

I look forward to working with House Resources Committee Chairman POMBO, as well as Water and Power Subcommittee Chairman CALVERT, both stalwart advocates for our State's water needs, in advancing this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, this bill will promote conservation and increase the reliability of our regional water supply, and I urge my colleagues' thoughtful consideration of the San Diego Water Storage and Efficiency Act.

FREEDOM FOR MIGDALIA  
HERNÁNDEZ ENAMORADO

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 9, 2004*

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Migdalia Hernández Enamorado, a prisoner of conscience in totalitarian Cuba.

Mrs. Hernández Enamorado is a wife, a mother of three and a peaceful pro-democracy activist. Because she believes that a free and democratic Cuba is the best hope for her young children and every citizen trapped in totalitarian Cuba, she has worked to liberate Cuba from the tyrannical regime.

As a result of the tyrant's brutal March 2003 crackdown on peaceful pro-democracy activists, Mrs. Hernández Enamorado, along with her husband Rafael Benítez Chui, went to a police unit in Guantanamo, Cuba, and protested the arrests of Manuel Ubals and Juan Carlos Herrera Acosta. Unfortunately, the tyrant's thugs arrested the married couple while they peacefully protested the abhorrent crackdown on their fellow advocates for freedom and human rights in totalitarian Cuba.

On September 18, 2003, after being held in the inhuman gulag for 7 months, Mrs. Hernández Enamorado was "sentenced" to 2 years in the despotic gulag for the supposed crime of "contempt." In the same sham trial, her husband was sentenced to 4 years. Let me be very clear, Mrs. Hernández Enamorado's three children are living without their parents because these noble pro-democracy activists believe in freedom.

According to a report from Guantanamo by Ada Kaly Márquez Abascal, Mrs. Hernández Enamorado is being abused by prison guards, suffering from high blood pressure, and ailing from a myriad of physical maladies caused by the deplorable conditions in the totalitarian gulag. It is also reported that she is only allowed to see her children for 5 minutes a week and some weeks she is not even allowed that brief visit.

Mr. Speaker, it is unconscionable that Mrs. Hernández Enamorado is languishing in the totalitarian gulag because of her belief in freedom. It is categorically unacceptable that her three daughters are growing up without their parents, and unable to even visit their mother for more than 5 minutes, simply because Mrs. Hernández Enamorado wants them to be raised in liberty instead of repression. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate release of Migdalia Hernández Enamorado, her husband Rafael Benítez Chui, and every prisoner of conscience suffering under the terrorist regime in Havana.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO GARY  
WERMERS

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 9, 2004*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise to pay tribute to Gary Wermers of Pueblo, Colorado. As a science teacher at Heaton Middle School, he has shown commitment toward educating our youth. Gary is a valuable member of his community, and I am honored to join my colleagues in recognizing Gary's tremendous work before this body of Congress and this nation today.

Gary teaches science to seventh grade students at Heaton Middle School in Pueblo. His value in teaching goes well beyond his ability to convey the subject matter in the curriculum as he strives to stress moral and civilized behavior of his students. For his efforts and accomplishments in the classroom, he was recently awarded the 2004 Teacher of the Year Award from the Wal-Mart Corporation. In addition to his time teaching in classrooms, he attempts to connect with students as a mentor in activities where students find interest. He coaches the boys' basketball team, and sponsors the student council and the Fellowship of Christian Hawks.

Mr. Speaker, Gary Wermers has clearly been an outstanding influence on our youth. The community benefits from him as an excellent educator, but it is the individual students who benefit the most from his personal and lasting style of teaching. I thank Gary for his important work in his community, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

HIGH PERFORMANCE COMPUTING

HON. GIL GUTKNECHT

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 9, 2004*

Mr. GUTKNECHT. Mr. Speaker, high performance computing has become very important to the competitiveness of this country. Supercomputers help us solve some of the most critical scientific, business, and homeland security problems in this nation. I would like to highlight what the citizens in my district working at IBM are doing to advance high performance computing.

I recently visited the Rochester, MN facility of IBM in my district. There I learned about IBM's newest supercomputer, Blue Gene/L.

Blue Gene is an IBM project to build a new family of supercomputers optimized for bandwidth, scalability, and the ability to handle large amounts of data while consuming a fraction of the power and floor space required by today's fastest systems. IBMers in my district are exploring how to harness Blue Gene's massive computing power to model the folding of human proteins. This technique is expected to give medical researchers better understanding of diseases and potential cures.

Two prototypes of IBM's Blue Gene/L now rank #4 and #8 on the latest list of the Top 500 fastest supercomputers. When Blue Gene/L is finished, it is expected to rank #1 on the Top 500 list next year, overtaking the Japan's Earth Simulator.

The citizens of my district and IBM take their commitment to innovation, competitiveness, and the advancement of high performance computing in this nation very seriously. The most advanced supercomputing skills in the world are right here in the United States—and in my district. With the leadership of IBM and the Minnesotans it employs, the innovative advances keeping our county competitive will remain firmly rooted in the U.S.

NATIONAL INNOVATION  
INITIATIVE

HON. JOHNNY ISAKSON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 9, 2004*

Mr. ISAKSON. Mr. Speaker, America's ability to innovate will determine our citizens' standards of living and competitiveness in the 21st century. I would like to highlight what leaders in my district, IBM and Georgia Tech, are doing to ensure that America remains the most innovative country in the world.

Sam Palmisano, the CEO of IBM, and Wayne Clough, the President of Georgia Tech, launched a National Innovation Initiative last fall through the Council on Competitiveness. They have pulled together hundreds of the nation's top minds from industry, academia, and government to develop a national agenda that will be released in December of this year. An interim report will be issued soon.

These leaders understand that innovation relies on much more than science and technology funding, although that remains important. Innovation is putting new ideas into action to better our lives—a blend of invention, insight and entrepreneurship that launches new growth industries and creates high-value jobs. Innovation can be a new product, process—or increasingly in our economy—a service.

Our future relies on whether we establish an ecosystem of smart policies that recognize how innovation is changing in our global, open and connected economy. The National Innovation Initiative will sharpen our understanding of contemporary innovation and recommend bold action on many fronts to ensure that America has the talent, infrastructure, and investment to succeed.

I salute IBM and Georgia Tech for their leadership; look forward to reviewing the National Innovation Agenda; and pledge to be a partner in keeping the United States at the forefront of innovation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 9, 2004*

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 6, 2004, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall Nos. 326 and 327. The votes I missed include rollcall vote 326 on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as amended, to H. Con. Res. 410, Recognizing the 25th Anniversary of the Adoption of the Constitution of the Republic of the Marshall Islands; and rollcall vote 327 on the Motion to