

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

ADDRESS OF PROFESSOR ELIE WIESEL AT THE SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMEMORATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF NAZI DEATH CAMPS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on January 24 of this year, the United Nations General Assembly commemorated the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Nazi death camps. January 27, 1945, was the date on which Russian troops liberated Auschwitz, the most notorious of the death camps, and the symbol of the Holocaust, in which over 6 million Jews and hundreds of thousands of other nationalities were brutally murdered during World War II.

Most of those individuals who spoke on this solemn and somber occasion were high government officials representing the United Nations or its member countries, but one of the most important and thoughtful speeches was given by Elie Wiesel, who like me is an American citizen by choice. He was welcomed to this incredibly generous nation as the American people reached out to those who were the victims of Nazi brutality, and our country has been enriched many times over by his talents and genius.

Probably more than any other individual, my friend Elie Wiesel has given more serious thought and scholarly attention to how in the twentieth century a civilized nation such as Germany could execute in a brutal and mechanically efficient fashion over six million human beings. He has not only probed why, but he has also focused on the question of why and how we must prevent such violence and evil again.

Mr. Speaker, Elie Wiesel has contributed a great deal to our nation as a professor and scholar, and as a man of action as the Founding Chair of the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. The U.S. Holocaust Museum just a few blocks from this Capitol Building is an enduring testament to his vision, his understanding, and his commitment.

I ask, Mr. Speaker, that the outstanding address of Professor Elie Wiesel be placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and I urge my colleagues to read his thoughtful remarks.

ADDRESS OF PROFESSOR ELIE WIESEL

Mr. President of the General Assembly, Mr. Secretary General my friend, excellencies: The man who stands before you this morning feels deeply privileged. A teacher and a writer, he speaks and writes as a witness to a crime committed in the heart of European Christendom and civilization by a brutal dictatorial regime—a crime of unprecedented cruelty in which all segments of government participated.

When speaking about that era of darkness, the witness encounters difficulties. His words become obstacles rather than vehicles;

he writes not with words but against words. For there are no words to describe what the victims felt when death was the norm and life a miracle. Still whether you know it or not, his memory is a part of yours.

I speak to you as a son of an ancient people, the only people of Antiquity to have survived Antiquity, the Jewish people which, throughout much of its history, has endured exile and oppression yet has never given up hope of redemption.

As a young adolescent, he saw what no human being should have to see: the triumph of political fascism and ideological hatred for those who are different. He saw multitudes of human beings humiliated, isolated, tormented tortured and murdered. They were overwhelmingly Jews but there were others. And those who committed these crimes were not vulgar underworld thugs but men with high government, academic, industrial and medical positions in Germany. In recent years, that nation has become a true democracy. But the question remains open: In those dark years, what motivated so many brilliant and committed public servants to invent such horrors? By its scope and magnitude, by its sheer weight of numbers, by the impact of so much humiliation and pain, in spite of being the most documented tragedy in the annals of history, Auschwitz still defies language and understanding.

Let me evoke those times: Babies used as target practice by SS men . . . adolescents condemned never to grow old . . . parents watching their children thrown into burning pits . . . immense solitude engulfing an entire people . . . infinite despair haunting our days and our dreams even sixty years later.

When did what we so poorly call the Holocaust begin? In 1938, during Kristallnacht? In 1939 perhaps, when a German ship, the St. Louis, with more than a thousand German Jewish refugees aboard, was turned back from America's shores? Or was it when the first massacres occurred at Babi Yar?

We still ask: what was Auschwitz? An end or a beginning, an apocalyptic consequence of centuries-old bigotry and hatred, or was it the final convulsion of demonic forces in human nature?

A creation parallel to god's—a world with its own antinomian United Nations of people of different nationalities, traditions, cultures, socio-economic spheres, speaking many languages, clinging to a variety of faiths and memories. They were grown ups or young but inside that world there were no children and no grandparents; they had already perished. As have said many time: not all victims were Jewish, but all Jews were victims. For the first time in recorded history to be born became a crime. Their birth became their death sentence. Correction: Jewish children were condemned to die even before they were born. What the enemy sought to attain was to put an end to Jewish history; what he wanted was a new world implacably, irrevocably devoid of Jews. Hence Auschwitz, Ponar, Treblinka, Belzec, Chelmno and Sobibor: dark factories of death erected for the Final Solution. Killers came there to kill and victims to die.

That was Auschwitz, an executor's ideal of a kingdom of absolute evil and malediction with its princes and beggars, philosophers and theologians, politicians and artists, a place where to lose a piece of bread meant losing life, and a smile from a friend, another day of promise.

At the time, the witness tried to understand; he still does not. How was such calculated evil, such bottomless and pointless cruelty possible? Had Creation gone mad? Had God covered His face? A religious person cannot conceive of Auschwitz either with or without God. But what about man? How could intelligent, educated or simple law abiding citizens fire machine guns at hundreds of children and their parents, and in the evening enjoy a cadence by Schiller, a partita by Bach?

Turning point or watershed, that tremendous catastrophe which has traumatized History has forever changed man's perception of responsibility towards other human beings. The sad, terrible fact is that had the Western nations intervened when Hitler occupied Czechoslovakia and Austria; had America accepted more refugees from Europe; had Britain allowed more Jews to return to their ancestral land; had the Allies bombed the railways leading to Birkenau, our tragedy might have been avoided, its scope surely diminished.

This shameful indifference we must remember, just as we must remember to thank the few heroic individuals who, like Raoul Wallenberg, risked their lives to save Jews. We shall also always remember the Armies that liberated Europe and the soldiers that liberated the death-camps, the Americans in Buchenwald, the Russians in Auschwitz and the British in Belsen. But for many victims they all came too late. That we must also remember.

When the American Third Army liberated Buchenwald, there was no joy in our heart: only pain. We did not sing, we did not celebrate. We had just enough strength to recite the Kiddish.

And now, sixty years later, you who represent the entire world community, listen to the words of the witness. Like Jeremiah and Job, we could have cried and cursed the days dominated by injustice and violence. We could have chosen vengeance. We did not. We could have chosen hate. We did not. Hatred is degrading and vengeance demeaning. They are diseases. Their history is dominated by death.

The Jewish witness speaks of his people's suffering as a warning. He sounds the alarm so as to prevent these things being done. He knows for the dead it is too late. But it is not too late for today's children, ours and yours. It is for their sake alone that we bear witness. It is for their sake that we are duty-bound to denounce anti-Semitism, racism and religious or ethnic hatred. Those who today preach and practice the cult of death, those who use suicide terrorism, the scourge of this new century, must be tried and condemned for crimes against humanity. Suffering confers no privileges; it is what one does with suffering that matters. Yes, the past is in the present, but the future is still in our hands.

Those who survived Auschwitz advocate hope, not despair; generosity, not rancor or bitterness; gratitude, not violence. We must be enraged, we must reject indifference as an option. Indifference always helps the aggressor, never his victims. And what is memory if not a noble and necessary response to and against indifference?

But . . . will the world ever learn?

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
ELAINE T. VALENTE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor a good friend and a hard-working public servant, Ms. Elaine Valente. Elaine is retiring as a Commissioner for Adams County, Colorado after 16 years of dedicated service.

Commissioner Valente was born and raised in Adams County Colorado. She and her husband Larry own the successful Valente's Deli, are proud parents of two accomplished children, and are passionate community activists.

Elaine's interest in her community began long before assuming her role as County Commissioner. She severed on the Adams County Planning Commission, the city of Westminster Urban Renewal Authority, the Westminster Planning Commission, the Citizen's Evaluation for Retention of Judges, and the School District 50 Superintendent's Parent Advisory Committee.

Her deep passion to give something back to her community and to help improve Colorado is what motivated her to run for County Commissioner in 1988. Elaine was victorious in that election and quickly became an outspoken advocate for Adams County's communities. As Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners she took an interest in many issues affecting her constituency, helping pave the way for future economic development, transportation improvements, air traffic investments and reform of county services. When I was elected to Congress in 1998 I knew that one of my first objectives was to learn as much as I could from Elaine, not only about one of Colorado's fastest growing communities, but also about effective public service.

Elaine is the kind of person who speaks her mind with a blend of honest bluntness and old-school graciousness. As a daughter of Italian-Americans she also established a reputation for leadership on behalf of ethnic minorities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Ms. Elaine Valente and in wishing her success in all her future endeavors. It has been a true privilege to work with such a remarkable woman.

TRIBUTE TO THE CITY OF
WARRENSBURG, MO

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, let me take this opportunity to congratulate and pay tribute to the city of Warrensburg, Missouri, which will celebrate its 150th birthday this year.

Warrensburg, Missouri, was incorporated as a town in 1855, after being settled by local farmers and a blacksmith named Martin Warren. Mr. Warren had a blacksmith shop which served as an informal gathering place for the local farmers. Mr. Warren's shop was named the county seat of the newly created County of Johnson. The township was named Warren's Burg, in honor of the blacksmith.

Warrensburg citizens have many reasons to be proud of their city. One of these reasons is the city's excellent school system. With an enrollment of 3,200 students, the district is accredited with Distinction in Performance by the Missouri State Board of Education. Also, the city is home to Central Missouri State University, which has provided fine post secondary education for more than 130 years.

Warrensburg also is home to many prominent businesses and organizations. EnerSys, GE Transportation Systems, Swisher Mower, Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity world headquarters and Carlyle Van Lines have all thrived in the city, and there are countless other businesses—small and large—that contribute to the economic well being of Warrensburg.

Mr. Speaker, I wish to extend my congratulations to the citizens of Warrensburg, Missouri, for this outstanding accomplishment. I know all the Members of Congress will join me in paying tribute to a great American city.

CONDEMNING THE COMMENTS OF
LIEUTENANT GENERAL JAMES
MATTIS

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, last week, United States Marine Corps LTG James Mattis made public comments that were unbecoming of a military officer. As quoted in numerous newspaper articles and media broadcasts, Lieutenant General Mattis told a San Diego, California audience of 200 civilians that "It's fun to shoot some people." Referencing combatants in Afghanistan he added, "You know, guys like that ain't got no manhood left anyway. So it's a hell of a lot of fun to shoot them."

Lieutenant General Mattis has no doubt served his country with courage and distinction as an officer in the U.S. Marine Corps. It is, nonetheless, inexcusable that, as a high-ranking officer of the U.S. military, he would make these callous and insensitive remarks that denigrate the value of human life.

Furthermore, comments of this nature reinforce negative perceptions of U.S. military actions abroad and have the potential to incite greater animosity toward our troops. The price to be paid for this irresponsible conduct cannot be exaggerated given the vital role support from the Iraqi people and the international community is to the success of ongoing operations in Iraq.

The U.S. Marine Corps Commandant has said that he has counseled Lieutenant General Mattis with regard to his comments. However, it is incumbent on our military's leadership to ensure that this behavior is not repeated on the part of Lieutenant General Mattis or any other military officer in the future.

It is critically important that a clear and resounding message is sent that this type of conduct will not be tolerated in the United States military. It is wholly inconsistent with the values we hold dear as Americans.

Mr. Speaker, it is hard enough in this day and age to protect my 9-year-old-son—or any child—from graphic violence rife in popular video games, which demean the value of human life and portray killing as just a game—

an act without moral consequence. I suppose they make war look like fun, but tell that to the over 10,000 Americans who've been critically wounded or the families of the nearly 1,500 Americans who gave their lives in Iraq.

Now, we have a general from the field saying how fun it is to shoot people. I think that's wrong, its despicable, it's an unconscionable message to be telling our children.

It is time to put a stop to this unnecessary, obscene war in Iraq and the obscenities of generals like James Mattis, both of which demean and denigrate the moral fabric of our country.

HONORING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 1, 2005

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased that Congress has recognized the important role that Catholic schools play in our community by bringing House Resolution 23 before the House floor.

As a proud Catholic, I know the impact that faith-based education can have in our society and have witnessed it first hand in my district. Schools such as the St. Thomas Aquinas High School in San Bernardino, California, are highly regarded for their academic and athletic excellence, as well as the life-changing opportunities they provide to their students.

Under the leadership of Bishop Gerald Barnes, the San Bernardino Diocese school system has invested in the future of our children by providing them the educational tools to succeed.

Catholic schools in our Nation's education have been paramount in teaching the values that we as parents seek to instill in our children.

They are sources of goodwill and arbiters of moral values, providing strong foundations for young people. Their curriculums are often full of programs in character development and community service.

Catholic school graduates exhibit a wide variety of qualities that will not only help them in their careers but also in their family and community lives.

It gives me no greater pleasure than to support this resolution today honoring the contributions of Catholic schools and I commend Congressman KENNEDY for his sponsorship.

I also ask and pray for the quick recovery of Pope John Paul II, so that he may continue to lead the Catholic Church and help oversee the Catholic school system and their good works.

GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL
BLACK HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 30, a resolution that recognizes and supports the goals and ideals of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

HIV/AIDS impacts the African-American community worse than any other ethnic group in the United States. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that African-Americans account for 50 percent of all new HIV infections, which is an incredible number considering only 12 percent of the American population is African-American. The CDC further reported that 69 percent of all children born to infected mothers were African-American. A study conducted by the Kaiser Family Foundation showed that African-Americans accounted for 56 percent of deaths due to HIV in 2002.

Public awareness about HIV/AIDS is vital. National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day will help educate the African-American community about the disease, including prevention and treatment. The first annual National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day was held on February 23, 2001. The slogan for the day was "Get Educated, Get Involved and Get Tested." February 7 of each year is now recognized as National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

I was proud to cosponsor this important resolution that encourages State and local governments, including their public health departments, to publicize the day in African-American Communities and to promote testing. The resolution encourages media organizations to carry messages in support of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. Most importantly, it encourages enactment of effective HIV prevention programs.

