Simply put, religious freedom requires religiously affiliated employers to obey the law rather than to become a law unto themselves.

Even forty-seven years after the Supreme Court recognized a constitutional right to contraceptive use, many American women continue to lack access to effective and affordable contraception. One reason for this has been the disparate insurance coverage for men and women. For that reason, twenty-eight states have passed contraceptive equity acts that help women gain equal access to reproductive health care. Several of those acts, just like the Obama administration's policy, require employer insurance plans that offer prescription-drug coverage to include contraceptive drugs and devices in their coverage. Most of those acts, just like the Obama plan, do not apply to houses of worship but to religiously affiliated employers like Catholic Charities, a large social-services organization that receives more than two-thirds of its funding from taxpayers, as well as to Catholic schools, universities and hospitals that employ both non-Catholics and Catholic women who use contraception.

The bishops and their allies opposed those bills in the legislatures and the state courts, arguing that religious freedom requires a complete exemption for all employers that claim a religious affiliation. As the recent debate demonstrates, that argument has a certain intuitive appeal to religious organizations that believe that free exercise allows religiously affiliated organizations to avail themselves of special rules. Under the leading free exercise case (*Employment Division v. Smith*), however, religious employers are subject to neutral laws of general applicability. Two state courts, namely the highest courts of New York and California, forcefully rejected the bishops' argument for exemptions from laws requiring the provision of contraception insurance to employees.

The state courts first ruled that providing insurance could not be a matter of internal church governance protected from state interference by the First Amendment. The courts also held that insurance laws applying to all employers were neutral laws of general applicability that could be constitutionally applied to religious employers under *Smith*. The two holdings reinforce each other. As the New York Court of Appeals explained, "The employment relationship is a frequent subject of legislation, and when a

religious organization chooses to hire non-believers it must, at least to some degree, be prepared to accept neutral regulations imposed to protect those employees' legitimate interests in doing what their own beliefs permit."

The California Supreme Court took a further step, ruling that its women's health act survived strict scrutiny. Under strict scrutiny, a law that substantially burdens a religious practice is upheld only if the law represents the least restrictive means of achieving a compelling interest. The court concluded that the women's health care act was narrowly tailored to the government's compelling interest in eliminating gender discrimination, obviating the need to undertake a substantial-burdens analysis.

The California Supreme Court's strict scrutiny analysis remains relevant to criticisms of President Obama's plan. Opponents of the regulations have argued that they violate the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA), which subjects federal policies to strict scrutiny if they substantially burden a person's exercise of religion. The opponents are wrong. First, under existing case law, the provision of insurance coverage is arguably not the exercise of religion. Moreover, allowing individuals the choice of contraceptives does not substantially burden any exercise of religion.

Even if the courts found a substantial burden on religion, however, the government's interests in protecting women's health and reproductive freedom, and combating gender discrimination, are compelling. The Institute of Medicine panel's report, and a mountain of evidence from other public health groups, amply demonstrate the government's compelling interest in ensuring widespread access to affordable contraception as a means of promoting health and remedying gender inequality.

The California Supreme Court ruled that a law nearly identical to President Obama's initial plan to provide insurance coverage—including a virtually identical exemption for houses of worship—was narrowly tailored to protect women's equality. Thus President Obama's original regulation could have withstood constitutional scrutiny. The constitutional case is even clearer for the accommodation, which requires insurance companies to bear the burden of providing coverage to employees claiming a religious affiliation. The accommodation is even more narrowly tailored than the initial regulation was to reflect the government's interest in women's equality.

In past Supreme Court decisions, religious employers have been required to pay Social Security and unemployment taxes for their employees and to observe the minimum wage laws. Federal courts of appeals have required religious employers to comply with the child labor laws and to observe the equal pay laws even when the employers believed head-of-household pay was required by the Bible. As the California Supreme Court observed, "We are unaware of any decision in which this court, or the United States Supreme Court, has exempted a religious objector from the operation of a neutral, generally applicable law despite the recognition that the requested exemption would detrimentally affect the rights of third parties."

The federal government must continue to protect the rights of women who need insurance laws so that they may make reproductive choices consistent with their individual consciences. Religious freedom must not provide a justification to deprive women of legal rights they should enjoy as employees and citizens. To the contrary, the First Amendment specifically preserves space for their religious liberty, and secures their right to act as individuals who exercise their own

conscience on matters pertaining to their faith, body, and health.

LESLIE GRIFFIN,  
Professor of Law,  
William S. Boyd School of Law,  
University of Nevada Las Vegas.

Signed [Note: Affiliations provided for identification purposes only]:

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Roy G. Spece, Professor of Law, University of Arizona James E. Rogers College of Law; Carrie Sperling, Associate Clinical Professor of Law, Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law; Ralph Stein, Professor of Law, Pace Law School; Lara Stemple, Director of Graduate Studies, Director of Health and Human Rights Law Project, UCLA School of Law; Richard Storrow, Professor of Law, CUNY School of Law; John Strait, Associate Professor of Law, Seattle University School of Law; Jennifer Templeton Dunn, Executive Director, UCSF/Hastings Consortium on Law and Adjunct Professor, University of California, Hastings College of the Law; Tracy Thomas, Professor of Law, University of Akron School of Law; Stacey Tovino, Professor of Law, William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada Las Vegas and Mary Pat Treuthart, Professor of Law, Gonzaga University School of Law.

Ann E. Tweedy, Assistant Professor, Hamline University School of Law; Carole Vance, Associate Clinical Professor of Sociomedical Sciences, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University; Valerie K. Vojdik, Professor and Deputy Director, Law Clinic, West Virginia University College of Law; Lois Weithorn, Professor of Law, University of California Hastings College of the Law; Robin West, Frederick J. Haas Professor of Law and Philosophy, Georgetown Law; Lesley Wexler, Thomas M. Mengler Faculty Scholar and Professor of Law, University of Illinois College of Law; Deborah Widiss, Associate Professor of Law, Indiana University Maurer School of Law; Lindsay Wiley, Assistant Professor of Law, American University Washington College of Law; Verna Williams, Professor of Law, University of Cincinnati College of Law; Zipporah Wiseman, Thos. H. Law Centennial Professor, University of Texas at Austin School of Law and Marcia Zug, Assistant Professor of Law, University of South Carolina School of Law.

#### IN HONOR OF KATHLEEN PEPERA

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Kathleen Pepera who is retiring on August 1, 2012 after 34 years of dedicated service with the Social Security Administration.

Kathy began her career with the Social Security Administration (SSA) in the Cleveland West District Office as a summer intern while still a student at Baldwin-Wallace College. Following graduation, she took the Professional and Administrative Career Examination and was subsequently hired in 1979 as a Claims Representative in the Cleveland Southwest Social Security Office.

Throughout her career with SSA, Kathy has held a number of positions with increasing responsibilities. She has served as a supervisor at the Cleveland Teleservice Center and the Cleveland Downtown Field Office. Kathy also worked as the District Manager at the Cleveland Southeast Office and Cleveland Northeast Office. She also fulfilled a temporary role as Deputy Area Director for Northern Ohio. Kathy will be retiring as the District Manager of the Cleveland West District Office, the same office where she started her 34 year career.

Kathy's dedication to the SSA and citizens she helped serve was unquestionable. She

was steadfast in fulfilling SSA's mission to "deliver Social Security services that meet the changing needs of the public."

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Kathleen Pepera on the occasion of her retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 537 on suspending the rules and passing S. 679—the Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011—I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 538 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 828—the Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2011—I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 539 on suspending the rules and passing H.R. 3803—the District of Columbia Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act—I am not recorded because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

#### CONCURRENT TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION CELEBRATES ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY, TUESDAY, AUGUST 28, 2012

### HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, on August 28, 2012, Concurrent Technologies Corporation will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary. I rise to acknowledge this notable milestone and to pay recognition to the company's history and dedicated employees.

Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) was first known as Metalworking Technology Inc., a subsidiary of the University of Pittsburgh Trust. Metalworking Technology Inc. was formed in 1987 in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, to operate the National Center for Excellence in Metalworking Technology for the U.S. Navy.

In 1992, Metalworking Technology Inc. changed its name to Concurrent Technologies Corporation to more accurately convey the organization's expanded mission: to provide cutting-edge scientific, applied research and development solutions to its clients. Two years later, CTC separated from the University of Pittsburgh Trust to become a fully independent nonprofit corporation.

Daniel R. DeVos was the company's first permanent Chief Executive Officer, and through his leadership the organization quickly expanded its capabilities and gained national recognition. Edward J. Sheehan, Jr., who succeeded Mr. DeVos, is the current President and Chief Executive Officer. Under his guidance, CTC continues to grow and prosper—earning respect and appreciation from its many customers across our nation and globe.

Over its 25 years, Concurrent Technologies Corporation, in partnership with its clients, has created numerous breakthrough technologies and innovative solutions. CTC takes a collaborative approach to its work, sharing credit and celebrating achievements with everyone who plays a role in its success.

Today, Concurrent Technologies Corporation, with offices throughout the U.S. and in Europe, is an independent, nonprofit, applied research and development professional services organization providing management and technology-based solutions to each branch of the U.S. military, various U.S. Government agencies, and industry. CTC is routinely listed as one of the Top 100 Government Contractors by Washington Technology.

At any given time, CTC is working on multiple projects in areas such as advanced engineering and manufacturing; environment and sustainability; intelligence and information security; logistics, management, and acquisition; power and energy; readiness, preparedness, and continuity; safety and occupational health; and special missions.

For example, CTC helped NATO establish quality management services in less than 60 days at Kabul International Airfield in Afghanistan. The company also won the Environmental Excellence in Transportation Award for designing and implementing laser coatings removal systems throughout the U.S. Air Force.

Concurrent Technologies Corporation played a major role in the development, certification, and implementation of HSLA-115, a new higher strength modification of the HSLA-100 structural steel used for critical applications on aircraft carriers and other U.S. Navy combatant vessels.

Working for the U.S. Marine Corps Logistics Command, CTC developed an information technology tool that benefits U.S. warfighters by resolving logistics challenges in the Marine Corps supply chain. The tool, known as START, which stands for Secondary Repairables (SECREP) Total Allowance Recomputation Tool, won the Defense Logistics' Best Technology Implementation Award as a "significant contribution to military logistics and the warfighter."

Concurrent Technologies Corporation developed a highly successful Exportable Combat Training program that immerses warfighters in real-life computer-generated scenarios, preparing our troops to survive and succeed in rapidly changing operational environments. The program was developed for the National Training Center with the support of the U.S. Army Forces Command.

The transportation Capacity Planning Tool developed for the U.S. Marine Corps has grown into an approved Global Combat Support System-Marine Corps bridge technology.

Concurrent Technologies Corporation is a responsible employer, business partner and community-oriented organization. The company was recently named one of the world's most ethical companies by the Ethisphere Institute. For 11 consecutive years, CTC has been named "One of the Best Places to Work in Pennsylvania."

Concurrent Technologies Corporation has received multiple honors as a military-friendly organization. Two awards came from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve that recognized the company's initiatives in promoting cooperation and understanding between the National Guard and Reserve mem-

bers and their civilian employers. CTC is a member of the 100,000 Jobs Mission; a coalition of 41 companies committed to hiring at least 100,000 veterans by 2020, and has also been named a "Best for Vets Employer" for the past two years.

The company is also a good corporate citizen, whose employees volunteer thousands-of-hours to worthwhile local, regional, and national causes. They actively support schools, healthcare and human service providers, economic development programs, the arts, and recreation.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Concurrent Technologies Corporation on completing twenty-five years of vital collaboration with the U.S. Department of Defense and other U.S. agencies to improve the security of our nation. Because of their efforts, the United States military is better equipped to serve our great nation and the United States is a safer place to live for all of us. I know I speak for many when I wish CTC and its employees the best of luck in the future.

IN HONOR OF THE 102ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF HEAT AND FROST INSULATORS AND ALLIED WORKERS LOCAL NO. 3

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers Local No. 3 of Cleveland, Ohio, which is celebrating its 102nd anniversary on September 8, 2012.

Members of Local No. 3 can trace their beginnings back to the earliest days of the modern industrial era with the sudden expansions of steam power in the 1880s which created the need for the insulation industry. An attempt to form a national bond between insulators occurred in 1900 when the Salamander Association of New York sent out an appeal to related crafts in other cities to form a "National Organization of Pipe and Boiler Covers." The appeal struck a chord of solidarity and two years later, the officers and members of the Pipe Covers Union affiliated with the National Building Trades Council of America and invited other pipe coverer unions and related trades to join them. Seven local unions from around the country, including Cleveland, responded, resulting in the birth of the foundation for an international union. The interested locals met for their first convention on July 7, 1902, where they drafted and approved a constitution and elected Thomas Kennedy as their first president. They chose "the National Association of Heat, Frost and General Insulators and Asbestos Workers of America" as the name of the international union. On September 22 1902, the American Federation of Labor issued an official charter designating the insulator workers as a national union.

