

I have been an ardent advocate for whistleblower protections throughout my career in Congress. I am the sponsor of a bill, H.R. 2588, that strengthens the original Whistleblower Protection Act. I supported passage of the NO FEAR Act, which actually came about due to the efforts of two of my constituents, Dr. Marsha Coleman-Adebayo and Mr. Leroy Warren, Jr. In addition, I am an original co-sponsor of Congressman Israel's legislation to improve whistleblower protections for national security personnel.

I also want to thank the Government Accountability Project for keeping this issue in the public eye, in particular Tom Devine, Legal Director and Doug Hartnett, National Security Campaign Director.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY ROBERTS

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jerry Roberts, a giant among West Coast journalists, who after 25 years of devoted service is leaving my hometown newspaper, the San Francisco Chronicle.

Jerry Roberts has provided outstanding service to Northern California, devoting his professional life to covering San Francisco, the Bay Area and California. Throughout his career, he has consistently exhibited exemplary fairness and insight.

Over the past quarter century, Jerry has covered hundreds of elections, including my first, and has also authored a biography of my fellow San Franciscan, Senator DIANNE FEINSTEIN.

Jerry has served as the Chronicle's political editor, editorial page editor, city editor and for the past five years, managing editor, always displaying a passion for politics, family and baseball, not necessarily in that order.

A fellow West Coast immigrant, Jerry was born in Cleveland, moving to San Francisco in the early 1970s. He and his wife Linda Kiefer raised three daughters, Anna, Maggie and Rebecca in the greatest city in the world. San Francisco is a better place because of Jerry Roberts' professionalism and devotion to his job, his family, and his community.

I join Jerry's family and his many friends in wishing him all the best in his new endeavors. We continue to expect great things from Jerry Roberts as we thank him and pay tribute to him for his contribution to San Francisco and to the field of journalism.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM O'REE—A
TRUE PIONEER

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, as we close the chapter on February, Black History Month, I want to bring to the attention of Congress a man who has had a profound impact on the sport of ice hockey and its connection to communities of color.

On last Sunday, the world turned its attention to the Olympic games to witness the

men's ice hockey gold medal game featuring Team USA against Team Canada. At the conclusion of the hard-fought battle, Team Canada emerged victorious by a score of five to two. Although I wished the score had been reversed, I was extremely proud of what that game did to increase the level of exposure for the game of hockey. I was particularly moved by the exploits of one player in that game and I believe that, over time, his participation may prove more beneficial to the sport of hockey than the gold medal game itself. The player's name is Jarome Iginla.

Jarome is an extremely talented young man who plays for the Calgary Flames. At the Olympic break, he was atop the leader board in overall points and goals and recently enjoyed his first appearance at a National Hockey League All-Star game. This past Sunday, Jarome played a critical role in Canada's victory by contributing two goals and an assist. It was truly a standout performance. However, it was not just his performance that makes him so special. Jarome is the first Black ice hockey player to ever have the opportunity to accomplish such a feat.

While the NHL is considered to be one of the most diverse sports when considering national origin, it is still a predominately Caucasian sport. Currently, there are only thirteen Black players in the NHL, but there are efforts underway throughout the United States and Canada to introduce Blacks and other persons of color to this amazing game. Leading this effort is a man who has been a trailblazer when it comes to professional hockey's quest for diversification. While Jarome Iginla has become a pioneer at the Olympic level, William (Willie) O'Ree is the pioneer when it comes to the involvement of players of color in the sport of hockey.

For those who might not be familiar with him, Willie O'Ree is the Jackie Robinson of ice hockey. Born in Fredericton, New Brunswick, on Canada's Atlantic coast, Mr. O'Ree as a youngster excelled at hockey, rugby, soccer, basketball, track and baseball. Focusing on his first love, he quickly established himself as an outstanding hockey player. He also was a courageous individual who overcame a major physical obstacle to achieve his dream of playing professional hockey. During the 1955-56 season, while playing for a junior hockey club, Mr. O'Ree was struck in the right eye with a puck. As a result of the injury he lost 95% of his sight in that eye and was advised by doctors to quit the game. Willie O'Ree decided to persevere rather than quit; the rest is history. On January 18, 1958, he became the first Black player to play for a National Hockey League team. The team, just in case you were wondering, just happened to be the Boston Bruins.

Unlike the other major professional sports, hockey was slow to embrace the idea of diversity following Willie O'Ree's emergence in 1958, and it would take another fifteen years before the next Black player made it to the NHL. All told, only thirty-one Black players have ever suited up for NHL teams. Acknowledging a need to do more in the area of diversity, the NHL recently began a worthy campaign to increase the game's exposure to communities of color. Once again, Willie O'Ree was called upon to lead the way.

Just as he did 44 years ago, Mr. O'Ree today continues to tear down barriers and create opportunities for persons of color to enjoy

the game of ice hockey. In 1996, he assisted the NHL with designing a youth All-Star game that celebrated hockey's growing diversity. Now in its seventh year, the Willie O'Ree tournament allows selected boys and girls, ages 10-12, from each of the NHL's Diversity Task Force programs across North America to take part in an all-star game of their own. In addition to the game, the young people have an opportunity to interact with NHL players, attend an NHL game and experience the culture of the host city. This year's All-Star game is scheduled to take place next month in Columbus, Ohio.

In 1998, on the 40th anniversary of his historic first game with the Bruins, Willie O'Ree formally joined the NHL as Director of Youth Development for the NHL Diversity Task Force. In this capacity, Mr. O'Ree travels around the country assisting communities and the 30 Diversity Task Force programs with their hockey programs and outreach to boys and girls from communities of color. Through the outreach efforts of Willie O'Ree and NHL today's Black NHL players like Jarome Iginla, George Laraque, Anson Carter, Mike Grier, Sean Young, Jamal Mayers, Bryce Salvador, Freddie Brathwaite, Kevin Weeks, Peter Worrell, Sandy McCarthy and Donald Brashear will one day be seen as less an exception and more the norm when considering the diversity of the sport.

IN HONOR OF DR. EDISON O.
JACKSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Dr. Edison O. Jackson, President of the Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York, Board member of the New York City Board of Education, member of the Ministerial staff of Bridge Street A.M.E. Church, father, husband and outstanding community resident, in recognition of all that he does for his borough, his city and his state.

Dr. Jackson, a resident of Prospect Heights, Brooklyn, is an outstanding citizen and a pillar of our community. He was born in Heathsville, Virginia. Dr. Jackson received a B.S. in Zoology, followed by a Master of Arts Degree in Counseling from Howard University. He began his education career counseling, where he served for almost four years. In 1969, he was named Dean of Student Affairs at Essex County College, in New Jersey. He distinguished himself to the point that he was promoted to Vice President of Student Affairs. In 1983, Dr. Edison was named Executive Vice President and Chief Academic Officer at Essex County College. In that same year, he received a Doctorate in Education from Rutgers University. In 1989, he accepted the position of President of Medgar Evers College. He brought with him a wealth of experience and knowledge in administering the affairs of educational institutions.

Dr. Jackson currently holds memberships on a number of civic, educational and community organizations. His affiliations with professional and national organizations run the gamut from the American Association of Higher Education, to the President's Round Table and the National Council on Crime and Delinquency. Dr.