

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

COMMENDING MEGAN TRISCARI FOR RECEIVING THE CHILD CARE WORKER OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Megan Triscari, a resident of the Chautauqua County town of Jamestown, upon the occasion of her receiving the Child Care Worker of the Year award.

Megan was honored at the YMCA Camp Onyhasa's annual meeting for her exemplary service and dedication to children. This honor was given based on her never ending commitment to her job.

Ms. Triscari has been known to report to work on snow days and even request to work extra shifts. This type of dedication is very rare in this day and age.

Megan has displayed extreme compassion, love and dedication to her work and the children she is entrusted with and I am proud, Mr. Speaker, to have an opportunity to honor her today.

THE AMERICAN LEGION SUPPORTS AUTHORIZATION OF PARKINSON'S DISEASE RESEARCH EDUCATION AND CLINICAL CENTERS

HON. LANE EVANS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, the American Legion, which has 2.8 million members fully supports H.R. 2959, which will permanently authorize the Department of Veterans' Affairs Parkinson Disease Research, Education and Clinical Centers. The VA treats some 40,000 veterans who have this neuro-degenerative disease.

The letter from the American Legion follows:
THE AMERICAN LEGION,
Washington, DC, June 21, 2005.

Hon. LANE EVANS,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE EVANS: On behalf of the 2.8 million members of The American Legion, I would like to offer full support of H.R. 2959—"Authorization of Parkinson's Disease Research Education and Clinical Centers", permanently authorizing the six existing VA Parkinson's Disease Research Education and Clinical Centers (PADRECCs).

Parkinson's Disease is a debilitating neuro-degenerative disease that affects approximately 1.5 million Americans each year. The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) currently treats more than 40,000 veterans with Parkinson's disease. As the veteran population ages, the PADRECCs will become even more essential, not only for treatment, but for training health care professionals, conducting progressive research, and

finding a cure. This bill will help to ensure that these veterans receive the best quality care.

Again, The American Legion fully supports H.R. 2959, "Authorization of Parkinson's Disease Research Education and Clinical Centers" and we appreciate your dedication to this serious health issue.

Sincerely,

STEVE ROBERTSON,
Director,
National Legislative Commission.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2863) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Mr. Chairman, I strongly disagree with the defense policy of the Bush Administration. While I disagree with the policy, I do not believe we should deprive our troops in the field and our military of the funds they need to protect our country.

Since 2003, Congress has appropriated almost \$250 billion for the war efforts by passing supplemental appropriations bills in 2003, 2004 and 2005. U.S. spending in Iraq will be at least \$75 billion to \$80 billion this year and could approach \$400 billion by 2006, according to Congressional Quarterly. This approaches the \$406 billion cost of the Korean War. Last month we passed a fiscal year 2005 supplemental appropriation that totaled \$82 billion, the second largest supplemental in history. Only one month has passed, and we find ourselves voting for another \$45 billion for war funding for the first 6 months of the 2006 fiscal year.

Assuming the size of the U.S. military presence in Iraq and Afghanistan will remain at approximately the same level through 2006, the war costs will require another \$40 to \$45 billion. No money will be spent that is not directly related to the war. No money under the \$45 billion supplemental portion of the bill will be spent on the Army's modularity initiative or to increase the permanent end strength of active duty forces.

I am a strong advocate for developing a plan for withdrawing U.S. forces from Iraq. We should keep in mind that the FY05 supplemental contained language that requires the Defense Department to provide Congress with a set of performance indicators and measures of stability and security in Iraq and a timetable for achieving these goals. The first report is due in July. We look forward to how DoD will define its strategies for success.

This bill is framed principally by our missions in Afghanistan and Iraq. In my judgment

the forces we have on the ground in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom are doing a fabulous job, but the size of our Army and Marine Corps is just too small to do the job we are asking them to do. I hope the funds in the bill will provide for that shortfall.

