

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MILK REGULATORY EQUITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 28, 2006

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Milk Regulatory Equity Act, S. 2120. This important legislation was first introduced in 2003 and has been subjected to extensive review both inside and outside of Congress. I am satisfied that every effort has been made to craft a measure that is fair and have personally participated in efforts over the past three years to make certain that this legislation does exactly what we say it will do. We have worked collaboratively with every corner of the U.S. dairy industry and have formed a coalition that is unprecedented in this sector of the economy. Indeed, processors and dairy farmers from throughout the country, each with significantly varying local and regional interests, have come together to share with us the urgent need to address this issue. I am pleased that we are responding and would like to thank Chairman GOODLATTE and Ranking Member PETERSON and their staff for their hard work.

S. 2120 is about fairness, Mr. Speaker. The bill responds to fundamental questions of regulatory equity that only Congress can address. The questions are simple. Should producer-handlers in Arizona be exempted from our Nation's regulatory system with no regard for their impact on our system of pooling and pricing, as established by Congress? Should producer-handlers be permitted to continue to operate free of regulation, while collecting Federal subsidies and benefiting from Farm Bill programs? Should a State regulatory system, such as California, be subjected to unregulated shipments of dairy from States participating in the Federal milk marketing orders? Clearly, and with a strong bipartisan statement, Congress must say no. We must support passage of S. 2120.

Mr. Speaker, I understand that anyone in business who has found a lucrative regulatory loophole would be inclined to fight for it. However, we in Congress need to look at the bigger picture. Those special interests that have resisted this legislation are doing so because they are gaming the system. They owe their success to the very program they claim to loath. Their ability to operate under preferential treatment in a highly regulated industry, while taking government subsidies, is not free market capitalism.

It may be asked, "How are we achieving fairness in this bill?" Mr. Speaker, we have worked diligently to find a solution that recognizes the realities of our dairy programs today. In Arizona, we establish a three million pound per month cap on producer-handlers. This will allow small mom and pop businesses to oper-

ate as they have since the 1930s. However, it will regulate large dairy operations that have been found to have an impact on our system of pooling and pricing. We also address those handlers that are escaping regulation by means of locating their facilities in federally regulated regions, while doing business exclusively in State regulated regions. This activity seriously undermines both the Federal and State regulatory systems, by diverting revenue away from the pool and disadvantaging regulated businesses.

Mr. Speaker, State and Federal milk marketing orders have existed side-by-side since Congress first enacted the Federal milk marketing orders in the 1930s. They promote a stable and affordable fluid milk supply and were intended to regulate the industry equitably. However, the discovery of an intra-order loophole has encouraged the growth of unregulated handlers in the marketplace. We need our Federal and State regulatory systems to interact in a seamless way, so that farmers and processors are not disadvantaged or discriminated against by our laws. Under S. 2120, Congress will allow the regulation of processors exploiting the intra-order loophole. They will be regulated based on the rules of the Federal milk marketing order where their plant is physically located. This won't place them at a disadvantage, it will restore equity to our dairy program.

Mr. Speaker, we have 70 years of history reflecting Congressional intent for unregulated handlers to become regulated when they begin to have an impact on the regulated market.

It has been suggested by opponents that S. 2120 "targets" an individual or individuals. Nothing could be further from the truth. We are merely closing regulatory loopholes that can be exploited by anyone. We are thus dealing with a general situation as stated by the Gentleman from Virginia and Chairman of the Agriculture Committee.

Congress has been advised by the Department of Agriculture that there may be and indeed likely is, at least one other business entity that going forward could, based upon present business practices, find itself subject to these provisions. And that is the point. The loopholes that presently exist can be exploited by anyone. By closing the loopholes, we address the situations at hand and prevent their use by those who could (and likely would) exploit these loopholes in the future.

It must also be emphasized that the provisions of S. 2120 are entirely consistent with the legislative history dealing with producer-handlers and the need to monitor their potential negative impact on fair competition in the markets in which they operate.

When the predecessor to the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act (the Agricultural Adjustment Act) was passed in 1935, a Manager of the bill on the House floor stated that the United States Department of Agriculture had the power and the duty to regulate producers

who were also handlers when they were large enough to disrupt the competitiveness of the market in which they operated.

Then, in 1965, after losing three lawsuits in which they made the same arguments they make against S. 2120, producer-handlers sought an amendment on the House floor to the 1965 Farm Bill which would have granted them a limited regulatory exemption from the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act. That amendment was defeated. The Managers' Report explicitly states that producer-handlers who are large enough to disrupt the markets in which they operate can be regulated.

Mr. Speaker, as I have said before, the Milk Regulatory Equity act is about fairness. It's about equitable application of our laws. The hard working dairy farmers in Arizona have witnessed a steady decline in their pool since unregulated handlers began to flourish. They deserve to be treated fairly by their government and should never be placed in a situation where government regulations unintentionally disadvantage them in the marketplace. Regulated processors in Arizona are no less efficient or innovative than their unregulated competitors. They are simply unable to compete with businesses that don't have to play by the rules. This situation is wrong and must be resolved by Congress.

Without changes to the law to close existing loopholes, California dairy farmers are equally disadvantaged and so are our State's processors. When unregulated milk is shipped into the California marketplace from the Federal milk marketing orders, the impact is not just felt on dairy farms and in processing plants but in the homes of the families whose livelihoods depend on this industry.

Mr. Speaker, it is highly offensive to me that California's losses, including dairy industry jobs, are not based on our competition's superior product quality or innovative practices. These losses are because loopholes in Federal law are allowing unregulated handlers to game the system. Let me be clear: unregulated handlers are not promoting market competition. They are driving out competition. They owe their success to the dairy programs and to the advantage they have found in loopholes. Some of them collect large subsidies from the Federal Government, take full advantage of Farm Bill programs and then demand to be treated differently than the rest of the dairy industry.

No Mr. Speaker, we cannot allow this to continue. This issue is all about fairness. It's about resolving the current practice of unequal application of the law. I hear about the challenges my dairy farmers face every time I go home and I know first hand how frustrated and disappointed farmers and processors are with the current situation. They are looking to us to close these loopholes and restore free market principles and fair regulation to the dairy industry.

Congress must pass this legislation today and I ask for your support.

• 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.

TRIBUTE TO U.S. MARINES ON IWO
JIMA

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the courage of the first United States Marines to scale the summit of Mt. Suribachi on Iwo Jima.

Iwo Jima is a small rocky island only two miles wide and four miles long located approximately 650 miles south of Tokyo, Japan. It is a volcanic island, much like the islands of my home state of Hawaii. A place where cool Pacific breezes rush over soft beaches and birds sing songs learned during lonely flights across the wide ocean.

For a brief moment in time, the Island of Iwo Jima became the central battleground between the Empire of Japan and the Allied Forces during those terrible and dark days of World War II. The Allied Forces were determined to take the island in preparation for a final attack on Japan, and the Japanese were unbendable in their desire to defend Iwo Jima and to prevent the Allies from moving any closer to the main islands of Japan.

On February 19, 1945, approximately 70,000 American and other Allied Forces and 22,000 Japanese soldiers locked themselves in a horrific battle that would begin the final phase of the War in the Pacific. Entrenched in a series of interlocking caves, blockhouses, and pillboxes, the Japanese fought with determination to defend their island. Debarking off a naval armada of more than 450 ships, the Allies, led by the United States, brought the full weight of their highly trained and battle-tested troops to bear with the determined goal of taking the rocky island no matter what the cost. The battle for Iwo Jima would be one of the fiercest conflicts of the Second World War. Almost 7,000 Americans were killed in action. More than 20,000 Americans were wounded. Of the 22,000 Japanese defenders, only 1,083 survived.

On February 23, 1945, the fifth day of the battle, Marines from the 5th Division were ordered to ascend the slopes of Mt. Suribachi, the main peak controlling the island. Four Marine squads worked their way up the mountain and, at 10:30 a.m., the officer in charge, 1st Lieutenant Harold G. Schrier, along with the platoon leader, Sergeant Ernest Thomas, and Sergeant Henry Hansen, Corporal Charles W. Lindberg, Radioman, Private First Class Raymond E. Jacobs, Private James R. Michels, Private Philip L. Ward, and Corpsman, PhMac John H. Bradley, raised the American flag over Mt. Suribachi.

Today, when our Nation remembers the brave U.S. Marines of Iwo Jima, we often visualize the commanding bronze statue resting on the banks of the Potomac River. Most Americans do not realize that this memorial actually depicts the second, much larger flag that was raised on Mt. Suribachi, signaling the courage and determination of the United States to all on Iwo Jima and at sea.

In my home state of Hawaii, the Iwo Jima United States Memorial Association is working to raise the funds necessary to build a memorial to recognize the American Marines who raised the first American flag on Mt. Suribachi. I applaud their efforts, and hope that every cit-

izen across the nation will support those groups dedicated to recognizing the courage of American Marines everywhere.

IN HONOR OF NORMAN C. SPECTOR

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Mr. Norman C. Spector of Stoughton, MA for his outstanding contributions to the New England Sinai Hospital. A graduate of Harvard Law School, Mr. Spector began his career as a law clerk in the firm of Burns & Levinson. Throughout the years, he has risen in his profession to become co-chairman of the Business Law Section and the Finance Group.