HIV/AIDS is a formidable threat to our African-American communities. However, we can work together to ensure that the public is aware of the ways to prevent transmission of this disease and how individuals can protect themselves. But we can't do this without funding. The Minority AIDS Initiative needs to be fully funded. The Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act is authorized through FY2005, so this year we need to ensure that no programs are underfunded or dropped altogether.

Mr. Speaker, this resolution will result in increased public awareness. As advocates work together to protect the African-American community, we in Congress need to ensure the Federal Government is doing our job to fund the programs that will halt the spread of HIV/AIDS.

TRIBUTE TO THOMAS ZIPF OF ST. LOUIS, MO

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, my remarks today are to pay tribute to the life of a valued public servant, Mr. Thomas Zipf, of St. Louis, MO.

Mr. Zipf was a valued employee of the City of St. Louis Police Department where he served over 30 years and rose to the rank of Captain. Mr. Zipf was known throughout the force as being dedicated to his job and being driven by his desire to help and protect others.

His love of life and passion for his community live on through his wife, Mary Ann Zipf, and his two children, Kate, and Tom, Jr. His dedication to his job continues with his son, who is also an officer with the City of St. Louis Police Department.

Mr. Speaker, the outpouring of support by family, friends, and the community made it evident to all what an extraordinary person and public servant Mr. Zipf was. His wife and two children are a great testament to his life and vision. My prayers are with his family, friends, and community today, as we honor his life.

HONORING ALVIN F. POUSSAINT,
M.D.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts, Mr. MCGOVERN, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. DELAHUNT, and I rise today to honor the extraordinary achievements and contributions of Dr. Alvin F. Poussaint of Boston, Massachusetts. Dr. Poussaint has devoted his professional life to the eradication of racism in American society, and is one of the foremost experts in the world today on the topics of race relations, prejudice and diversity, and is also a world-renowned child psychologist.

Dr. Poussaint, who was born in East Harlem, New York, on May 15, 1934, completed his undergraduate studies at Columbia University before receiving his M.D. from Cornell in 1960. He went on to do postgraduate work at the UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute, where he served as Chief Resident in Psychiatry in 1964–65.

Inspired by the burgeoning Civil Rights movement in the South, Dr. Poussaint chose to take a job as the Southern Field Director of the Medical Committee for Human Rights in Jackson, Mississippi, a position he held from 1965–67. In that role, he courageously worked to provide medical care to civil rights workers and fought for the desegregation of health facilities throughout the South.

Dr. Poussaint was influential in the founding of Operation PUSH (People United to Save Humanity) and served as the Chairman of its Board of Directors. Operation PUSH, which has since merged with the National Rainbow Coalition to form the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, has been a significant force in the struggle for racial equality in America, registering hundreds of thousands of voters across the country, assisting in the election of hundreds of local, state and national leaders and lobbying for increased representation of minorities in many industries.

As one of the nation's preeminent psychiatrists and experts on race relations, Dr. Poussaint has authored the books *Why Blacks Kill Blacks* (1972), *Raising Black Children* (1992, with Dr. J.P. Comer) and *Lay My Burden Down* (2000, with Amy Alexander). His most recognizable work includes contributing articles to *Ebony* magazine, and acting as a consultant for several television projects, including *The Cosby Show*.

On Saturday, February 12, 2004, Dr. Poussaint will be honored in Boston, Massachusetts for his wide-ranging contributions to the fields of civil rights, mental health, social justice and the needs of children. I would like to take this opportunity to extend my own heartfelt thanks and congratulations to him for his many years of tireless work for the enrichment of our society. The dedication, intelligence and compassion he brings to his work

have helped him to touch countless lives, and we salute him for his invaluable contributions. Dr. Poussaint's work has been a credit to our country and, indeed, the entire world.

SENSE OF THE CONGRESS RESOLUTION THAT THE UNITED STATES SHOULD NOT RATIFY THE LAW OF THE SEA TREATY

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a Resolution expressing the Sense of the Congress that the United States should not ratify the Law of the Sea Treaty ("LOST").

The Law of the Sea Treaty was conceived in the early 1970s by the "New International Economic Order," a United Nations political movement designed to transfer wealth and technology from the industrial nations to communist and undeveloped nations. President Ronald Reagan recognized the threat this treaty would pose to America's sovereignty and economic interests and rightly rejected the Treaty in 1982.

Treaty proponents acted again in the 1990s, offering a separate "Agreement" that purported to amend the Treaty. This "corrected treaty" was also deemed unacceptable by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in 1994. Now we are once again facing a terribly flawed treaty that will hand over more of our sovereignty to a corrupt United Nations—just at a time when the extent of the United Nations' corruption is becoming more evident through the oil for food scandal in Iraq.

What is specifically wrong with the Law of the Sea Treaty?

The Law of the Sea Treaty will deem the oceans of the Earth as the "Common Heritage of Mankind." The Treaty dictates that oceanic resources should be shared among all mankind. The effect of this will be U.N. control over the world's seabeds—a full 70 percent of the earth's surface.

The Law of the Sea Treaty will also create, for the first time in history, an international body with the authority to collect taxes from American citizens. It is truly a U.N. global tax. This will come about as a fee on private enterprise and nation states from seabed mining, offshore oil platforms, and other raw material recovery activities. These fees will first be paid by the governments of the signatory states, which will then have the burden of collecting the monies back from the private enterprises engaged in seabed mining activities.

This treaty will create a Law of the Sea Tribunal, which will claim—and already has claimed—jurisdiction over the onshore as well as within the territorial sea or economic zones of coastal nations. This U.N. Tribunal could very well rule in a manner contrary to U.S. military, counterterrorism, and commercial interests.

Mr. Speaker, the Law of the Sea Treaty is a perfect example of "taxation without representation" that our Founding Fathers rebelled against. We should under no circumstances surrender one bit of American sovereignty or treasure to the United Nations or any other global body. I hope my colleagues will join me by co-sponsoring this

Sense of the Congress legislation and defeat-
ing this destructive treaty.

HONORING 30 YEARS OF
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, after 30 years of dedicated and distinguished federal service, Betty Loy will be retiring from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. During that time she supported six CDC Directors and seven Deputy Directors.

Beginning her career in the federal government with the Atomic Energy Commission in Oak Ridge, Tennessee, Loy later came to CDC's Office of Director as a part-time employee. Following the resignation of Director Dr. Bill Foege (1977–1983), Loy was asked to work in the Director's office till a new Director was designated and staff were selected. Having enjoyed her part-time position in the Director's office Betty applied for the full-time position, and was subsequently selected.

In June 2002, after nearly two decades of service as the Special Assistant to the Director, Betty left to become a Management and Program Analyst working as the liaison with partner organizations and visitors.

It is safe to say Loy has been the voice and face of CDC to a who's who of public health leaders, Atlanta community leaders, Congressional dignitaries, distinguished visitors and even TV and movie stars. She is virtually a walking, talking history book of CDC.

Betty has said of her job, "I've been privileged to work for some of the best people ever." Well, Betty, the same could be said about you. Former CDC Director, James Mason, MPH, MD, said the feeling is mutual, "Betty Loy, rightfully referred to as 'CDC's Ultimate Ambassador' will leave a lonely gap at CDC. Her skills, competence, in-depth, knowledge, perspective and warm pleasant personality made her a valuable partner to me and a series of other CDC Directors and Deputies."

In retirement, Betty plans to travel, spend time with friends, family, her children and grandchildren, and work on family genealogy. We wish Betty all the best in her future endeavors and thank her for years of service to our Nation.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF TED
STRICKLAND

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Mr. Ted Strickland, outgoing Commissioner for Adams County, Colorado.

In the last 5 years I have appreciated working with the Board of Adams County Commissioners, and I have found Commissioner Strickland to be a good source of wisdom and experience. I certainly wish him well on his retirement.

Commissioner Strickland was born and raised in Austin, Texas. After serving in the military he came to Colorado. Ted began a successful career in the oil and gas industry, becoming Vice President of Petroleum Information.

Feeling drawn toward public service, Ted ran for election to the Colorado House of Representatives. He served 2 years in the House before being elected to the Colorado State Senate, where he served as Senate President and later as a candidate for Governor in 1986.

Ted's obvious passion for public service led him to run for Adams County Commissioner in 1996. Once on the Commission he continued his hard work for those he represented. He served on the E-470 Public Highway Authority Board, the Front Range Airport Authority Board, the Adams County Economic Development Board, the Adams County Water Quality Association, and on the Denver Regional Council of Governments. With such a wide scope of reach, Commissioner Strickland has left an important legacy in Colorado.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Mr. Ted Strickland and in wishing him well on his retirement from local government.

TRIBUTE TO LEGION POST
COMMANDER, KEN WOLTERS

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, one doesn't have to look very far from home to find an excellent example of patriotism. Ken Wolters, of Jefferson City, Missouri, is the commander of American Legion Post 5. In late January, he left home for up to 18 months of active duty in Iraq with the Missouri National Guard's 1035th Maintenance Company.

Wolters has been a National Guardsman for 39 years and a Legion member for 34 years. A sergeant first class, Wolters is an automotive technician with the unit. He also has worked full-time as an armament inspector at the Missouri National Guard headquarters, and has been activated for state power outages and the Missouri River flood in 1993, but this is his first federal duty. The unknowns don't bother Wolters because years of training and a reliable unit give him confidence, he said.

As Ken Wolters begins his active duty in Iraq, he will continue to serve our country with great distinction. Mr. Speaker, I know the Members of the House will join me in thanking Ken for his dedicated service and in wishing him all the best in the days ahead.

THE SAFE NURSING AND PATIENT
CARE ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Safe Nursing and Patient Act with Rep. STEVEN LATOURETTE (R-OH). Assuring quality medical care and addressing our nursing shortage should not divide us on partisan

lines. That's why I'm especially pleased to be working across the aisle with my friend from Ohio, Mr. LATOURETTE, in this important endeavor. Senator KENNEDY is introducing the companion legislation in the Senate.

There are some 500,000 trained nurses in this country who are not working in their profession. Of course, their reasons for leaving nursing are many. But nurses consistently cite their concerns about the quality of care they feel that are able to provide in many health care settings today. Nurses are also greatly concerned about being forced to work mandatory overtime.

Listen to these words of a nurse in the state of Washington:

I have been a nurse for six years and most of the time I have worked in the hospital environment. It is difficult to tell you how terrible it is to "work scared" all the time. A mistake that I might make could easily cost someone their life and ruin mine. Every night at work we routinely "face the clock." All of us do without lunch and breaks and work overtime, often without pay, to ensure continuity of care for our patients. Yet, we are constantly asked to do more. It has become the norm for us to have patient assignments two and a half times greater than the staffing guidelines established by the hospital itself. I cannot continue to participate in this unsafe and irresponsible practice. So I am leaving, not because I don't love being a nurse, but because hospitals are not safe places: not for patients and not for nurses.

While stories like this are telling, we also have a growing body of research to back up the anecdotes. Premier among these studies is a comprehensive report issued by the Institute of Medicine in November 2003 entitled, "Keeping Patients Safe, Transforming the Work Environment of Nurses." Highlighting their concern with regard to this issue, the IOM headline for their release of the report was, "Substantial Changes Required in Nurses' Work Environment to Protect Patients from Health Care Errors." Within the report, they concluded that "limiting the number of hours worked per day and consecutive days of work by nursing staff, as is done in other safety-sensitive industries, is a fundamental safety precaution." The report went on to specifically recommend that "working more than 12 hours in any 24-hour period and more than 60 hours in any 7-day period be prevented except in case of an emergency, such as a natural disaster."

Another study published in the July/August 2004 Health Affairs Journal, "The Working Hours of Hospital Staff Nurses and Patient Safety," found that nurses who worked shifts of twelve and a half hours or more were three times more likely to commit an error than nurses who worked eight and a half hours (a standard shift) or less. The study also found that working overtime increased the odds of making at least one error, regardless of how long the shift was originally scheduled. Finally, this article illustrates how nurses are being forced to work more and more overtime. The majority of nurses surveyed reported working overtime ten or more times in a twenty-eight day period and one-sixth reported working sixteen or more consecutive hours at least once during the period. Nurses reported being mandated to work overtime on 360 shifts and on another 143 shifts they described being "coerced" into working voluntary overtime.

As these studies show, the widespread practice of requiring nurses to work extended

shifts and forgo days off causes nurses to frequently provide care in a state of fatigue, contributing to medical errors and other consequences that compromise patient safety. In addition to endangering patients, studies also point to overtime issues as a prime contributing factor to our nation's nursing shortage. For example, a 2001 report by the General Accounting Office, *Nursing Workforce: Emerging Nurse Shortages Due to Multiple Factors*, concluded:

[T]he current high levels of job dissatisfaction among nurses may also play a crucial role in determining the extent of current and future nurse shortages. Efforts undertaken to improve the workplace environment may both reduce the likelihood of nurses leaving the field and encourage more young people to enter the nursing profession . . .

We have the voices of nurses and the research evidence to prove that the practice of requiring nurses to work beyond the point they believe is safe is jeopardizing the quality of care patients receive. It is also contributing to the growing nurse shortage. Current projections are that the nurse workforce in 2020 will have fallen 20 percent below the level necessary to meet demand.

