

still angry at her defection many years before. When Fidel Castro came to power in 1959, Celia was the lead singer of La Sonora Matancera, Cuba's most popular orchestra. The group headlined Havana's world-famous Tropicana nightclub and casino and toured the United States and Central and South America. La Sonora Matancera's fame and frequent tours provided them an escape route, by pretending they were going on another tour, never returning to Cuba.

I am honored to be here today to talk about a music legend. She recorded more than 70 albums, many of them gold and platinum records, and received twelve Grammy nominations, winning for the first time in 1989. Celia was honored with stars and street sections in some of the most well-known avenues of the world. Hollywood gave her a star on the Walk of Fame in 1987. Miami's Calle Ocho was named "Celia Cruz Way" and presented her with a star, an honor she has received in other cities such as San Jose, Costa Rica and the Plaza Galeria in Mexico City, Mexico. She received many awards and distinctions, which include a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Smithsonian Institution, the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hispanic Heritage Awards, and in 1994, she received in the White House the highest honor the United States can bestow on an artist: the National Endowment for the Arts.

Celia Cruz was a musical icon that made Cuban music known beyond our national borders while touching different generations. Lovers of Latin music worldwide embraced her style and boundless energy on the stage as they enjoyed her contagious music and rhythms. For the Cuban American exile community, she was the link between young Cuban Americans and their parents' generation, making Cuba a reality to the younger generation by providing them with the music that entertained their parents and their grandparents.

Celia's fondest dream never became a reality: the opportunity of returning to a free and democratic Cuba. This woman who sang for presidents and heads of state worldwide simply wanted to return one day to the country she had known. She hoped to one day perform again in the land of her birth, and to utter her signature catch phrase "Azucar" to her fellow Cubans. She left us before her dream became a reality, but I say "Azucar" in her honor and in her memory.

Celia, I know that you can hear us this evening. We love you and your music will continue to live in our hearts. We will never forget you. I promise you, Celia, that I will continue to work tirelessly in the United States Congress for your dream of a free and democratic Cuba. At that time, the Cuban people will once again be able to enjoy your music filled with rich, Cuban rhythms and Afro beats "en libertad"—in freedom. May you rest in peace, Celia!

BURMESE FREEDOM AND
DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I support the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, H.R. 2330, because I believe that it is essential to demonstrate that the United States refuses to help perpetuate the brutality of Burma's military junta against the Burmese people. The junta, which ironically calls itself the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC), has recently stepped up its anti-democracy activities by violently cracking down on pro-democracy activists, and re-imprisoning the opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Ms. Suu Kyi, a Nobel peace laureate, has already spent much of the last 15 years with her movements and speaking restricted under house arrest. I understand that a month ago, after spending only one year free from 20 months of recent house arrest, Ms. Suu Kyi was again detained and is now being held in a Burmese prison notorious for its poor conditions and the mistreatment, and even torture, of political prisoners. The United States must take every opportunity to be a leader in pressuring the SPDC to free Aung San Suu Kyi and her fellow opposition leaders.

The import sanctions created by the Act will hit the military junta where it can be hurt worst—by taking strong action against the SPDC-controlled economy and depriving the military of a source of revenue.

The slave-like labor conditions in Burma are one indication of the extent of the junta's cruelty against the Burmese people. In 2000, after reviewing the working conditions in Burma, an International Labor Organization (ILO) team of experts found that the junta continued to restrict worker rights and to use forced labor on a widespread basis. After receiving the report, the ILO took the unprecedented step of invoking Article 33 of the ILO Charter and formally urged its 174 member states to review their relations with Burma. This is as close as the ILO can come to urging sanctions upon a country.

It is likely that more than a million people in Burma are subjected to forced labor on construction sites for roads, railways, military installations and tourism. The military is particularly notorious for imposing forced labor on villagers living near military operations. Even more outrageous is that this forced labor is often accompanied by brutality, such as torture, arbitrary and extrajudicial execution, rape, and population displacements. Non-compliance by one individual has been known to bring the junta's wrath upon a whole village. For example, the transport of food and other market goods to and from a village could be blocked, or a whole village could be faced with the threat of relocation. Forced labor has the additional effect of forcing villagers to neglect their own fields, making hunger an ever-present concern. Sometimes, even during harvesting times, they are forced to travel far from their village to work. If and when they return, they often do not have the ability to sustain the needs of their own homes and communities.