I support this bill in order to properly equip our troops with body armor, vehicle armor and other equipment to protect them from insurgent attacks. As much as I regret the War in Iraq, I cannot ignore the fact that we are a Nation at war. This bill recognizes and provides our troops with the tools they need to do their job.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I was detained late yesterday afternoon. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner: Rollcall 289 (Motion to Recommit with Instructions—H.R. 2475)—nay; Rollcall 290 (On Passage—H.R. 2475)—yea.

RECOGNIZING CROATIA'S
NATIONAL DAY

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Hon. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY and myself, in our capacity as Co-chairs of the Congressional Croatian Caucus, on the occasion of National Day of the Republic of Croatia, June 25, I rise to recognize the significant progress the country of Croatia has made in gaining recognition and responsibility within the international community since its independence.

Croatia has come a long way in the last 14 years and has experienced a number of important developments in the process. Overcoming the legacies of communism and armed aggression, Croatia is now well on the path towards full membership in the Euro-Atlantic community. All these achievements mark Croatia's successful transition in political and economic reforms to a thriving democracy and market economy, as well as depicting the Croatian Government's commitment to the rule of law and human rights.

Croatia's strategic objectives to enter NATO and the European Union, as well as strengthen and deepen its ties with the United States, are the driving forces behind its foreign and security policy, and defense reforms. Integration into the Euro-Atlantic Community will enable Croatia to assume a more active role within the community of democracies that share the same values, principles and interests. Active participation by Croatian military

• 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.

personnel in a number of peacekeeping operations worldwide, including the NATO-led mission in Afghanistan, displays Croatia's credibility as a future NATO member state. Furthermore, Croatia has a track record of cooperation with NATO allies through the PFP.

Mr. Speaker, it is clearly in our national interest to encourage peace and stability in the region of Southeastern Europe. To this end, the role of the Croatian American community and their representatives in the nation's capital, as an inherent component of the U.S.-Croatia partnership, cannot be overlooked. They represent a vital bridge between our two countries in order to strengthen deep historical and cultural links between the United States and Croatia since 1783. Special recognition should be given to the current Croatian government under the leadership of Dr. Ivo Sanader to solidify Croatia's place within the community of democratic nations and to move the country forward to becoming a model of stability, peace and cooperation throughout Southeastern Europe.

IN RECOGNITION OF FORT WORTH
METROPOLITAN BLACK CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE'S 25TH ANNI-
VERSARY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor that I rise today to recognize the Fort Worth Metropolitan Black Chamber of Commerce (FWMBCC)'s 25 years of devoted service to the enhancement of the economic development in the African American community in my district. Since its founding in 1979, the FWMBCC's tireless efforts, on behalf of the black community of Fort Worth, have accomplished a great deal. I would like to mention a few of their accomplishments.

The FWMBCC has done much to improve minority involvement in the Fort Worth economy. In 1985, the FWMBCC contracted with the Fort Worth Convention and Visitor's Bureau for sales, and marketing initiatives to attract minority association conventions. Three years later, it established two enterprise zones in a partnership effort with the City of Fort Worth. It initiated the development of a comprehensive plan for redevelopment of Southeast Fort Worth in 1991.

The FWMBCC strives to get others involved as well. In 1989, it signed a Community Reinvestment Act Agreement with Bank One (Chase Bank) to benefit low to moderate income families. It also recruited the OmniAmerican Federal Credit Union to build a branch location in Southeast Fort Worth on Rosedale in the Poly neighborhood. It also lobbied to pursue development of workforce support for the Alliance Corridor, including public transportation to the growing Alliance business community from Southeast Fort Worth.

The FWMBCC is about more than just money, as shown by the way it adopted Como Elementary School under the Fort Worth Independent School District's Adopt-a-School program. Showing further concern for education, it collaborated with Downtown Fort Worth, Inc. on a strategic plan resulting in the refurbishing

of the F.W. Carver School for use by the Fort Worth Housing Authority and the I.M. Terrell School.