We have existing federal government standards that limit the hours that pilots, flight attendants, truck drivers, railroad engineers and other professions can safely work before consumer safety is endangered. However, no similar limitation currently exists for our nation's nurses who are caring for us at often the most vulnerable times in our lives.

The Safe Nursing and Patient Care Act would change that. It would set strict, new federal limits on the ability of health facilities to require mandatory overtime from nurses. Nurses would be allowed to continue to volunteer for overtime if and when they feel they can continue to provide safe, quality care. But, forced mandatory overtime would only be allowed when an official state of emergency was declared by federal, state or local government. These limits would be part of Medicare's provider agreements. They would not apply to nursing homes since alternative staffing and quality measures are already moving forward for those facilities.

To assure compliance, the bill provides HHS with the authority to investigate complaints from nurses about violations. It also grants HHS the power to issue civil monetary penalties of up to \$10,000 for violations of the act and to increase those fines for patterns of violations.

Providers would be required to post notices explaining these new rights and to post nurse schedules in prominent workplace locations. Nurses would also obtain anti-discrimination protections against employers who continued to force work hours for nurses beyond what a nurse believes is safe for quality care. Providers found to have violated the law would be posted on Medicare's website.

Often the states are ahead of the federal government when it comes to pinpointing problems that need to be addressed. It is worth noting that many states are considering such laws to strictly limit the use of mandatory nurse overtime. Several states—including California, Connecticut, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, New Jersey, Oregon, Washington and West Virginia—have already passed laws or regulations limiting the practice.

This bill is an important first step, but it isn't the complete solution. I believe that standards

must be developed to define timeframes for safe nursing care within the wide variety of health settings (whether such overtime is mandatory or voluntary). That is why the legislation also requires the Agency on Healthcare Research and Quality to report back to Congress with recommendations for developing overall standards to protect patient safety in nursing care. Once we have better data in that regard, I will support broader limitations on all types of overtime. But, we must not wait to act until that data can be developed. The data collection will take years and the crisis of mandatory overtime is upon us now.

I know that our nations hospital trade associations will claim that my solution misses the mark because it is precisely the lack of nurses in the profession today that is necessitating their need to require mandatory overtime. Let me respond directly. Mandatory overtime is dangerous for patients plain and simple. It is also a driving force for nurses leaving the profession. These twin realities make mandatory overtime a dangerous short-term gamble at best. We should join together to end the practice.

Mandatory overtime is a very real problem facing the nursing profession and that is why our bill is endorsed by the American Nurses Association, the AFL-CIO, AFSCME, AFT, SEIU, AFGE, UAW, UAN, and UFCW—organizations that speak for America's nearly 3 million nurses.

Again, our bill is not the sole solution. I supported the Nurse Reinvestment Act, which was passed by Congress and signed into law in August 2002. That legislation authorizes new federal investment and initiatives to increase the number of people pursuing a nursing education. Such efforts will help in the future, but it will be years before that law's impact is felt in our medical system. And, it will take even longer if the President and Republicans in Congress continue to withhold the funding necessary for the act to be fully implemented.

We need to help now. We must take steps to improve the nursing profession immediately so that today's nurses will remain in the field to care for those of us who need such care before new nurses can be trained. We also need today's nurses to be there as mentors for the nurses of tomorrow.

Mandatory nurse overtime is a very real quality of care issue for our health system and I look forward to working with my colleagues enact the Safe Nursing and Patient Care Act. It will start us down the right path toward protecting patients and encouraging people to remain in—and enter—the nursing profession.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE LATE OSSIE DAVIS

SPEECH OF

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a great civil rights pioneer; a man who provided vital social and political commentary on our nation at a time when it was unwelcome to do so. Above all Ossie Davis was an activist for social equality. He

believed vigorously in the tenets on which our nation was founded: freedom, justice, and that all men are indeed created equal.

Ossie Davis passed away last year at the age of 87. With his passing our nation lost not only a leader of the civil rights movement but also one of the preeminent playwrights, authors and actors of the African American community.

Over his 50 years in the entertainment business, Ossie Davis wrote various plays, television shoves and movies, shedding necessary light on the challenges facing the African American community and race relations in the United States.

He was a champion for the disenfranchised, providing a voice for those who could not speak out and inspiration for those seeking a better life. Ossie's theatrical achievements and unabashed commentary on the civil rights movement led to him receiving the Silver Circle Award from the Academy of the Television Arts and Sciences in 1994, the National Medal of Arts in 1995, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Screen Actor's Guild in 2000. He was also honored by the Kennedy Center in 2004.

Through his proactive participation in the entertainment industry, Ossie Davis exhibited a deep resolve to highlighting the struggle for equality in the African American community and, in so doing, changed the direction of our nation.

I commend Congressman CONYERS on awarding Ossie Davis this well-deserved medal. His contributions to the African American community and our entire nation should not go overlooked.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF SUFFOLK COUNTY COMMISSIONER OF FIRE, RESCUE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES ON JANUARY 8, 2005

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Suffolk County Commissioner of Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services David H. Fischler. Suffolk County has been the beneficiary of Commissioner Fischler's remarkable skill, his dedication to public service and his tremendous leadership all displayed over a distinguished 28-year career devoted to the people of Suffolk County. On January 8, 2005, Commissioner Fischler retired completing a final ten-year tenure as Commissioner. His service will not soon be forgotten; his shoes will not soon be filled; but his legacy of excellence and service will forever last within the Suffolk Fire, Rescue and Emergency Services community.

Commissioner Fischler began his fire service career as a volunteer firefighter with the St. James (NY) Fire Department, where he later served as an Assistant Chief and Chief-of-Department for 8 years. While still serving the St. James Fire Department in a volunteer capacity, Commissioner Fischler began his leadership in the Suffolk County, a county with 1.4 million residents and approximately 12,500 providers in 136 fire and EMS agencies. Commissioner Fischler first served as the county's

Emergency Manager before he began his tenure as Commissioner.

Commissioner Fischler has commanded major incidents, including hurricanes and coastal storms that destroyed 104 homes in 48 hours, the 1995 Wildfires, the 1996 TWA incident, and the county's response in 2001 to the World Trade Center in support of our neighbors in New York City. His skill as a leader, manager and emergency services expert invariably saved lives, property and hardship for the people of our community in each of these instances. Most importantly, he ensured professional, timely, organized response in the event of each challenging disaster.

Commissioner Fischler is also a vice-president of the NYS Emergency Management Association, a member of the International Association of Fire Chiefs Terrorism/Homeland Security Committee and has spoken extensively throughout the country. Furthermore, the Commissioner is an attorney and is heavily involved in community activities.

During Commissioner Fischler's distinguished tenure, Suffolk County became the first county in New York State to develop and implement a Hurricane/Coastal Storm Plan and Special Needs Sheltering Program. Additionally, it is believed that Suffolk County became the first municipality in the nation to develop a Mental Health Special Needs Sheltering Program. Finally, Commissioner Fischler's leadership prompted Suffolk County to be the first county in New York State and the greater northeast to be designated "Storm Ready" by the National Weather Service.

Commissioner Fischler has served Suffolk County with the highest degree of professionalism and excellence. I wish to extend a sincere thank you to Commissioner Fischler for his many years of remarkable public service to the people of Suffolk County, for the legacy of excellence he leaves behind for our fire, rescue and emergency services and for his highly capable, selfless and steady leadership during our most trying and dangerous times over the past ten years.

TRIBUTE TO NORMAN B. CHAMP,
JR. OF ST. LOUIS, MO

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, my remarks today are to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Norman B. Champ, Jr., of St. Louis, MO, husband of Judith Smith Champ.

Mr. Champ's remarkable life took him through ventures in politics, business, farming, and the arts. He spent twenty years as the democratic committeeman for Clayton Township and was a member of the St. Louis County Board of Jail Visitors. His business acumen led him through careers in dairy farming and a trucking equipment company.

He had an undeniable impact on the arts community. He was on the Committee for the Preservation of the White House, was a member of the Missouri Arts Council, and was one of the longest serving members of the National Council of the Arts.

Mr. Speaker, the outpouring of support by family, friends, and the community made it evident to all what an extraordinary person Mr.

Champ was. His wife, children, and grandchildren are a great testament to who he was as a person. My prayers are with his family, friends, and community today, as we honor his life.

HONORING THE 2004 AFRICAN AMERICAN ETHNIC SPORTS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the inductions of twelve former black Olympians into the African American Ethnic Sports Hall of Fame on July 8, 2004 in Sacramento, California. The honorees were notable not only for their tremendous athletic achievements, but also for the profound social significance these achievements carried.

The Athens Games in 2004 marked the 100th anniversary of the first African American participation in the Olympics, when George Poage earned bronze medals in the 200- and 400-meter hurdles, and Joseph Stadler won a silver medal in the standing high jump in St. Louis in 1904. In the past 100 years, African Americans have produced numerous outstanding Olympic performances, and the July inductees to the African American Ethnic Sports Hall of Fame are responsible for some of the finest.

Of the Hall of Fame's twelve honorees, eleven were track and field athletes, and one was a coach. Alice Coachman-Davis, who was not allowed to participate in organized athletic activities while growing up in the South, became the first African American woman to win a gold medal when she placed first in the high jump at the London Games in 1948. Harrison Dillard won an astounding 82 consecutive 110-meter hurdles races, a record which still stands. Wilbur Ross coached two of the most successful Olympic athletes of all time, Carl Lewis and Michael Johnson. And Tommie Smith and John Carlos, who finished first and third, respectively, in the 200 meters at the 1968 Games in Mexico City, took a courageous stand for social justice in one of the most powerful moments in the history of the Olympics. Other Hall of Fame inductees included Milt Campbell, Herb Douglas, Lee Evans, Edith McGuire-Duvall, Dr. Reginald Pearman, Wyomia Tyus and John Woodruff, all of whom were outstanding track and field athletes.

These inductees' achievements are clearly remarkable in the pure athletic sense, but when placed in their social context, they are even more meaningful. Athletics has played an important role in the broader Civil Rights movement, and the Olympic Arena has provided not only an opportunity for African Americans to prove that they could compete with the rest of the world, but has also served as a forum for making important social and political statements. Today, it is of vital importance that we continue to recognize and pay tribute to these achievements, and that we continue to draw inspiration from them in furthering our own work for equality, justice and peace. On behalf of the Ninth Congressional District, I salute both the African American Ethnic Sports Hall of Fame and its July 2004 inductees for

their invaluable contributions to athletics, the United States, and the entire world.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SANITY OF LIFE ACT AND THE TAXPAYER FREEDOM OF CONSCIENCE ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce two bills relating to abortion. These bills stop the federal government from promoting abortion. My bills accomplish this goal by prohibiting federal funds from being used for population control or "family planning" through exercising Congress's constitutional power to restrict federal court's jurisdiction by restoring each state's authority to protect unborn life.

Abortion on demand is no doubt the most serious sociopolitical problem of our age. The lack of respect for life that permits abortion significantly contributes to our violent culture and our careless attitude toward liberty. Whether a civilized society treats human life with dignity or contempt determines the outcome of that civilization. Reaffirming the importance of the sanctity of life is crucial for the continuation of a civilized society. There is already strong evidence that we are on the slippery slope toward euthanasia and non-consensual human experimentation. Although the real problem lies within people's hearts and minds, the legal problems of protecting life stem from the ill-advised Roe v. Wade ruling, where the court usurped the state's authority over abortion.

One of the bills I am introducing today, the Sanctity of Life Act of 2005, reverses some of the damage done by Roe v. Wade. The Sanctity of Life Act provides that the federal courts of the United States, up to and including the Supreme Court, do not have jurisdiction to hear abortion-related cases. Congress must use the authority granted to it in Article 3, Section 1 of the Constitution to rein in rogue federal judges from interfering with a state's ability to protect unborn life.

In addition to restricting federal court jurisdiction over abortion, Congress must stop the unconstitutional practice of forcing Americans to subsidize abortion providers. It is not enough to say that "family planning" groups may not use federal funds to perform or promote abortion. After all, since money is fungible, federal funding of any activities of these organizations forces taxpayers to underwrite the organizations' abortion activities. This is why I am also introducing the Taxpayer Freedom of Conscience Act. The Taxpayer Freedom of Conscience Act prohibits any federal official from expending any federal funds for any population control or population planning program or any family planning activity. To paraphrase Thomas Jefferson, it is "sinful and tyrannical" to force the American taxpayers to subsidize abortion and practices they find morally abhorrent.

Mr. Speaker, it is my hope that my colleagues will join me in support of these two bills. By following the Constitution and using the power granted to the Congress by the Constitution, we can restore respect for freedom of conscience and the sanctity of human life.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
FRIENDSHIP AND LOVE IN MAR-
RIAGE

HON. LINCOLN DAVIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. DAVIS of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Sam and Betty Kennedy of Columbia started their life together on November 6, 1954, at the Methodist Church, in the small Tennessee community of Culleoka. They reached the 50 year milestone on November 6, 2004, and celebrated this occasion with family and friends at Greenway Farms, their home for more than 40 years, a few weeks later.

Sam, the fifth of eight children, grew up the son of a dentist and farmer, Dr. Henry Grady and Annie Porter Delk Kennedy, farm wife and teacher. An attorney and newspaper publisher, Sam has served as general sessions judge, district attorney and county executive of Maury County.

Raised the daughter of Columbia Daily Herald Editor and Publisher John and Elizabeth Read Ridley Finney, Betty attended Agnes Scott College and Emory University's School of Journalism. According to family lore, Sam and Betty met on a street in Columbia in 1953 when Betty was soliciting newspaper advertising. During the following months their courtship continued and they fell in love.

