

Along with other democratic allies, and anti-war protesters, Zoran Djindjic effectively protested and toppled the corrupt regime of Slobodan Milosevic through a steadfast, determined, yet peaceful process.

Along with his fellow reformers, Mr. Djindjic created the Democratic Party, and led it to a series of successful electoral victories, ultimately culminating in Mr. Djindjic's ascension to the post of Prime Minister of Serbia on January 25, 2001.

During his 2 years in office, Prime Minister Djindjic worked tirelessly to shed the image of a "backward" Serbia. Under his effective leadership, Prime Minister Djindjic systematically realigned Serbia with the Western ideals of democracy, reform and capitalism.

Through a heroic and selfless act of courage, Prime Minister Djindjic arrested and extradited the man he helped remove from power, and sent Slobodan Milosevic, and his fellow fugitive war criminals to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia at The Hague (ICTY) where they were indicted and tried.

Prime Minister Djindjic went to great lengths to bring foreign investment and capital back into Serbia's economy by embracing free market concepts, thus laying the groundwork for Serbia's long-term fiscal security and prosperity.

In addition, Prime Minister Djindjic advanced Serbia's relationship with the Trans-Atlantic community. By centering Serbia's foreign policy initiatives, Prime Minister Djindjic has positioned Serbia to become a working and peaceful member of the European Union (EU) and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Mr. Djindjic worked relentlessly to improve the lives of everyday Serbs through economic development, structural and political reform, and an open, and peaceful foreign policy.

Unfortunately for the people of Serbia, Mr. Djindjic's work was cut short by an assassin's bullet outside his office on March 12, 2003.

So, on this day, let the House of Representatives remember the life and work of Mr. Zoran Djindjic, Prime Minister of Serbia, and let us hope and pray for a better and more prosperous future for the people of Serbia, and the whole Balkan region.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. JONES of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 10, 2005, I was unavoidably detained and could not cast a vote on final passage of H.R. 3—the Transportation Equity Act. Had I been here, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF STATE SENATOR JEFF WENTWORTH

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the many accomplishments of Texas State Senator Jeff Wentworth.

Senator Wentworth has deep roots in Texas. A fourth generation Texan, he graduated from Alamo Heights High School, went to college at Texas A&M, and received his law degree from Texas Tech University School of Law. He has been serving the public in many capacities for most of his adult life: his previous employment includes one year as a university system regent; six years as a county commissioner, three years as a congressional assistant, and three years as an Army counterintelligence officer.

He served five years in the Texas House of Representatives, and was first elected to the Texas Senate in 1992. He is currently the Senate President Pro Tempore, and Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. He chairs the Texas Legislative Tourism Caucus, and remains a practicing lawyer, with the firm of Loeffler Tuggey Pauerstein Rosenthal, LLP.

Senator Wentworth is now in his fifth term, and continues to work tirelessly for the more than 700,000 constituents in his district. Jeff Wentworth is a genuine American success story, and a tremendous advocate for the people of San Antonio and for all the people of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize the many achievements of State Senator Jeff Wentworth.

A TRIBUTE TO ANNE L. BLUMENBERG

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to Anne L. Blumenberg, founder of the Community Law Center in Baltimore. Anne, who recently retired as the Law Center's long-time executive director, has been instrumental in developing legal strategies to empower neighborhoods and communities.

Anne is a remarkable woman who has dedicated her life to improving our community. Over the years, she has performed groundbreaking work in the areas of low-income housing acquisition, community-based planning, coalition building and community advocacy. Through her efforts, the Community Law Center has become a leading advocacy organization for community and economic development in distressed neighborhoods. She has led the way in fighting predatory real estate practices that have been so destructive to many Baltimore neighborhoods.

A graduate of Catholic University's Columbus School of Law, Anne founded the Community Law Center in 1983, becoming its executive director in 1986. The Community Law Center's philosophy has been that access to

lawyers could help revitalize neighborhoods. Initially, most of the work focused on public safety. In recent years, that focus has shifted to real estate and economic development. The Center's successes include: enactment of legislation giving community groups legal standing in drug nuisance cases and legal action against owners of vacant properties.

I hope my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives will join me in saluting Anne L. Blumenberg for her work in helping neighborhoods and communities maintain some degree of control over their destinies.

THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JENNIFER GRODSKY

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Jennifer Grodsky, a dedicated, intelligent and compassionate woman whom I have been very fortunate to have as my Legislative Director for the past four years.

Jennifer joined my office shortly after I was elected to Congress in 2000. Having received excellent training as a Legislative Assistant for former Congressman Julian Dixon of California, Jennifer quickly assumed her role as Legislative Director with great ease and competence. She played an instrumental part in establishing my office protocol and creating a strong legislative staff.

As Legislative Director, Jennifer has coordinated my legislative agenda with much success. She has overseen my introduction of numerous bills, including two which have become law. Her extensive knowledge of the legislative process and a wide array of public policy issues has proved invaluable to my office. Since Jennifer's first day in the office, she has approached each and every task I have given her with the utmost professionalism and dedication.

Jennifer's keen understanding of the health care challenges facing my district and the nation has been particularly important to me as a member of the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and Chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus' Task Force on Health. Jennifer has organized numerous briefings and events to heighten awareness about accessing affordable health care and persisting racial and ethnic health disparities, including spearheading very successful events sponsored by the Congressional Hispanic, Black, and Asian Pacific American Caucuses in Los Angeles, California, and Miami, Florida. Jennifer played a lead role in developing the Healthcare Equality and Accountability Act, the Democratic Caucus' comprehensive bill to address racial and ethnic health disparities, and shares my strong concern for the growing HIV/AIDS epidemic. Her passion for improving our nation's health care system, particularly for the Latino and other minority communities, is one of Jennifer's strongest attributes.

As my appropriations staffer for the past four years, Jennifer has helped me to secure millions of dollars in federal assistance for important projects in East Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley, including the expansion of the Azusa Health Clinic and the development of computer training classes at Project Amiga