Mr. Spector has acted both as a lawyer and board member during his involvement with the New England Sinai Hospital. Shortly after being hired by Burns & Levinson, he was assigned to work on the bylaws of the hospital. In 1981 he became a board member, and, in 1985, Mr. Spector represented New England Sinai Hospital in the landmark right-to-die case of Paul Brophy.

In 1993, Mr. Spector became Chairman of the Sinai Board of Directors. His intense interest in the welfare of the Hospital, his outstanding leadership abilities, as well as his keen understanding of the changing, challenging and sometimes chaotic issues surrounding healthcare led him to administer the Board successfully until 1999 when he stepped down as chairman.

When he is not practicing law or volunteering for health-care related non-profit organizations, Mr. Spector is a dedicated family man. Mr. Spector lives with his wife, Joyce, in Beverly, MA. He is the proud father of two daughters, Sharon and Joanne, and the equally enthused grandfather of one grandson.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to join with Mr. Spector's family, friends, and colleagues in honoring him for the important work he has done over the years for the New England Sinai Hospital. I urge my colleagues to congratulate him for a lifetime of distinguished achievement and to thank him for the important service he has provided to his community, his family and the New England Sinai Hospital.

**THE DARFUR PEACE AND
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT**

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, this week the House will vote on the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, legislation that could play a major role in ending the ongoing genocide in Darfur.

For the past 2 years, the international community has remained paralyzed as Sudan's state-sponsored brutality has claimed the lives of an estimated 400,000 Darfurians, and as millions more Darfurians have been forced from their homes. Those who are displaced

struggle to feed their families; an estimated 3.5 million are starving. And as the displaced women of Darfur go about their daily lives, they live in fear of rape, beating, or murder at the hands of Janjaweed militias.

Despite worldwide efforts to provide financial and humanitarian support, the lack of cooperation from the Sudanese Government has rendered the African Union powerless to stop the violence and hunger. With each day that passes, the Sudanese Government continues to commit atrocities against their own people with impunity.

Though the situation in Darfur is dire, it is not too late to save hundreds of thousands of lives. This week, Congress can take a major step in ending the slaughter and brutality in Darfur by passing the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act. This legislation would authorize the administration to revitalize the African Union peacekeeping effort by giving them the tools they need to put a stop to the chaos and violence in the region. The legislation would also take a critical step by authorizing the administration to impose political and economic consequences on the Government of Sudan for the crimes they are committing against the people of Darfur. For too long we have sat and watched as innocent men, women, and children have been killed, and forced from their homes. We cannot sit idly by any longer, we must act.

In calling attention to the crisis in Darfur, and through their support of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, the Jewish community continues to lead the way in defending victims of the worst forms of social and political injustice around the world. As a cosponsor of the Darfur Peace and Accountability Act, I will proudly stand with the Jewish community when I vote for this important legislation.

The Jewish community's leadership on this issue has brought it national and international attention. And as we approach the Jewish holiday of Pesach—Passover—and the celebration of the Jewish Exodus from Egypt and redemption from slavery, the Jewish community should be proud that it has given a voice to an afflicted group of men and women in a far away place at a time when few others have taken notice.

NATIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH WEEK

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Public Health Week. I want to thank the American Public Health Association and its 200 plus partner organizers and sponsors, who have organized events around the Nation to raise awareness of the need to improve public health. Since 1995, National, State and local public health professionals highlight an important public health issue every April, to raise awareness about leading health problems affecting our nation. This year, the theme of National Public Health Week focuses on what is called the "built environment," and building healthy communities to protect and enhance our children's life.

The built environment potentially creates enhancements or challenges for our kids. The built environment is any infrastructure with

which children come in contact on a daily basis including homes, schools, parks, roads, walkways and businesses. Enhancements to the built environment include access to primary health care services, regular physical activity, safe places to play and safe routes to walk or bike to school, smoke-free communities and homes, and toxin-free schools. Health challenges include decreased access to medical and preventive health services, quality of and access to schools and housing, economic opportunities, social capital, air and water quality and opportunities for physical activity.

As Chair of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, CAPAC, I am particularly concerned about how the built environment affects communities of color, native communities, and linguistically isolated communities. Members of these communities are more likely to live, work, and play in environments which have detrimental health effects, often vastly disproportionate to their percentage of the population. For example, asthma is one of the major causes of illness and disability in the U.S. Although asthma is only slightly more prevalent among minority children than among whites, it accounts for three times the number of deaths. Low socioeconomic status, exposure to urban environmental contaminants, and lack of access to medical care contribute to the increase of deaths in minority communities. African Americans living in low-income neighborhoods have particularly high rates of asthma, as do Native Hawaiians living in Hawaii.

America must invest more resources and be more creative in order to eliminate racial and ethnic health disparities. We need to provide access to health care for the 45 million uninsured, more than half of whom are racial and ethnic minorities; we need to provide linguistically and culturally competent services; we need to increase rather than decrease funding for Title VII health professions training programs, especially those that will train minority providers; and we need to stop gutting the health care safety net.

Neighborhoods and communities across the U.S. are segregated by race and socioeconomic status, which exacerbates the underlying social and economic inequities that perpetuate health inequities. Without significant investment in the built environment for minority children in underserved communities, these health inequities will continue.

I am pleased to see that the American Public Health Association—the leading public health organization in the U.S.—has been able to disseminate the message about the interconnectedness between health and the built environment, and hope that this reality is integrated into the public health debate. I look forward to working with all those involved with National Public Health Week to ensure policies to promote children's health.

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on the

tragic anniversary of his assassination. In the 38 years since his untimely death, Dr. King and his work for civil rights has remained an inspiration to those committed to liberty and freedom throughout the world.

While today marks a sad day in American history, it is my hope that as a nation, we will continue to reflect on the actions and accomplishments of Dr. King. It is my hope that we will celebrate his life and learn from his legacy.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15, 1929. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Morehouse College in 1948, a Bachelor of Divinity degree in 1951, and a Ph.D. in Systematic Theology from Boston University. Throughout his education, Dr. King was involved in civil rights, and in 1955, he led the historic Montgomery Bus Boycott that began after Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat to a white man. After the Montgomery Bus Boycott launched a national civil rights campaign, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. helped form the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1957. Dr. King led the SCLC as it promoted, organized, and conducted non-violent protests in the name of fairness and equality.

The nonviolent manner in which Dr. King fought for fundamental freedoms such as the right to vote and desegregation has had a lasting impact on this country. Perhaps the greatest example of Dr. King's leadership and impact on this country is his "I Have a Dream" speech, which he gave in front of the Lincoln Memorial during the March on Washington in 1963, where he talked about his four children living in a nation where they would not be judged by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character.

In 1968 Dr. King set out for Memphis to support a sanitation strike that called for higher wages and better treatment. Days later, on April 4, 1968, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated.

After his death, the country mourned the loss of our greatest modern-day civil rights pioneer. To this day, Dr. King's work, message, and legacy remain imprinted on the minds of those who carry on his noble cause.

Mr. Speaker, today may be the anniversary of the death of one of our Nation's greatest citizens, but I also hope it is day on which we can reflect on the positive changes that were set in motion due to Dr. King's work. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. raised the consciousness of America; he made our nation re-examine our commitment to freedom and liberty, and he did so with a message of peace and non-violence. I speak for all Americans today as we honor a great man.

TRIBUTE TO MIAMI NORLAND HIGH SCHOOL VIKINGS BOYS BASKETBALL TEAM: STATE CHAMPIONS

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the Miami Norland Vikings, the 2006 6-A High School Boys Basketball Champions of Florida.

On March 4, 2006 this team proved its mettle, resilience and fighting spirit by upending

the state's NO.1-Ranked team, Winter Park High School, in a thrilling 55-48 championship game. Several lead changes marked the game, which may well be remembered as one of the most exciting contests ever in a 6-A high school basketball competition.

Winning a State Championship in a state as large as Florida is a tremendous achievement, and I commend Miami Norland's great Principal, Ms. Gale Cunningham, Assistant Principal for Athletics Stephon Cone, Athletic Director Ira Fluitt, Athletic Trainer Pete Martz and Business Manager Carlos Ochoa for the fine work they've done. Miami Norland is a special school; this first-ever state basketball championship has made it even more so.

I also want to congratulate the school's basketball coach, Mr. Lawton Williams III. His work ethic, discipline and dedication to hard work and fair play paved the way for accomplishment both in the classroom and on the court.

Known for his no-nonsense approach and forthright guidance and counseling, Coach Williams has surrounded himself with an excellent staff composed of assistant coaches Cleveland Roberts III, Victor Vassell, Charles Harris III, Chris Jarrett and scorer Gail Thomas. Their knowledge, experience and sensitivity to the many and varied nuances of sporting activities befitting the school's champion student-athletes: Albert Abrahams, Anthony Berkley, Darius Bodden, Amir Celestine, Timothy Cornelius, Johnny Fernandez, Andre Jackson, Jerry Jones, Calvin Joy, Zachery Peacock, Denzel Rankin, Robert Rowe, Nicholas Taylor and Andre Woods.

The coaching staff's approach to educating and motivating the members of Florida's 6-A Championship Team emphasized utmost personal responsibility toward the achievement of a common goal. Their dedication to teamwork and group achievement above individual glory or personal records has gained the respect and admiration of the parents and guardians of Miami Norland's student population.

