A TRIBUTE TO MARY MACK BLOUNT

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS
OF NEW YORK
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary Mack Blount of Brooklyn, New York for her hard work, dedication and commitment to caring for others.

Ms. Mack Blount was born in Macon, Georgia, the third of seven children born to Robert and Myrdis Mack. Mary’s family moved to Shelby, North Carolina where she graduated from high school. Shortly after graduation she moved to Brooklyn where she earned her Bachelors of Science degree in Accounting from Tuoro College. After graduation she married Harry Blount. Mary and Harry have four children.

Mary has always been a committed civic activist. She was an active member of the Crown Heights Community Council as well as the Study on Community Council. Mary is also a member of the Christ Fellowship Baptist Church where she teaches Sunday School and is a member of the church-based group, Women of Words. In addition, to Mary’s civic work she continues to work fulltime for the New York City Board of Education as an Education Analyst.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Mary Mack Blount is a hard working dedicated parent and civic activist with a deep commitment to her church and her community. As such, she is more than worthy of receiving our recognition today, and I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MILITARY TAX CREDIT ACT OF 2001

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO
OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, today, in honor of the thousands of men and women who proudly serve in our nation’s armed forces, I take great pride in rising to formally introduce the Military Tax Credit Act of 2001.

Without question, our most valuable national security assets are the men and women who have voluntarily stepped forward to protect and defend our freedoms. Time and again, these individuals have risen to the challenge of protecting our national interests, and they have done so with a sense of honor and duty. Truly, the nation owes each and every one of those personnel that need it the most: the junior enlisted men and women and the junior officers.

For single personnel at the E-6 level and below, the credit on average would be the equivalent of a 10.3 percent bonus. For married personnel in the same category the bonus would average 14.1 percent. The single junior officer would receive an average of 6.4 percent pay bonus while their married counterparts would average an 8.9 percent bonus.

All of the money that military personnel receive as a result of this credit would come from the surplus, it would not adversely affect the overall defense budget. In fact, it barely puts a dent in the surplus. The amount of surplus funds used to support this legislation represents only 3.1% of the total surplus available—a small price to pay for such a large benefit.

Mr. Speaker, I am not a member of the Armed Services Committee, nor am I a member of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. And although the USS Constitution is homeported at the Charlestown Navy Yard, I have no major military installation in my district. Some might ask why then am I introducing tax credit legislation for military personnel. The answer is simple: because they deserve it. And while I don’t believe that my legislation is the answer to all of the problems associated with the military’s pay structure, I do believe that this is a great way to provide financial relief that is real and substantial. It is my hope that Congress agrees with me and will move to pass the Military Tax Credit of 2001.

IN TRIBUTE TO FREDRICK NELSON

HON. SAM FARR
OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. FARR of California Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend of mine, Mr. Fred Nelson, who passed away unexpectedly on February 5, 2001. Fred was an integral part of the community of Carmel, California, and will be missed by us all.

Fred and I went to school together in Carmel, and he graduated from Carmel High School in 1958. He was a great athlete. Every football team he played on lost not a single game and won all the league’s championships. After graduation, he joined the U.S. Army, and served his country in uniform until 1961. After serving in the Army, he worked as a banker in the San Francisco Bay Area until finally returning to Carmel seven years ago.

For those of my colleagues who know the community of Carmel, you are first struck by the beauty of the town and the area around it. But you are equally drawn to the notion that Carmel is a town of neighbors, not occupants, and we are a tight-knit community. Many people knew and loved Fred, and I am thankful to be one of those people. He affected many people, and he will be sorely missed by his wife, Lynne; his son, Rodrick of Los Altos, California; his mother, Winifred Haag of Carmel; his sister, Lynn Rivera of Aptos, California; and his two grandsons.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PULMONARY HYPERTENSION ACT OF 2001

HON. KEVIN BRADY
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, March 29, 2001

Mr. BRADY of Texas Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Pulmonary Hypertension Act of 2001. In short, this legislation will ensure greater federal resources are devoted to challenging pulmonary hypertension.