The FWMBCC believes strongly in integration of both race and gender. It established the Women's Business Issues Division as a part of the FWMBCC—the first women's division in the nation affiliated with a Black Chamber in recognition of the business assistance needs of women of color to much acclaim. It also served as an advocate on behalf of people of color for business opportunities in Sundance Square and other business areas in and around the City of Fort Worth as well as integration of the Colonial Country Club.

I would like to applaud the FWMBCC on its first 25 years, and encourage it to keep up its impressive work.

TRIBUTE TO RUTH SHACK, PRESIDENT
OF DADE COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION: DECADES OF
SERVICE TO THE PEOPLE OF
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, rise to honor a true leader in our South Florida Community, Ruth Shack.

After she became the President of the Dade Community Foundation in 1985, Ruth spearheaded a campaign to encourage philanthropy and charitable giving by developing a permanent endowment to meet Greater Miami's emerging charitable needs. The Foundation protects and manages the assets of philanthropic funds and provides grant-making expertise to donors with various interests at all levels of giving. By bringing together diverse groups in Miami-Dade County, the Foundation helps improve the quality of life and build a more cohesive community by supporting local nonprofit organizations with grants and technical assistance.

Spurred by her leadership, the Foundation made a radical change in its mission by diversifying its Board of Governors, its staff and its grant-making focus to better respond to the needs of Miami's greatest asset and our most intractable challenge: the incredible ethnic diversity of our community. They review the grants they award from the standpoint of their impact on the issue of cultural alienation and the need to help people work successfully across ethnic barriers. Empowerment and seed funding for emerging groups, based in the diverse multicultural communities of Miami-Dade, are the hallmarks of their grant-making program.

In addition to her two decades of leadership at the Dade Community Foundation, Ruth Shack has also served three very productive terms on the Dade County Commission and in leadership capacities in numerous other organizations, both locally and across the country. Throughout her career she has demonstrated a profound commitment to making Miami a community where opportunity is available to everyone.

Mr. Speaker, I know that I speak for our entire community in congratulating and thanking Ruth Shack for her 20 years at the helm of the Dade Community Foundation.

SCIENCE, STATE, JUSTICE, COMMERCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2862) making appropriations for Science, the Departments of State, Justice, and Commerce, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the Hinchey Amendment which will ban the U.S. Justice Department from spending taxpayer money to arrest or prosecute medical marijuana patients in the ten states where medical marijuana is legal: Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Vermont, and Washington.

In 1996, my home-state of California passed Proposition 215, the Compassionate Use Act, which gave seriously ill Californians the right to obtain and use marijuana for medical purposes. The medical use of the drug must be deemed appropriate and prescribed by a physician.

Since then, the U.S. Justice Department has initiated actions against individuals who are following State law and making marijuana available to individuals with a physician's prescription. Federal law enforcement officials should not be deployed to override State law in this regard.

Although the Supreme Court recently ruled that Federal drug law supercedes State medical marijuana statutes, there is no reason to imprison patients who are seeking relief from chronic pain or the doctors trying to help them.

The use of prescriptive medical marijuana is supported by the National Academy of Sciences' Institute of Medicine, the American Academy of Family Physicians, and the American Public Health Association. This is a matter of medicine not self indulgence. The use of marijuana for medical treatment should not be criminalized.

I urge all my colleagues to support this Amendment.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 20, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2863) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Chairman, for the past few years, I have voted to redirect funding in support of smart bombs and other weapons that are actually usable against hardened, deeply buried targets. I'm pleased to see that this appropriations bill provides funding for conventional studies to defeat hard and deeply

buried targets. I also understand that the funding provided within this bill for B2 bomber integration efforts is also intended for non-nuclear earth penetrators.

Last month, the National Academy of Sciences concluded that the use of a nuclear “bunker buster” would cause massive civilian casualties if used. That’s assuming we can overcome serious design problems and assuming we can live with the consequences of putting U.S. troops in danger from radioactive fallout if we ever used an RNEP or a similar weapon.