Miami Norland's achievement this year demonstrates once again that athletic achievement and academic excellence are always within reach of those willing to dare the impossible through hard work and discipline.

I join our entire community in congratulating the Vikings for their achievement, as well as honoring the hard work and sacrifices of the parents, teachers, administrators, students and supporters that comprise the soul and spirit of the school family.

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT FOR DEFENSE, THE GLOBAL WAR ON TERROR, AND HURRICANE RECOVERY, 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 16, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4939) making emergency supplemental appropriations for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes:

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to the FY06 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations bill because it is long overdue that we end the failed policy in Iraq.

I voted against giving the President the authority to go to war against Iraq in October 2002, and I have opposed supplemental funding that would extend the conflict ever since. I ask my colleagues to recall the comments of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld who said in January 2003 that the war would cost "something under \$50 billion." Unfortunately, since that time we have appropriated more than \$250 billion in supplemental funding alone. And a new study by Columbia University economist Joseph E. Stiglitz, who won the Nobel Prize in economics in 2001, and Harvard lecturer Linda Bilmes concludes that the total costs of the Iraq war could top the \$2 trillion mark.

Secretary Rumsfeld also told us in February 2003 that "it is unknowable how long that [Iraq] conflict will last. It could last six days, six weeks. I doubt six months." On May 1st, 2003, President Bush stood on the deck of the USS *Abraham Lincoln* and declared Mission Accomplished. And on May 30th, 2005, Vice President CHENEY declared that "I think they're in the last throes, if you will, of the insurgency." However, this week we are celebrating the 3 year anniversary of the war, 2176 brave men and women in uniform have died in Iraq since the President declared Mission Accomplished, and it has become clear that the Iraqi civil war that many of us feared would occur has begun.

Although there is an attempt by the Bush administration to convince the American people that our military is helping to quell the sectarian violence, recent events have proven the administration wrong. Our occupation of Iraq has isolated us from a large segment of the international community, and has prevented us from capturing or killing Osama Bin Laden and other Al-Qaeda leaders. The war has also distracted us from two of the most critical issues in the region—the development of nuclear weapons in Iran and the Israeli/Palestinian peace process. In addition, the war has diverted attention and resources from critical homeland security needs. A continued United States presence in Iraq will do nothing but exacerbate these problems.

It is for our brave troops, and for the security of the international community that I cannot vote to continue the war in Iraq. Like everyone, I want to avoid a radical and unstable Iraq in the future. However, I believe that the ongoing presence of the U.S. military in Iraq is putting those brave troops at risk and creating a situation where the majority of Iraqis support U.S. withdrawal.

I know that the Republican supplemental appropriations request will pass the House of Representatives. Our troops will not be stranded in the field. None of us would allow that to occur. And I know that this supplemental will also contain money for important issues such as Katrina relief, the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and assistance to Darfur and Liberia, which I strongly support funding. However, Iraq war funding makes up approximately 80 percent of this supplemental. The Republican majority has employed a cynical tactic to attach worthy causes onto an Iraq war funding bill in an attempt to force members of Congress who oppose the war into voting for it. Also, crafting an

"emergency" supplemental for a war that is three years old is simply another example of the majority's poor leadership in this Congress.

I would like to encourage all my colleagues to join me in cosponsoring two bills, which if passed together, add up to a sensible policy that would provide our troops with the resources they need to complete a safe and honorable redeployment from their current combat areas.

The first is H.J. Res. 73, known as the Murtha Resolution, which calls for the immediate redeployment of U.S. forces in Iraq, the creation of a quick-reaction and over-the-horizon presence of U.S. Marines in the region, and the pursuit of stability in Iraq through diplomacy. This resolution would allow the U.S. footprint to be minimized on the ground in Iraq, while still providing a military presence that can assist Iraqis in securing their nation. I support this resolution precisely because I want to help our troops who are in harm's way.

The second bill, H.R. 4232, the End the War in Iraq Act introduced by Representative JAMES MCGOVERN, would prohibit funds from being appropriated to deploy, or continue to deploy, U.S. Armed Forces to Iraq. Exceptions to this rule would be made if the funds are being used to provide for the safe and orderly redeployment of U.S. Armed Forces from Iraq, to ensure the security of Iraq and its transition to democratic rule by carrying out consultations with the Government of Iraq, other foreign governments and international organizations, or by providing financial assistance or equipment to Iraqi security forces and international forces in Iraq. In addition H.R. 4232 would permit the use of funds to carry out social and economic reconstruction activities. Simply because we must reposition our armed forces, does not mean we can abandon our obligation to the Iraqi people to help them create a positive future for themselves and future generations.

I am pleased that my colleagues accepted the Lee/Schakowsky/Allen/Hinchey Amendment which would prohibit permanent military bases from being constructed in Iraq. I will work to make sure this amendment is accepted by the Senate. However, I cannot vote today to continue this misguided war in Iraq. My no vote is an expression for my desire to support our troops and to begin to restore the credibility of America in the eyes of the international community.

HONORING VIVIAN TESSIERI

HON. SHERWOOD BOEHLERT

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise, belatedly, to recognize the work of our long-time legislative clerk, Vivian Tessieri, who retired from Government service in February. While Vivian officially left her position a couple of months ago, in one sense this is not belated recognition because Vivian continues to be a resource to her successor as clerk and to everyone on our staff. Indeed, given how central Vivian was to all of our activities for so long, it could not be otherwise.

Vivian joined the Science Committee 29 years ago, in 1977, and served under 7 chair-

men in a variety of capacities, becoming legislative clerk in 1991. Now to those who do not understand the inner workings of the Congress, the term "legislative clerk" cannot begin to capture the significance of that position. The legislative clerk is responsible for a whole range of activities that must be accomplished with timeliness and precision to enable legislation to move forward. The clerk is also the committee recordkeeper, the historical memory of the institution. And finally, the clerk is a public face of the committee, undertaking such tasks as calling the roll at markups and ensuring that votes are recorded properly.

In all her roles—ranging from the invisible to the highly visible—Vivian was a model public servant. She undertook her responsibilities with care and enthusiasm; one could always assume that anything Vivian had to do would be done with the utmost attention to detail. In fact, Vivian was so proficient that it was only when she was getting ready to depart that we fully appreciated everything she had been doing. So many things just appeared to happen "automatically" as we moved legislation. But what "automatically" turned out to mean was that Vivian had taken care of matters before anyone else had even thought about them. The list of tasks she prepared for her successor, which she compiled with her usual attention to detail, was a lengthy and mindboggling assortment of activities.

But Vivian was valued for more than her extraordinary competence and professionalism. Everyone on the committee enjoyed working with Vivian because she is a delightful person. She is unfailingly pleasant and thoughtful and warm and considerate—a colleague that anyone would be lucky to have, especially during moments of stress.

The committee members and staff had several opportunities to express these sentiments collectively and individually to Vivian before her departure. But I believe it is important that we enshrine these thoughts in the RECORD and that we make sure that the public is aware that it is served by dedicated professionals like Vivian Tessieri.

The committee misses Vivian, but we know she is enjoying her new life. And we continue to benefit from her services, not only because we still call on her for help, but because we rely daily on all the documents she prepared and on all the records she oversaw throughout her many years on the committee. And we all continue to strive to match her dedication and disposition as we carry on without her.

TRIBUTE TO VOLUNTEERS TO ORPHANS

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to bring before this Congress the following outstanding people who have voluntarily served orphans, public school children, college students, juvenile delinquents, and needy families under the official invitation and authority of government agencies in Russia, Mongolia, Romania, Mexico, Australia, New Zealand, Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and China. The excellent character demonstrated

by these people, as well as their commitment to the principles upon which our Nation was founded, have not only attracted the attention of leaders, parents, the media, and students, but it has also brought honor to the United States of America and to the Lord Jesus Christ whom they serve.

Aguilar, Dominique, (CA); Allison, Caleb, (OK); Allison, Rachel, (CT); Anders, Erin, (MI); Atkinson, Bobby, (NC); Atkinson, Rachael, (NC); Baggot, Jessica, (CA); Bair, Aileen, (IL); Bair, Robert, (IL); Baker, Aaron, (LA); Baker, Christa, (LA); Baptista, Elizabeth, (NC); Bartlow, Jeremy, (TX); Bartlow, Joel, (TX); Bavido, Bonnie, (OK); Bavido, Samuel, (OK); Becker, Jeremy, (MS); Becker, Jordan, (MS); Beekman, Valerie, (NC); Beeman, Jedidiah, (TX); Behrens, Katherine, (MI).

Beiler, Phoebe, (PA); Beiler, Timothy, (PA); Bell, Amy, (TX); Bell, Elaine, (TX); Bell, Mike, (TX); Bender, Anthony, (CA); Bender, Steven, (CA); Benz, Kendra, (IN); Bonstrom, Peter, (IA); Bourne, Daniel, (PA); Bousfield, Leah, (CA); Bowman, Bethany, (MI); Bowman, Diane, (MI); Bowman, Joshua, (MI); Bowman, Luke, (MI); Bowman, Phillip, (MI); Bowman, Samuel, (MI); Boyd, Hannah, (TX); Brachey, Danielle, (CA); Brink, Garret, (VA); Brizendine, Christy, (WA).