The union met again in October, 1904 in Pittsburgh to adopt a constitution and issue local numbers: St. Louis, No. 1; Pittsburgh, No. 2; Cleveland, No. 3; Buffalo, No. 4; Chicago, No. 5; Boston, No. 6; and Seattle, No. 7. The charter issued to Local No. 3 in 1910 con-

tained these Clevelanders: Thomas Richards, James Wiley, Phil Frigge, M.O. Taitle, Harry Jacoby, Archie Budd, Harry Morris, Harry Graff and George Davis. James Dalton, Al Dalton and Thomas O'Neil of Local No. 3 became officers of the International Association.

Over the years, Local No. 3 has fought for higher wages, safer working conditions on construction sites and better benefits. Local No. 3 has established funds to help with medical expenses, retirement, apprenticeships and training. As Local No. 3 continues into its second century, its goals remain to make a member's life safer, more productive and prosperous, to continue to work to meet the needs of its current members and to teach new members that there is strength and prosperity in solidarity.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the 102nd anniversary of the International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers Local No. 3 of Cleveland, Ohio.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF BOY SCOUT TROOP 508

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I celebrate the 50th anniversary of Boy Scout Troop 508 of Irving, Texas. The troop has a remarkable history of serving the community and developing young men into leaders.

Troop 508 was originally chartered at Woodhaven Presbyterian Church in 1962. The troop has a reputation for frequent traveling and extended outdoor adventures. Much of the boys' solidarity has revolved around their travels together, starting with "The Green Weeny" bus in 1966. During its history, the troop has traveled to exciting natural locations such as the Grand Canyon, Colorado, Brazos River, and to the center of civic leadership—right here in Washington, D.C. Indeed, in a troop where "three-fourths of scouting is outing" it is only fitting that the group have adopted the roadrunner as its traditional logo.

Boy Scout Troop 508 also has a history of exceptional adult leadership, both in its scoutmasters and former members. The adult leaders have been trained in Woodbadge and eight of the last twelve Silver Beavers were members of the 508. Many of them serve on the staff of ALTs, Webelorees, Camporees, and the District Committee for Five Trails. The troop has won first-place several times at Camporees and at Winter Camp. Throughout its 50 years, the distinguished troop has been guided by the leadership of scoutmasters including Mitch Barker, Sterling Bradley, David White, Blackie Marks, Norman Rozell, Jack Graham, George Gray, Bob Hootman, "Indian George" Alford, Dwight Sensabough, Jim Bell, Herb Boyd, Hamilton, Jerry Wicker, Scott Pohl, Roger Knapp, Bob Harris, Randall Svajda, Carter Hallmark, Richard Gamble, Roland Jeter, Dean Calvert, Bob Perkins, and Wayne Fletcher. "Indian George" Alford was an especially noteworthy man, a selfless and kind Comanche who founded Troop and Post 134 in Dallas and moved on to make a lasting legacy with Troop 508 in Irving, particularly with his Indian dance teams.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating Boy Scout Troop 508 on 50 years of inspiring young men to do their best in all that they do, while enjoying competition with good sportsmanship.

CONGRATULATING ELIZABETH  
BEISEL

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Olympic silver medalist and Rhode Island resident, Elizabeth Beisel. Elizabeth is a member of the USA Olympic Swimming Team, and on July 28, she competed in the Women's 400 meter individual medley, finishing in second place with a time of 4:31.27. I join her family, friends, Rhode Islanders, and the entire United States in congratulating her on this remarkable accomplishment.

Growing up in Saunderstown, Rhode Island, Elizabeth began swimming at 5 years old. Her passion, energy, and hard work paid off in 2008 when she qualified for her first Olympics. In Beijing, 15 year old Elizabeth was the first Olympic swimmer from Rhode Island in 44 years. She finished in fourth and fifth in the 400 meter individual medley and the 200 meter backstroke respectively. Last year she won her first world title at the Shanghai World Championships in the 400 meter individual medley.

After the Beijing Olympics, Elizabeth enrolled in the University of Florida, where she continues to train and compete. Outside of the pool, Elizabeth is a dedicated student and a talented violin player. She balances the demands of her collegiate and Olympic training programs, academic coursework, and international competition schedule with incredible grace and maturity.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues join me in extending congratulations and best wishes to Elizabeth and all of the exceptional athletes who make up Team USA. America is so proud of you!

HONORING BARBARA ANTHONY,  
VALDINE ATWOOD, BARBARA  
DRISKO, AND SALLY JACOBS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the nominations of Barbara Anthony, Valdine Atwood, Barbara Drisko, and Sally Jacobs for the Mighty Women of Washington County Elder Award.

The Mighty Women of Washington County is a group of strong, compassionate women who collaborate with businesses in Washington County to promote positive social and economic change in the community. This self sustaining organization continues to draw together talented and dedicated women who are committed to the region. Since 2006, the Mighty Women of Washington County have

grown their membership to over 180 strong representing business owners, government workers and volunteers. Together, their remarkable efforts have made a positive impact in the areas of homelessness, health care and other social issues.

In June of this year, the organization held its first event "Celebrating the Mighty Women of Washington County" in the town of Machias. At the event, Barbara Anthony, Valdine Atwood, Barbara Drisko, and Sally Jacobs were nominated for the Mighty Women Elder Award. This recognition is offered to members of the organization who embody exceptional character and citizenship.

Each of these women is a pillar of the Washington County community and they are all tremendously deserving of this recognition. Their energy, commitment to helping others, and devotion to the region are an inspiration to future generations of Washington County women and to Mainers throughout the state.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating these exceptional women for being recognized through this honor and thanking them all that they do for their community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CON-  
GRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS  
FOUNDATION'S 2012 SUMMER IN-  
TERNS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, it is with immense gratification that I recognize the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) and its Summer 2012 Interns for the completion of their intensive nine-week internship program on Capitol Hill. This summer, 40 college-aged students from across the nation participated in this program. These students were chosen through a competitive process based on an essay submission, a history of community involvement and a sense of civic engagement.

The CBCF's Congressional Internship program was designed to diversify our Congressional offices and give students an opportunity to develop their talent as young professionals and future leaders. During their tenure, summer interns had the opportunity to learn more about public policy and gain a complete understanding of the federal legislative process. In addition, they have grown professionally by identifying the skills and qualities of strong leaders. Outside their congressional offices interns put their legislative experience to use by engaging in their own mock Congress simulation.

Furthermore, interns were offered the opportunity to attend numerous professional and leadership development workshops, networking events, and engage with Members of the Congressional Black Caucus. I had the privilege to speak with the CBCF interns myself, encouraging them to be leaders and continue to be persistent in their fight for equal justice and opportunities for all. I would like to specially recognize CBCF intern Amir Rowe who worked in my office this summer. Amir demonstrated a great deal of proficiency in completing assignments and engaging with my constituents.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to congratulate the CBCF 2012 summer interns for taking advantage of this lifetime opportunity and I thank the CBCF, under the leadership of Elsie L. Scott, Ph.D., for providing such an invaluable experience.

Ashley Bobo, interning in the office of Rep. LAURA RICHARDSON, attending Harvard College;

Jeremy Broadus, interning in the office of Rep. EMANUEL CLEAVER, attending Rutgers University;

Tierra Burns, interning in the office of Rep. MELVIN WATT CAMERON, attending North Carolina Central University;

Melissa Chin, interning in the office of Sen. CHARLES SCHUMER, attending Brown University;

Saliha Cifci, interning in the office of Rep. AL GREEN, attending Rutgers University;

Devon Cox, interning in the office of Rep. HANSEN CLARKE, attending University of Michigan;

Nairobi Cratic, interning in the office of Rep. GWEN MOORE, attending Temple University;

Devon Crawford, interning in the office of Rep. TERRI SEWELL, attending Morehouse College;

Elizabeth Davis, interning in the office of Rep. BOBBY SCOTT, attending George Mason University;

Courtnie Drigo, interning in the office of Rep. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, attending Rice University;

Camylle Fleming, interning in the office of Rep. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, attending Wellesley College;

Chazmon Flood, interning in the office of Rep. MAXINE WATERS, attending Howard University;

Ariana Gibbs, interning in the office of Rep. BENNIE THOMPSON, attending Spelman College;

Brianna Gibson, interning in the office of Rep. DONNA EDWARDS, attending Columbia University;

John Grigg, Jr., interning in the office of Rep. DONNA CHRISTENSEN, attending University of Tampa;

Brittany Harvey, interning in the office of Rep. ANDRÉ CARSON, attending Clark Atlanta University;

Brandon Hill, interning in the office of Rep. CORRINE BROWN, attending Stanford University;

Tyler Hill, interning in the office of Rep. BARBARA LEE, attending University of California, Berkeley;

Brooke Hutchins, interning in the office of Rep. CHAKA FATTAH, attending Georgetown University;

Duane Jackson, interning in the office of Rep. YVETTE CLARKE, attending Bates College;

Ocoszio Jackson, interning in the office of Rep. SANFORD BISHOP JR., attending Morehouse College;

Tatehona Kelly, interning in the office of Rep. MARCIA FUDGE, attending American University;

Jordan Lindsay, interning in the office of Rep. WILLIAM LACY CLAY, attending Morehouse College;

Malaiya McGee, interning in the office of Rep. GREGORY MEEKS, attending Howard University;

Kaylan Meaza, interning in the office of Rep. G.K. BUTTERFIELD, attending North Carolina State University;

Origen Monsanto, interning in the office of Rep. DAVID SCOTT, attending Southern Polytechnic State University;

Kristopher Nicholas, interning in the office of Rep. ALCEE HASTINGS, attending Columbia University;

Matthew Norwood, interning in the office of Rep. JOHN LEWIS, attending Dartmouth College.

Jasmine Omeke, interning in the office of Rep. JESSE JACKSON JR., attending Harvard University.

Brittany Porter, interning in the office of Rep. FREDERICA WILSON, attending Hampton University;

Jeremy Ratcliff, interning in the office of Rep. EMANUEL CLEAVER, II, attending Livingstone College;

Amir Rowe, interning in the office of Rep. CHARLES RANGEL, attending St. John's University;

Shannon Schoultz, interning in the office of Rep. JAMES CLYBURN, attending American University;

Kaleese Shepperd, interning in the office of Rep. BOBBY L. RUSH, attending Western Illinois University;

Jason Sneed, interning in the office of Rep. KAREN BASS, attending University of Southern California;

Travis Stanislaus, interning in the office of Rep. EDOLPHUS TOWNS, attending Cornell University;

Jonathan Sykes, interning in the office of Rep. HANK JOHNSON, attending Fort Valley State University;

Rahel Tekola, interning in the office of Rep. SHEILA JACKSON LEE, attending Texas Tech University;

Terrence Threweatt Jr., interning in the office of Rep. ELIJAH CUMMINGS, attending St. Mary's College of Maryland;

Benjamin Turman, interning in the office of Rep. JOHN CONYERS, attending Hampton University.

TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FIRST CLASS JOSE OSCAR BELMONTES

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a hero from La Verne, California, Private First Class (PFC) Jose Oscar Belmontes, United States Army. Today I ask that the House of Representatives join me to honor and remember this incredible young man who died in service of our country.

PFC Belmontes was born in Riverside, California in 1984. He graduated from Polytechnic High School in 2002 and joined the Army in February 2011. After training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri, he arrived at Fort Drum in July 2011. He was serving as a construction engineer with the 630th Engineer Company, 7th Engineer Battalion, 10th Sustainment Brigade, 10th Mountain Division, which deployed to Afghanistan later that month. He died of injuries sustained from small arms fire in Wardak Province, Afghanistan on July 28, 2012 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. PFC Belmontes was 28 years old.

PFC Belmontes' fellow servicemen and women fondly remember him for his positive

attitude; Belmontes was known for stepping up to the plate and helping out whenever he was needed. PFC Belmontes accomplished so much during his short time and he will be dearly missed by his unit and all who knew him. PFC Belmontes served honorably, earning many awards and decorations including the Purple Heart, the Army Achievement Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one star, the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon and the Combat Action Badge. He is survived by his wife, mother, and father.

As we look at the incredibly rich military history of our country we realize that this history is comprised of men, just like PFC Belmontes, who bravely fought for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Each story is unique and humbling for those of us who, far from the dangers they have faced, live our lives in relative comfort and ease. The day the Belmontes family learned of their husband and son's death was probably the hardest day they have ever faced and our thoughts, prayers and deepest gratitude for their sacrifice go out to them. There are no words that can relieve their pain and what words we can offer only begin to convey our deep respect and highest appreciation.

PFC Belmontes' family have all given a part of themselves in the loss of their loved one and we hope they know that the goodness he brought to this world and the sacrifice he has made, will never be forgotten.

IN HONOR OF THE HITCHCOCK CENTER FOR WOMEN

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Hitchcock Center for Women, HCFW, for 30 years of dedicated service to thousands of women and their families in Cleveland, OH.

The mission of the Hitchcock Center is to holistically empower women to achieve and maintain productive, chemical-free lives. The Hitchcock Center is "the place where healing begins" for women who are in need of help.