After the passing of Betty's father John Finney, Sam left his law career and with Betty led the Daily Herald, as publisher until 1983 when the paper was sold. Today, they own and operate the Lawrence County Advocate, the Waverly News Democrat, the News Leader, and the Buffalo River Review.

Over their 50 year marriage, Sam and Betty have been blessed with two children and five grandchildren.

Sam Kennedy, Jr. is an assistant U.S. Attorney and is married to Mary Susan Betty Kennedy, a business professor at Columbia State Community College. Their son, Sam Kennedy III is a junior at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Their daughter, Berry, is a freshman at Yale.

Elizabeth Kennedy Blackstone is the editor of the Parsons News Leader. She is married to Billy Blackstone, a partner with the law firm of Stokes, Bartholomew, Evans and Petree. The Blackstones have three children—Emory, Jack, and Eliza. We all should take a moment and applaud their accomplishment and their commitment to one another.

RECOGNITION OF OPEN STUDIO'S 10TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Open Studios on celebrating their 10th Anniversary of providing exemplary educational and cultural programming for artists and art lovers in the Boulder community. Open Studios is one of Colorado's outstanding arts organizations, offering opportunities to gain a broader understanding and appreciation of the visual arts.

Founded by Gary Zeff in 1994, Open Studios' first event was held in Boulder, Colorado during October of 1995. Every fall since then, Open Studios has invited the public to create self-guided tours of approximately 135 studios featuring painters, sculptors, woodworkers, furniture makers, weavers, photographers, paper-makers, jewelers, potters and other fine visual artists. These tours allow the public to meet the artists one-on-one in their studios and watch them work.

Participating artists include an educational component in their studio setting. Many frequently engage the visitors by demonstrating their artistic skills and technique. Visitors are encouraged to ask questions about particular aspects of their work and their artistic process. At some studios, materials are available for adults and children to try their hand at creating art. Open Studios enhances the public tours with a unique Guidebook containing all the participating artists, an easy-to-read tour map, and an Art Resource Directory.

Prior to the public tours, a preview exhibit is held locally along with an artists' reception. The general public is joined at this free event by arts designers, art consultants, dealers, gallery owners, private collectors, and other artists. Open Studios has established an excellent reputation in the community. In the 10-year history, attendance has increased from about 20,000 studio visits to over 70,000. Its programs are implemented by an exceptional, dedicated staff with the sound stewardship of an innovative Board of Directors.

Open Studios has a mission of education. That mission has been expanded over the years to include not just educational opportunities in the studios during the two week event, but also community activities especially for children. Six years ago, Open Studios coordinated with the Director of Special Education of the Boulder Valley School District to provide art supplies and instruction to Halcyon School. With the success of the program at Halcyon, the educational program has been expanded to include six more Boulder Valley schools. There is no charge to the schools, and Open Studios pays artists for their time with a grant from the Boulder Arts Commission.

Throughout the decade, Open Studios has worked to bring art to the community in a myriad of different ways. Open Studios has assisted my office with the annual United States Congressional High School Art Competition for the past four years. In 2000, Open Studios brought William Ivey, the Chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts, to speak to Colorado communities and artists about the direction of the national art movement. In 2001, Open Studios arranged an opportunity for citizens to create cards to thank the members of the New York City Police and Fire Departments for their work and their sacrifices on 9/11. And this past year, Open Studios engaged the Boulder community in painting America's largest paint-by-number, a 1000-square foot painting displayed on a building in downtown Boulder.

The arts enhance the quality of every aspect of our lives. Open Studios has become a vital part of the community and has added to the quality of life of the citizens of Colorado. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Open Studios for its accomplishments and its commitment to providing an unsurpassed cultural program to Coloradans. I wish its staff and Board continued creativity and success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL
GEORGE DENNIS SHULL

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that Brigadier General Dennis Shull will be relinquishing the post of Adjutant General of Missouri.

Brig. Gen. Shull began his military career more than 32 years ago as an enlisted military policeman. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant of artillery in 1975 by the Missouri National Guard Officer Candidate School. He held multiple battery, battalion, brigade, and state level staff positions and has held command leadership positions of increasing responsibility from squad leader to the commander of 135th Field Artillery Brigade. Also, he was the Chief of Staff of the Missouri Army National Guard from February 1999 to September 2001.

As the Adjutant General of Missouri, Brig. Gen. Shull was responsible to the Governor for the command and control of almost 11,000 Missouri Army and Air National Guard personnel. In addition, he was responsible to the Governor for the State Emergency Management Agency and the Civil Air Patrol.

Throughout his career, Brig. Gen. Shull has received many awards and honors, which include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the National Defense Service Medal, the Humanitarian Service Medal, the Army Service Ribbon, and many more.

Brig. Gen. Shull will continue to serve our Nation; he has volunteered for a one year tour of active duty in Afghanistan.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues in the House will join me in wishing Brigadier General Dennis Shull all the best in the days to come. We thank him for his continued service to our Nation.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, a strong domestic manufacturing base is vital to our country's national defense and economic security. Because of massive global competition, and costs that manufacturers cannot directly control, manufacturing in the United States is under great stress. In order to improve the economic environment in America for manufacturers, we have to address the issues that make our companies less globally competitive. These issues include lawsuit abuse, rising health care costs, energy policy, tax reform, and fighting against criminal counterfeiters. But in order to provide an environment where our manufacturers can effectively compete in the global market, we must address the distortions in the U.S. market for steel. Today I am introducing a resolution that seeks to address unnecessary distortion.

There are currently 188 antidumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) orders in place on various types of steel, which is well over

half of all AD/CVD orders in existence. Many of them have been in place since the early 1990s. Some still serve a purpose, others do not. The ones that don't are distorting the U.S. market for steel and unnecessarily damaging steel consuming companies in the form of decreased availability, reduced quality, delayed deliveries, and higher prices. In fact, U.S. companies suffer from artificially high steel prices, higher than anywhere else in the world, making them globally less competitive. For example, the January 2005 price of hot-rolled steel in the United States was \$695/ton, on the world spot market \$575/ton, and in China \$510/ton. Five auto parts companies have recently filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, citing artificially high prices for steel as a significant reason.

The Department of Commerce (DoC) and International Trade Commission (ITC) are required by law to conduct 5-year "sunset reviews" of anti-dumping and countervailing duty (AD/CVD) orders to determine whether to terminate, suspend, or continue the duties beyond the 5 years they have already been in place. In particular, on March 2, 2005 the ITC will conduct a sunset review hearing on hot-rolled steel products from Brazil, Japan, and Russia (Invs. 701-TA-384 and 731-TA-806-808 (Review)). And on April 26, 2005 the ITC will conduct a sunset review hearing on stainless steel sheet and strip from France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Korea, Mexico, Taiwan, and the United Kingdom (Invs. 701-TA-380-382 and 731-TA-797-804 (Review)). Today I am introducing a resolution that urges the DoC and ITC to consider, and report on, the impact of the AD/CVD orders on domestic steel-consuming companies and the overall economy when conducting sunset reviews of duties on steel products.

The DoC and ITC have the discretion to take into account the impact of these duties on steel consumers, and they should. But traditionally they have not. If this continues, economic decisions will be made without seeing the full effects of those decisions. This is not wise, and it's not fair. Furthermore, the damage unnecessary duties do to steel consumers causes the customer base for domestic steel producers to shrink, ultimately harming the steel industry. Sound economic policy cannot be made in a vacuum. When economic policy decisions are made, the full effects of those decisions should be taken into consideration.

I support both a strong domestic steel industry and a strong domestic manufacturing base because they are vital to our national defense and economic security. Removing some specific duties will not harm domestic steel producers, who are doing quite well. In fact, domestic steel producers noted record earnings in 2004 (including increases as high as 45 percent over 2003) and analysts predict a strong 2005 for the industry. If the AD/CVD duties for specific types of steel were removed, market conditions would become less distorted and steel producers may see some extremely high prices they charge now drop to just very high. This will not cause material injury to steel producers, and in fact could provide some much-needed relief for their customer base.

This resolution does nothing to change trade law. It simply calls for sound policy and fundamental fairness. The DoC and ITC already have the authority to look at the full picture during sunset reviews of duties on steel

products. This resolution simply calls on them to do just that. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

IN HONOR OF MISS ASHLEIGH
BRIANNA OLIVER

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I wish to acknowledge the outstanding achievements of a student from Ohio's Third Congressional District. Miss Ashleigh Brianna Oliver recently received the Bronze Medallion Award, an academic honor presented by Walter E. Stebbins High School. Miss Oliver was also recently inducted into the Society for Academic Excellence.

Outside the classroom, Miss Oliver has been a Junior member of the General Daniel "Chappie" James American Legion Auxiliary, Unit 776 since she was 7 years old. She is currently serving as the Junior President, as she has done for 4 years.

Miss Oliver's high level of academic achievement and strong community involvement is worthy of recognition. She is a fine example of a young person contributing to society as an exemplary citizen. I urge my colleagues to join me in acknowledging Miss Oliver's success.

ADDRESS OF ISRAEL'S DEPUTY
PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, SILVAN
SHALOM, AT THE SPECIAL SES-
SION OF THE UNITED NATIONS
GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMEMO-
RATING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE LIBERATION OF NAZI
DEATH CAMPS

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, on January 24 of this year, the United Nations General Assembly commemorated the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Nazi death camps. January 27, 1945, was the date on which Russian troops liberated Auschwitz, the most notorious of the death camps, and the symbol of the Holocaust, in which over 6 million Jews and hundreds of thousands of other nationalities were brutally murdered during World War II.

The United Nations commemoration, which was held three days before the anniversary, began with a moment of silence for the victims. Among the major speakers at the General Assembly special session was the distinguished Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel, Silvan Shalom.

Israel, like the United Nations, was born from the ashes of the Holocaust. Hundreds of thousands of Jews who fled Europe as the Nazi grip was tightening around Europe and hundreds of thousands more who survived the Nazi terror immigrated to Israel. The State of Israel became their refuge, and they became citizens of a state dedicated to remembering

and never to allow a repetition of the Holocaust.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Shalom previously served as Finance Minister and Science Minister in the Israeli government. He has been a member of the Knesset since 1992. Born in Tunisia, his family brought him to Israel when he was only a year old.

Minister Shalom's address at the United Nations General Assembly session draws upon three millennia of Israeli history and tradition. From the dry bones of the horror of the Holocaust a living Israel has emerged, an Israel that is absolutely and irrevocably committed that such a tragedy shall not happen ever again.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the outstanding address of the Foreign Minister of Israel be placed in the Congressional Record. I urge my colleagues to give thoughtful attention to his statement.

ADDRESS OF ISRAEL'S DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SILVAN SHALOM

Mr. Secretary-General, Mr. President, Fellow Foreign Ministers, Survivors of the Holocaust, Distinguished Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen:

Sixty years ago, allied soldiers arrived at the gates of the Auschwitz concentration camp. Nothing could prepare them for what they would witness there, and at other camps they liberated—the stench of the bodies, the piles of clothes, of teeth, of children's shoes. But in the accounts of the liberators, more than the smell, more even than the piles of bodies, the story of the horror was told in the faces of the survivors.

The account of Harold Herbst, an American liberator in Buchenwald, is typical of many, and I quote: "As I walked through the barracks I heard a voice, and I turned around, and I saw a living skeleton talk to me. He said, 'thank God you've come.' And that was a funny feeling. Did you ever talk to a skeleton that talked back? And that's what I was doing. And later on I saw mounds of these living skeletons that the Germans left behind them."

Thousands of years ago the prophet Ezekiel had a similar vision. In one of the most famous passages of the Bible, the prophet describes how he came to a valley full of bones. The bones, says Ezekiel, are the House of Israel. And the bones are dry, and their hope is lost. Faced with this scene, he asks the questions: shall these bones live? Shall these bones live?

Ezekiel asked the question that every liberator of the camps asked himself: Can any hope or humanity emerge from such horror? Shall these bones live?

Here with me today, are those who have given life to dry bones, both survivors and liberators. Men like Dov Shilansky who fought in the ghetto and later became speaker of Israel's parliament, the Knesset; like Yossi Peled, who after being evacuated from the terrors of the Nazis, eventually became a Major-General in the Israeli Defense Forces, to protect his people from the horrors of another calamity; and like David Grinstein, who survived the labor camps, and now heads an organization for restitution for the forced laborers under Nazi rule; and women like Gila Almagor—today the first lady of Israeli stage and screen—who has translated her experiences as the daughter of a Holocaust survivor, into art that has touched millions.

When we see what the survivors have managed to create, and build, and contribute to humanity—families, careers, literature, music, even countries—we can only marvel at their strength and courage.

At the same time, when we see what the survivors have given to humankind, we can

only begin to appreciate, what might have been given to the world by the millions who did not survive. We mourn their loss, to this day. Every fiber of our people, feels their lack. Every family knows pain, including my own—my wife's grandparents and seven of their eight children, were taken and killed.

Mr. President, Israel and the Jewish people owe a debt to the liberators of the death camps, and so does all of humankind. In the face of unspeakable evil, these liberators, from many nations represented here today, showed the human capacity for good. In the face of overwhelming indifference to the suffering of others, they showed compassion. And in the face of cowardice, they shooed bravery and resolve.

We recognize, too, the courage and humanity of Righteous Among the Nations, we refused to look away. People such as Raoul Wallenberg, who saved thousands of Jewish lives, and whose niece, Nane is here with us today. These heroes helped our dry bones live again. Mr. President, the dry bones have lived again not only in the lives of the survivors, but also in two entities established on the ashes of the Holocaust: the United Nations and the modern State of Israel.