Brook, Darcy, (VA); Brown, Jimmy, (NY); Brown, Sarah, (NY); Brown, Tim, (NY); Brown, Zach, (NY); Brubaker, David, (PA); Brubaker, Emily, (PA); Brubaker, Jeni, (PA); Brubaker, Leon, (PA); Brubaker, Luke, (PA); Brubaker, Mary, (PA); Brubaker, Nathan, (PA); Bruccoleri, Berea, (CT); Buckner, Dawn, (AR); Bullinger, Jonathan, (MI); Bunch, Cydni, (TX); Bushatz, Callie, (OH); Bushatz, Sandy, (OH); Canova, Ashley, (LA); Canterbury, Debbie, (GA); Cantrell, Bernadine, (GA).

Cantrell, Wes, (GA); Carnley, David, (FL); Casy, Jonathan, (TX); Cavanaugh, Daniel, (KY); Cavanaugh, Micah, (KY); Chao, Angel, (NJ); Chen, Anna, (NY); Chen, Dr. Stephen, (NY); Chen, Faith, (NY); Chen, Grace, (NY); Chen, Karen, (NY); Chen, Timothy, (NY); Chism, Curtis, (CA); Chu, Evelyn, (IN); Chu, Everett, (IN); Clark, Amy, (LA); Clarke, Ryan, (GA); Coggin, Hope, (VA); Colbert, Nicole, (IL); Conner, Kathleen, (NC); Cook, Kristi, (SC).

Cooper, Jennifer, (TX); Cope, Frances, (SC); Copu, Carmen, (IL); Copu, Joy, (IL); Copu, Paul, (IL); Copu, Paula, (IL); Copu, Peter, (IL); Copu, Rebecca, (IL); Copu, Stefana, (IL); Copu, Valen, (IL); Copu, Victor, (IL); Copu, William, (IL); Culbertson, Amanda, (GA); Dauer, Cooper, (CA); Dauer, Marie, (CA); Dauer, Monte, (CA); Davidson, Rebekah, (FL); Davis, Andrew, (CA); Davis, Dan, (CA); Davis, Kelsey, (VA); Davis, Rosemary, (CA); DeBoer, Rachel, (IL); DeBoer, Stephen, (IL); DeLuca, Lydia, (TX); DeLuca, Sarah, (TX); Dettwyler, Brad, (OR); Dettwyler, Krista, (OR); DeVall, Adrian, (FL); Dickey, Allison, (CA); Dickson, Christina, (WA).

Dixon, Eunice, (GA); Doeding, Kristen, (OH); Dosh, Jonatha, (OH); Durocher, Susan, (MN); Dutzmann, Gabrielle, (CO); Eddy, Elisabeth, (FL); Elam, Timothy, (TX); Emhof, Arwyn, (FL); Emhof, Jaryn, (FL); Emhof, Rynell, (FL); Engle, Gracia, (IN); Erickson, Janice, (MN); Estes, Autumn, (FL); Estes, Curtis, (FL); Estes, Daniel, (FL); Estes, Mildred, (FL); Fear, Andrew, (FL); Fear, Mary, (FL); Feig, Joel, (WI); Felber, Blake, (IL); Felber, Britton, (IL); Felber, Shane, (IL); Fernandez, David, (CA); Fernandez, Jonathan, (CA); Fleagle, Joy, (OH); Forman, Amanda, (FL); Forman, Timothy, (FL); Fowler, Bob, (IL); Fox, Elizabeth, (CA); Fox, Ruth, (CA).

Furrow, Chirstina, (WA); Garber, Michele, (PA); Garner, Lisa, (TX); Gay, Carissa, (OR);

George, Theresa, (NC); Gibson, Blake, (TN); Gibson, Carter, (TN); Gilbert, Justin, (SC); Gillard, Crystal, (NC); Gilley, Rebekah, (NC); Gillson, Elise, (MN); Gillson, Kathy, (MN); Gillson, Kennan, (MN); Gillson, Kirsten, (MN); Gillson, Lauren, (MN); Gillson, Micale, (MN); Gillson, Roger, (MN); Gillson, Rowan, (MN); Gillson, Toria, (MN); Givens, Joel, (OR); Glasgow, Kirsten, (OH); Glasgow, Liesl, (OH); Goff, Sarah, (NC); Goodwin, Joshua, (CT); Gothard, Dr. William, (IL); Graves Jessica, (FL); Greenlaw, Robert, (OK); Grier, Anna, (GA); Grindall, Rachel, (WA); Gruenwald, Miriam, (TX).

Hardison, Terri, (CA); Hartstrom, Mellisa, (CA); Hartzler, Sabrina, (PA); Haugaard, Daniel, (SD); Havlik, Grace, (MN); Hawkins, Anna, (WI); Hendon, Caleb, (AL); Hesterberg, Shalimar, (TX); Hicks, Susanna, (FL); Hiebsch, Chase, (KS); Hinton, Laura, (VA); Hodgson, Loriann, (CA); Hodge, Hannah, (FL); Hogan, Chris, (IL); Hollingshead, Justin, (CA); Hooley, Arlan, (IN); Hope, Jon-Eric, (AR); Huang, Minna, (CA); Hubbard, Whitney, (AR); Hullinger, Jennifer, (IL); Hulsey, Sarah, (TX); Hutson, Karin, (MO); Ingebretson, Bethany, (MN); Ivey, Kayla, (LA); Jacob, Benjamin, (VA); Jacobson, Elizabeth, (MN); Jefferies, Megan, (MD); Jerrigan, Ginger, (FL); Johnson, Alanna, (MI); Johnson, Amanda, (WI).

Johnson, Elizabeth, (MO); Johnson, James, (MI); Johnson, Juliana, (PA); Jones, Priscilla, (VA); Jones, Sadie, (IN); Jorgensen, Andrew, (PA); Jorgensen, Rachel, (PA); Justice, Micah, (VA); Kallberg, Naomi, (IL); Keller, Daniel, (FL); Kelley, Katherine, (LA); Kilby, Alison, (KY); Kilby, Elisa, (KY); King, Micah, (ND); Klopfenstein, Carissa, (IL); Knight, Adrielle, (CO); Konen, Lindsay, (WI); Krauter, Jocelyn, (PA); LaFaurie, Marjorie, (NY); Lanog, Ryan, (IL); Lee, Carline, (GA); Lee, Elijah, (MN); Lee, Hannah, (CA); Lee, Jason, (MN); Lee, Josiah, (MN); Lee, Phoebe, (CA); Lee, Rachel, (MN); Lee, Rayah, (MN); Leigh, Daniel, (MS); Leigh, Mark, (MS).

Leigh, Sarah Catherine, (MS); Levensusky, Angie, (OK); Levensusky, Dr. Tim, (OK); Lewis, Mai Cha, (WI); Loera, Sabree, (OK); Long, Elizabeth, (TX); Long, Mary Sarah, (TX); Lyons, Benjamin, (CA); Maduzia, James, (CA); Mai, Heather, (OK); Martin, Joe, (PA); Martin, Maria, (PA); Martin, Rebekah, (PA); Martin, Sherolyn, (OR); Mast, Caleb, (FL); Matchak, Jacob, (CA); Matchak, Joel, (CA); Matchak, Sarah, (CA); Mattix, George, (IL); Mazur, Isaac, (TX); McCloy, Jennifer, (TX); McCurdy, Terry, (IL); McDonald, Caleb, (TX); McDonald, Meagen, (TX); McEndarfer, Benjamin, (OK); McGarty, Laura, (NC); McMillan, Jill, (IN); Mendenhall, Breanna, (MN); Mendenhall, Douglas, (MN); Mendenhall, Jeanie, (MN).

Mendenhall, Kerry, (MN); Mendenhall, Philip, (MN); Meuser, Shari, (ID); Meyer, Jennifer, (OH); Miller, Heidi, (IL); Miller, John, (OK); Miller, Joseph, (TX); Miller, Kate, (TX); Millings, Elizabeth, (NY); Millings, Rachael, (NY); Moll, James, (PA); Monday, Justin, (CA); Moody, Christina, (CA); Mueller, Valerie, (IL); Munger, Jonathan, (WY); Myrick, Rebekah, (AL); Nance, Dana, (AR); Napoli, Elizabeth, (LA); Nelson, Stephen, (TX); Ness, Sarah, (WA); Neu, Daniel, (KS); Neu, Nicole, (WI); Nisly, Katrina, (CAN); Norvell, Robert, (AR); Novotny, Gina, (TX); Nutz, Hannah, (VA); Pallock, Melissa, (IL); Panlilio, Rae Rae, (GA); Payne, Ashia, (MD); Payne, Nikolai, (IA).

Peek, Andrew, (AL); Peek, Katherine, (AL); Pell, Elizabeth, (NC); Pell, Katy, (NC); Perkins, Catherine, (LA); Perkins, Sarah, (LA); Pettman, Evelyn, (VA); Pettman, Timothy, (VA); Phariss, Erik, (TX); Phariss, Ken, (TX); Phariss, Sacha, (TX); Phariss, Susana, (TX); Pittman, Shepherd, (FL); Plaiasu, Ana-Maria, (CA); Plattner, Tessa, (AZ); Pleckham, Elizabeth, (IL); Pleckham, Kath-

erine, (IL); Polson, Holly, (TX); Poteet, Trey, (TX); Prentice, Valeria, (OK); Protz, Annie, (CA); Quann, Jenna, (VA); Quann, Lindsey, (VA); Ramsey, Jeffrey, (OH); Ramsey, Lauren, (OH); Randall, Erin, (TX); Reed, Bethany, (ME); Reinagel, Rebekah, (CA); Richmond, Kristen, (OH); Ritchie, Nathan, (IN).