In the past, Utahns suffering from cancer as a result of radioactive fallout exposure had to wait to receive compensation because federal funds ran out. It’s wrong to spend precious dollars on unusable fantasy weapons that our military doesn’t seem to need or want.

We live in an era when terrorism and national security concerns dominate the political landscape, as well they should. We should focus limited funding dollars on usable warheads that can actually make a difference in combating our enemies.

I have always been a strong supporter of the military and I’m well aware of the unconventional war we face against terrorists. However, the threats we face as a nation provide the best reason for Congress to fund only the best usable weaponry to support American soldiers.

Many of my colleagues in the House recognize the importance of this issue and they share my concerns about competing efforts in the Senate to fund RNEP. I hope that during conference negotiations on this bill, the conferees maintain this language.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO SUSPEND THE DUTY ON CERTAIN EDUCATIONAL TOYS AND DEVICES

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a bill to suspend the duty on electronic educational toys for children. This duty is, in fact, an educational tax on the consumer.

At a time when we as policymakers are focusing on ways to enhance education for our children, it is important to aggressively promote tools that are valuable in teaching fundamental skills. Penalizing the consumer for buying educational toys is contrary to the country’s educational goals.

Currently, computers and toys enter the United States duty free. But electronic educational toys have a duty. This duty is inevitably passed on to the consumer. We do not want to create a situation where a consumer may be less inclined to buy an educational toy versus a regular toy, which has not had to absorb the cost of the duty.

The company leading the fight to eliminate the tax on electronic educational toys is a California company, LeapFrog Enterprises, Inc. LeapFrog is an innovative company and a leading developer of educational products, currently employing 1,000 people in my state.

I hope my colleagues will join me in this effort to end an unwise tax on education.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE OF AMERICA

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Leadership Training Institute of America, the leading training program for students seeking instruction in personal development in leadership and character. Their training program gives students the necessary tools to lead the next generation of young Americans in the traditions, principles and wisdom imparted to us by our founding fathers. The quality of this training assures me of America’s bright future as the leader of the world.

The Leadership Training Institute of America is a cultural think tank providing training and opportunity in leadership development and cultural dynamics. This organization encourages youth to apply and excel in leadership and critical thinking skills, study world view conflicts and strategies, network with outstanding leaders, and pursue careers in influential sectors of society.

The Leadership Training Institute of America trains and equips young men and women to be leaders with high standards of personal morality and integrity. The participants are exposed to the major philosophies, views, and issues of our world today and are encouraged to become leaders with convictions built on scientific knowledge, historical record, and Biblical wisdom.

Our Nation is in great need of young men and women of character to lead in every arena of our society. The Leadership Training Institute of America encourages students to use their talents and abilities to set a standard of excellence in their homes, schools, businesses, or whatever profession they might pursue to establish a new standard of excellence and integrity for the next generation.

It is with great appreciation that I rise today to commend the vision and accomplishments of this outstanding organization. I salute the dedicated staff of the Leadership Training Institute of America and encourage its increased influence among our Nation’s youth.

USA PATRIOT ACT

HON. C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. OTTER. Mr. Speaker, please allow me to express my great respect and support for the manner in which Chairman SENSENBRENNER managed the recent hearings of the House Committee on the Judiciary regarding the USA PATRIOT Act. His resolve in following the rules while providing as much flexibility as possible in the face of often partisan and inflammatory rhetoric was a credit to his leadership, and was precisely what was needed in this deliberative process.

There are legitimate criticisms to be made of the PATRIOT Act, and I have been among those maintaining that ensuring a greater balance of judicial oversight and adherence to the spirit as well as the letter of our constitu-

tional protections would enhance its usefulness. However, associating the PATRIOT Act with what may occur in a prisoner of war camp or other well intentioned but illegal or inhumane action—as some members and witnesses have done—is a disservice to the process and to those who wish to keep the debate focused on improving the law, not destroying it.