The founder of the Hitchcock Center is Jayne Mazzerella, who realized that women recover differently from chemical substances than men. She founded Merrick Hall, a 4-bed treatment program for female alcoholics, which led to the beginnings of the Hitchcock Center.

The Hitchcock Center is now the largest agency of its kind in the Greater Cleveland area. To date, it has provided services to approximately 13,000 women and their families. The Hitchcock Center recently announced its planned expansion of the Traditional Housing and Recovery Management services, which strives to return families back into the community. They eventually seek to expand into even more communities.

Today, there are 53 women who work for the Hitchcock Center. There are also many alumnae of the program who return to volunteer for the center through the HCFW Alumnae Council. Together, they have proven success in helping women to grow and recover so they can go back to their families and homes as whole and healed persons.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the HCFW of Cleveland, OH, for all of their dedication and service to the community.

IN RECOGNITION OF EUGENE MORGAN WELSH

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today to honor the late Eugene Morgan Welsh. Gene passed away peacefully on July 25, 2012. Staff Sgt. Gene Welsh was a true American hero and served his country with pride and dedication.

Eugene "Gene" Morgan Welsh was born May 9, 1925 in McAllister, OK to William Morgan Welsh and Tina Pearl Welsh. Gene had two brothers, Kenneth and Billy Welsh, who preceded him in death, brother Don and a sister Wanda Griffith.

Proudly at age 18, Gene joined the U.S. Army's 19th Infantry Regiment during World War II. Staff Sgt. Welsh's assignment took him to the South Pacific. While serving in the Asiatic Pacific, Staff Sgt. Welsh was wounded in combat and was eventually awarded the Purple Heart with the Oak Leaf Cluster.

While recovering from his injuries, Gene started writing to a Pen Pal, Miss Bettye Cavazos from Sharyland, TX. This was the bright spot during his recovery and he often told her in his letters that if he ever made it out of the war alive he was going to come back to the U.S. and marry her. Upon completion of his military career, he in fact went to Texas and asked for her hand in marriage. Flag Day, June 14, 1946, Bettye Cavazos became Mrs. Eugene Welsh; that same year they moved to Ceres, CA. Gene eventually opened up a business in 1967 that is known today as Ceres ProTow and it is still located at the same place 45 years later. Gene and Bettye had two sons, Mike and Ron. Gene was very proud of his sons and was devastated when Ron passed away from a pulmonary embolism. Mike continues to run the family business.

Gene had a great love for his community and was very active with many social and charitable as well as civic organizations. In 1987, Gene was awarded Rotarian of the Year and in 1988 he was awarded Ceres Citizen of the Year and in 2003 he was awarded the Stanislaus County Senior Citizen of the Year. Gene also had a love of Square Dancing, and taught beginner Square Dance lessons and eventually formed the Ceres Twisters where he was the club caller for over 40 years. Gene and Bettye were always happy to share their love of Square Dancing with others and provided demonstrations to Ceres and Modesto grammar schools and convalescent homes and they danced at local, state and national festivals as well as on cruise ships.

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Gene is survived by his wife of 66 years Bettye, son Mike and his wife Maureen, daughter-in-law Sherry and 8 grandchildren, 8 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandson.

Mr. Speaker, the recognition that I am offering today before the House of Representatives for Eugene Morgan Welsh is small compared

to the contributions and impact he had on the lives of so many. He was a leader of our community, role model to our youth and a great American.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE  
LIFE OF DOROTHY MAE JAROCH

**HON. ANNA G. ESHOO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an exceptional woman, Dorothy Mae Jaroch, who passed away on June 12, 2012, at the age of 88. Her youngest son, Pete, cared for her in her final weeks and was by her side at the moment of her passing. Dorothy Mae Jaroch was a devoted wife, an exceptional mother, a loving grandmother, a beloved sister, a teacher and a leader. She will be greatly missed by all who were fortunate enough to know her, and I count myself among those so blessed.

Dorothy Mae Jaroch, a longtime resident of the San Francisco Bay Area, was born and raised in Lenexa, Kansas. She attended Spring Hill High School, and after completing her academics there, Dorothy married Lieutenant Commander Eugene Jaroch in 1945. She moved to San Francisco to join her new husband, Eugene with the tune "Sentimental Journey" by Doris Day with the Les Brown Orchestra in her heart and mind. Together, they travelled extensively throughout the country, danced in harmony and were very much in love. Dorothy, a longtime friend of the Religious of the Sacred Heart at Oakwood, was dedicated to helping others, always making them feel that her home was also theirs. Her greatest attribute was her unswerving faith in God and the goodness of people, and her legacy of compassion serves as a positive example for us all.

Dorothy is survived by her children Eugene Paul, Steven, Peter and Suzanne; grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her husband, Eugene, the love and light of her life, passed away twelve years ago.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in extending our deepest condolences to Dorothy Mae Jaroch's family and to all those who were blessed by her friendship. Dorothy Mae Jaroch was an exceptional citizen whose pursuits strengthened our community and bettered our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RUSS CARNAHAN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, I regrettably missed the suspension votes on July 31, 2012. Please let the record reflect my position on each of these pieces of legislation.

(1) S. 679 (Roll no. 537)—Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011. I would like the record to reflect that I would have voted in favor of this legislation, which I support, had I been present to record my vote.

(2) H.R. 828 (Roll no. 538)—Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2011, as

amended. I would like the record to reflect that I would have voted against this legislation, which I oppose, had I been present to record my vote. I believe that holding individuals with seriously delinquent tax debts accountable is important—to address our fiscal deficit and to ensure all Americans are fulfilling their responsibilities as citizens of this country. However, this legislation unnecessarily and unfairly singles out federal employees. For this reason, I oppose this legislation.

(3) H.R. 3803 (Roll no. 539)—District of Columbia Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. I would like the record to reflect that I would have voted against this legislation, which I strongly oppose, had I been present to record my vote.

The District of Columbia Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act represents just one more step in the Republican's agenda to undermine women's access to reproductive health care. This measure cruelly contains no exemptions in the case of rape, incest, or a terminal fetal anomaly, requiring a woman to carry a non-viable fetus to term. Moreover, this bill is another instance of a congressional overreach into the District of Columbia's affairs. If supporters truly deemed this legislation acceptable for all Americans, they would have moved to enact it nationally, as opposed to imposing it solely on D.C.'s population.

I have long been a strong supporter of women's reproductive rights, and I have continued to work to ensure that women's rights and access to abortion care remain safe and legal. This Congress, we have seen the rights of women come under attack repeatedly in the House of Representatives. Though I firmly believe in encouraging healthy debate, the attacks we have seen are an affront to the rights and health of women around this country. I have, and will continue to, consistently oppose measures like this legislation, which undercut critical access to reproductive health care.

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT  
OF DALE JOHNSEN

**HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to stand before you and my colleagues today to applaud Mr. Dale Johnsen upon his retirement. Dale has devoted his life to the interests of his fellow tradesmen and women, and to the entire community of Northwest Indiana. Mr. Johnsen has been a member of Bricklayers Local #4 Indiana/Kentucky for 36 years, 22 of which he served as an officer and field representative. Additionally, he has served as President of the Indiana State Building and Construction Trades Council for the past two years. For his lifetime of service to the Bricklayers and the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council, as well as the Indiana State Building Trades Council, Mr. Johnsen will be honored at a retirement dinner taking place at Avalon Manor in Merrillville, Indiana on August 17, 2012.

During his 36 years with Bricklayers Local #4 Indiana/Kentucky, Dale Johnsen has assisted those who want to work for a living wage in countless ways. For example, he has represented the union as a Trustee for the

Pension Fund and the Health and Welfare Fund, as well as the Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee. A leader in the truest sense of the word, Dale has also served as President of the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Council. Also, he is currently a member of the Business Construction Resource Center and the Tripartite Committees for ArcelorMittal Indiana Harbor and Burns Harbor. In addition, Dale served as Admiral for the Pirates Charity Organization and now serves on the organization's Captain's Table. Mr. Johnsen's enthusiasm, dedication, and constant support to the Building Trades and charities within our greater community is truly outstanding, and for this, he is worthy of the utmost praise.

Northwest Indiana's building trades have a strong history of excellence in its craftsmanship and loyalty by its members, as well as a steadfast commitment to serving the community. Dale Johnsen has always exhibited these qualities, and I have a profound respect and admiration for his absolute dedication to helping others, both locally and statewide. When it comes to serving those in need, the Indiana State Building and Construction Trades Council and the Northwestern Indiana Building and Construction Trades Councils have long been one of the state's most generous organizations. Dale Johnsen has been at the forefront of these efforts.

From a personal perspective, I am proud and lucky to have Dale Johnsen as a friend. A friend who has been completely loyal, a friend who has been selfless, a friend who has always "been there."

Mr. Speaker, in conclusion, Dale Johnsen has generously dedicated his life and all his efforts to those he has worked with and represented so well. His passion and commitment to the Building Trades and to the community of Northwest Indiana is to be admired. I respectfully request that you and my other dignified colleagues join me in commending Dale for his many years of service and in wishing him well upon his retirement.

HONORING BLACK LAW  
ENFORCEMENT PIONEERS

**HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I arise today to recognize an important milestone in my community. On August 20, 2012, the Virginia Beach Police Department is hosting an event to honor Black Law Enforcement Pioneers from our area. Robert E.W. Sparrow, Mondoza Holloway, Clyde I. Siler, Alexander H. Woodhouse, Russell H. Lawrence, Charles Pace, Johnny E. Parks III, Warfield M. Wood and as many as 22 auxiliary police officers who patrolled Virginia Beach prior to 1969, will be honored for serving during a time when bigotry and racism ran rampant throughout our country. I want to thank these fine men for standing bravely in the face of hatred, and doing their jobs honorably. Because of men like these, America remains the greatest country in the world, where the bastions of liberty and freedom stand over those who wish to harm it. We can all learn from their outstanding character and commitment to doing what is right.

HONORING SECOND LIEUTENANT  
YER VANG

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life and service of the late Second Lieutenant Yer Vang. Second Lieutenant Vang served the United States of America honorably during the Vietnam War.

Yer Vang was born on February 2, 1960, at Ban Long Xai, Muan Long Xai, in the Xieng Khouang province in the Kingdom of Laos. He attended Ban Na Elementary School. In March of 1972, when he reached the age of twelve, he was recruited to train at Muang Cha Military Training Center, located in the Xieng Khouang province.

Upon completion of his military training, Yer Vang was assigned to work as a water supplier and a mail carrier at the 228th Battalion Headquarters. On January 1, 1973, he was transferred to the 2281st Company Infantry Division of the 228th Battalion Special Guerrilla Units (SGU), 1st Strike Division Infantry of the United States Secret Army. Yer Vang fought in the Vietnam War with this unit through May of 1975. During this tenure of his service, he took part in many important missions advanced by the United States Secret Army and was promoted to the rank of Second Lieutenant.

After the communist takeover of Laos in May of 1975, Yer Vang's unit was stationed south of the Plains des Jarres. Unable to be airlifted to a U.S. Airbase in Thailand, Yer Vang had to flee his position and go into hiding in fear of being persecuted by the ruling government. He remained in hiding until June of 1979, when he passed through the jungles of Laos by moonlight and crossed the Mekong River to safety in Thailand.

Yer Vang was a political refugee at Ban Vinai Camp in Thailand for twenty years. On January 31, 1990, he came to the United States and began his life in Fresno, California. Once resettled in Fresno, Yer Vang attended Fresno Adult School, where he graduated in 1993. He worked at a local Pizza Hut for two years, before he was hired as a teacher's aide for Fresno Unified School District in August of 1995. In 1997, Yer Vang was selected to be a board member of the Lao Veterans of America, where he served as Treasurer from 1997 through 2000 and Secretary from 2005 through 2012.

Second Lieutenant Yer Vang passed away on June 24, 2012. He is survived by his wife, whom he married while in the refugee camp in Thailand. The couple has thirteen children: three sons and ten daughters.

For his military service, Yer Vang was awarded the Bronze Medal from the King of Laos, the United States Special Forces in Laos Medal, and multiple commendations and citations from the United States Congress. He was also honored by the United States Congress with the Vietnam Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, and Vietnam Veterans Medal.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in posthumously honoring Second Lieutenant Yer Vang for his heroic service to the United States of America and extending our deepest condolences to his family. His legacy serves

as an example of excellence, and his contributions to our country will not be forgotten.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. BOB GOODLATTE**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, July 31, 2012*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 3803 would prevent abortions of unborn children who are more than 20 weeks after fertilization—the age at which scientific evidence shows that they can feel great pain.

This bill will prevent brutal, late term abortion procedures, including one in which unborn children are mutilated and dismembered while they are still alive. Only the most calloused among us can hear the description of these types of procedures and not react with disgust.