The tragedy of the Holocaust was a major impetus in the reestablishment of the Jewish people's home, in its ancient land. As Israel declared in its Declaration of Independence:

The Holocaust, which engulfed millions of Jews in Europe, proved anew the urgency of the reestablishment of the Jewish state. A state which would solve the problem of Jewish homelessness, by opening the gates to all Jews, and lifting the Jewish people to equality in the family of nations.

And indeed, since its establishment, Israel has provided a haven Jews facing persecution anywhere in the world. At the same time, it has built a society, based on the values of democracy and freedom for all its citizens, where Jewish life and culture and literature and religion and learning—all those things which the Nazis sought to destroy—can flourish and thrive.

The fact that so many survivors came and played their part in the building of the State of Israel, was itself a remarkable fulfillment of Ezekiel's prophecy. As the prophet said: "Thus says the Lord: Behold, O my people, I will take you from the graves. I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live in your own land, in the land of Israel."

Mr. President, if Israel represents one heroic attempt, to find a positive response to the atrocities of the Second World War, the United Nations represents another. The very first clauses of the UN Charter bear witness to the understanding of the founders, that this new international organization must serve as the world's answer to evil, that it comes, and I quote: "to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war," to "reaffirm faith in fundamental human rights" and "the dignity and worth of the human person."

By convening here today in this historic special session, we honor the victims, we pay respect to the survivors, and we pay tribute to the liberators. We convene here today for those who remember, for those who have forgotten, and for those who do not know. But we also convene to remember that the Charter of this United Nations, like Israel's Declaration of Independence, is written in the blood of the victims of the Holocaust. Unbelievable as it seems, there are those who would delete from history, six million murders.

Could anything be worse than to systematically destroy a people, to take the proud Jewish citizens of Vienna, Frankfurt and Vilna and even Tunisia and Libya, to burn their holy books, to steal their dignity, their hair, their teeth; to turn them into numbers,

to soap, to the ashes of Treblinka and Dachau? The answer is yes, there is something worse; to do all this and then deny it. To do all this and then take form the victims—and their children and grandchildren—the legitimacy of their grief.

To deny the Holocaust is not only to desecrate the victims and abuse the survivors. It is also to deprive the world of its lessons—lessons which are as crucial today, as they were 60 years ago.

These lessons are crucial today for three urgent reasons.

First, because today, once again, the plague of anti-Semitism is raising its head. Who could have imagined, that less than 60 years after Auschwitz and Bergen-Belsen, the Jewish people and Israel would be targets of anti-Semitic attacks, even in the countries that witnessed the Nazi atrocities. Yet this is exactly what is happening. The Holocaust teaches us that while Jews may be the first to suffer from anti-Semitism's destructive hate. They have rarely been the last.

The lessons of the Holocaust are crucial today for a second reason: because today once again we are witnessing, against Jews and other minorities, that same process of delegitimization and dehumanization, that paved the way to destruction. Let us not forget. The brutal extermination of a people began, not with guns or tanks, but with words, systematically portraying the Jew—the other—as less than legitimate, less than human. Let us not forget this, when we find current newspapers and schoolbooks borrowing caricatures and themes from the Nazi paper *Der Sturmer*, to portray Jews and Israelis.

And finally these lessons are crucial today, because once again, we are witnessing a violent assault on the fundamental principle of the sanctity of human life. Perhaps the greatest single idea that the Bible has given to humanity, is the simple truth that every man, woman and child, is created in the divine image, and so, is of infinite value. For the Nazis, the value of a man was finite, even pitiful. How much work could he do? How much hair did she have? How many gold teeth? For the Nazis, the destruction of one human being, or of a hundred, a thousand, six million, was of no consequence. It was just a means to an evil end.

Today again, we are pitted against the forces of evil, those for whom human life—whether the civilians they target, or their own youth who they use as weapons—are of no value, nothing but a means to their goals. Our sages teach us that he who takes a single life, it is as if he has taken an entire world." No human life is less than a world. No ideology, no political agenda, can justify or excuse the deliberate taking of an innocent life.

Mr. President, for six million Jews, the State of Israel came too late. For them, and for countless others, the United Nations also came too late. But it is not too late, to renew our commitment, to the purposes for which the United Nations was founded. And it is not too late, to work for an international community that will reflect these values fully; that will be uncompromising in combating intolerance against people of all faiths and ethnicities; that will reject moral equivalence; that will call evil by its name.

We will never know whether, if the United Nations had existed then, the Holocaust could have been prevented. But this Special Session today confirms the need for the United Nations, as well as each individual member state, to rededicate to ensuring that it will never happen again. In the context, I wish to commend the Secretary General for his moral voice and leadership in bringing this Special Session to fruition, and my col-

league foreign ministers, for their presence here today.

As the number of survivors shrinks all the time, we are on the brink of that moment, when the terrible event will change—from memory, to history. Let all of us gathered here pledge, never to forget the victims, never to abandon the survivors, and never to allow such an event to be repeated.

As the Foreign Minister of Israel, the sovereign state of the Jewish people, I stand before you, to swear, in the name of the victims, the survivors, and all the Jewish people: Never again.

INTRODUCTION OF POVERTY STATS LEGISLATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I, along with Representative WILLIAM LACY CLAY (D-MO), introduce legislation that requires the annual poverty estimate and the National Assessment of Educational Progress to be subject to certain guidelines on the release of the information to the public. I am deeply concerned at what appears to be the politicization of data by the Bush Administration on important issues ranging from worker safety to the dangers of lead paint to emergency contraceptives. Because data regarding poverty and educational progress are essential to lawmakers at all levels of government to implement policies addressing these issues, it is critical that this information is disseminated in an open and timely process.

Two years ago, the Census Bureau decided to break with tradition by releasing its annual poverty estimates on a Friday in Suitland, Maryland, rather than during the middle of the week at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. Because that report was expected to announce the loss of millions of jobs, the questionable circumstances regarding the release of those statistics led myself and Representative Clay to seek an investigation by the General Accounting Office (GAO) as to why the Census Bureau made its decision. We should not be playing politics with science, which is why I believe this legislation is so important.

HONORING THE TUSKEGEE AIRMEN

SPEECH OF

HON. RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Mr. Speaker, I want to join my colleagues in support of H. Con. Res. 26, which recognizes the significant contributions of the Tuskegee Airmen to our national security and honors their service to a grateful Nation.

As an aviator myself, I have had the honor each year to join some of the Nation's most distinguished military aviators at an event known as "The Gathering of the Eagles." At those events, I have met many of the Tuskegee Airmen, and can personally attest to

their character. These men are outstanding military heroes who gave so much to this Nation and set such an outstanding example for future generations of aviators. Several of them are in the pictures produced there each year hanging in my office.

These African American men, determined to do their part to serve their Nation during World War II, enlisted to serve their Nation at a time when segregation limited opportunities. But they were given a chance to excel in the military. During World War II, they completed 15,500 missions, destroyed over 260 enemy aircraft, sank one enemy destroyer, and demolished numerous enemy installations. They destroyed more than 100 German aircraft while building an unprecedented record of flying with more than 200 bomber escort missions—all without the loss of a bomber. That is a huge feat.

Every bit as important, they set an example for millions of Americans of every color, encouraging others to pursue careers in air and space technology. It is time this Nation give this distinguished group of aviators the credit and honor they deserve. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution recognizing these fine men and their achievements.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF CONGRESS
THAT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
CONTINUE TO EXERCISE ITS AUTHORITY
SUPPORTING ACTIVITIES OF BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

SPEECH OF

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Boy Scouts of America and their right to congregate in facilities such as military bases. It has been a long tradition within the organization that the Scouts work hand in hand with local communities which includes cooperation with agencies such as the Armed Forces. The Boy Scouts of America have been promoting courage, self-reliance, and family virtues throughout this country for almost a century.

The Boy Scouts have always held a special place in my heart because in 1951, my father started Boy Scout Troup 108—the first Boy Scout organization in Westminster, SC. As a matter of fact, one of the first service projects of this troop was to raise the American Flag over the Westminster Post Office. We see Boy Scout troops perform similar patriotic acts throughout the country yet they are denied the right to come together on our military bases. That just doesn't make sense.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in showing support for an organization that has done countless good deeds in each of our communities and pass H. Con. Res. 6.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MRS.
DELOIS JACKSON WILKINSON

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, as we observe Black History month, I rise today to celebrate the remarkable life of Mrs. DeLois Jackson Wilkinson of Nashville, Tennessee. Mrs. Wilkinson was a physical therapist, school board member and local community activist. Often referred to as "Miss Civil Rights," she was among the many brave leaders who participated in the civil rights movement to make this country a better place not only for black Americans, but for all citizens. When she passed away on Saturday, January 29, 2004 at the age of 80, our country lost a dedicated advocate and a dear friend.

Mrs. Wilkinson's energy, passion, and perseverance endeared her to all. Born in Fayette County, Tennessee in 1924, Mrs. Wilkinson was one of eight children. She attended Lemoine College in Memphis and graduated from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois. She moved to Nashville, Tennessee, where she became a physical therapist at Meharry Medical College. She and her husband, Fred Wilkinson, had five children whom they raised during the tumultuous civil rights era and whom they struggled to protect from the harsh realities of life in the South.

Frustrated by the inequalities of segregation, Mrs. Wilkinson worked hard to ensure that she, her children and other black Americans would some day experience the joys of true freedom. She often told a story about going to a downtown department store in Nashville with her young son and passing a restaurant with a play area set up for children. Her son desperately wanted to go in, but to shield him from the harsh truth that he was not allowed, she simply told him that they were in too much of a rush. Mrs. Wilkinson recalled years later that she hated having to lie to her son. Fueled by her desire for equal rights, she helped organize sit-in demonstrations at downtown Nashville lunch counters, and in 1963 and 1983, she participated in the historic civil rights marches on Washington, DC.

As a member of the Board of Education in Nashville, Mrs. Wilkinson advocated for quality education for all children. When asked to serve as a board member, she said that the question of "why Johnny can't read needs to be answered." Because "Johnny does not teach himself," she stressed the responsibility of the school board, administration and teachers to ensure that "Johnny" and others had access to a proper education.

A tireless advocate, Mrs. Wilkinson devoted a lifetime to improving the lives of others. As we celebrate Black History Month, who better to recognize than Mrs. Wilkinson—an extraordinary Nashvillian who provided energy and a sense of purpose to her community, compassion and hope to the poor and sick, and promise for a better future to the repressed.

On behalf of the fifth district of Tennessee, I send my deepest condolences to Mrs. Wilkinson's family and loved ones. May we all take to heart the philosophy she lived by—that "every person should contribute positively during their lifetime to the betterment and spiritual life on earth."

TRIBUTE TO JERRY LEONE ON
HER RETIREMENT FROM THE
PUBLIC POWER COUNCIL

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I'm sure it comes as no surprise to my colleagues that I have a special appreciation for those that are unafraid to speak their mind, expose absurd policies for what they are, and bluntly and forcefully announce when the emperor has no clothes.

It is with mixed feelings, therefore, that I speak to my colleagues today on the upcoming retirement of Jerry Leone from the helm of the Public Power Council—the regional organization representing the interests of the customers of the Bonneville Power Administration.

Jerry is one of those rare individuals willing to provide unvarnished opinions. But she has more than the ability to distill complex issues into clear and unvarnished analysis and critique. Jerry provides clear insights, bold ideas and an uncanny ability to herd the often disparate interests within public power.

Jerry has been at the helm of PPC for more than a decade, guiding the region's public power systems through numerous challenges, including treatment of the region's aluminum plants, skyrocketing electricity rates, the West Coast energy crisis, formation of a Regional Transmission Organization, ESA listings and a review of the future of Bonneville. Public power, the region and the Northwest delegation are fortunate to have had the benefit of Jerry's insights and efforts throughout this effort.

Jerry is not merely a public power icon. She's a lawyer, a wannabe lineman, a retired member of the Coast Guard Reserves, an accordion player, and a journalistic wit.

I wish her the best in her retirement and thank her for her advocacy and tenacity expressed through numerous wry comments, witty insights and cogent observations.

VETERANS SELF-EMPLOYMENT
ACT OF 2005

HON. RICHARD H. BAKER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. BAKER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Veterans Self-Employment Act," legislation to establish a five-year pilot program that allows our Nation's servicemembers, veterans, national guardsman, reservists, and qualified others to use part of their VA educational assistance programs to defray legitimate training costs associated with obtaining a business franchise.

Mr. Speaker, franchising is an enormous component of the United States economy. According to a study conducted by International Franchise Association Educational Foundation, nearly 760,000 franchised businesses generate jobs for more than 18 million Americans annually, comprising nearly 14 percent of the Nation's private-sector employment and accounting for \$1.53 trillion in economic output. Over 75 industries utilize the franchise model

for distribution of products and services, ranging from familiar restaurants and hotels to home movers, tax preparers, personnel providers and so on. Clearly, franchising is a critical engine of America's economic growth.

When an individual acquires a franchise, the individual must first undergo various types of training, depending on the specific franchise he or she wishes to acquire. Training can include education on specialized knowledge of goods, services, policies and practices of the individual franchise system. Training may also include customer service, daily operational management, business computer systems, inventory control, costing and pricing as well as regulatory obligations.

At the same time, Mr. Speaker, American military members, whether as active duty servicemembers or veterans, possess a wealth of experience and abilities. Their training in the armed forces has provided them with high-end skill sets that employers are looking for in the future workforce. Yet outside of what has been provided during their tenure with the military, statistics show that many of our young military men and women have had no formal education or training beyond their high school years.