As the House continues deliberating reauthorization of the PATRIOT Act, it is my goal to restore balance to the branches of our Federal government, secure the people in their homes and personal affects, and renew the promise of our Founders. That will not be accomplished by blaming the law for the real or alleged behavior of individual acting outside this or any other law. I will not stand idly by while some who wish not to rein in but rather to eviscerate the PATRIOT Act, or to use it as a political cudgel, use some of the very tactics we have professed to fear in the law itself in order to bring public ridicule and professional discredit to either Chairman SENSENBRENNER or the Judiciary Committee.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I wish to remind us all of the words of George Washington, uttered as a promise of the faith he had in our political system, this great Republic and those who govern:

If, to please the people, we offer what we ourselves disprove, how can we afterwards defend our work? Let us raise a standard to which the wise and the honest can repair. The event is in the hand of God.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INDUSTRIAL HEMP FARMING ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Industrial Hemp Farming Act. The Industrial Hemp Farming Act requires the Federal government to respect State laws allowing the growing of industrial hemp.

Six states—Hawaii, Kentucky, Maine, Montana, North Dakota, and West Virginia allow the growing of industrial hemp in accord with State laws. However, Federal law is standing in the way of farmers in these States growing what may be a very profitable crop. Because of current Federal law, all hemp included in products sold in the United States must be imported instead of being grown by American farmers.

Since 1970, the Federal Controlled Substances Act’s inclusion of industrial hemp in the schedule one definition of marijuana has prohibited American farmers from growing industrial hemp despite the fact that industrial hemp has such a low content of THC (the psychoactive chemical in the related marijuana plant) that nobody can be psychologically affected by consuming hemp. Federal law concedes the safety of industrial hemp by allowing it to be legally imported for uses including as food.

The United States is the only industrialized Nation that prohibits industrial hemp cultivation. The Congressional Research Service has noted that hemp is grown as an established agricultural commodity in over 30 nations in Europe, Asia, and North America. My Industrial Hemp Farming Act will relieve this unique

restriction on American farmers and allow them to grow industrial hemp in accord with State law.

Industrial hemp is a crop that was grown legally throughout the United States for most of our Nation's history. In fact, during World War II, the Federal government actively encouraged American farmers to grow industrial hemp to help the war effort. The Department of Agriculture even produced a film "Hemp for Victory" encouraging the plant's cultivation.

In recent years, the hemp plant has been put to many popular uses in foods and in industry. Grocery stores sell hemp seeds and oil as well as food products containing oil and seeds from the hemp plant. Industrial hemp is also included in consumer products such as paper, cloths, cosmetics, and carpet. One of the more innovative recent uses of industrial hemp is in the door frames of about 1.5 million cars. Hemp has even been used in alternative automobile fuel.

It is unfortunate that the Federal government has stood in the way of American farmers, including many who are struggling to make ends meet, competing in the global industrial hemp market. Indeed, the founders of our Nation, some of whom grew hemp, would surely find that Federal restrictions on farmers growing a safe and profitable crop on their own land are inconsistent with the constitutional guarantee of a limited, restrained Federal government. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to stand up for American farmers and cosponsor the Industrial Hemp Farming Act.

IN HONOR OF THE TOWN OF
PHELPS

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, today I'd like to recognize the Town of Phelps, which this year celebrates 100th anniversary. Phelps is located within the Nicolet National Forest, and is home to some of the most forested and beautiful parts of the State.

Charles Hackley, William Phelps and John Bonnell, three loggers, founded the Town of Phelps in 1905. Their hard work set the standard high for residents, and these days the town can pride itself on a strong work ethic, upholding family values, and continually moving 'forward'—exemplifying Wisconsin's State motto.