I strongly believe that life begins at conception, and that we should protect the lives of innocent unborn children. I wish this bill went even further, but the absolute least we can do is ban abortion when we know the unborn children experience great pain. I urge support of this important legislation.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF JOHN AND BETTY DODD

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with a sense of joy that I recognize and celebrate the 50th anniversary of the wedding of John and Betty Dodd, two outstanding and esteemed citizens of Farmers Branch, Texas.

John and Betty were married on August 19, 1962, and have lived in Dallas County ever since. They have both led inspiring lives dedicated to education and our community. John is a Certified Financial Planner and CEO of Honors Academy, a nonprofit organization that operates charter schools. He has served as a member of the Dallas Independent School District Board, a city council member and the mayor of Farmers Branch, and remains active in many community organizations. Betty is a teacher and a volunteer and board member at several organizations including her children's schools, Prestonwest Republican Women, Farmers Branch Civic League, and Farmers Branch Women's Club. Truly, the Dodds have been valuable assets in the town that they call home.

They have raised a family together and are the dedicated parents of David Dodd and Angela Dodd Miller. John and Betty are also the loving parents-in-law of Shannon and Jon, and grandparents of Justin and Caroline Dodd, and Matthew, Caroline, Nathan, and Andrew Miller. The Dodds are members of First United Methodist Church in Dallas, Texas.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating

John and Betty Dodd on 50 years of marriage, a truly noteworthy testament to their strong commitment to each other and to the beauty of marriage.

TRIBUTE TO HORACE CURLIN HALL III

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Horace Curlin Hall III, an outstanding lawyer, devoted father and true friend to the South Texas community. Mr. Hall will be long remembered as a man who was dedicated to his country, his family and his profession for years after his passing.

Mr. Hall, a third generation Laredoan, attended Martin High School where he graduated at the young age of fifteen. A lifetime Longhorn, he attended The University of Texas at Austin, where he joined the Sigma Chi fraternity, an organization whose fundamental purpose is to promote the core values of friendship, justice and learning—all virtues he modeled throughout his lifetime. After graduating with a Bachelor of Arts in 1950, he honorably served his country as First Lieutenant in the Army during the Korean Conflict. Upon his return from Korea, he enrolled at The University of Texas School of Law and received his degree in 1955.

While attending law school, Mr. Hall met and married Nancy Louise Black and together they raised five daughters. Mr. Hall presented each daughter as a debutante in the Society of Martha Washington, a bicultural organization committed to celebrating the legacy of our country and chartered in part by Mr. Hall's grandmother, Camila Scott Hall. An endlessly supportive father and an advocate of education, Mr. Hall encouraged each daughter to attend college.

Regarded as a distinguished lawyer, Mr. Hall joined his father's law firm in Laredo, Texas, and practiced until passing, advocating on behalf of those that shared his loyalty to the South Texas community. In continuation of his commitment to education, Mr. Hall legally represented Laredo Community College throughout most of his career. Included in the list of clients to the firm were banks, construction companies and the Association of Laredo Forwarding Agents, an organization whose purpose is to promote local corporations at both the national and international level.

Mr. Hall was well known for his many passions outside of his profession, including a love of literature and poetry, which he shared with those close to him. He enjoyed the South Texas country and was considered an excellent marksman, often bringing together his family after a hunt for a gourmet meal. His sense of humor was one of his greatest characteristics, attracting friends that remained faithful to him until the end.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have had the opportunity to recognize the late Horace Curlin Hall III. He is no longer with us, but his contributions not only to his country and family, but also to his profession and his beloved community will live on.

TRIBUTE TO DR. CLEMMIE E.  
WEBBER

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary educator, entrepreneur, author, community activist and mother. Dr. Clemmie E. Webber passed away on July 25, 2012, at the age of 99. This remarkable trailblazer will be sorely missed by all who had the honor of knowing her, and I count myself in that number.

Dr. Webber was born in St. Matthews, South Carolina in 1913. She moved at the age of three with her parents, Henry W. and Colin Embly, to Treadwell Street in Orangeburg. She grew up there with her four younger siblings, and would later write a book about their childhood experiences.

Education was always important to Dr. Webber. Her early school years were spent at Claffin University's elementary department, and in high school she attended what is now South Carolina State University. She earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in chemistry at South Carolina State, and went on to earn a doctorate in science education from The American University.

In 1935, at the age of 19, Dr. Webber married Paul Webber, a fellow classmate at South Carolina State. They were entrepreneurs who owned Webber Motor Sales and the Orangeburg Tigers baseball team. However, they were most known for their ownership of two soda shops in Orangeburg that were popular hang outs for students and provided them much-needed jobs. The College Soda Shop also became the inspiration for her second book.

Dr. Webber began her teaching career at the former Wilkinson High School and several elementary schools in the area. She went on to teach chemistry and economics at her alma mater for 25 years. While a professor on South Carolina State's campus, Dr. Webber was a catalyst for change. She led the effort to build the I.P. Stanback Museum and Planetarium, which now houses the Clemmie E. Webber Educator Resource Center. She and her husband, who also served as a history and economics professor at South Carolina State, were mentors for many young people—myself included—during the student Movement of the 1960s.

Her love for education extended to serving on the Orangeburg School District 5 Board for 11 years. She served as Chair of that body for six years, and is credited with developing the compromise that allowed the school district to build the current Orangeburg-Wilkinson High School on U.S Highway 601. She also served as President of the South Carolina School Boards Association and was appointed to a five-year term as a Commissioner on the State Education Commission.

Dr. Webber had an interest not only in educating young people, but helping them to develop character and be good leaders. She was actively involved in the Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts organizations, the Jack and Jill program, the Sunlight Club, and served as the PTA President at two schools.

She also demonstrated her exceptional touch with young people at home raising three

children—Carolyn, Sheryl, and Paul, III. Her nurturing nature led to her recognition as the South Carolina and National Mother of the Year in 1983.

Dr. Webber has received numerous other awards and honors including the Order of the Palmetto, the highest honor a South Carolina governor can bestow on a citizen. She was also inducted into the South Carolina Black Hall of Fame, received the South Carolina School Boards Distinguished Service Award, and the South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus Award in recognition of her outstanding civic and educational achievements. In 2008, an Orangeburg street was renamed Webber Boulevard in honor of Dr. Webber and her husband's contributions to the community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in celebrating the extraordinary life of Dr. Clemmie E. Webber. She led by example and gave generations of young people the tools they would need to excel in life. What a tremendous legacy she has left for the City of Orangeburg and the State of South Carolina.

HONORING ROBERT D. GRANT

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and express my gratitude to Robert D. Grant, Special Agent-in-Charge of the Chicago office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. He is retiring from his position as head of the Chicago FBI after an outstanding 29 years of distinguished service to this country.

In 1983, Mr. Grant began his career with the FBI and has since served in Memphis, New York, and San Antonio, along with several different assignments at FBI headquarters here in Washington, D.C., including Chief Inspector.

Mr. Grant spent his time with the FBI committed to improving all areas of operations and has brought tremendous changes to fruition. In 2005, Mr. Grant became the head of the Chicago office, where he is now the longest serving agent-in-charge in the history of that office.

During his time in Chicago, Mr. Grant has overseen numerous widely-recognized investigations, from corrupt public officials to our most violent criminals.

He was at the forefront of the indictment and convictions of several high-ranking members of the Chicago Mafia and played a key role in the arrest of two Chicago men on charges related to the 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai, India.

Throughout his career, Mr. Grant has received numerous accolades for his impressive service, ranging from local community group recognition to the 2008 Presidential Rank Service Award.

While acknowledging Special Agent-in-Charge Grant today for his three decades of service, we also reaffirm our appreciation to all of the brave men and women of the United States law enforcement community, who work every day to protect our families and keep our country safe.

Once more, we thank Mr. Grant for his integrity, leadership, and dedication to the FBI and our country. And we wish him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from votes in the House Tuesday afternoon (July 31). My flight was unavoidably delayed on my return to Washington from Milwaukee, WI due to bad weather.

Had I been present—

(1) I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 537—S. 679—Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011.

(2) I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 538—H.R. 828—Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2011, as amended.

(3) I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 539—H.R. 3803—District of Columbia Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RICHARD L. HANNA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 537, I was unavoidably absent. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 538, I was unavoidably absent. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 539, due to severe thunderstorms over the Northeast, my flight was unavoidably delayed. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

TRIBUTE TO RONALD F. DASH

**HON. JON RUNYAN**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. RUNYAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ronald F. Dash, a resident of the Township of Willingboro, Burlington County, New Jersey in recognition of his outstanding service on behalf of veterans throughout the State of New Jersey. Ronald F. Dash has served as Chairman of the Willingboro Veterans Advisory Committee and as the Advisor to Willingboro's Mayor and Council on Veterans Issues. He also serves on my Military Academy Advisory Committee which makes recommendations for young men and women from New Jersey's Third District who are applying to attend one of our nation's service academies.

Ronald F. Dash served his country with honor and valor as a member of the United States Marine Corps during the Vietnam War, where he was wounded and received the Purple Heart. After his Marine Corps (USMC) service in Vietnam, he served in the Army Reserves and then transitioned to the Army National Guard attaining a final military rank of Staff Sergeant (E6).

He has given generously of his time, energies, and resources as a Commander and State Chaplain in the Military Order of the Purple Heart Chapter 26, and as a member of the

Veterans of Foreign Wars (V.F.W.) Post 4914, the American Legion Post 516, the Disabled American Veterans Chapter 42, and the Marine Corps League 695. Ron Dash continues to visit and assist veterans, provide food for the homeless, and provide transportation for people with special needs across Willingboro and other communities.

I thank Ronald F. Dash for his patriotism, and his continued service to the Willingboro community, the State of New Jersey, and this great nation. I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing this great veteran hero and community servant.

VIRGINIA BEACH CRIME SOLVERS  
30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I arise today to recognize the 30th anniversary of the Virginia Beach Crime Solvers. This organization has been a stalwart in our community and has been instrumental in keeping the streets of Virginia Beach safe. The partnership between the community, the Virginia Beach Police Department, and local media, is key to helping the Crime Solvers become one of the top crime solver organizations in the country. Since its inception in 1982, tips to Crime Solvers have resulted in over seven thousand arrests and fourteen thousand solved crimes. Their fine work led the Federal Bureau of Investigation to name Virginia Beach as the "lowest violent crime rate city in the United States" in 2010. I would like to thank the original Board of Directors: Chairman Al Craft; Vice Chairman John J. Kruger; Tom Gmitter, Secretary; Bob DeFord, Treasurer; and, Members Thomas C. Broyles, Mary Ellen Cox, Ed Crittenden, Glenn R. Croshaw, George Duvall, John Godfrey, Marlene J. Hager, Ernie Hyers, Clarence Keel, Bill Myers, Dennis O'Hearn, Ragan B. Pulley, Jr., Gerald Weimer, Roy Willman, Navy Captain Danny Michaels and Aaron Parsons. I also want to thank the current Board of Directors: Chairman Joe O'Brien; Vice Chairman Freddi E. Moody; Bonnie B. Capito, Secretary; Daniel D. Edwards, Treasurer; and Members Don Albee, Marie Bauckman, Ginger Carl, James H. Capps, Alfred W. Craft, III, Ross Forster, Dr. Valerio M. Genta; Nancy Guy, Carleen Lombardo, Roseann Lugar, Stuart Myers, Karl Nichols, Ragan B. Pulley, Jr., Chris Roberts, Laura Roland, Lawrence E. Ronan, Troy Snead, Ruth Ann Steenburgh, Thomas H. Thatcher, Donald R. Thrush, Marion Wall and Francis L. Warren, Jr. I am thankful to both groups for stepping forward when their community needed them. Because of these fine community leaders, our children and grandchildren continue to have the opportunity to grow up in a safe community. I congratulate them on 30 years of service and look forward to having the Virginia Beach Crime Solvers serve the community for many years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE VICTORY  
ARCH

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Victory Arch, which will make its debut after undergoing a two year restoration at the Cuyahoga County Fair in Berea, Ohio.

The original Victory Arch was built in 1929 by Fred Hartman and was erected at the main entry to the Berea Fairgrounds on Eastland Road. The arch's columns are 25 feet high and span 35 feet across. For years the Victory Arch served as a beautiful welcoming sign to Cuyahoga County residents coming to enjoy the annual County Fair. Unfortunately, over the years, with the exception of some minimal work in the late 1970s, the arch began to rust and fell into disrepair. A few years ago, Berea's Save Our Arch Committee began advocating for a full restoration of the Victory Arch. Two years ago the project began.

The Cuyahoga County Fair Board, American Legion Post 91 and the Berea Historical Society helped to raise money and awareness needed to restore the structure. However, the physical restoration would not have been possible if it had not been for donations, support and countless man hours of the Berea City Club, Iron Workers Local 17 Apprentice Program, Cosmos Industrial Service, Inc., AkzoNobel, eGlobal Construction, Kottler Metal Products, Inc., Ziegler Bolt, Local 17 President Tim McCarthy, Retiree Local 17 Doug McJunkins, Sealcoat, Horizon Metal, Inc., Luna and American International—Michael Petrasek.