Robertson, Adam, (AL); Robertson, Alan, (AL); Robertson, Amy, (AL); Robertson, Andrew, (AL); Robertson, Anthony, (AL); Robertson, Ashley, (AL); Robertson, Autumn, (AL); Robertson, Avery, (AL); Robertson, Linda, (AL); Robertson, Michael, (AL); Rodriguez, Cristina, (MEX); Rodriguez, Joshua, (MEX); Rodriguez, Vanessa, (MEX); Roseberry, David, (CA); Roseberry, Elizabeth, (CA); Ross, Charles, (GA); Ross, Mary, (GA); Ross, Melinda, (MI); Ross, Rebecca, (GA); Rost, Linden, (IN); Rupp, Philip, (OH); Sachse, Jennifer, (MO); Sanborn, Diane, (FL); Sanborn, Kyla, (FL); Sanders, Charity, (AL); Scarborough, Amy, (TX); Schrader, Marcus, (MO); Schuurmans, Melissa, (SD); Sellin, Dexter, (KS); Shaffer, Kristin, (TX).

Sheppard, Carol, (SC); Sherrer, Katherine, (NC); Sickler, Stephen, (PA); Simpson, Nichole, (OH); Smillie, John, (IN); Smith, Rachel, (TX); Snyder, Benjamin, (MA); Sodergren, Abbey, (MN); Sodergren, Kirk, (MN); Staddon, Donald, (WV); Stallings, Preston, (CO); Stearn, Elizabeth, (IL); Stevic, Beth, (VA); Stewart, Andrew, (OH); Stewart, Lucas, (OH); Stewart, Matt, (OH); Stewart, Melissa, (MN); Stewart, Samuel, (OH); Stewart, Timothy, (OH); Storm, Emily, (IL); Straub, Nathan, (WA); Strickler, Virginia, (WA); Stutzman, Julie, (OH); Sullivan, Andrei, (NC); Sullivan, John David, (NC); Sullivan, Roslyn, (NC); Sullivan, Sarah, (NC); Sullivan, Tom, (NC); Swarr, LaVerne, (WI); Swicegood, Rebekah, (AR).

Swicegood, Vicky, (AR); Taylor, Kaitlyn, (CA); Taylor, Kirstyn, (CA); Taylor, Luisa, (CA); Taylor, Michael, (CA); Taylor, Shannon, (CA); Thar, Amanda, (MI); Thomas, Jessica, (WA); Thomas, Whitney, (AL); Thompson, Eddie, (FL); Tillotson, Vanessa, (NE); Trutza, Eunice, (IL); Trutza, Ruth, (IL); Tucker, Charlotte, (LA); Tucker, David, (LA); Tucker, Rebecca, (LA); Tucker, Robert, (LA); Tucker, Stephen, (LA); Tures, Teresa, (AR); Tyrrell, Abigail, (FL); Tyrrell, Elizabeth, (FL); Tyrrell, Joanna, (FL); Van Eerden, Sara, (WI); Van Til, Hilko, (FL); Vanderhorst, Daniel, (KS); VanGilst, Elyssa, (CA); VanRy, Chrystal, (WA); VanRy, Sheralee, (WA); Vest, Amy, (MN); Vest, Jeffrey, (MN).

Visser, Ronald, (IN); Wagley, Christine, (LA); Waller, Adam, (WI); Waller, Brian, (WI); Waller, David, (WI); Waller, Derrick, (WI); Waller, Eric, (AL); Waller, Isaac, (WI); Waller, Lydia, (WI); Waller, Matthew, (WI); Waller, Rachelle, (WI); Waller, Rebecca, (WI); Waller, Samuel, (WI); Waller, Sarah, (WI); Waller, Sue, (WI); Warner, Andrew, (TN); Warner, Elizabeth, (TN); Warren, Laura, (FL); Watkins, Elizabeth, (CA); Welborn, Kristina, (FL); Welfel, Amanda, (TX); Wenstrom, Angela, (FL); Wenstrom, Brittany, (FL); Wenstrom, Chris, (FL); Wenstrom, Heather, (FL); Wenstrom, James, (FL); Wenstrom, Kimberly, (FL); Wenstrom, Matthew, (FL); Wenstrom, Michelle, (FL); Westfahl, Ruthie, (WY).

Westfahl, Stephanie, (WY); White, Erica, (MD); Whitman, Joel, (OH); Whitten, John, (IN); Whitten, Josiah, (IN); Williams, Burton, (CT); Williams, Holly, (CA); Williams, Jamie, (IN); Williams, Susan, (CT); Wine, Christina, (VA); Winkler, Matthew, (TX); Winkler, Rebecca, (NY); Wolfley, Audra, (OK); Wood, Julie, (WA); Wright, Hunter, (TN); Wright, Sharon, (TN); Yates, Jared, (FL); Yates, Kyle, (FL); Yip, Leslie, (CA); Yoder, Byron, (PA); Yoder, Douglas, (PA); Yoder, Heidi, (CAN); Yoder, Shelly, (CAN).

TRIBUTE TO MR. TONY "FISH"
AGUIRRE

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Tony "Fish" Aguirre, a remarkable and compassionate leader whose legacy has touched so many Kansas Citizens. Mr. Aguirre entered our world on February 8, 1929, and passed on March 19, 2006. His passing is a deep loss felt by his family, the Westside community, the greater Kansas City area, and most assuredly, the thousands of lives he touched through his 50-plus years of service to Kansas City's youth.

Tony was blessed with natural athletic ability and became a talented all-around athlete in his youth, almost being drafted to play professional baseball and being offered a college basketball scholarship. At the age of 17, his God-given talent led to his calling of coaching the boys and girls from his neighborhood, the Westside. Tony went on to graduate from Redemptorist High School in 1949 and later married his wife, Joan. Tony credited his wife with encouraging him to return to athletics at the Guadalupe Center after graduating from high school. From that point forward, Tony Aguirre and Guadalupe Center athletics would become synonymous and well-known throughout Kansas City.

From the age of 17 until his death, Tony coached kids year-round in basketball, baseball, softball, and football for the Guadalupe Center. Tony was more than just a coach to the Westside youth; he was a friend, mentor, father figure, and counselor to at least three generations of ball players. Tony was at the forefront of youth development, before youth development became a key program term. His cheers and support came hand in hand with the patience and kindness Tony shared with "his kids." Tony went that extra mile, whether it was keeping the Sacred Heart gym open late for basketball practice, or marking the park fields for baseball, softball, or football, Tony did everything possible to help "his kids" be competitive and proud of themselves. Tony impacted the lives of many, and his influence was far reaching, both inside and outside the Latino community. Tony will long be remembered for his kind smile and words of encouragement he shared with everyone.

In 1988, the Guadalupe Center established the Tony Aguirre High School Scholarship Award to help deserving students from the Hispanic community attend private or parochial high school in Mr. Aguirre's honor. In 2000, the city of Kansas City, MO, honored Tony's contributions by naming the newly constructed Westside Community Center after him. Never seeking accolades, Tony received numerous awards throughout his life for his service, coaching, and dedication to youth.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in expressing our heartfelt sympathy to his wife, Joan Aguirre, his children, Sandy, Steve, Arlyne, Kathy and Amy, his 19 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild, and his many relatives and friends. I urge my colleagues to please join me in conveying our gratitude to his family for sharing this great man with us, and to accept our condolences for their tremendous loss. He was an inspiration to us all.

COMMENDING THE NORTH TEXAS
FIREFIGHTERS FOR SERVICE
DURING THE PANHANDLE FIRES

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend those North Texas firefighters who risked their very lives to protect so many others from the Panhandle fires that have plagued the west Texas region.

North Texas has seen its fair share of wildfires this year. Always showing their bravery and professionalism, local firefighters have fought back these deadly fires and now, as the call was heeded for assistance to our fellow Texans. Our firefighters selflessly gathered to take swift action in fighting the fires in the west. With adversity clearly in sight, these firefighters went far beyond their call of duty and exemplified the very definition of courage.

The combined efforts of the North Texas fire, rescue and emergency services helped to end the deadly wildfires before they threatened even more homes and families. I am pleased to commend the following departments for their services: Lewisville Fire Department, Lake Cities Fire Department, Little Elm Fire Department, Denton Fire Department, Flower Mound Fire Department, Coppell Fire Department, Carrollton Fire Department, Denton County Fire Marshals Office, Denton County Emergency Services, North Tarrant County Volunteer Fire Department, Hurst Fire Department, and Forrest Hill Fire Department.

It brings me great pride to commend the firefighters of these areas for their care and dedication. May they be an example to us all.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND
OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 609) to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965:

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chairman, as a former teacher, mother, and grandmother, I rise in opposition to H.R. 609, the so-called College Access and Opportunity Act. H.R. 609 represents a major missed opportunity to make college more affordable and accessible, to boost America's economic competitiveness, and to invest in America's future.

The Republican majority is bringing this bill to the floor just 2 months after they passed the Budget Reconciliation Act, which slashed federal student aid programs by \$12 billion. H.R. 609 does nothing to reverse this raid on student aid, nor does it do anything to make college loans more affordable. In fact, this bill freezes the authorized level of the maximum Pell grant scholarship. If this bill is passed, Pell grants would be frozen at just \$200 above the current level until 2013. This would mean less money to help students go to school.