Mr. Speaker, the "Veterans Self-Employment Act" will allow more veterans to take advantage of the opportunities in franchising by allowing servicemembers, veterans, national guardsman, reservists, and eligible dependent spouses or children to apply a portion of his or her educational benefit to defray the portion of a franchise purchase cost attributable to training. Specifically, in a one-time lump sum payment, beneficiaries will be able to use the lesser of 1/3 of the remaining Montgomery GI Benefit entitlement or 1/2 the franchise fee.

In addition, the bill provides the Secretary of Veterans Affairs proper authority to oversee and avoid any possible abuse of this program; submit to the Secretary a detailed description of the training program; two year operating rule for franchise businesses; and provide individual progress reports regarding successful completion of individual training, among other things.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support our Nation's veterans and thus urge floor consideration for the "Veterans Self-Employment Act."

INTRODUCTION OF THE "INTERNET SPYWARE (I-SPY) PREVENTION ACT"

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Internet Spyware (I-SPY) Prevention Act."

This bipartisan legislation, which I introduced with my colleagues ZOE LOFGREN of California and LAMAR SMITH of Texas, will impose tough criminal penalties on the most egregious purveyors of spyware, without imposing a broad regulatory regime on legitimate online businesses. I believe that this targeted approach is the best way to combat spyware.

Spyware is a growing and serious problem. The Federal Trade Commission has testified that "spyware appears to be a new and rap-

idly growing practice that poses a risk of serious harm to consumers." Spyware is software that provides a tool for criminals to crack into computers to conduct nefarious activities, such as altering a user's security settings, collecting personal information to steal a user's identity, or to commit other crimes.

The I-SPY Prevention Act would impose criminal penalties on the most egregious behaviors associated with spyware. Specifically, this legislation would impose up to a 5 year prison sentence on anyone who uses software to intentionally break into a computer and uses that software in furtherance of another federal crime. In addition, it would impose up to a 2 year prison sentence on anyone who uses spyware to intentionally break into a computer and either alter the computer's security settings, or obtain personal information with the intent to defraud or injure a person or with the intent to damage a computer. By imposing stiff penalties on these bad actors, this legislation will help deter the use of spyware, and will thus help protect consumers from these aggressive attacks.

Enforcement is crucial in combating spyware. The I-SPY Prevention Act authorizes \$10 million for fiscal years 2006 through 2009, to be devoted to prosecutions, and expresses the sense of Congress that the Department of Justice should vigorously enforce the laws against spyware violations, as well as against online phishing scams in which criminals send fake e-mail messages to consumers on behalf of famous companies and request account information that is later used to conduct criminal activities.

I believe that four overarching principles should guide the development of any spyware legislation. First, we must punish the bad actors, while protecting legitimate online companies. Second, we must not over-regulate, but rather encourage innovative new services and the growth of the Internet. Third, we must not stifle the free market. Fourth, we must target the behavior, not the technology.

By imposing criminal penalties on those that use spyware to commit federal crimes and other dangerous activities, the I-SPY Prevention Act will protect consumers by punishing the bad actors, without imposing liability on those that act legitimately online.

The targeted approach of the I-SPY Prevention Act also avoids excessive regulation and its repercussions, including the increased likelihood that an overly regulatory approach would have unintended consequences that could discourage the creation of new and exciting technologies and services on the Internet. By encouraging innovation, the I-SPY Prevention Act will help ensure that consumers have access to cutting-edge products and services at lower prices.

In addition, the approach of the I-SPY Prevention Act does not interfere with the free market principle that a business should be free to react to consumer demand by providing consumers with easy access to the Internet's wealth of information and convenience. Increasingly, consumers want a seamless interaction with the Internet, and we must be careful to not interfere with businesses' abilities to respond to this consumer demand with innovative services. The I-SPY Prevention Act will help ensure that consumers, not the federal government, define what their interaction with the Internet looks like.

Finally, by going after the criminal behavior associated with the use of spyware, the I-SPY

Prevention Act recognizes that not all software is spyware and that the crime does not lie in the technology itself, but rather in actually using the technology for nefarious purposes. People commit crimes, not software.

The I-SPY Prevention Act is a targeted approach that protects consumers by imposing stiff penalties on the truly bad actors, while protecting the ability of legitimate companies to develop new and exciting products and services online for consumers.

I urge each of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

TONY HALL FEDERAL BUILDING
AND UNITED STATES COURT-
HOUSE

SPEECH OF

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend, fellow Ohioan, and former colleague, Ambassador Tony Hall, upon overwhelming House passage of legislation to designate the building located at 200 West Second Street in Dayton, Ohio as the "Tony Hall Federal Building and Courthouse."

Currently United States Ambassador to the United Nations Agencies for Food and Agriculture, Mr. Hall is well known to those of us from Ohio and in the House. But for those who are not familiar with his distinguished career, permit me to relate just a few of his many accomplishments.

Prior to serving as Ambassador, Mr. Hall represented the people of the Third Congressional District of Ohio for nearly 24 years. During his service in Congress, he was a founding member and Chairman of the House Select Committee on Hunger and Chairman of the Democratic Caucus on Hunger. Ambassador Hall also founded and served as a steering committee member for the Congressional Friends of Human Rights Monitors.

In Congress, Ambassador Hall wrote significant legislation supporting food aid, child survival, basic education, primary health care, microenterprise and development assistance programs for the world's poorest nations. He has made over one hundred trips to poverty stricken and war torn nations in his efforts to observe first hand the important work of these programs.

His tireless advocacy for hunger relief and humanitarian programs around the world resulted in his being nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize three times. He has also received the UNICEF 1995 Children's Legislative Advocate Award; the U.S. AID Presidential End Hunger Award; the 1993 Oxfam America Partners Award; and the NCAA Silver Anniversary Award.

A graduate of Denison University, Ambassador Hall was a Peace Corps volunteer in Thailand. He and his wife, Janet, have two children.

The naming of the federal building and courthouse in Dayton is a fitting tribute to Ambassador Hall's work for the people of Ohio and around the world. I join my colleagues in congratulating him on receiving this important honor.

FREEDOM FOR ARNALDO RAMOS
LAUZERIQUE

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Arnaldo Ramos Lauzerique, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Ramos Lauzerique is a member of the Cuban Institute of Independent Economists and the Assembly to Promote Civil Society. He believes that Cuba should be and will be free from the nightmare that is the Castro regime. He believes that the Cuban people are entitled to human rights, democracy, and freedom from tyranny. Because he believes in freedom and because he actively and peacefully advocates for liberty, Mr. Ramos Lauzerique has been targeted by the despotic regime.

In March 2003, as part of the tyrant's heinous island wide crackdown on peaceful, pro-democracy activists, Mr. Ramos Lauzerique was arrested by the regime. In a sham trial, he was sentenced to 18 years in the totalitarian gulag.

Mr. Ramos Lauzerique is over 60 years old and languishing in the revolting, hellish gulag. However, being confined in these inhuman conditions has not stopped him from continuing to demand justice for the people of Cuba and his fellow political prisoners. Amnesty International reports that Mr. Ramos Lauzerique has participated in at least two hunger strikes while imprisoned in Castro's dungeon. He has undertaken these strikes to bring attention to the repulsive squalor of the gulag, the lack of medical attention, and the barbaric punishment cells; all in defiance of the machinery of repression that has unjustly confined him in these repugnant conditions.

Mr. Speaker, it remains categorically unacceptable that men and women who demand freedom from tyranny are locked in the dungeons of tyrannical monsters. Here, under the dome that represents modern democracy, we must continue to demand the liberation of all who suffer in the darkness of totalitarianism. As we continue to exercise our democratic rights, let us never forget those who are struggling to liberate their own nations. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate release of Arnaldo Ramos Lauzerique and every prisoner of conscience locked in Castro's totalitarian gulag.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 750, THE
SOCIAL SECURITY GUARANTEE
PLUS ACT OF 2005

HON. E. CLAY SHAW, JR.

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. SHAW. Mr. Speaker, whether we live in prosperous or uncertain times, American families need economic security—the kind of economic security that Social Security provides. For 70 years, Social Security has protected workers and their families from falling into poverty if a breadwinner retires, suffers disability, or dies. Social Security has endured, unlike many other government programs, because its architects designed it to be owned by workers and to treat all workers fairly.

Social Security has evolved over the decades, strengthening its protections and finances along the way. However, our nation's demographics and economics are fundamentally changing, and Social Security's ability to continue meeting its promises is threatened.

The Social Security Guarantee Plus Plan I am introducing today will enable Social Security to continue fulfilling its vital role in the lives of all Americans.

First, the Guarantee Plus Plan keeps intact the Social Security safety net. Promised benefits, including cost of living increases, are guaranteed for people receiving benefits today, tomorrow and for all future generations.

Second, the plan treats all workers fairly. Workers have paid into the system, it's their money, and we must protect and enhance their investment. It's not fair to workers to raise their payroll taxes or lower their benefits. Nor is it fair for the government to tell workers to work longer. That's why my plan does not raise taxes, does not lower benefits, and does not change the retirement age.

Third, Social Security payroll taxes belong to the workers who paid them. My plan gives workers a real ownership stake in Social Security by allowing them to choose to receive a tax cut to invest directly in prudent, individually-selected, market investments. For the first time, a nation of savers, not the government, will own and control the assets backing Social Security. Should an individual die before becoming eligible, the balance of their money will be passed along to their heirs.

Fourth, under my plan, Social Security can be counted on for the next 75 years, and beyond. Real assets guarantee current and future benefits, establishing a sound and sustainable financial footing. No longer will there be a need to periodically increase taxes or lower benefits to keep the program working.

Beyond keeping these promises to all Americans, we must also do more to improve Social Security for the women of our nation. Because of their longer life expectancies and lower earnings, women are more likely to suffer poverty in old age. Social Security is a vital safety net for these women. In addition, because benefits are based on earnings, women are disadvantaged when they choose to stay home to raise their children. The Guarantee Plus Plan protects our daughters, our mothers, our aunts and our grandmothers, not only by securing the future of Social Security and guaranteeing full benefits, but also by enhancing benefits for widows, divorced spouses, and working mothers. These benefits become available immediately in my bill.

Here's how the Social Security Guarantee Plus Plan works. The plan guarantees full, promised, current law benefits for all workers, whether you are 6 or 65. Just as companies must back your pension plan with real assets, the Guarantee Plus Plan saves Social Security by setting aside real assets, not IOUs, to pre-fund benefits. These assets are saved in each worker's own account, thereby providing workers the opportunity to create real wealth for themselves and their families.

Workers who choose to participate will receive a refundable credit of up to 4% of their earnings to establish their own Social Security Guarantee Account. Workers, not the government, would select where to invest their Guarantee Account funds. The assets in these accounts would grow tax-free. No withdrawals would be permitted until a worker starts receiving benefits to ensure that the money is preserved for retirement.

At retirement or when the worker becomes disabled, a portion of the Guarantee Account is paid directly to the worker and the rest is used to help pay full, guaranteed Social Security benefits. But that's not all.

In addition to the much needed improvements in benefits for women I mentioned, my plan eliminates the retirement earnings penalty for all workers age 62 and older and reduces the so-called Government Pension Offset affecting spouse and survivor benefits to certain government workers.

Other plans may cost less, because they cut benefits or raise taxes. If our goal is to pay full promised benefits, boost women's benefits, and return Social Security to financial independence, the Guarantee Plus Plan is the lowest-cost proposal to date. The Guarantee Plus Plan does all this and pays for itself over the seventy five-year actuarial period, and that's confirmed by the Social Security Administration's Office of the Actuary in the 108th Congress. Even under the most conservative estimates, the Guarantee Plus Plan allows the new Social Security system to generate surplus cash in the latter part of the century, actually adding black ink to the government's bottom line.

My plan uses general revenues to fund the accounts. Even assuming borrowing for a transitional period, my plan pays back every borrowed dollar plus interest within the seventy five-year evaluation period. My plan also requires that Social Security surpluses created by the plan be dedicated to reducing publicly-held debt. Not only would we pay off the mortgage on Social Security, we would leave workers with substantial account balances and the federal government with excess cash.

The Guarantee Plus Plan also meets or exceeds all of the President's principles for reform—pays promised benefits to retirees, near-retirees, and all workers; no tax increases; no government investing; fully preserves disability and survivor benefits; offers individually controlled, voluntary personal retirement accounts that will augment Social Security. In addition, my plan is consistent with the first option to establish personal accounts recommended by the President's Commission to Strengthen Social Security.

President Bush has made the strengthening of Social Security now and for generations to come a top priority. Americans are showing their willingness to explore new ideas to strengthen this vital program, since the old ways must be improved upon for future generations. Now is the time for a straight-forward, honest and realistic discussion about the future of Social Security. The longer we wait to address the coming crisis, the more difficult and expensive the job will be down the line.

From the time of Social Security's enactment until today, the history of the program's evolution has demonstrated that while everybody has his or her own ideas on how to strengthen the program, progress toward that goal is only achieved through bipartisan cooperation. It's long past time for us to lay all our best thoughts on the table and work together to build on our success to make a stronger Social Security system that is an asset to all and not a liability to our children and grandchildren.

HONORING HENRIETTA SMITH AND
NINA KLEIN

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the lives and the upcoming birthdays on February 14 of two outstanding Texas women, Henrietta C. Smith of Greenville, Texas, in the Fourth Congressional District, and her twin sister, Nina Lee Klein of Garland. Henrietta and Nina will celebrate their 85th birthdays with a family reunion in Austin, and I join their children, grandchildren, and many friends in recognition of this joyous occasion.