The Victory Arch was resurrected to its original place on Eastland Avenue on July 12, 2012 just weeks before thousands will visit the Berea Fairgrounds for the 116th Cuyahoga County Fair.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the reinstatement of the Victory Arch at the Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds.

ADAM WALSH REAUTHORIZATION  
ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Adam Walsh Reauthorization Act of 2012 (H.R. 3796). I would like to recognize Representative Sensenbrenner for a career spent protecting our nation's children, including this bill before the House today.

Six years ago I stood with my then 15-year old son and 13-year old daughter in the Rose Garden at the White House when President George W. Bush signed into law the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006.

Title V of the Adam Walsh legislation contains my bill, the Child Pornography Prevention Act. My bill set forth new findings to protect children against so-called "home pornographers" to better enable federal prosecutors

to proceed with cases against them. It also provided increased protection to victims of child pornography and strengthened the hand of law enforcement in investigating and bringing charges in obscenity and child pornography cases. Finally, it closed a loophole that allowed pornographers to exploit children by using them in productions with simulated sexual activity or lascivious sexually explicit content and then claim that they believed the children to be over age eighteen.

The Adam Walsh legislation had many other good initiatives that have protected our nation's children by improving sex offender registration and providing local law enforcement officials with tools needed to track those who prey upon children. Some of these provisions require reauthorization, and I am pleased today that we are moving forward with this reauthorization, especially of the two key programs that fund the U.S. Marshall's fugitive apprehension program and the grants that help states comply with the national sex offender registry requirements, in a fiscally responsible manner.

I consider myself fortunate to have been able to contribute to the Adam Walsh bill, as well as the 2003 Child Abduction Prevention Act (later renamed the PROTECT Act), which setup the Amber Alert system. That legislation also included the Truth in Domain Names Act that I authored. The Truth in Domain Names Act made it a criminal act to knowingly use a misleading domain name with the intent to deceive a child into viewing harmful material on the Internet, and it has made a difference in protecting children from Internet pornography.

Congress over the years has faced many very difficult issues, but we always have kept the best interest of children at the forefront of our work. As we move to reauthorize these important programs in the Adam Walsh bill today, I want to thank my colleagues for coming together to put our children first.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ANÍBAL  
DE JESÚS RODRÍGUEZ

HON. PEDRO R. PIERLUISI

OF PUERTO RICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Mr. PIERLUISI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a great Puerto Rican and a great American, Aníbal De Jesús Rodríguez, who passed away on June 26, 2012. Army Staff Sergeant De Jesús Rodríguez was a veteran of both World War II and the Korean War. He served with distinction from September 1943 until December 1964, retiring after more than 20 years of active-duty service to our nation.

In recognition of his achievements while in uniform, De Jesús Rodríguez was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, the American Theater Service Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

In addition to his own extraordinary service, Sergeant De Jesús Rodríguez helped cultivate a tradition of service in his family. His brothers also served in the U.S. Army, as did his three sons: Anibal, Efrain and Juan. Moreover, three of his grandsons have served in the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Army and U.S. Navy. It is families like his that keep our nation safe and strong. And it is families like his that make our country great.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of this proud veteran, American patriot, family patriarch and role model, Anibal De Jesús Rodríguez. I know he will be greatly missed by those who had the privilege to know him. But I also know that he will never be forgotten.

TRIBUTE TO T. RANDOLPH COX

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifetime accomplishments of my friend, T. Randolph "Randy" Cox, who is being honored by the YMCA of the Kanawha Valley as its 2012 Spirit of the Valley recipient. Unfortunately Randy is being recognized post mortem as he passed away on his birthday, October 19, 2011, while participating in one of his favorite athletic sports, the game of squash.

Raised in Princeton, New Jersey, Randy attended the University of Virginia as an undergraduate, the University of Massachusetts completing an MBA, and the University of Miami, where he completed his law degree and met his wife and lifelong partner, Ann. Randy and Ann moved to West Virginia and each became members of the law firm of Spilman, Thomas & Battle. Randy's practice included environmental, telecommunications and corporate law, with a primary focus on government relations and insurance regulatory matters. Randy was well respected as a member of his firm and for his work throughout West Virginia's legal community.

Randy was also committed to serving the Kanawha Valley and his state, by giving back to the region where he resided and raised his family. He served in leadership roles with a number of local charitable, civic and philanthropic organizations, most notably, the Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation as its former chairman of the board, the West Virginia Chamber of Commerce as its former chairman of the government relations committee and board of directors, and lastly, the Charleston YMCA, who is honoring him as its 2012 Spirit of the Valley recipient, having served as its chairman of the board. At the time of his death, Randy was serving as President of Edgewood Country Club where he spent his leisure time on the golf course or squash court. Randy was truly a versatile and talented man whose life was cut too short.

The Spirit of the Valley award specifies that its recipient be, ". . . a person who quietly gives of themselves, their time and their resources when the Valley's citizens need them. Their commitment, persistence, good judgment and joyful heart only enrich the fabric of life in our Valley." There is no question that Randy certainly embodies these good character traits and is most deserving of this esteemed honor. I am just sorry that he cannot be with us as we honor him.

In addition to his wife, Ann, Randy leaves behind two children, Thomas and his wife, Brittany, and his daughter Erin, whom he truly loved.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to speak to the accomplishments of T. Randolph "Randy" Cox, for the level of devotion to his family and

his dedication to community service which makes Randy most deserving of the honor of the YMCA's Spirit of the Valley. I am honored to call him my good friend and the Kanawha Valley is fortunate to remember him as one of their own.

MR. DAVID M. DONNINI

**HON. LOU BARLETTA**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David M. Donnini who will be sworn in as President of UNICO National in August 2012. Founded on October 10, 1922, UNICO National is the largest Italian-American service organization in the United States. During its outstanding history, the group has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to help countless people and numerous charities.

Mr. Donnini, a former Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania resident, joined the Wilkes-Barre Chapter of UNICO National in 2001. He was exceptionally active in committee work within the chapter and held numerous positions including treasurer and first elected vice president. In 2005, he relocated to Redondo Beach, California, and continued to dedicate his time to UNICO National by joining the Los Angeles Chapter. Due to his hard work, a year later, he was elected chapter president and served in this role from 2007 to 2008. To further aid the community, he founded the annual Italian Festival and Bocce Ball tournament in Hawthorne, California, to benefit the Jimmy V Foundation for Cancer Research.

It is an honor to recognize Mr. Donnini and his involvement in an organization that has given so much to the community. I have had the esteemed privilege of attending many UNICO events in my congressional district, including pig roasts and charity events, and proudly witnessed the positive impact the group's efforts have made in my community.

I congratulate Mr. Donnini on this major accomplishment and look forward to seeing how his leadership impacts Italian-Americans and the thousands of people who benefit from this fine organization.

Mr. Speaker, I commend David M. Donnini for his years of committed service to UNICO National and his readiness to serve the needs of Italian-Americans across our Nation and in northeastern Pennsylvania.

AFGHANISTAN WITHDRAWAL LOGISTICS AND CAPABILITY OF AZERBAIJAN TO SUPPORT U.S. MILITARY REQUIREMENTS

**HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO**

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues a very important matter that our military will soon face; the logistics of withdrawing our servicemembers and supplies from Afghanistan.

Some 90,000 servicemembers, 100,000 shipping containers and 50,000 vehicles will

need to be transported out of Afghanistan by the end of 2014 when U.S. and NATO major combat operations come to an end. This accumulation has occurred over a decade and the logistics to drawdown will be monumental.

Adding to this challenge is the instability of what has been the primary transit route which relies on the cooperation of Pakistan. Pakistan only recently reopened the transit routes after having closed them in late 2011. We must have safe, reliable, and secure alternative ways to move our servicemembers and supplies.

Azerbaijan is one of several options that provides a reliable transit route for over 40% of non-munitions supplies to Afghanistan and with the announced closing of Transit Center at Manas (formerly Manas Air Base) in Kyrgyzstan, this route will be ever more important.

Azerbaijan has been a strategic partner and key ally in our efforts to combat global terrorism. Azerbaijan was among the first Muslim countries to send troops to Afghanistan and Iraq as well as provide flyover rights to our military.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Azerbaijan for their friendship and partnership. I hope we continue to work with Azerbaijan to make certain our servicemembers have a safe and secure route for the supplies they need for their well-being while we are still in Afghanistan. It is also essential that we continue to partner with Azerbaijan to ensure we have reliable ways to safely withdraw by the end of 2014.

IN HONOR OF THE LAWNESIDE VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY NO. 1

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lawnside Volunteer Fire Company No. 1 for its tireless efforts protecting and serving the residents of Lawnside over the last 100 years. At this great milestone, I recognize the heroic work of these individuals who routinely place themselves in harm's way for the greater good of the community. These volunteers serve as vanguards of safety and stability, performing necessary duties that few are willing to undertake.

Since its humble beginnings in 1912 with only a small fire hall and single Model T Ford, the Lawnside Volunteer Fire Company has found growth through determination and community initiative. Through fundraising and the awarding of federal grants, the Lawnside Fire Company steadily grew its fleet of emergency vehicles, providing greater lifesaving assistance to the Lawnside community. The Lawnside Fire Company has also gained statewide recognition as a premiere company, having won a series of awards at the annual New Jersey Firemen's Convention.

Mr. Speaker, Lawnside Fire Company's contributions and endless dedication to the Lawnside community should not go unrecognized. I join the citizens of Lawnside and all of Camden County in honoring the achievements of this exceptional fire company.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JIM JORDAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. JORDAN. Mr. Speaker, my scheduled flight into Washington yesterday afternoon was cancelled for mechanical reasons. As a result, I was absent from the House floor during last night's three rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted against S. 679 and in favor of H.R. 828 and H.R. 3803.

A TRIBUTE TO THE CAMELLIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA AND RECOGNITION OF THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Camellia Symphony Orchestra of Sacramento, California.

The Camellia Symphony Orchestra is one of Sacramento's prized assets and has deep roots in the region.

Today's Orchestra traces its beginnings back to a small group of local musicians who began informally gathering together and playing music, simply for the fun of it. This group began performing at Encina High School, originally naming themselves the "Pot Luck Symphony."

On September 1, 1962, the group formally organized eventually adopting the name the North Area Community Symphony. Ever since that September evening, the Orchestra has continued to grow, educate and entertain people in the Sacramento area.

By 1970 the Orchestra changed its name to the Camellia Symphony and became a regular participant of Camellia Day events held annually by the City of Sacramento. As the Orchestra has grown, it continues to earn national praise while also showcasing the talent of Sacramentans across the country. In 1979 the Camellia Symphony won its first of many future ASCAP awards, and in 1986 won the prestigious "INDIE" award for best classical release.

As the years have progressed, the Camellia Symphony Orchestra has developed and produced innovative, historical and exciting performances, earning a reputation as one of the finest orchestras in the region. While earning this reputation of excellence, the Orchestra has continued to give back to the Sacramento community, providing opportunities for local musicians to display their musical ability. The Orchestra's commitment to community is seen through its ongoing collaboration with a variety of Sacramento events and organizations, such as Camerata California, the Strauss Festival, St. John's Lutheran Church and many others in the region.

On behalf of all those in the Sacramento area who appreciate what the Camellia Symphony Orchestra means to our community, I would like to congratulate them on their 50th anniversary and wish them many more years of success and prosperity.

## INTRODUCTION OF COMMISSION ON AMERICANS LIVING ABROAD ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, U.S. citizens who live and work abroad serve as American's informal ambassadors, helping to strengthen the United States economy and promoting American influence around the globe. For years I have worked to ensure overseas Americans are able to exercise their right to vote and have access to banking services. Five years ago I formed the Congressional Americans Abroad Caucus to focus and bring awareness to the concerns of the 4–6 million U.S. citizens residing abroad. Because they're scattered across the world, it can be hard for Americans living abroad to get the attention of Congress. U.S. citizens remain Americans wherever they are in the world and should not be ignored.

Americans living and working outside the U.S. continue to voice concerns regarding the impact of federal policies on voting, access to financial institutions, immigration, and taxation. Given that these and other federal policies affecting Americans abroad cover an array of agencies, we should study the full impact of these policies on the overseas community. That is why today I am introducing the Commission on Americans Living Abroad Act, creating an Executive Commission expressly charged with examining the concerns of U.S. citizens living and working abroad. This new legislation creates a 15 member panel to study the impact of U.S. laws and Executive actions on the overseas Americans community. The study would then be used to make recommendations for actions Congress and the Executive Branch could take to improve collaboration and communication of policies impacting this community. Through this study we can better ensure awareness, coordination, and integration of the activities of the federal government relating to Americans abroad. Thanks to original cosponsors Reps. MICHAEL HONDA and CHARLES RANGEL for their support of the bill and their advocacy on behalf of overseas Americans.

It is time we take a systemic look at all the issues affecting our citizens living abroad. Through this bipartisan Commission we can establish the state of policies and rules affecting Americans abroad so we can better serve their needs as they live and work in our global economy. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. AUSTIN SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 537, I was unavoidably absent due to my flight being canceled. Had I been present, I would have voted "No."