With millions of American families struggling to pay for college, it is critical that Congress

act to make college more affordable. I would like to share with my colleagues part of a letter that a constituent from Des Plaines, Illinois, recently wrote to me:

My son who is out of college for 2 years, makes about \$30,000. His major was public relations, but could not get a job in that field since he had no experience. So he finally got a job in sales. Since he went to school in Iowa, we consolidated his loans with an Iowa firm. His loans were over \$100,000. His monthly payment was about \$500 [in addition] he has the federal loans [amounting to] over \$100. As of Feb. 6th he will pay over \$700 a month for his private loan plus his federal loans which will bring him over \$850 a month. This is for the next 20 years . . . I would like for someone to tell me how does the government expect kids to be able to make a life for themselves when the interest rates keep going up on school loans? Why can't students have a lower fixed rate?

I also understand that when kids get out of college you are figuring that you will be making enough money to pay their loans. But what about the kids that aren't engineers, doctors, or lawyers? What about those average kids who go to college because they know in order to get a job these days you need that degree but do not make large salaries and barely make enough money to live. My kids are used to hard work, for example, working two jobs. I guess I figured that once you have that degree, it would be a little easier to get a job. Obviously, that is not the case.

This is just one of thousands of such stories. The members of the majority must be hearing them too. However, H.R. 609 contains little assistance for the millions of low- and middle-income families who continue to struggle to pay for college. Instead the majority chose to make tax breaks for the wealthy a priority over helping the next generation of Americans go to college.

That is why I encourage all of my colleagues to support the Democratic alternative. The Democratic alternative would cut in half the student loan interest rate for borrowers who are most in need. The substitute also establishes a new Predominantly Black Serving Institution program, a new graduate Hispanic Serving Institution program and Minority Teaching Centers for Excellence to increase the number of highly qualified teachers, including minority teachers. The substitute provides for year-round Pell grants. It establishes a minimum grant of \$500,000 for tribal colleges. It repeals the single lender rule, which requires student borrowers to consolidate their loans with their existing lender. Under the substitute, the borrower could choose which lender he or she wishes to use to consolidate loans.

At a time when the United States needs to invest in innovation and education in order to compete in the 21st century, H.R. 609 leads us in the wrong direction. It will force many students to forgo college altogether. For many students, financial barriers are the principal factor that determines whether they will successfully complete college or not. American students need and deserve more affordable college opportunities, not additional barriers to achievement and opportunity. I literally shake my head in wonder at these counterproductive cuts. We should be increasing opportunities for Americans to further their education. The Republican majority has instead given us a shameful sham of a bill.

I urge all of my colleagues to adopt the Democratic alternative and to oppose H.R.

609, the "Republican Missed College Opportunities" bill.

TRIBUTE TO THE RIGHT REV-
EREND MONSIGNOR SYLVESTER
HLADKY

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay homage to the Right Reverend Monsignor Sylvester Hladky, a humble lifelong servant of the Catholic Byzantine Church, pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church, and permanent papal prelate.

Born in 1909 in Brooklyn, NY, Sylvester Hladky knew very early that a life of service was for him. After serving his country for 3 years in the United States Navy, the Monsignor was ordained from Saint Joseph Seminary in Edmonton, AB, Canada in 1936. As a young priest, then-Father Hladky spent his time working in Ukrainian mission churches at Fisher Branch, Poplar Fields, and the Indian reservation areas of Manitoba. Following these assignments, Father Hladky was then assigned to mission churches throughout Ontario, to include Welland, Grimsby, Saint Catharines, Brantford, Kitchener, Thorold, and Niagara Falls. After serving in the Byzantine Ruthenian Eparchy of Pittsburgh, Father Hladky was made the pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church in Struthers, OH.

Father Hladky came to Warren, OH, in August 1945, where he was the pastor of Saints Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church on School Street. The parish grew from 30 to 300 families. After leading a building fund campaign, the parishioners purchased property for the construction of a new church and rectory. On Christmas Day 1950, Father Hladky celebrated the first divine liturgy in the new church.

The father dreamt of a parish school where students would receive an academic education, as well as a spiritual one in the Byzantine tradition, and, in 1954, purchased a home to be used as a convent by the Benedictine Sisters who arrived from Lisle, IL, to teach. Construction of a school began, and in 1957, Saints Peter and Paul School opened with 10 classrooms and an auditorium, later adding 16 more classrooms for high school classes.

In 1961, on the 25th anniversary of Father Hladky entering the priesthood, he was appointed dean of the Youngstown Deanery. By 1965, he was named a monsignor, and later, in 1975, he was made a right reverend monsignor. Pope John Paul II named him a permanent papal prelate.

From 1968 to 1996, Monsignor Hladky also served as president of the Greek Catholic Union Tribunal. The monsignor and his parish were instrumental in helping the Benedictine Sisters of the Byzantine Rite to establish an independent monastery in Warren. In 1990, the parish erected a 46-apartment residence near the church for elderly parishioners.

After a short illness, the monsignor passed away on March 7, 2006, at Saint Joseph Health Center in Warren, OH.

In the book of Matthew, chapter 16, verse 18, the Lord said to his disciple, Simon, "and

I tell you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hell shall not overcome it." Just as Simon was the rock upon which the Christian faith grew and flourished, so was Monsignor Hladky the ever-present and ever-faithful rock upon which our homes, communities, and families grew and also flourished. Mahoning Valley citizens of all faiths pray for Monsignor Hladky and his parish, because this faithful and dutiful servant of God was truly a blessing and we are grateful to have had him touch our valley so.

COMMEMORATING TONY CRAVER
FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CON-
TRIBUTION AS MENDOCINO
COUNTY SHERIFF

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tony Craver on the occasion of his retirement as Sheriff and for his 34 years of outstanding service to the Mendocino County Sheriff's Department.

Tony Craver's accomplishments range from developing outreach programs for needle exchange and related disease prevention to improving criminal justice policies in conjunction with local tribes, the Attorney General's Office of Native American Affairs and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Sheriff Craver served on the California State Sheriff's Association's committee on Native American affairs. He worked closely with local tribal leaders to help establish tribal police programs and improve tribal criminal justice programs.

Working with patients, care givers, the medical community, and other local authorities, Sheriff Craver established mutually agreeable guidelines and created a departmental statement of policy six years before the state legislature passed a bill on medical marijuana. He developed the first practical and reasonable method of accommodating medical marijuana consumers and providers with minimal police intervention by establishing a photo ID card system with verification capabilities in the State of California.

Sheriff Craver served on the Evaluation and Advisory panel of the Disease Prevention Demonstration Project established by the State of California Department of Health Services Office on AIDS.

In 2005, the California Rifle and Pistol Association named Sheriff Craver as Outstanding Peace Officer of the Year.

In addition to his official duties, Tony Craver was a director of the Fort Bragg Kiwanis Club, and a member of the Mendocino Masonic Lodge, the Pomo Shrine Club, Fort Bragg Shrine Club, Ukiah Gun Club, and the Redwood Practical Shooters.

Born in Sonoma County, Sheriff Craver served until his honorable discharge in both the United States Marine Corps and in the U.S. Army Reserves. He has an Associate of Arts degree in Administration of Justice from Mendocino Community College and a Lifetime Vocational Teaching Credential.

Beloved and respected by the community and his fellow deputies, Sheriff Craver looks forward to retirement and spending more time

with his wife Joanne, his four children and four grandchildren. He plans to enjoy the great outdoors and get back into fishing and competitive shooting.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, Tony Craver earned the admiration and respect of his peers and left a positive legacy from his years in the Mendocino County Sheriff's Department. For these reasons, it is appropriate that we honor his 34 years of commitment and service to law enforcement and public service.

TRIBUTE TO EGIDIANA MACCIONI

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Egidiana Maccioni on receiving the 2006 President's Medal from Marymount Manhattan College.

In her family's restaurants, Le Cirque and Osterio de Circo, Mrs. Maccioni has worked tirelessly as a chef and hostess, making special memories of great food and lively conversation for a diverse community of New Yorkers. A woman who has quietly pursued her goals as a wife, mother, and businesswoman, Mrs. Maccioni truly embodies the spirit of New York City and is more than worthy of this recognition.

In presenting Egidiana Maccioni with the President's Medal, Marymount Manhattan College continues a long tradition of honoring individuals who have distinguished themselves through service to their professions and communities. I congratulate Mrs. Maccioni on this prestigious honor, the latest among her noteworthy achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LAS
VEGAS WINGS CHAPTER OF THE
DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS
SOCIETY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of a special group of American heroes, those that have received the Distinguished Flying Cross. I honor them today for their service and dedication to our great Nation.

The Distinguished Flying Cross was authorized by an Act of Congress on July 2, 1926 and is awarded to any officer or enlisted member of the Armed Forces who has distinguished themselves during combat in support of operations by "heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight."

Since its creation the Distinguished Flying Cross has been awarded to some of America's greatest aviators and serves as a reminder of their heroic actions. This prestigious medal was first awarded to Charles A. Lindbergh, of the U.S. Army Corps Reserve, for his solo flight of 3,600 miles across the Atlantic in 1927. The first Distinguished Flying Cross to be awarded to a Naval Aviator was awarded to Richard E. Byrd, of the U.S. Navy

Air Corps, for his flight to the North Pole. The contributions of these great aviators and those that followed are honored by this prestigious award.