Over the years, the small towns and villages that blanket Wisconsin have demonstrated how truly unique and wonderful our State is. The Town of Phelps is no exception. It is a tightknit community and its charm entices scores of visitors every year.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored and pleased to recognize the Town of Phelps on this historic day. One hundred years is a very special accomplishment, and on behalf of the residents of Wisconsin's 8th Congressional District, and the U.S. Congress, we say congratulations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB SIMMONS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. SIMMONS. Mr. Speaker, I was regrettably delayed in my return to Washington, DC from an official visit to Kings Bay, Georgia and was unable to be on the House Floor for roll-call votes 274 to 282.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 274, an amendment offered by Mr. ROYCE; "yea" on rollcall 275, an amendment offered by Mr. FORTENBERRY; "yea" on rollcall 276, an amendment offered by Mr. FLAKE; "yea" on rollcall 277, an amendment offered by Mr. CHABOT and Mr. LANTOS; "yea" on rollcall 278, an amendment offered by Mr. PENCE; "nay" on rollcall 279, an amendment offered by Mr. GOHMERT; "nay" on rollcall 280, an amendment offered by Mr. STEARNS; "yea" on rollcall 281, the Lantos/Shays substitute; and "yea" on rollcall 282, final passage on H.R. 2745.

COMMENDING MARILYN GERACE
FOR RECEIVING THE MORGAN
GRADUATE AWARD

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the exemplary educational achievement of Marilyn Gerace, a resident of the Chautauqua County town of Jamestown, upon the occasion of receiving the Morgan Graduate Award.

Ms. Gerace, a Professor of Criminal Justice at Jamestown Community College was awarded the Morgan Graduate Award upon graduation from Buffalo State College with a Master's degree. This award is presented to the top master's degree student in the field of Criminal Justice. This student must demonstrate integrity, academic excellence and community service.

Not only is Ms. Gerace an excellent student but she is also very active in her community. She has served as the Ellicott town justice since 1992 and also as the secretary/treasurer of the Chautauqua County Magistrates Association since 1993. Marilyn is also a member of the Chautauqua Regional Youth Ballet board of directors, the county and states magistrates associations, the Chautauqua County Integrated Domestic Violence Court Team, and Jamestown Community College's adjunct faculty task force.

In addition to receiving the Morgan Graduate Award, Ms. Gerace also was presented with the President's Award for Excellence from Jamestown Community College.

Ms. Gerace has excelled both in the classroom and also in her community and I am

proud, Mr. Speaker, to have an opportunity to honor her today.

THE ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF
THE RE-ELECTION OF TAIWAN
PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2005

Mr. SULLIVAN. Mr. Speaker, one year ago Chen Shui-bian was re-elected as President of Taiwan. The election was evidence that Taiwan is a vibrant democracy in an area of the world where totalitarianism is still the rule for the vast majority of the people in East Asia.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the one year anniversary of President Chen's re-election, to offer my congratulations to the people of Taiwan and to reflect on the current state of affairs on Taiwan and across the Taiwan straits with China.

Earlier this year China passed its anti-secession law, codifying the use of force if Taiwan moves toward independence. At the moment, there is a heated debate on Taiwan regarding the recent visits of Taiwan's two opposition leaders to China. This debate is further evidence of the strength of Taiwan's democracy. President Chen and other opponents of reunification have been steadfast in demanding that the people of Taiwan must be safeguarded. I am confident President Chen will not waiver on his longstanding position of protecting Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, Americans treasure our affiliations and relations with Taiwan just as we admire Taiwan's political and economic achievements of the last two decades. Taiwan today is a beacon of democracy and an island of prosperity to many developing countries in East Asia and throughout the world.

The Taiwanese people, as Americans know, strongly value their democratic way of life and their independence. It is vital that no action be taken which would compromise these long cherished principles which were developed after decades of hard work. I also applaud President Chen for pointing out the critical differences between democratic Taiwan and autocratic China and the importance of conducting direct talks by elected leaders in Taiwan and China.