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 538, I was unavoidably absent due to my flight being canceled. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 539, I was unavoidably absent due to my flight being canceled. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

## HONORING JOHN BOGERT

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker. I rise today to honor the memory of John Bogert, who passed away on July 29, 2012 at the age of 63 following a lengthy battle with cancer.

John Bogert was a columnist for the Daily Breeze, a South Bay local staple, for 28 years. In that time, he wrote some 6,500 columns. He worked hard, writing five or six columns weekly, and his efforts did not go unrecognized. By the end of his life he was known as the "Voice of the South Bay."

He wrote about anything and everything, but some of my favorite columns were those he wrote about his family. These columns were honest—sometimes brutally so—and gave readers insight into a life that often seemed very familiar. He had an uncanny ability to draw readers into his experiences and after reading his columns, his followers felt that they knew him. His book signings were characterized by long lines and his appearance at local events drew crowds of people waiting to shake his hand. He even wrote one of his columns on me as he attempted to capture a "Day in the Life of Janice Hahn"—it was one of my favorite writings on my life.

John was born on October 7, 1948 in Utica, New York and spent much of his childhood in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. He attended the University of Florida where he started his own newspaper and starred on the track team. After some time abroad, he moved to Southern California where he was hired by the Daily Breeze in 1979. He did not originally plan on staying long, but he became one of the Breeze's longest tenured journalists until his departure in June of this year.

He once said in an interview that journalism gave him the opportunity to "meet some pretty great people." And indeed he met with so many interesting figures, from presidents to nuns to an encounter that let him drop the line, "Stalin's interpreter once told me . . ."

John Bogert leaves behind three children: Caitlin, 29, Rachel, 25 and Ian, 18. His eldest daughter is expecting his first grandchild in September. The granddaughter will be named Charlotte, a name picked by John himself. I consider myself incredibly lucky to have known John, and to have considered him a close friend. His family, friends, colleagues and so many readers will miss him dearly. I know that I will.

## RECOGNIZING RADIOLOGISTS AND THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF RADIOLOGY

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the International Day of Radiology, and

draw attention to the important contribution that radiology, in particular diagnostic imaging, serves in the health care delivery system. International Day of Radiology is observed annually on November 8th, an important date in the history of radiology. On that day in 1895, Professor Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen discovered x-rays. Radiology will be celebrated by many groups including the American College of Radiology, the Radiological Society of North America, and the European Society of Radiology.

Radiologists (physicians with special training in the use of imaging including x-rays), Radiation Oncologists (physicians trained to treat cancers with radiation alone or in combination with surgery and/or chemotherapy), and the medical imaging community have made significant contributions to modern medicine, providing powerful tools for clinical diagnosis, decision making, and treatment of disease. Over the last 30 years, medical imaging tools have been among the most sophisticated and cutting-edge technologies developed for patient care. During that span we have seen consistent decreases in cancer mortality rates with corresponding increases in American life expectancy.

The U.S. National Academy of Engineering recognized the tremendous contribution of medical imaging exams when it ranked imaging among the 20 greatest engineering achievements of the twentieth century. Practicing physicians surveyed in a 2001 Health Affairs study ranked Computed Tomography (CT) and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) number one among the top 30 recent medical innovations. Perhaps most telling, the *New England Journal of Medicine* named medical imaging one of the top 10 medical advances of the last 1,000 years.

A 2009 National Bureau of Economic Research study found that individuals with greater access to imaging scans live longer. Diagnostic imaging services have enabled patients to avoid several types of expensive and invasive procedures. Imaging scans cost less than surgeries and reduce the number of unnecessary hospital admissions and length of hospital stays. As such, medical imaging serves an important role in containing the cost of health care in the United States.

With its impact on patients' health, I'm pleased to recognize the importance of diagnostic imaging and radiation oncology, and call attention to November 8th as the International Day of Radiology.

HONORING DIANE SHERMAN,  
MAINE HOUSING COUNSELOR

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, I would like to honor the work of housing counselors across the country who have assisted homeowners during the hardships of the recent housing crisis—and one counselor in particular from Maine.

A constituent wrote to me about Diane Sherman, a housing counselor at Coastal Enterprises in Wiscasset, Maine, who helped this constituent in a four-year process to modify

their mortgage. For all that time, Diane has been this family's constant advocate. She has helped them through multiple hearings, held their bank to their word, and guided them through the bank's maze-like bureaucracy.

But what has mattered to this constituent more than anything else is that Diane treated her family with dignity, respect, and sympathy. This was in stark contrast to an institution that dealt with them more like a number than a person. At every step of the way, Diane reminded all involved that this was not an inhuman transaction—the situation was about real people threatened with losing a home that meant so much to them.

Truly outstanding, though, is that Diane performed her services for this family and many others while she herself dealt with life-threatening cancer. When too sick to go to the office, she worked from home. She is still dealing with the terrible disease but I hope and pray for her recovery.

Across the country, thousands of housing counselors like Diane are working to keep families in their homes. They've only become more important in recent years as the housing crisis impacted millions of families. Combined with falling home values, unresponsive mortgage servicers, and long-term unemployment, these families have few places to turn. Thank goodness for housing counselors, who work to make sure consumers get a fair shot. They are not always successful, but they still make an incredible difference for families in very difficult situations.

My sincere gratitude goes to these housing counselors for their heartfelt work, and my best wishes to Diane Sherman for her recovery.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE WATER PROTECTION AND REINVESTMENT ACT

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, there is nothing more essential to quality of life, to the health of our families and of our communities than water. Water is life. Safe drinking water and basic sanitation make the difference between health and sickness, between a family thriving or struggling just to exist.

Water quality and quantity are serious issues in communities across the country, especially now, when changing weather patterns, extreme drought, continued growth combine to put an even greater demand on our aging, inadequate infrastructure. To ease these pressures, I am introducing the Water Protection and Reinvestment Act, which would establish a trust fund to help local communities meet their water infrastructure needs.

Over a thousand communities across the country are struggling with combined sewer overflows as well as inadequate and aging sewer pipes. Small communities in particular, which already face huge questions of water supply and quality, have few resources with which to pay the bills and are seeing sky-high monthly costs for consumers.

The Water Protection and Reinvestment Act creates a deficit-neutral, consistent, and

firewalled trust fund to help states replace, repair, and rehabilitate critical wastewater treatment facilities. It will be financed by assessing small fees on a broad base of those who use water and contribute to pollution: water-based beverages, items disposed of in wastewater, and pharmaceuticals, which often wind up in wastewater systems.

The materials that flow into sewer systems and then into rivers and streams present unprecedented challenges to our water infrastructure. More and more products are designed to be flushed down toilets and drains, placing them in systems that are already stressed. Pharmaceutical residues are showing up in treated wastewater and because they are difficult to treat, I'm afraid we are slowly medicating vast numbers of Americans against their will. Aging water systems—some still made out of brick or wood, some dating from the century before last—mean that America also faces old-fashioned system reliability issues. Reports indicate that each year an average of six billion gallons of drinking water leaks from these inadequate and ancient pipes. Six billion gallons is enough to fill 6,000 Olympic sized swimming pools—if lined up, these pools would stretch from Washington, DC to Pittsburgh, PA.

These aging and outdated systems are not just a local problem, relevant only to a single neighborhood, city, county, or even state. Water does not obey county boundaries or even state lines, and it is a resource on which we all rely. The Federal Government should help fill the funding gaps that local communities and States cannot. The opportunity is now: There is significant State and local investment, interest rates are near an all-time low, and enacting this legislation, the Water Protection and Reinvestment Act, will leverage hundreds of billions of additional dollars.

The American public is already paying a disproportionate share of the costs of water infrastructure. Residential households have the least capacity to absorb additional costs during these difficult times, and they already face wildly escalating costs to deal with problems that they did not create. The voracious water demands of industry far outstrip household needs. In large measure, the Cokes of the world, the pharmaceutical companies, and industries that produce products that get flushed are the ones that accelerate water demand and complicate water treatment. Industries that profit by putting their products in the sewer systems—either by design or inadvertently—or who withdraw vast amounts of fresh water to make a profit should pay their fair share. Clean water is absolutely essential for these industries and the rest of the business community to function. A small fee to pay for water infrastructure upgrades would provide the business community far more in benefits than it would cost, and it could be used to leverage a broader range of investments.

This bill will help communities deal with their water infrastructure needs in a stable, proactive way, and will provide significant benefits for those who rely on our water system, the local government officials charged with making the system work, and the industries who rely on a clean, consistent source of water for their products.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN FLEMING**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. FLEMING. Mr. Speaker, I was not present to vote for rollcall 537 and rollcall 538 due to flight delays from storm systems moving through the area. Had I been present I would have voted "no" on S. 679, the Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011, and "yes" on H.R. 828, the Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2011.

## HONORING GARY WADDELL

**HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the outstanding achievements of a great Nevadan, Mr. Gary Waddell. I am proud to call Gary my friend, and that makes me just like hundreds of thousands of Southern Nevadans who also have a friend in Gary. All of us know that when we catch a Gary Waddell television newscast, we get the news as it should be presented. No other newscaster has ever delivered news with better judgment and community perspective than Gary has for more than 30 years. No one has ever broadcast with more intelligence, warmth, and integrity than has Gary.

Gary is the "dean" of newscasters, but that term hardly captures what he means to Southern Nevada. In times of crisis in our community over the years, we've always turned to Gary's coverage because he is a consummate news professional, never allowing competitive pressure to compromise accuracy, thoroughness and fairness. Gary's signature on-air style is incisive, sincere, assuring, and warm. Southern Nevadans rightly call him their "Cronkite."

When we see Gary's work on TV, we are also seeing Gary the man—the man who has done so much good for Southern Nevada, above and beyond the ordinary call of his profession. Since the 1970s, Gary has given his time and talent to help people in need. His efforts, both public and private, have aided countless thousands of Southern Nevadans and built a stronger community for all.

Gary is coming to the end of his legendary broadcasting career. To say he will be missed is a major understatement. I understand he'll soon be riding off on his motorcycle, but I look forward to his return, and hope he may pursue a new venture that will again bring him into our living rooms.

Congratulations and best wishes on your new life chapter, my friend.

## NO CO-PAY DAY

**HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate No Co-Pay Day.

Today marks a victory for women's health care. Some 47 million women will now be able to get preventative services that couldn't be before this rule went into effect.

Any new insurance policies sold to individuals or employers must cover contraception without a co-pay as part of a larger package of mandatory co-pay-free women's preventative care benefits. Insurance plans that have already been purchased will have to start offering no-co-pay contraception when they renew.

Before the Affordable Care Act, some insurance companies did not cover preventative services for women under their health care plans, and others required deductibles or co-pays for the care they needed.

That changes today—all health insurance policies are required to cover new preventative care without charging women any co-pays or deductibles. Some of the new preventative services now available with no co-pay include annual visits, FDA-approved contraceptives, domestic violence screenings and counseling, breastfeeding support, HPV DNA testing for women 30 or older, HIV and sexually transmitted infections screenings, and gestational diabetes screenings that help protect pregnant women from one of the most serious pregnancy-related diseases.

Too often, women put their families' health care before their own, especially when it comes to preventative care.

Thanks to this new benefit in the Affordable Care Act, women can get the regular check-ups and screenings that are so important to staying healthy without having to worry about how much it will affect the family budget.

Today's announcement is just one more part of the overall implementation plan for improving our nation's health care system.

The Affordable Care Act will provide greater access to affordable health care for millions of women and families who do not have coverage now, while also lowering health care costs, creating jobs, strengthening the middle class, and reducing the deficit.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BETTY SUTTON**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. SUTTON. Mr. Speaker, due to problems with travel, I was unable to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 537, "yes" on rollcall No. 538, and "no" on rollcall No. 539.

## NATIONAL INFANTRY MUSEUM

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues, LYNN WEST-MORELAND and Senator SAXBY CHAMBLISS, in support of this legislation, which will strengthen for the future one of the crown jewels of southwest Georgia—the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center at Fort Benning.

The National Infantry Museum sits on a 200-acre site that serves as a tribute to the Infan-

try's legacy of valor and sacrifice. The Museum honors infantry soldiers—from those who crossed the icy Delaware River with George Washington to those serving in Afghanistan today—for their selfless service to our country, while preserving their stories for future generations.

It also serves as a functional area for basic training graduations and other special and community events. Since its opening in 2009, for example, Infantry School classes regularly graduate on the facility's parade field.

In addition, the National Infantry Museum hosted a Congressional Military Family Caucus Summit just over a month ago, which connected military families with Members of Congress, officials from the Department of Defense, personnel from the Department of Veterans Affairs, and various military and veteran support organizations to discuss pressing issues impacting America's service members and their families.

In 2008, the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center Commemorative Coin Act was enacted to raise funds to complete the facility as well as create an endowment to support its maintenance. No taxpayer funds have been involved and the U.S. Mint even made a profit for the taxpayers from the coin sales.