Henrietta and Nina have been excellent role models for their families and for young people who have known them. Henrietta obtained bachelor's and master's degrees from Texas

A&M University at Commerce and also attended Miss Hickey's Secretarial School in St. Louis, MO. A resident of Greenville for 54 years, she retired as a vocational counselor from Greenville High School in 1988. Prior to that, she was a guidance counselor at Greenville Junior High School and a sixth grade teacher at Bowie Elementary School. She remains active in the community, as an elder at Grace Presbyterian Church, past president and annual book sale volunteer for the American Association of University Women, and past president of the Greenville Area Retired Teachers and School Employees Association.

Nina also has been active in her church as well as various women's groups and is a lifelong homemaker. Although legally blind throughout her life, Nina graduated from Maryville University in St. Louis with a degree in sociology—a significant accomplishment—and has been a productive and active member of her community.

Henrietta was married to the late Wilson Smith, who died in 1968. They have three children—Charlotte Wright of Davidsonville, MD, Marsha Smith of Pahrump, NV, and Edward Smith of Fairfield, TX, as well as four grandchildren. Nina lost her husband, Walter Klein, in 1995. Their daughter, Barbara Klein, lives in Garland.

Although these sisters live 50 miles apart, they still see each other several times each month. As they celebrate their 85th birthday on Valentine's Day, February 14, with their family, I want to take this opportunity in the House of Representatives to extend my best wishes to Henrietta C. Smith and Nina Lee Klein for a wonderful celebration and recognize their many contributions to their families and their communities.

BILL TO ASSURE ADEQUATE FUNDING FOR BORDER SECURITY AGENTS

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a simple, straightforward bill to ensure that as the architects of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004, we keep our promises regarding border security to the American people, the 9/11 Families who fought so tirelessly for passage of that legislation, and the members of the 9/11 Commission.

By architects, I am referring to Members of the House and Senate—both Democrat and Republican—who fought for Intel Reform and voted overwhelmingly to see that bill become law. I am also referring to the President, who signed that legislation into law on December 17, 2004.

Border security is not some esoteric term of art created by a bunch of lawyers writing complicated pieces of legislation that laymen will never understand. Border security means exactly what it says: secure our borders to prevent those who should not enter America from entering America. We wrote a good piece of legislation that prescribed additional funding for what we all agreed was needed—additional border security agents to implement our border security plan. We can write all the laws we want, but without boots on the ground in the place where we need them the most we cannot win the battle. This is as true in border security as it is in war.

I commend my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for passing Intel Reform last Congress. It was a tiresome fight well worth the result. It was not perfect, but the legislation signed into law by President Bush took a great

leap forward to protect our American families and communities.

That bill included a provision to add 2,000 border security agents every year for five years beginning in 2006. In order for that to happen, the President would need to budget for 2,000 additional agents in the budget he submitted this week to Congress and Congress would need to appropriate that money to the Department of Homeland Security. Only two months after signing Intel Reform into law, this Administration has budgeted for only 10 percent of the border security agents we agreed were necessary.

I am introducing this bill to ensure that this legislative body keeps its word to the American people to provide 100 percent of the border security protection we decreed to be necessary. I urge House and Senate leadership to bring this bill to the floor immediately to rectify this discrepancy. I urge my colleagues to join me in funding this important priority and putting the boots on the ground where we said we need them to ensure our borders are secure.

CONGRATULATING NANCY TIPPINS ON THE OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a dear friend and colleague who recently retired from Capitol Hill after three decades of exemplary service.

Nancy Tippins, a native of Auburn, Alabama, and graduate of Auburn University, first came to Washington, DC, in 1975 and accepted a position as legislative assistant on the staff of my predecessor, Representative Jack Edwards. Following Jack's retirement in 1984, Nancy was hired by my immediate predecessor, Representative Sonny Callahan, as his legislative director.

During her tenure with Sonny, Nancy became an invaluable member of the legislative team, a role made even more important in 1994 with Sonny's appointment as chairman of the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs. She quickly developed a thorough and extensive knowledge of subcommittee operations and the appropriations process, and during Sonny's chairmanship became an integral part of the team drafting each year's Foreign Operations appropriations bill.

Nancy's hard work and dedication to her colleagues and to the people of south Alabama won her wide admiration from Members and staff alike, and she developed a strong and well-deserved reputation for being a team player and a reliable source for assistance and information.

It would be difficult to adequately describe the tremendous gifts and skill Nancy brought to our office in Washington. Admired by members and staff on both sides of the aisle, she brought great levels of knowledge to the job and displayed tremendous dedication to the residents of Alabama's First Congressional District. As my legislative director for the past two years, I found my new job as a member of this chamber made much easier as a result of the breadth of knowledge Nancy possessed. Having worked side-by-side with her for twenty years, it was not hard for me to develop a deep and genuine respect for Nancy and for her long string of professional successes. It is due in large part to Nancy Tippins that my first term continued what has become

a time-honored tradition of dedicated public service for the people for south Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, while the retirement of Nancy Tippins marks a tremendous loss for my office and for her many friends in Washington, DC, it also marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter in Nancy's life. I ask my colleagues to join with me in saluting her for thirty years of exemplary public service to this body and to the people of Alabama. We extend to her our very best wishes and our heartfelt thanks for everything she has brought to this great city; my hope is for only the best of good health, happiness, and prosperity in the years ahead.

COMMENDING PALESTINIAN PEOPLE FOR HOLDING FREE AND FAIR PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

SPEECH OF

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2005

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, free democratic elections in the Middle East are vital to our security and to the security of our democratic allies. Later today we will take up a resolution on the remarkable exercise in democracy in Iraq last Sunday. In fact January was a strong month for democracy in the region. On January 9, the Palestinian people went to the polls to select a new president. This election, in which Mahmoud Abbas was elected president of the Palestinian Authority, occurred in the wake of an ongoing violent intifada against Israel; violence whose direct cause of was a vacuum of credible leadership willing to confront terrorists in the West Bank and Gaza.

In December I traveled to Jerusalem and Ramallah to discuss preparations for the Palestinian presidential election. I found those Palestinian leaders I met to be eager to demonstrate to the world that their presidential election would be free and fair. And today we congratulate the Palestinian people for conducting a presidential election that has been widely regarded as both free and fair.

During the voting, Israel's efforts to balance the security of its people with easing the ability of Palestinians to vote in the West Bank and Gaza were vital to the success of the Palestinian election and Israel should be commended for its efforts.

The presidential election on January 9 represented a real opportunity for the Palestinian people to make a statement about their own future by rejecting violent and extremist leaders in favor of those who favor a moderate approach to lasting peace with Israel.

Today we commend President Mahmoud Abbas for his victory in the Palestinian presidential election. For many years the Palestinians have been without a leader committed to good faith negotiations toward peace with Israel. It is my sincere hope that the leadership of Mahmoud Abbas may finally change that.

The news today that the Israeli and Palestinian senior leaderships will hold a summit in Egypt is encouraging. We should all encourage this effort and hope that trust can be built among the region's leaders. However, as we have learned the hard way during this conflict, peace will not be achieved through words spoken at a table. A lasting peace will require patience, strong leadership, and above all a realistic approach to the underlying issues. Few of these qualities existed in the previous leader of the Palestinian Authority. It is not clear that they exist in Mahmoud Abbas, but we are hopeful.

While Mahmoud Abbas once renounced the use of terrorism during his premiership in

2003, his message to Israel and to the international community during his election campaign was mixed. Now that he has taken office, results are to be expected in the form of a clear policy that terrorism and terrorist incitement in any form will not be tolerated within those territories under the control of the Palestinian Authority. I am hopeful, but only to the point of realistic expectation, that Mahmoud Abbas will take advantage of this opportunity and that a lasting peace will emerge.

THE SENIOR NUTRITION ACT

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. I rise today to introduce the Senior Nutrition Act, a bill I also introduced last year as H.R. 1021.

The intent of the Senior Nutrition Act is very simply to help more seniors get the food they need by changing eligibility standards for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program, CSFP. Among other things, this will help offset the increasing cost of prescription drugs for many seniors.

The mission of the CSFP is to improve the health of both women with children and seniors by supplementing their diets with nutritious USDA commodity foods. More than 400,000 people participate in the CSFP each month, but it is important to note that the majority of these participants—more than 75 percent—are elderly and that number is on the rise.

The average senior citizen pays around \$1,000 per year on prescription drugs. Many seniors who rely solely on Medicare for their health care cannot afford to buy prescription drugs, and are forced to either stretch their prescriptions, or to choose between purchasing medication or food.

The Senior Nutrition Act will provide for the following:

1. In those areas in which the CSFP operates, categorical eligibility is granted for seniors who participate or is eligible to participate in the Food Stamp Program. No further verification of income would be necessary in such cases; and

2. The same income standard that is currently used to determine eligibility for women, infants, and children in the CSFP—185 percent of the Poverty Income Guidelines—would be applied to senior applicants as well. The current income eligibility standard for seniors has been capped by regulation at 130 percent.

Despite the addition of a Medicare prescription drug plan, many of our seniors still need help. We have an obligation to protect our most vulnerable citizens from having to make the awful choice of eating or taking their prescriptions. The Senior Nutrition Act will help protect the health and well being of our senior citizens.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. THOMAS H. ALLEN

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 17, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN HONOR OF THE AUDUBON CENTER AT ERNEST E. DEBS PARK, LOS ANGELES, CA

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, it is with utmost pleasure and privilege that I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the National Audubon Society on the occasion of its centennial year. Founded in 1905 to protect birds from adorning ladies hats, the Audubon Society has come a long way and has grown into a nationally-recognized environmental organization. Audubon's current mission is not only to conserve endangered bird species, but also to preserve their natural habitats and ecosystems. Through a network of bird sanctuaries and community-based nature centers across the nation, Audubon is cultivating a spirit of environmental preservation in our communities.

The recent inauguration of the Audubon Center at Ernest E. Debs Park in the City of Los Angeles, and within my congressional district, is a unique example of how Audubon effectively connects people to nature. The Audubon Center is in the heart of one of the densest urban areas of Los Angeles, with 25,000 people per square mile, nearly four times the city average. Despite this challenge, Audubon has constructed a first-class facility focused on sustainable features such as renewable energy sources, water conservation, recycled building materials, and native landscaping. In the fall of 2003, the Audubon Center at Debs Park was awarded the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Platinum Rating by the U.S. Green Building Council, recognizing it as the most environmentally friendly building in the United States, and the second greenest building in the world. This notable achievement, however, is not the only reason the Audubon Center is special to Los Angeles. Even more substantial is that the Audubon Center at Debs Park is a safe haven for 282 acres of wilderness, 200 species of birds and animals, and for the tens of thousands of young children and families of Los Angeles.

True to its vision of educating the public on conservation issues, the Audubon Society worked for over 10 years to establish a center that would bring nature to the City of Los Angeles. Thanks to the collaboration of public and private funding, Angelenos can today appreciate a unique nature experience in their own backyard at the Audubon Center at Debs Park. Working families, who often do not have the time or the means for nature trips, now have the option of utilizing the educational and family programs offered by the Center. The site is prime ground for exploring and observing nature through its 282 acres of native walnut-oak woodland, grassland, and coastal sage scrub. The 5,023 square foot facility on site, which houses the children's programming and the administrative offices, also offers a unique opportunity to learn about conservation through its sustainable features. The building is supported by a 100 percent solar electrical system completely independent of the electrical power grid serving the Los Angeles area. Recycled materials, including melted down handguns and scrap metal, were used in the facility's construction wherever possible. Sustainable building materials were also used for the interior; furniture and cabinets were made from organic wheat board and organic sunflower board, both rapidly renewable materials and alternatives to wood.

By remaining faithful to its founding mission, the National Audubon Society has accomplished another historic milestone as it celebrates its first century of existence. The Audu-

bon Society has achieved an innovative and unique form of recreation, conservation, and education through the Audubon Center at Debs Park by maximizing nature, technology, and community support. Audubon plans to build similar centers nationwide to continue fostering the spirit of preservation that has inspired the over 12,000 visitors that have walked through the gates of the Audubon Center at Debs Park since its opening.

Mr. Speaker, as advocates, supporters, and friends begin centennial festivities nationwide, it is with great admiration and pride that I ask my colleagues to join me today in saluting the National Audubon Society for its visionary mission of engaging millions of people of all ages and inspiring them to celebrate and protect birds, nature, and life. At 100 years young, the National Audubon Society has much vigor and many ideas to share with all of us. We look forward to the next many years of fruitful endeavors with this great American Institution.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND CHARLIE DOOLEY OF ST. LOUIS, MO

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. CARNAHAN. Mr. Speaker, my remarks today are to pay tribute to the life of the Reverend Mr. Charlie Dooley, of St. Louis, MO, husband of Lonnie Merl Dooley. Rev. Dooley's life was defined by dedication to his work, his church, and his family. Rev. Dooley worked for McDonnell Douglas Co. for thirty years without missing a single day of work. His devotion to his job was matched by his devotion to his church. He served as pastor of the Revelation Missionary Baptist Church from 1966 until his retirement in 2004.

Mr. Speaker, the outpouring of support by family, friends, and the community made it evident to all what an extraordinary person Rev. Dooley was. His wife, children, fourteen grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren are a great testament to who he was as a person. My prayers are with his family, friends, and community today, as we honor his life.