In 1994 the Distinguished Flying Cross Society was formed as a nonprofit organization whose members have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. The Society has established scholarships and benefits for organizations and individuals throughout the Nation that are seeking to make advances in aviation.

In February of this year the Distinguished Flying Cross Society officially recognized a new chapter, the Las Vegas Wings Chapter in Southern Nevada. The great State of Nevada is home to more than 260,000 veterans many of which have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. As a member of Congress and a Nevadan, I would like to extend a heartfelt welcome, to the Las Vegas Wings Chapter, of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and heartfelt gratitude that I salute these great American heroes and the Las Vegas Wings Chapter of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. WALTER RODNEY—REMEMBERING A TRUE CARIBBEAN INTELLECTUAL

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the legacy and memory of Dr. Walter Rodney, an eloquent teacher, writer, scholar and political activist who left this world much too soon at the young age of 38 years and to enter into the RECORD an essay written in the New York CaribNews by Michael D. Roberts entitled "Celebrating the 64th Birthday of Dr. Walter Rodney—Remembering A True Caribbean Intellectual—From Humble Beginnings to International Stature."

Dr. Walter Rodney was born in Guyana on March 23, 1942, and at an early age, excelled academically. After graduating from the University of the West Indies, he enrolled at the London University and at the age of 24, was awarded a Ph.D.

Walter Rodney an avid political activist was involved in the Guyanese labor movement and headed up the Working People's Alliance. His political views were strongly influenced by the Black Power and Black Consciousness Movements in the U.S. and Caribbean, respectively. Of particular scholarly interest to Rodney was the economic history of Guyana, and the legacy of slavery and colonialism in Africa. He inaugurated extensive research into the history of economic exploitation in Africa. He traveled and studied with teaching assignments in Tanzania and Guinea, Africans in Guyana trace their roots to Guinea.

The results of his travels and research were three remarkable books: *A History of the Upper Guinea Coast, 1545–1800*, *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*, and *Groundings with My Brothers*. *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa* offered a Marxist analysis of the impact of colonialism and capitalism in under developing Africa and, consequently, the African world.

Though he traveled extensively throughout the world, Dr. Rodney's base of operations from 1974 until his death was in Guyana. He

continued to lecture and organize the people of his homeland. He joined the Working People's Alliance, WPC, of Guyana which later became an independent Marxist political party in 1979.

There is so much more to say about the life and legacy of Walter Rodney. He was a profound intellectual and worldly scholar who had so much left to share with the world when he was silenced by death. Sadly, Walter Rodney was killed by a car bomb in Guyana on June 13, 1980. His murder remains unsolved.

Walter Rodney was a true Caribbean Intellectual whose reach was boundless. I shudder to think of the difference he would have made in the world had he lived. On this anniversary of his birthday I honor his memory.

CELEBRATING THE 64TH BIRTHDAY OF DR. WALTER RODNEY: REMEMBERING A TRUE CARIBBEAN INTELLECTUAL

(An Essay By Michael D. Roberts)

My first encounter with Dr. Walter Rodney was in 1979 when he came to Grenada during the very early days of the Grenada Revolution since he was literally barred from entering Guyana his country of birth. A slim, unassuming man Walter Rodney was unpretentious and looked almost nerdy with heavy horned-rimmed glasses. He sported a large "Afro" hairstyle and was the first person I met who wore African clothes. During that year and up to April 1980 whenever he was in Grenada I would spend time with him since his remarkable brain and sheer brilliance was fascinating to me. Walter had the gift of simplifying many complex things and he would ask a question and then based on my response would open up an entire period of conversation based on analysis, discussion, point and counter-point. He was an excellent teacher, an adept debater and skilled analyst.

Had he not been murdered he would have been 64 years old today and one could only wonder what this true Caribbean intellectual would have accomplished. Walter Rodney was born on March 23, 1942, and was murdered in Georgetown, Guyana, on June 12, 1980, ironically not far from Bent Street where his parents lived and where he grew up as a child.

He attended Guyana primary school and from the start was an extremely gifted student. To many who knew him it was clear that he was unique. He first won a scholarship to Queens College in Guyana and then another one to further his studies at the University of the West Indies in Jamaica. He graduated with first-class honors in History and again won an open scholarship to the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. Walter graduated from that institution with a doctorate at the tender age of 24 years.

Never losing his working class roots Walter Rodney soon embraced the principles of Marxism. It is this Marxist methodology that would be used to write his thesis that was published as a piercing analytical work "A History of the Upper Guinea Coast 1545–1800" and "How Europe Under-Developed Africa" considered today one of the most important books on British colonialism and its effects on the African continent and Third World development and underdevelopment as a whole.

After graduation Walter left for Tanzania to take up a teaching position and then came back to Jamaica in 1968 to teach at the University of the West Indies. It was while there that he started to study the Rastafarian socio-historical phenomenon and wrote a book that is today considered one of the definitive works on the movement called "Groundings with My Brothers." This book

is a collection of talks that he gave in Jamaica and highlighted Walter's admiration for the working class and his ability to connect with those that society deemed unimportant and non-conformist.

I remember one incident in Grenada that would help to further explain his life-long fascination and respect for the grassroots people among whom he was most comfortable and at home. In the end it would be this ability to connect with people and to make a lasting impression on them that would be feared and hated by his political enemies and which would lead to his assassination. The Governments in Guyana and the Caribbean did not only fear Walter Rodney's amazing intellect but his easy, sincerity that made people gravitate to him.

One day we were driving on the Eastern coast of Grenada heading for the country's second largest town, Grenville. We stopped at a village named Birchgrove for a while and I left to see a friend at the Police station. Walter had two bodyguards with him and a few minutes later they came to me worried sick that he was nowhere to be found and maybe he'd given them the slip.

I then led a search for Walter in the shops and parlors in the village since Walter was fond of going to where ordinary people congregated to speak to them and ask questions so he could learn more about them. By then I was used to his ways. But search as we may we could not find him. Then I heard loud laughter coming from the Birchgrove River and decided to check it out.

There sitting comfortably on a river stone and surrounded by about 20 women, some bare-chested, some in the river washing, was Walter Rodney. When we arrived on the scene he flashed his usual sly grin and continued speaking with the washers—all wives of farmers and children of working people.

We spent more than an hour listening to Walter exchange conversation with whom Granada's deceased Prime Minister Maurice Bishop used to call "the salt of the earth."

That was Walter he'd take a complex topic as economics and tailor it to suit the washers and presented it in words that they understood. He interjected humor and practical day-to-day experiences that they related to in an effective methodology for educating "his people" as he called them.

In Guyana there has been the problem that historically the working class has always been divided mainly because of the manipulation of the planter class. The Indians were introduced into the society specifically to counter and break the development of the Black working class movement that arose in opposition to conditions after the end of slavery.

So it is not simply as though Africans and Indians co-existed without any relation one to the other. Economic competition between Africans and Indians was deliberately created within the construct of the old capitalist order.

In 1974 Walter Rodney decided to return to Guyana and take up an appointment at the University of Guyana. Of course, the Forbes Burnham government promptly scuttled his appointment as Professor of History. That same year he joined the Working People's Alliance that became a political party in July of 1979—five months after the Grenada Revolution of March 13, 1979. That same month he was arrested, along with seven other people, for allegedly burning down Government offices. It would be this incident that would propel him to the top of Guyanese politics and ultimately seal his fate. From that time on Walter's life was on the line as threats, harassment and intimidation continued from the Burnham regime that became more and more obsessed with a man that Guyanese across the board saw as the replacement to Linden Forbes Burnham.

Under these oppressive conditions the Burnham Government reacted more and more with violence to a restless population now growing fed up with the paramount leader's shenanigans and political grandstanding. Walter was unapologetic about his political work and saw it as rendering a service to the people of Guyana. He was well aware that the Burnham regime was out to get him since President Burnham had allegedly told him to make his will.

Certainly among progressive circles in the Caribbean Walter was told that he should not go to Guyana since his life would be in real danger and that the Government would stop at nothing to destroy him.

But Walter accepted this as part of the price that he was willing to pay for the liberation of the people of Guyana.

On the evening of June 13, 1980 Walter Rodney was assassinated by a bomb placed in a walkie-talkie and detonated remotely. He left behind his wife, Patricia and three children. The Caribbean and Africa lost a gifted intellectual and a skilled political leader.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE RICHARD A. BENNETT OF NAPA, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Judge Richard A. Bennett as he retires after serving 20 years on the courts of Napa County, California.

Judge Bennett's extraordinary judicial leadership both on and off the bench not only improved the lives of thousands of Napa Valley residents and families, it saved many of them. Whether it was in small claims, family court, felony trials or his landmark efforts within Napa's Adult Drug Court, he had a gift of focusing on the human element that connects all of us. No one understood better than Judge Bennett the forces that can break families and communities apart as well as the common bonds that can be used to repair both.

It was this understanding of how important our bonds are to each other and to our community that enabled Judge Bennett to amass a remarkable record of reaching far more agreements than impasses in his court. And Mr. Speaker, it is this understanding that is unfortunately all too rare on our national stage today.