With the current economic challenges, however, the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center hopes to direct the coin proceeds to pay down a portion of the \$16 million in bank loans that the Foundation incurred in order to complete the facility as well as reduce interests costs.

Accordingly, this legislation makes a technical change that will allow the coin proceeds to be used "for the retirement of debt associated with building the existing National Infantry Museum and Soldier center and for any future capital improvements." It is within the letter and the spirit of the original measure, and it will go a long way toward keeping our proud Army Infantry past alive so we as great nation never forget the sacrifices of our brave Infantry soldiers.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

RECOGNITION OF THE  
RETIREMENT OF GARY BARRIGER**HON. DAVID P. ROE**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Gary Barrigar, who is stepping down as president of the Boone Watershed Partnership, which he has served since 2005. Through both his work with the Partnership and as a schoolteacher, Gary has made incredible contributions to his East Tennessee community.

As a science teacher who was in the classroom for 38 years at Elizabethton High School, Gary headed the award-winning Elizabethton High Ecology Club. He has also been an integral part of numerous organizations that protect the environment and outdoor areas that we East Tennesseans hold so close to our hearts.

Gary has made it his life's mission to increase water quality awareness and help preserve local rivers and streams—something

that all of us in East Tennessee are the better for.

I commend Gary for his selfless contributions to East Tennessee and its water resources and wish him the best as he transitions into this new stage in life.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 31, 2012 I missed votes due to a meeting in my district with constituents in Urbana, IL on pressing local issues. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" for S. 679, Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act of 2011; "aye" for H.R. 828, Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act of 2011; and "aye" for H.R. 3803, District of Columbia Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act.

IN HONOR OF DR. JOHN PETER GROTHE

### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Dr. John Peter Grothe who passed away on June 16th, 2012 at the age of 81. Dr. Grothe was a dedicated public servant who counted among his proudest achievements drafting the original Peace Corps legislation and giving it the name "Peace Corps" when he worked for Senator Hubert Humphrey. Dr. Grothe was a dedicated educator, author, and public speaker whose passion and work touched countless lives.

Dr. Grothe was born on May 28, 1931 in San Francisco to Walter and Dorothy Grothe and grew up in Hillsborough, California. He earned his BA and MA degrees in Journalism from Stanford University and later went on to earn his PhD in Political Science from George Washington University. After his work with Senator Humphrey, Dr. Grothe was appointed Deputy Director of the United Nations Division of the U.S. Peace Corps.

Following this appointment, Dr. Grothe launched a long career in academia, serving as an Adjunct Professor at the Graduate School of International Policy Studies at the Monterey Institute of International Studies in my Congressional District where he was the Director of International Student Programs and taught American Politics and Cross-Cultural Communications. Dr. Grothe also held positions at San Jose State University, Odense University in Denmark, and State University of New York, Stony Brook. Dr. Grothe brought his knowledge and abilities to his work as a visiting research scholar, lecturing in Sweden, Norway, and 51 other countries. He also served with the American Field Service as an adviser, leader, and volunteer.

Dr. Grothe was also an accomplished author who wrote *To Win the Minds of Men—A Study of the Propaganda War in East Germany* and penned numerous scholarly articles

that appeared in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Christian Science Monitor*, and *San Francisco Chronicle*, among other publications.

Dr. Grothe was an inspiring mentor, leader and volunteer who served as a father figure to many. He was committed to creating opportunity for tomorrow's leaders and made a financial contribution that allowed 145 qualified international and minority students to pursue their educational goals. The Peter Grothe Scholarship Fund for Women in Developing Countries was created to continue Dr. Grothe's tradition of providing educational opportunity.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my deepest condolences to Dr. Grothe's sister, Ms. Carol Stevens, and half siblings, Mr. Tom Grothe, and Ms. Heidi Carman. Dr. Grothe leaves an inspiring legacy and he will be deeply missed.

#### CELEBRATING IAB'S FIRST 30 YEARS

### HON. JOE BARTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today Dr. Burgess and I rise to recognize the Independent Association of Businesses (IAB), a leading national trade association, in celebrating 30 years of supporting small business owners and self-employed individuals. IAB was founded in 1982 and after years of growth, now serves more than one million members.

IAB was founded in Washington, DC and maintains its administrative headquarters in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. IAB is a non-profit, 501(c)6 designated business organization, and has been recognized by numerous State and Federal officials for its success in aiding and advancing small businesses. The organization has had success in providing businesses and individuals with beneficial tools such as research, advocacy, and access to numerous services. Additionally, members have the opportunity to become associates with IAB in order to further promote the organization's efforts.

After 30 years, IAB continues to put the interests of both business owners and consumers first. It is our pleasure to recognize the Independent Association of Businesses for 30 years of service and this significant milestone in its history. We are privileged to represent IAB, America's Premier Membership Association in the U.S. House of Representatives.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF SEYMOUR S. LEVANDER

### HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the exceptional achievements and outstanding career of Seymour S. Levander. Sy, as his friends and family know him, will turn 89 years old later this year, is a beloved father and grandfather. Sy, the son of immi-

grant refugees from Europe, began his version of the American Dream growing up in the Bronx, graduating from James Madison High School in 1941. He continued his academic studies at Cooper Union University, graduating in 1944 and teaching electrical engineering there for a short time.

Sy then started designing and selling equipment for the building trade, which was booming at that time in post-war America. In the 1950s, Sy, seeing an opportunity, struck out on his own and started his own business which he owned and ran until he sold the firm at the age of 66 at his wife Ellenore's request. However, retirement didn't take with Sy, and he continued to work. At the tender young age of 71, he started a new engineering and sales firm with younger partners where he continues his storied career in the construction industry to this day, still going in to work at age 88. Sy's knowledge, work ethic, and old-fashioned integrity are the stuff of legend in the industry. Over the years, he has been honored several times by ASHRAE, the nationwide building technology society, as well as other industry organizations.

Sy has also been a terrific community leader and a fighter for the underdog throughout his life. Through his businesses and a lifetime of charitable endeavors, he has created opportunities for people from all walks of life and backgrounds. In addition, he and his beloved wife Ellenore, who unfortunately passed away this year after 67 years of marriage, were founders of the Pelham Jewish Center, which has been a primary focus of his energies and care for many years.

Mr. Speaker, while he has many achievements to his name, Sy is most proud of his two children, a doctor and a lawyer; his daughter-in-law, an architect; and his four grandchildren, who are, respectively, the first trumpet for the San Francisco Opera and a music professor at Berkley, a doctor interning at Stony Brook University Medical Center, a law student and Human Rights Fellow at Columbia University Law School, and a rising junior at Dartmouth College. I ask all of our colleagues to rise and join me in honoring Seymour S. Levander.

IN SUPPORT OF H. RES. 742, CONDEMNING THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION FOR SELLING WEAPONS TO SYRIA

### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H. Res. 742, a resolution I introduced condemning the Russian government for selling weapons to the Assad regime of Syria.

A bipartisan companion resolution sponsored by Senators CORNYN (R-TX) and DURBIN (D-IL) has been introduced in the Senate as S. Res. 494. I am proud that my colleagues SHEILA JACKSON LEE, DAVE CAMP, SUE MYRICK, BILL PASCRELL, JR. and BETTY MCCOLLUM have joined me as original co-sponsors of this important resolution.

The resolution is endorsed by the American Syrian Coalition, ASC, and I ask unanimous consent to include in the record a letter of

support from ASC Chairman Mahmoud Khattab. I welcome and invite all members of the House to co-sponsor this resolution.

I am proud that I was able to work with Republican colleagues in the House and the Senate on a resolution that puts the Congress on record in calling upon the government of Russia to immediately end all weapons sales to Syria, support international sanctions against the regime of Syrian President Assad, and to use its influence to help bring about a peaceful transition of leadership within the government of Syria.

Mr. Speaker, what began as a peaceful stand against tyranny has morphed into the bloodiest movement of the Arab Spring. According to the International Red Cross, more than 16,000 men, women and children have been killed in the conflict, and the violence has increased substantially in the past few weeks. An estimated 1 million Syrians have also been internally displaced and tens of thousands more have fled to neighboring countries.

The massacres in Houla and Tremseh where dozens if not hundreds of civilians were killed are just two of the more shocking examples of the terror that has gripped this nation for over a year.

Battles are currently raging for the country's two largest cities, the capital Damascus and the commercial center Aleppo. In Aleppo rockets and shells have routinely been landing in residential areas, and there have been sightings of fighter planes over the city. The international community is holding its breath as the Assad regime gears up for what many fear will be a massacre of the city. A rebel victory in Aleppo would be a decisive turning point in the war, and this is something the Syrian government will prevent from happening at all costs.

President Assad's brutal crackdown in response to these protests has been directly fueled by the unrelenting support of the Russian Federation. Throughout the mass murders, torture and other atrocities perpetrated by the regime, Russia has continued to send weapons, knowing they are not being used for self defense purposes.

Although the vast majority of the world has condemned the actions of President Assad and his government, China and Russia have refused to support any efforts to end the violence. Russia in particular has been Mr. Assad's staunchest defender. The Russian Federation has now vetoed three United Nations Security Council Resolutions that would have imposed long overdue international sanctions against the Syrian regime.

I agree with Secretary of State Hillary Clinton when she stated, and I quote: "History will judge this council; its members must ask themselves whether continuing to allow the Assad regime to commit unspeakable violence against its own people is the legacy they want to leave."

These comments were obviously directed towards Russia and China, and Russian Defense Minister Sergei Lavrov has simply repeated Russia's support for non-intervention, and stated that any solution would have to be decided by Syrians themselves, and not a foreign power.

Mr. Lavrov says this as his country continues to send arms to Mr. Assad and his army whose firepower is already vastly superior to the rebels they are attacking.

Mr. Speaker, Russia can do what I cannot, and that is to sit idly by as thousands of innocent civilians are slaughtered because of their desire to live in a free and democratic country.

Syrian men and women fighting for democratic ideals should not be abandoned to face the wrath of a tyrant alone. They should know that they have a friend in the American government.

Today, I ask for my colleagues' support for H. Res. 742. The Russian government has enabled the Assad regime to commit murder among other mass atrocities, and they need to be held accountable for their actions.

As a member of the Committee on Homeland Security I have seen how America is an example of democracy and peace, and I wish to see the same outcome for Syria.

I stand today not only to ask for the support of my colleagues, but to show my support and admiration for the rebel fighters and all those in Syria who are fighting against oppression and cruelty.

JULY 30, 2012.

Hon. LAURA RICHARDSON,  
*House of Representatives, Longworth Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR REP. RICHARDSON: On behalf of the American Syrian Coalition (ASC), I would like to thank you for introducing H. Res. 742, a bipartisan resolution condemning the Russian government for continuing to sell offensive weapons to the Assad regime of Syria, which is using them to violently suppress peaceful demonstrations and protests by innocent Syrian citizens.

Since the beginning of the Syrian revolution in March 2011, more than 21,000 people have been killed, according to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, and thousands more have been wounded, displaced, detained, and/or tortured. Emboldened by the Russian and Chinese vetoes at the U.N. Security Council, the regime continues its all-out military assault using Russian-supplied helicopter gunships and fighter jets to bomb Syrian civilians simply because they demanded freedom, dignity and democracy. Your stance with the Syrian people is courageous and we wholeheartedly appreciate your efforts to help put an end to the brutal Assad regime.

Thank you again for supporting the Syrian people and for standing up for those facing injustice at home and abroad.

Sincerely,

DR. MAHMOUD KHATTAB,  
*Chairman,  
American Syrian Coalition.*

HONORING NAVY LIEUTENANT  
COMMANDER LAWRENCE E.  
WESTERLUND

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of United States Navy Lieutenant Commander Lawrence E. Westerlund and to congratulate him on his upcoming retirement from the U.S. Navy, following 20 years of active and reserve service.

Lieutenant Commander Westerlund, a native of Fresno, California, entered the U.S. Navy through Officer Candidate School, Class 8809, in Newport, Rhode Island shortly after graduating from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, California. He

was commissioned an Ensign on November 18, 1988, with his father, Richard Westerlund, and brother, Midshipman Lance Westerlund, in attendance.

After graduation from Surface Warfare Officer School in Coronado, California, he reported aboard the USS *Mahon S. Tisdale* (FFG-27), where he was assigned the position of First Lieutenant and also served as Helicopter Control Officer. He served two years aboard the USS *Tisdale*, earning his Surface Warfare Pin and deploying to Japan and Korea in support of PACE89.

In 1990, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund was promoted to Lieutenant Junior Grade. He entered the U.S. Naval Reserves and became the Administrative Officer for the USS *Worden* (CG-18) naval reserve detachment based in Fresno, California.

From 1991 through 1994, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund served as a Convoy Officer for the Convoy Command Detachment in Seattle, Washington. In September of 1994, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund reported for duty with Mobile Inshore Underwater Warfare Units 103 and 104, where he served as a Division Officer and Department Head. He served multiple training periods in Korea and Bahrain with these two units.