INTRODUCTION OF THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 BATTLEFIELD PROTECTION ACT AND THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND WAR OF 1812 BATTLEFIELDS COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce two new bipartisan bills to provide more federal support for the preservation and protection of the endangered Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefields and related historic sites in New Jersey and many other states. I am especially pleased that U.S. Representatives JO ANN DAVIS, MAURICE HINCHEY, JOHN MCHUGH, ED MARKEY, JOHN SWEENEY, and MARK SOUDER have joined me as original cosponsors of this much-needed legislation.

In 1996, the Congress enacted the American Battlefield Protection Act, which established the American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) within the U.S. National Park Service (NPS). At the same time, the Congress directed the U.S. Park Service to conduct a comprehensive study of endangered Revolutionary War and War of 1812 sites for

submission to the Congress, to the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, and to the Office of Management and Budget. The U.S. Park Service study is to be completed in the coming spring and opened for at least a 90-day public comment period.

In my home state of New Jersey, many sites have already been surveyed and ranked highly for preservation. Preliminary surveys indicate that five New Jersey sites are in the most jeopardy (the Trenton, Princeton, and Monmouth Battlefields plus Fort Lee and the Second Springfield Battlefield) and three of those lie in the heart of the 12th Congressional District which I am privileged to represent.

Current federal law authorizes and appropriates monies from the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) for the preservation and protection of Civil War battlefields and related sites. One of my bills—The Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefield Protection Act—would do the same for the hallowed battlefields of the Revolutionary War (e.g. Trenton, Princeton, Monmouth) and the War of 1812 and related historical sites that are also in danger of being lost forever. The enactment of this bill would allow National Park Service officials to collaborate with state and local governments, non-profit organizations, and concerned individuals to preserve and protect endangered Revolutionary War and War of 1812 historical sites on the priority lists of the forthcoming Park Service study and to provide up to 50 percent of the costs, for example, of purchasing battlefield land threatened by sprawl.

My second bill—The Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefields Commemorative Coin Act—would provide a non-federal financing mechanism to provide even more funding for the preservation and protection of endangered Revolutionary War and War of 1812 battlefields and related historical sites. It would authorize the minting of \$3.5 million in gold, silver, and clad commemorative coins to be sold to the public at surcharges of \$3–\$35, thus generating as much as \$23.5 million in seed money. Upon collection of these proceeds, the U.S. Treasury Secretary would transfer them to the non-partisan, non-profit Revolutionary War and War of 1812 Battlefields Foundation to be used exclusively for these expressed preservation and protection purposes. It would cost U.S. taxpayers nothing. The greatest beneficiaries of these two bills would be future generations of Americans who will be able to relive more of the history of the Revolutionary War era and the War of 1812, the early development of our Nation, and the critically important roles played by the people of New Jersey and the other original thirteen colonies and the Northwest Territory.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
REPRESENTATIVE CAROL BEGGS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, Carol Beggs was many things to many people. He was a friend, a husband, a father, a soldier, and a lawmaker. In all of these, and throughout all his life, Carol lived to serve others. As a young man in the Navy during World War II, then as a lieutenant colonel in the Army Reserves, Carol served his country. As a commissioner, then mayor, in Salina, Kansas, he served his city. And finally, in his ten years in the Kansas House, Carol served his state.

However, Carol Beggs was so much more than his titles. He was a man of thoughtfulness and action. He knew what he believed in,

and he stood by his convictions. Though he faced tough decisions and took hard stances, Carol never lost his sense of humor. Even when disagreeing with fellow lawmakers, he knew how to lighten difficult moments and bring smiles to colleagues' faces.

His quick wit kept people smiling and laughing, and so did his harmonica. In the halls of statehouse, staff and members alike fondly recall Carol's rendition of "Danny Boy" floating through the halls.

There's nothing quite like "Danny Boy" being played on a harmonica, and Carol doing the playing made it even more special. I'm sure all who knew him think of him when they hear that song, more so now that he has passed.

Carol Beggs passed away Wednesday night, January 19, after a long battle with pneumonia. He was 77 years old. His wife, Betty, says he went peacefully, in his sleep.

Carol and Betty had been married for 54 years and had two sons, Dan and David. Up until it closed in 2000, the whole family helped run Beggs Yamaha Cycleland, a motorcycle shop Carol opened in 1949.

I feel blessed to have known and to have served in the state legislature with Carol Beggs. He was a member of the Greatest Generation, and like so many of that generation, self was secondary to others. Entrepreneur, veteran, statesman, and loving family man. Carol leaves behind a legacy of courage, honor, and service—and his life serves as an example to all of us.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL
MENTORING MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 8, 2005

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 46, a resolution recognizing National Mentoring Month.

Across this country, millions of needy children wait patiently for mentors who will spend time with them, guide them and open the doors of opportunity for them.

Last week I rose on this Floor to speak of a resolution I introduced with my colleague—Congressman TOM OSBORNE from Nebraska—recognizing Big Brothers Big Sisters, our nation's most prominent mentoring organization. I spoke of my experiences as a Big Brother and the rewards that it has brought to me. Almost two decades after accepting the responsibility of being a Big Brother to another, I can tell you that it continues to be one of the most meaningful experiences of my life.

Eighteen years ago, I walked into the Big Brothers of Greater Los Angeles and I was matched with a young man, then 7 years old, named David. We started out going to the beach, the movies, roller skating and going to the park, or reading or talking with each other. He would criticize my taste in music, and I would tolerate his. We would spend time just catching up on each other's lives; and we became in a very short space of time, true brothers to each other. Now for almost two decades we have shared in each other's successes and failures and trials and tribulations. We have become family.

I cannot speak from the point of view of a mentee, but I can speak from the point of view of a mentor about how it has enriched my life. I encourage all Americans to pursue mentoring opportunities in their communities. Few things you will ever do will mean so much to another and to yourself.

David would have done well under any circumstance; but there are many, many young people who really need the benefit of a mentor, need the benefit of someone in their lives to help them gain direction, gain a sense of self-worth and a sense of purpose.

REMEMBERING AND HONORING
MR. ORREN BEATY, JR.

HON. ED PASTOR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. PASTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of a dear friend, Orren Beaty, Jr., devoted husband, father, grandfather, public servant, and United States Veteran. Mr. Beaty passed away in Las Cruces, New Mexico on January 19, 2005 at the age of 85.

A native of Clayton, New Mexico, Mr. Beaty graduated from New Mexico State University in 1940, specializing in history and government. Soon after, he served our nation in World War II as a radar navigator instructor for the B-29 bomber, and later served in the Air Force during the Korean War.

After his service, Mr. Beaty began his political and journalism career as the Managing Editor of the Sun News in Las Cruces and as a reporter, political writer, and columnist for the Arizona Republic. In 1955, he moved to Washington, D.C. to work as an administrative assistant for then-Representative Stewart Udall (D-Arizona). Six years later, when Mr. Udall was appointed Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Beaty served as his principal aide. His steadfast work ethic, unfaltering integrity, and dedication to public service were duly recognized, and Mr. Beaty was awarded the Interior Department's Distinguished Service Award.

In 1967, President Lyndon B. Johnson appointed Mr. Beaty as the Federal Co-chairman of the Four Corners Regional Commission within the Department of Commerce, where he collaborated with the governors of the four Southwestern states to promote economic development. In 1969, Mr. Beaty continued to serve in a succession of journalism, political, and lobbying positions including working on the Democratic presidential campaigns of Senator Edmund S. Muskie of Maine and Senator George S. McGovern of South Dakota. Mr. Beaty also served as the Associate Editor for Congressional Quarterly and as the Director of Congressional Liaison for Amtrak.

In the mid-1970's, Mr. Beaty became the President and Executive Director of the National Association of Railroad Passengers in Washington, and from 1976 until his retirement in 1988, he served as the Assistant General Manager of Western Fuels Association Inc., a coal supplier to rural cooperatives and municipal utilities. Throughout his career, Mr. Beaty garnered the respect and admiration of those fortunate to have worked with him.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the strong sense of service to others that defined Mr. Beaty's life. His passing marks a great loss for his family and friends, and also for his community. I extend my deepest condolences to his beloved wife of 60 years, Mary Turner Beaty; to his three children, Dr. Orren Beaty III, Laura Beaty, and Susana Michael; and to his five grandchildren, extended family, and dear friends. Mr. Beaty lived his life with compassion, energy, and an unwavering commitment to the public good. He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends, and his legacy will forever live on in the memories and hearts of those who knew and loved him well.

CHINA'S ANTI-SECESSION LAW

HON. SHERROD BROWN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. BROWN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, the People's Republic of China is planning to enact an anti-secession law this March. This law will give China jurisdiction over Taiwan. It will give Chinese leaders the right to use force against Taiwan if China suspects secessionist activities in Taiwan. Predictably, Taiwan reacted to this proposed law with alarm. If Chinese leaders pass this law or persist in this effort, Taiwan will consider an anti-annexation law of its own as a proper response to China.

This battle of laws is unfortunate since cross-strait relations have been improving recently. On January 15 of this year, China and Taiwan agreed to have direct charter flights during the Chinese New Year holidays. Both sides also agreed to continue to work toward restoring direct trade, transport and postal ties—the “three links.” Moreover, the economies of China and Taiwan have grown increasingly interdependent. Taiwanese businesses have invested \$100 billion in China. As many as one million Taiwanese now live and work on the mainland.

The latest controversy over China's proposed anti-secession law highlights once again the political division between China and Taiwan. China is seeking to unilaterally change the status quo in the Taiwan Strait and force its own style of government on the 23 million people of Taiwan. China has ignored Taiwan's contributions to China's strong economy and Taiwan President Chen Shui-bian's gestures of goodwill.

China's latest move to enact the anti-secession law will not only destroy the goodwill between the peoples of Taiwan and China, it is also unnecessarily provocative and will escalate tension in the Taiwan Strait. The Taiwanese should not be expected to sit by and allow authoritarian Chinese government to mandate the annexation of democratic Taiwan. No freedom-loving people should be expected to do so.

By unilaterally changing the status quo in the Taiwan Strait, China is also challenging America's will to stand behind the Taiwan Relations Act, which says unequivocally that it is the policy of the United States “to resist any resort to force or other forms of coercion that would jeopardize the security, or the social or economic system, of the people of Taiwan.”

The Taiwan Relations Act also affirms one of the objectives of the United States as “the preservation and enhancement of the human rights of all the people in Taiwan.”

Mr. Speaker, it is my view that China's proposed anti-secession law is provocative and dangerous. It poses a grave threat to democracy, peace, and stability in the region.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE LATE OSSIE DAVIS

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 9, 2005

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the life of the great Ossie Davis. It is a fitting time to pay tribute to this exemplary African American as February is African-American History month. Ossie Davis was a constituent and someone whose counsel I came to value over the past many years. Sadly, he has just passed away.

Just last December I saw Ossie Davis when he was being honored at the Kennedy Center in Washington for his life and career. I made a point of going that night so that I too could honor him. It was a fitting tribute to a man I first saw perform on Broadway when I was a child. Years later, I was thrilled to meet him and be his Representative in Congress.

Ossie Davis made significant contributions to our culture through his talented work in film and his noble involvement in civil rights issues and efforts to promote the cause of African Americans in the entertainment industry. A resident of Mt. Vernon and New Rochelle in New York, he wrote, acted, directed, and produced for the theatre and Hollywood, and was a central figure among black performers of the last five decades.

In 1963, Davis participated in the landmark civil rights demonstration, the March on Washington. Two years later, he delivered a memorable eulogy for his slain friend, civil rights leader Malcolm X. Davis also left behind a vast body of work in film. He starred in such movies as *The Joe Louis Story*, *Slaves*, *Let's Do It Again*, *Grumpy Old Men* and *Dr. Dolittle*, as well as Spike Lee's *School Daze*, *Do the Right Thing*, and *Jungle Fever*. As a director, he is probably best remembered for 1970's gritty *Cotton Comes to Harlem*, a precursor to the blaxploitation films of the decade, and 1973's *Gordon's War*.

I am also pleased to be a cosponsor of a resolution that honors the great life and work of the great Ossie Davis. Through his talents and dedication, Ossie Davis, like many other African Americans, has left his mark as a positive leader in his community and significant contributor to our culture.

As we reflect on the contributions of innumerable African-Americans during this month, I want to commend his work and his life to my colleagues. I have lost a valued constituent and America has lost a great leader and entertainer.

INTRODUCTION OF H. CON. RES. 53, EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONGRESS REGARDING THE ISSUANCE OF THE 500,000TH DESIGN PATENT

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 10, 2005

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to announce that on December 12, 2004, the United States Patent and Trademark Office issued the 500,000th design patent to DaimlerChrysler Corporation for the design of the Chrysler Crossfire.

As the Ranking Member of the Judiciary Committee, I am well aware of the importance of intellectual property protection to our economy. Intellectual property rewards and encourages innovation and advancement; without it, we would not have the high-tech, biotech, and everyday inventions that we have come to rely upon in everyday life.

I also am proud of this patent because I happen to represent Detroit, the automobile capital of the world. It is no secret that Detroit boasts the finest auto workers in the world, and it should be no surprise that it is the design of an American car that received the award.

It is for these reasons that I, along with Judiciary Committee leaders on intellectual property and several members of Michigan's congressional delegation, are introducing a resolution recognizing this occasion. The resolution expresses the sense of Congress that the Patent and Trademark Office has contributed significantly to the Nation's economy and that DaimlerChrysler and its employees should be commended for their achievement.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to secure the passage of this legislation.