Mr. Speaker, while we do not know when the leader of Taiwan and the leader of China will have direct talks, I believe it is critical for China to immediately withdraw its missiles which are deployed on the other side of the Taiwan Strait and establish stable mechanisms for cross-strait interaction. These actions will go a long way toward reaching a permanent peace and creating sustainable development in the Taiwan Strait.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, June 23, 2005 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 28

10 a.m.
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
To hold hearings to examine the Agricultural Risk Protection Act of 2000 and related crop insurance issues.
SR-328A

Finance
To hold hearings to examine threatening the health care safety net regarding Medicaid waste, fraud and abuse.
SH-216

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Global Climate Change and Impacts Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine coastal impacts.
SR-253

Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine regulation of Indian gaming.
Room to be announced

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the security clearance process of the Department of Defense (DOD), focusing on the transfer of investigative responsibilities from DOD to the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), including the impact this shift will have on the ability to investigate and adjudicate security clearances in a thorough and expeditious manner, including strategies employed by DOD and OPM to remove the Personnel Security Clearance Program from the high-risk list.
SD-562

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 206, to designate the Ice Age Floods National Geologic Trail, S. 556, to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to jointly conduct a study of certain land adjacent to the Walnut Canyon National Monument in the State of Arizona, S. 588, to amend the National Trails System Act to direct the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to jointly conduct a study on the feasibility of designating the Arizona Trail

as a national scenic trail or a national historic trail, and S. 955, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a special resource study to determine the suitability and feasibility of including in the National Park System certain sites in Williamson County, Tennessee, relating to the Battle of Franklin.
SD-366

2 p.m.
Aging
To hold hearings to examine issues relative to Medicaid.
SD-G50

JUNE 29

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of General Peter Pace, USMC, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Jr., USN, for reappointment to the grade of admiral and to be Vice Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, General T. Michael Moseley, USAF, for reappointment to the grade of general and to be Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Eric S. Edelman, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, Daniel R. Stanley, of Kansas, to be Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs, and James A. Rispoli, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Energy for Environmental Management.
SD-106

Indian Affairs
Business meeting to consider pending committee issues.
SR-485

9:50 a.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider S. 681, to amend the Public Health Service Act to establish a National Cord Blood Stem Cell Bank Network to prepare, store, and distribute human umbilical cord blood stem cells for the treatment of patients and to support peer-reviewed research using such cells, and any nominations cleared for action.
SD-430

10 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine Spectrum-DTV.
SR-253

Finance
To continue hearings to examine threatening the health care safety net regarding Medicaid waste, fraud and abuse.
SH-216

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine vulnerabilities in the United States passport system.
SD-562

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Disaster Prevention and Prediction Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine national weather service-severe weather.
SR-253

Intelligence
To hold a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters.
SH-219

JUNE 30

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the status of the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine

Corps in fighting the global war on terrorism.
SR-325

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine challenges of the Middle East road map.
SD-419

10 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Technology, Innovation, and Competitiveness Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine how information technology can reduce medical errors, lower healthcare costs, and improve the quality of patient care, including the importance of developing interoperable electronic medical records and highlight new technologies that will impact how health services are provided in the future.
SR-253

Intelligence
To hold a closed briefing regarding certain intelligence matters.
SH-219

Aging
To hold hearings to examine the importance of prevention in curing Medicare.
SH-216

2 p.m.
Appropriations
Business meeting to markup H.R. 2528, making appropriations for military quality of life functions of the Department of Defense, military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, proposed legislation making appropriations for fiscal year 2006 for the Department of State and foreign operations.
SD-106

Veterans' Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of James Philip Terry, of Virginia, to be Chairman of the Board of Veterans' Appeals, Department of Veterans Affairs, and Charles S. Ciccolella, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment and Training.
SR-418

3 p.m.
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Education and Early Childhood Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine issues relating to American history.
SD-430

SEPTEMBER 20

10 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of the American Legion.
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CANCELLATIONS

JUNE 28

3 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
Water and Power Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the water supply status in the Pacific Northwest and its impact on power production, and S. 648, to amend the Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief Act of 1991 to extend the authority for drought assistance.
SD-366