The current regime's policies of ethnic cleansing, rape as an official tool of repres-

sion, the growing and producing of heroin, the forced labor conditions—they all must end. We have tried other methods to encourage the military regime to change its course, to no avail. Only if the United States and others in the international community come together to impose sanctions and deprive the junta of its economic power can the Burmese people hope to have any relief from the long list of atrocities being committed upon them.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. EILEEN
H. TOUGHILL, R.N., PH.D.

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to laud the accomplishments of Ms. Eileen H. Toughill, R.N., Ph. D. Dr. Toughill holds the position of both Executive Director of the Community Health Center of Asbury Park and Director of Community Health at the Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey. Dr. Toughill recently received the VNA of Central Jersey Award for Professional Distinction, proving to be indicative of her compassion and dedication to her work.

The Visiting Nurse Association of Central Jersey is a nonprofit home health agency that promotes the "restoration and healthcare" of all members of the community. In her capacity as Director of Community Health for VNACJ, Dr. Toughill holds responsibility over the provision of health services to more than 65,000 vulnerable and underprivileged community-based residents. In addition to these duties, Dr. Eileen Toughill has taken on even greater responsibilities for the welfare of community residents following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 by establishing a comprehensive response to the chaos and stress that followed the attacks, including bereavement and trauma counseling.

Other achievements that this exceptional woman has accomplished include an outreach program to assist residents in hotels, motels, boarding homes and shelters in Monmouth and Middlesex counties. Dr. Eileen Toughill pioneered the start up of two nurse practitioner-managed primary care centers as well as helping to implement an AIDS education and prevention program in four correctional institutions.

Dr. Toughill's crowning achievement came this Spring when through her hard work she saw the Community Health Center of Asbury Park successfully designated as a full-fledged Federally Qualified Health Center. This includes a renewable federal grant of \$475,000, allowing the center to expand its current primary care services to include prenatal care and mental health, as well as increasing the number of patients the center can serve. Dr. Toughill's implementation of multiple programs as well as her perseverance in securing federal funding for her community's health center is admirable. Dr. Eileen Toughill's accomplishments are outstanding—they exemplify determined commitment to the ideals of healthcare for all, and demonstrate how one individual can actively make a difference.

Mr. Speaker, on this day I rise up to acknowledge a truly remarkable individual and I

ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Dr. Eileen H. Toughill for the fine and important work that she provides to her community.

76TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF
REGISTERS OF WILLS AND
CLERKS OF ORPHANS' COURT
ASSOCIATION OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 18, 2003

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the 76th Annual Registers of Wills and Clerks of Orphans' Court Association of Pennsylvania Con-

ference. The conference will be held July 21–25, 2003 in the 19th Congressional District of Pennsylvania. In past years, the Conference has been held throughout the great Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I am certainly very pleased that this year's conference is being hosted in my district by York County Register of Wills, the Honorable Bradley C. Jacobs.

Among the many services available through the elected Registers of Wills and Clerks of Orphans' Court, constituents are able to probate wills, receive Letters Testamentary and Letters of Administration, apply for marriage licenses and research their family genealogy. At the conference, Registers and Clerks will discuss more efficient policies and procedures related to their duties. As stated in the Constitution and by-Laws of the Registers of Wills and Clerks of Orphans' Court Association of

Pennsylvania, an annual meeting must be held once a year in Pennsylvania as arranged by the President of the Association. President Larry Medaglia appointed Bradley C. Jacobs as host and Bill Walters, retired Register of Wills and Clerk of Orphans' Court of York County, as honorary chairman for the event. There will be approximately 120 attendees including elected Registers and Clerks, Deputies and other guests. In addition, attendees will be able to enjoy the wonderful food and musical entertainment in the City of York.

I am pleased to welcome the 76th Annual Registers of Wills and Clerks of Orphans' Court Association of Pennsylvania Conference to the City of York and commend the commitment to public service of each of the Association's members.