

Just as repulsive is the anti-Catholic venom emanating from the halls of this university.

This is not what is supposed to be taught in the classrooms. We cannot stand idly by while bigots are free to spout their shortsighted and hurtful words. We must speak out against intolerance and injustice. Congress must act now and pass this Resolution.

HONORING THE TORRANCE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE'S CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. STEVEN T. KUYKENDALL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Mr. KUYKENDALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce's celebration of Black History Month. On February 25th, the Torrance Chamber will hold its annual Black History Celebration.

It is during this important month that we celebrate black history and the achievements and legacy of all African Americans. I am grateful that the people of my district have this event which will help them understand the contributions of Black Americans to our entire nation.

As the leading business organization in the South Bay, the Torrance Area Chamber of Commerce is an aggressive, independent advocate of business interests exercising its influence with government, business and the community to ensure economic growth and vitality. I commend the Torrance Chamber for the creation of its Cultural Involvement Task Force. This important outreach program seeks to assist Chamber members of diverse ethnic backgrounds to assimilate into positions of involvement and effectively take advantage of the business opportunities available throughout the community.

To highlight the month-long celebration of African American heritage, Brigadier General Clara L. Adams-Ender will give the keynote address at the Chamber's Black History Celebration 2000. She has had a distinguished career, rising from a staff nurse in the army nurse corps to become brigadier general responsible for the army's 20,000 nurses.

I commend the Torrance Chamber's commitment to multiculturalism. The Torrance Chamber is a community leader in celebrating the importance of our country's African American heritage.

HONORING NEW JERUSALEM BAPTIST CHURCH OF GREER, SOUTH CAROLINA

HON. JIM DeMINT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my friends in this chamber that freedom in America is created not by government, but by individuals who take responsibility upon themselves and share in the responsibilities of community. When citizens take this responsibility, local people keep dollars, decisions and freedom in their hands. It is my honor several times each year to present the Congressional

Spirit of Freedom Award to members of the 4th District of South Carolina. This non-partisan award goes to individuals, organizations, schools, and businesses that go above and beyond the call of duty to advance the spirit and ideals of freedom and volunteerism in service to the communities of South Carolina.

It is my pleasure today to honor one such group, the New Jerusalem Baptist Church in Greer, SC that has embodied these ideals. The Church is headed by Reverend Steve Watson. Under his guidance, the church sponsors summer youth programs, a soup kitchen, homeless shelter, and after-school programs that provide tutoring and mentoring to area children. New Jerusalem Baptist Church is a shining city on a hill, choosing to work through their love and talents rather than forcing government to support them. The entire congregation has answered the call to help those in need, showing the tremendous impact a group of people can have in changing the lives of thousands.

It is an honor to serve constituents of such high character and dedication to the service of others. I offer my sincere thanks and best wishes for their continued success in bringing freedom home to the citizens of the Upstate and South Carolina. I am honored to present the New Jerusalem Baptist Church, Greer, SC with the Congressional Spirit of Freedom Award.

HONORING CARA RAINWATER

HON. TOM DeLAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Mr. DeLAY. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate and honor a young Texas student from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community. Cara Rainwater of Missouri City has just been named one of my state's top honorees in The 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

Ms. Rainwater, a senior at Lawrence Elkins High School and an active community volunteer, is being recognized for serving as a peer counselor for burn victims at Camp Phoenix, a summer camp sponsored by the Burn Children Recovery Foundation.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ms. Rainwater are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hopes for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention—The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards—was created by the Prudential Insurance Company of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary Schools Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly

valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. In only five years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with nearly 75,000 youngsters participating since its inception.

Ms. Rainwater should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. Mr. Speaker, I heartily applaud Ms. Rainwater for her initiative in seeking to make her community a better place to live, and for the positive impact she has had on the lives of others. She has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. Her actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

HONORING TOM PROUD

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise today and tell you a story about a man who has gone to great lengths to help another. In the face of a storm, Tom Proud is definitely someone to have around.

Tom, a Pueblo County Sheriff's Deputy, was on his way to Denver when he saw a car slide on ice and land in the ditch. He claims that he did nothing more than the average citizen when he pulled over to offer assistance. Tom saw that a woman was stranded with children and went out of his way to make sure that they were safe and back on their way.

Miles from any town, Tom drove to a tire station to have the flat tire repaired and then drove back to the car to put in on the car. Tom was so dedicated to making certain Mrs. Martinez, the woman who was stranded, and the children were safe that he put his own plans on hold.

Mrs. Martinez was so overwhelmed with gratitude that a simple thank you was not enough. She wrote a letter to a Pueblo County Commissioner telling the story of selfless valor displayed by the off-duty peace officer. She told the Commissioner that without Tom's help, they would not have been able to be in Denver before one of their family members went into surgery. Mrs. Martinez counts all of Pueblo lucky to have Tom among its citizens.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I offer tribute to Tom Proud. He has gone above and beyond the call of duty and deserves our thanks and praise.

REPEAL THE FEDERAL DIESEL TAX

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 29, 2000

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced legislation to help protect all Americans from the artificially-inflated rise in fuel costs by temporarily suspending