In June 1997, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund was awarded the Navy and Marine Corp Achievement Medal while serving as the Physical Security Officer during Overseas Operations in Manama, Bahrain, where he was tasked with establishing waterside security watch to counter terrorist threats.

Lieutenant Commander Westerlund was recalled to active duty in April of 1998 for one year in support of stabilization operations in Bosnia. During this assignment, he was instrumental in writing a major force structure study for the US-European Command (EUCOM). While serving for the EUCOM, he was awarded his first Defense Commendation Medal and NATO Operations Medal. Shortly after returning from Bosnia, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund transferred to the Inactive Ready Reserve.

As a result of the attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund returned to active drilling status. He was assigned to Commander Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) Det-520 in Sacramento, California—a capacity in which he served as the head of various divisions and departments.

In 2004, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund ran a successful election campaign for a seat on the Fresno City Council. Before taking office, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund returned to active duty for six months standing the Battle Watch for COMPACFLT. In January 2005, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund was sworn in as the District Four Representative for the Fresno City Council. During this time, he continued to drill in Sacramento for COMPACFLT Det-520.

Lieutenant Commander Westerlund was recalled to active duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in 2007. He served from April 2008 to May 2009 as the Counterterrorism Train and Equip Manager for the Joint Special Operations Task Force for the Trans-Sahara for the U.S. European Special Operations Command (SOCEUR) and Africa Special Operations Command (SOCAFRICA). For

his service, he was awarded his second Defense Commendation Medal.

In December of 2009, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund became the Officer in Charge (OIC) of the 38 sailors of the Military Sealift Command Cargo Afloat Rigging Team III, Detachment C based out of Lemoore, California. While serving as OIC, he was deployed twice onboard the USNS *Guadalupe* (T-AO-200).

Lieutenant Commander Westerlund is married to Dora Rivera of Mazatlan, Mexico. While deployed overseas in Operation Enduring Freedom, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund was reelected to the Fresno City Council, and his first child, Zoe, was born. Lieutenant Commander Westerlund and his wife recently welcomed their second child—a son named William.

On August 11, 2012, Lieutenant Commander Westerlund will retire from the United States Navy after 20 years of honorable military service. Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Lieutenant Commander Lawrence E. Westerlund for his outstanding career. He is a true public servant. I congratulate him on his retirement, and wish him the best of success in his future endeavors.

IN HONOR OF ADMIRAL JAMES D.  
WATKINS

**HON. SAM FARR**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and exemplary service of the late Admiral James D. Watkins. Chief of Naval Operations, Chairman of the Commission on AIDS, Secretary of Energy, and Chairman of the U.S. Commission on Ocean Policy, he was called out of retirement on multiple occasions but left the service of our Nation and our world last Thursday night. He passed on from his home in Alexandria, VA at the age of 85. His presence will certainly be missed not just in Washington, but across the country and particularly in the ocean science community.

A native of California and a graduate of the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, Admiral Watkins served in the Navy for 37 years where he rose to become the Chief of Naval Operations. An esteemed feat by itself, this position was just the starting point for what would become his most venerable legacy. After retirement from the Navy, Admiral Watkins was appointed Secretary of Energy during the Reagan administration.

Accomplished through his ability to bring disparate groups together to understand and solve complex problems, he led two of the most important federal commissions to occur in the past 25 years—one on the AIDS pandemic and the other on the Congressionally directed Commission on Ocean Policy. Both commissions sought to improve the health and well-being of all through improved understanding of our least understood systems—the human immune system and the planetary ocean system. As a public servant and as a citizen, Admiral Watkins acted deliberately and thoughtfully to digest massive quantities of information and actors into specific challenges with clearly articulated steps to achieve agreed-upon outcomes.

His 16-member Commission on Ocean Policy developed “An Ocean Blueprint for the 21st Century” which offered comprehensive recommendations for a national ocean policy. When those recommendations were finalized and presented in 2004, he said, “With a clear mandate from the President, and strong, bipartisan support among Members of Congress, we can begin the difficult, but critical process of implementing a comprehensive national ocean policy.” He spent the last eight years of his life acting on implementing those recommendations. In his wake it will take many of us here in Congress, along with other nongovernmental actors to continue to steer and direct these efforts and contribute to the heavy lift of moving this important work forward.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in recognizing the contributions that Admiral Watkins made to make this world a better place. We offer our condolences to his family and friends, and particularly his six children and his wife, Janet. Those of us who had the good fortune to have known him are better people for the experience.

HONORING MONSIGNOR FELIX S.  
DIOMARTICH

**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Monsignor Felix S. Diomartich, the oldest priest in the City of Los Angeles and the Sibenik region of Croatia, who is celebrating 75 years of service in the priesthood. Monsignor Diomartich was born on November 2, 1914, in Zlarin, Croatia. He began his life's journey at the parish of Vodice as the Associate Pastor. Soon after, he was named Secretary to Bishop Miletta. He later earned two doctorate degrees in theology and church law at the Gregorian University in Rome, Italy. Before leaving for the United States, he obtained the title of the lawyer of the Sacra Romana Rota.

After arriving in the United States, Monsignor Diomartich served at three parishes in the Archdiocese of New York before he was invited to serve at St. Anthony Croatian Church in Los Angeles. Monsignor Diomartich served for 36 years as an administrator and as a pastor. He supported such organizations as the St. Ann's Altar Society for women and the Holy Name Society for men. He founded two new societies for American-born young adults called the Anthonians and the St. Anthony's Women's Guild. His other accomplishments at the parish include the St. Anthony's Annual Picnic Festival, building of a new rectory, and remodeling and expanding the original parish hall.

In 1978, Pope Paul VI awarded him the title of Monsignor. The Croatian National Association and Foundation awarded him with its Lifetime Achievement award in 2008. Though he has retired from its administration, Monsignor Diomartich continues to reside at the St. Anthony Croatian Church, helping with masses and confessions. Through his passion of spreading the word of God, he has inspired and guided the residents of Los Angeles and has brought unity and pride to the Croatian community.

He has truly made a difference in the lives of so many people. It has been a privilege to call him a friend and to celebrate this significant milestone.

RED TAPE REDUCTION AND  
SMALL BUSINESS JOB CREATION  
ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2012*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4078) to provide that no agency may take any significant regulatory action until the unemployment rate is equal to or less than 6.0 percent:

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Chair, last week the House considered H.R. 4078, the Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act. Like the REINS Act and other similar legislation this chamber has considered—and I have opposed—the Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act (H.R. 4078) would prevent federal agencies from developing and implementing regulations that protect public health, consumers, and our environment.

One of the majority's primary arguments for this bill is that regulations kill jobs by making it hard for businesses to do what they need to do to succeed. In the current economy, this sounds plausible. Unfortunately, the facts and data do not support this claim.

Since 2007 the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) has asked businesses that have laid off large numbers of workers what caused them to make such layoffs. According to the BLS's survey data government regulations contributed to only 0.2 percent of layoffs in 2009, 2010 and through the first half of 2011.

Instead, the BLS found that the number one reason companies made mass layoffs was because of reduced demand for their products or services from consumers.

Surveys conducted by the American Sustainable Business Council, the Main Street Alliance, and the Small Business Majority also found that lack of demand is the primary challenge facing businesses today—not regulations.

One of the other arguments the majority has advanced to support their claim that regulations hurt the economy is that there will be “unintended consequences.” Again, this sounds plausible given the state of our economy. But again, this assertion does not hold up against the facts.

Take, for example, the Clean Air Act and the regulations that resulted from the law. In 1990, Congress passed the Clean Air Act Amendments on a strong bipartisan basis. Despite concerns raised by industry over the cost of the rules mandated by the law, the decade following its enactment was a great time U.S. businesses. The economy created 21 million jobs, and we had the longest period of sustained economic growth in national history.

In fact, since passage of the initial Clean Air Act over 40 years ago, our economy has grown by over 200 percent. At the same time, we have improved the nation's air quality and the health of the American people by reducing toxic and health threatening air pollutants by 60 percent. The estimated economic benefits

from lower health care costs, less illness and premature death, and increased worker productivity of the Clean Air Act are expected to reach the \$2 trillion mark in 2020. This exceeds the projected costs of implementing the regulations by more than 30 to 1.

We can also look at the recent financial crisis as a cautionary tale of the “unintended consequences” of not having appropriate safeguards put in place.

In 1994 Congress gave the Federal Reserve authority to regulate subprime and other high risk mortgages. It took them until 2008 to do anything with that authority. Unfortunately, 2008 was too late to prevent the housing bubble that popped and set off a financial crisis that cost American families \$6.5 trillion in household wealth, millions of jobs, and required significant resources from the federal government to address.

Even former Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan admitted to the House Oversight and Government Affairs Committee in 2008 that he’d been wrong about the housing bubble and should have done more.

These stories illustrate the importance of responsible environmental and consumer protections to a strong economy, strong communities, and healthy families. Yet none of this information or experience seems to have had any impact on the majority.

In fact, the bill today would likely delay regulations like the mercury and air toxics rule. According to estimates, each year that we delay implementing this rule means 17,000 premature deaths, 120,000 cases of asthma, 12,200 hospital and emergency room visits for respiratory and cardiovascular disease, and 850,000 days of missed work and school due to illness.

In addition, every year approximately 1.2 million people get sick, 7,125 people are hospitalized, and 134 people die from foodborne illnesses attributed to contaminated produce. Enacting this bill would halt progress on implementing the Food Safety Modernization Act to reduce these contaminations and protect our families.

The Regulatory Freeze for Jobs Act would arbitrarily freeze all regulations until unemployment is below 6 percent, prevent regulations from being developed and implemented during presidential transitions, expose regulations to court challenges that will increase uncertainty, and make other changes to procedures for developing and implementing regulations.

These changes would primarily accomplish one thing—undermining the government’s ability to do its job efficiently and cost effectively.

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) found that these changes would freeze routine updates to programs like payment rates for services to Medicare patients. This would have a negative impact on doctors and seniors.

CBO also estimates that the legislation “would have a significant effect on direct spending” because laws could not be implemented properly—unnecessarily increasing the deficit.

H.R. 4078 would also give regulated industries the ability to influence rules behind closed doors by requiring that agencies consult with private industry stakeholders before proposed rules are made available for public comment. The changes made under this bill would also allow regulations to be challenged and delayed, increasing uncertainty for businesses and the economy—which seems to run counter to the majority’s primary argument for the bill in the first place.

This bill also ignores the work that the Obama Administration has been engaged in to review current regulations in order to eliminate outdated, obsolete, and ineffective rules. The President placed a premium on getting feedback on this effort from the public—including the business community. As a result paperwork burdens, unnecessary or outdated rules, and barriers to exporting and other job creating activities have been or will be eliminated. These changes are projected to save taxpayers billions in the coming years.

Now is not the time to put the brakes on this effort, which has been open, transparent and appropriately balances the need for responsible safeguards for consumers, the environment, and public health with the need for a strong and growing economy.

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#### TRIBUTE TO DON DILLENBECK

### HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, August 1, 2012*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute Hood River County Sheriff’s Deputy Don Dillenbeck. Deputy Dillenbeck is retiring from

the Sheriff’s Office on July 29, capping more than 37 years of duty, honor and service to the citizens and visitors of Hood River County, Oregon.

Don Dillenbeck was born and raised in my home town of Hood River, Oregon where he graduated from Hood River Valley High School in 1972. Don began his career in public safety as a Dispatcher and Corrections Deputy with the Hood River County Sheriff’s Office on January 23, 1975.

Deputy Dillenbeck was promoted to Road Deputy in 1978, taking on more responsibility with his new position. Patrolling the county for the next 34 years and serving under three different Sheriffs, Deputy Dillenbeck logged over 1 million miles on six different patrol cars. His duties included not only the protection of the public, but also the training and mentoring of new Deputies. His extensive knowledge of procedure, law and tactics has been invaluable to the county over the course of his career.

Mr. Speaker, Deputy Dillenbeck is also somewhat of a celebrity due to a dangerous highspeed pursuit that was featured on the television program “World’s Wildest Police Chases.” In 1997, a fleeing suspect rammed his patrol car three times. Thankfully, the suspect was apprehended and did not seriously injure Deputy Dillenbeck. This incident is a prime example of the high level of commitment Deputy Dillenbeck holds for public service. When he is called upon to put his own life in danger—whether it’s apprehending a fleeing felon or volunteering as a firefighter with Westside Fire Department—Deputy Dillenbeck can be counted on to answer.

Although he will officially retire from his full-time position, Deputy Dillenbeck has requested to remain with the Sheriff’s Office in a volunteer capacity as a Reserve Deputy so he can continue to serve and protect the public in Hood River County. Even in retirement, Deputy Don Dillenbeck will continue to answer the call to service.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my fellow colleagues join me in recognizing Don Dillenbeck. He has earned the thanks of a grateful nation not only for his dedication to service, but for his unwavering commitment to his community. Please join me in wishing Deputy Don Dillenbeck a very long and happy retirement.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this infor-

mation, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, August 2, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.