At a time when our political discourse has devolved to a level of partisan stagnation, our national leaders can learn a great deal from Judge Bennett and the community he has so proudly and effectively served over these past 20 years. He has built a foundation of cooperation, integrity and compassion that will continue to benefit many generations of Napa Valley residents long after his robe is retired.

Richard Bennett was born in Virginia and moved to my hometown of St. Helena at age 14 with his parents Larry and Doda. A graduate of the distinguished University of California Hastings College of Law, he practiced family law before being appointed to the Napa County Municipal Court by Governor George Deukmejian in 1985. He later became the first Presiding Judge of the Consolidated Municipal and Superior Courts for Napa County in 1993.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, because of the many contributions Judge Bennett has made

to our community and nation, it is fitting and appropriate that we honor him today as he retires from the Superior Court of Napa County and extend our best wishes to him and his family. Though he may be leaving the bench, I am confident that he will continue to provide leadership in Napa County for many years to come.

HONORING 65 YEARS OF
AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, last week, I introduced a bipartisan resolution, along with my dear friends and colleagues, Representatives TOM REYNOLDS, CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, and LOUISE SLAUGHTER, to recognize the cultural and educational contributions of American Ballet Theatre throughout its 65 years of service as "America's National Ballet Company."

Sixty-five years ago, American Ballet Theatre was formed to fulfill two essential missions: Become one of the world's great ballet companies and bring classical dance to communities who typically are not able to experience world-class ballet.

Now, 65 years later, ABT has brought world-class dance to America and American dance to the world, including performances in 126 cities throughout all 50 states and 42 countries, often as representatives of the State Department.

Dwight D. Eisenhower recognized the important role of American Ballet Theatre over 40 years ago, stating that ABT brings "some measure of understanding of America's cultural environment and inspiration" to audiences through the medium of ballet.

ABT's mission extends beyond the pursuit of artistic greatness. ABT's extensive educational outreach programs include the award-winning Make a Ballet program, which inspires and empowers at-risk students by guiding them through the entire process of staging their own ballet. From choreography, costumes and performance to lighting, marketing and concessions, Make a Ballet has served students in the New York City region for over a decade; now, ABT is bringing Make a Ballet on tour to communities like Washington, DC, Los Angeles, Chicago and Cleveland.

For 65 years, American Ballet Theatre has entertained, inspired and educated thousands and thousands of people across the country and the world. I am proud to represent this important institution and thank my colleagues for joining me in celebrating the past 65 years with ABT. We all look forward to the next 65 years.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF GERARD
FRANCIS SCHIAPPA

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Gerard Francis

Schiappa, director of federal relations for Turner Construction and former administrative assistant to Congressman Louis C. Wyman, who died of cancer March 17, in his home in Potomac Falls. Gerry was 67 years old.

Gerry, who had a 50-year career in government affairs, also was special counsel to former Secretary of the Navy J. William Middendorf II from 1975 to 1976 during the Ford Administration. He began his career as an elevator operator and mailroom clerk in the U.S. House of Representatives. After serving in the Army, Mr. Schiappa returned to the House, where he served on the staffs of Representatives Arch A. Moore (R-W.Va.), Joe Skubitz (R-Kan.), William C. Cramer (R-Fla.) and finally Louis C. Wyman (R-N.H.).

As Congressman Wyman's Chief of Staff, Gerry had a reputation on Capitol Hill as a brilliant political tactician who knew how to get things done. His counsel to Congressman Wyman, who served on the House Subcommittee on Defense Appropriations, helped save the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard from closure in the early 1970s. He served as a principal coordinator for Congressman Wyman's U.S. Senate campaign against John Durkin, a Democrat, in a 1975 runoff election, which is known as the closest Senate race in U.S. history.

Gerry left public service in 1978 to join the Panax Corp. as its Vice President of Public Affairs. He founded a lobbying firm, the Capital Group, in 1981 and served as its president and chief executive until 1996. In 1997, he became managing partner of Middendorf & Associates.

Gerry was born the third of 10 children in Scranton, Pa. He grew up in Mount Rainier, graduated from Northwestern High School in Hyattsville and attended Capitol Page School in Washington. He also attended Emerson Preparatory School and the University of Maryland.

He served on the executive finance committee of the 1981 and 1985 Presidential Inaugural Committees, and President Ronald Reagan's 1981 Presidential Transition Office for Intelligence Operations. He also served on the boards of numerous organizations, including the Educational Film Center and Prevision Corp. He was also a member of the Washington Performing Arts Society, ALS Association of Washington, Great Falls Citizens Association, Defense Forum Foundation and the Reagan Alumni Association.

Of all his accomplishments, Gerry was most proud of being a mentor to countless young men and women eager to begin their professional careers. John Dean, former White House counsel, wrote in his autobiography that Gerry helped him get his first job in government. Gerry is survived by his wife of 41 years, Jane Thompson Schiappa of Potomac Falls; two children, Brien Schiappa-Dunn and John Schiappa, both of Potomac Falls; a brother; eight sisters; and one granddaughter.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Gerard Schiappa on the floor of the House today.

FEBRUARY 2006 NATIONAL PRAYER
BREAKFAST WITH REMARKS
FROM BONO

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD the very profound speech giving by Bono, the world-renowned musician and noted humanitarian, during the February 2006 National Prayer Breakfast.

As the lead singer and lyricist for the Irish rock band U2, Paul Hewson, better known as Bono, rose to fame as a socially-conscious songwriter who through song has taken many people on spiritual journeys while opening their eyes to the plight of the underprivileged and in some instances inspired people to change.

Beyond U2, Bono has extended himself to other projects and causes, and has emerged over the years to be a social activist, having rallied numerous actors, artists, socialites and activists on behalf of the world's poor, particularly those afflicted with the HIV virus in Africa and elsewhere throughout the world. While his international celebrity status has placed him in a position to relax and enjoy fame and wealth, he selflessly dedicates his time to improving our world as a tireless advocate for the less fortunate.

Bono has committed himself to continuing to address issues critical to future generations. He faces global crises with conviction and the hope that others will see the pain and suffering in the world and come together in unity to make the World a better place for all mankind.

Mr. Speaker: I humbly submit the remarks made by Bono as he addressed an audience that included the President of the United States, the First Lady, King Abdullah of Jordan, members of Congress and other guests during National Prayer Breakfast held in Washington, D.C. in February 2006.

BONO'S REMARKS TO THE NATIONAL PRAYER
BREAKFAST, FEBRUARY 2, 2006
INTRODUCTION OF BONO BY SENATOR NORM
COLEMAN

In my day, I have introduced the President, I once introduced Dr. Billy Graham, but as a former roadie for 60 rock bands, 10 years after, this ranks right up there as one of the high points of my introducing career. Mark [Senator Mark Pryor, Democrat/Arkansas] and I were joking, "This kind of makes us the rhetorical warm-up act for U2."

Our message today comes from a person who has gotten the attention of the world, by walking with God, talking about things that matter, letting his light shine. He's an extraordinary musician, charismatic leader, and unabashedly, uniquely himself. We have an expression that a celebrity is a person who is famous for being famous. But our speaker this morning is known around the world as a person of conscience, a person of influence, but most of all, a person of faith. His organization is called DATA—Debt, AIDS, Trade in Africa. They are working to bring people, organizations, leaders and politicians together to make a unified effort to change the future of Africa. On your tables are these white wristbands which are appropriately printed with the word "ONE." He's come to challenge us to reach across the boundaries, to care for the poor and to walk

the talk of our faith. Ladies and gentlemen: Bono.

[applause]

BONO'S ADDRESS

Thank you very much.

Thank you, Mr. President, First Lady, King Abdullah of Jordan, Norm [Senator Coleman], distinguished guests . . .

Please join me in praying that I don't say something we all regret.

[laughter]

That was for the FCC.

If you're wondering what I'm doing here, at a prayer breakfast, well, so am I. I'm certainly not here as a man of the cloth, unless that cloth is leather.

[laughter]

I'm certainly not here because I'm a rock star. Which leaves only one possible explanation: I've got a messianic complex.

[laughter]

It's true. [For] anyone who knows me, it's hardly a revelation.

Well, I'm the first to admit that there's something *unnatural* . . . something even *unseemly* . . . about rock stars mounting the pulpit and preaching at presidents, then disappearing to their villas in the South of France. Talk about a fish out of water. It was weird enough to have Jesse Helms come to a rock show . . . this is *really* weird.

[laughter]

Now, one of the things I love about this country is the separation of church and state. Although I have to say: in inviting me here, both church and state have been separated from something else completely: their mind. [Looks over at President Bush, who is seated to his right] Mr. President, are you sure about this?

[laughter]

It's very humbling, and I will try to keep my homily brief. But be warned—I am Irish.

[laughter]

I'd like to talk about the laws of man, here in this city where those laws are written. And I'd like to talk about higher laws. It would be great to assume that one serves the other; that the laws of man serve these higher laws . . . but of course, they don't always. And I presume that, in a way, is why you're all here.

I presume the reason for this gathering is that all of us are here—Muslims, Jews, Christians—are all searching our souls for how to better serve our family, our community, our nation, our God . . . And some of us are not very good examples, despite what Norm says. I am certainly searching. And that, I suppose, is what led me here.

Yes, it is odd, having a rock star at the breakfast—but maybe it's odder for me than for you. Because you see, I have avoided religious people most of my life. Maybe it's something to do with having a father who was a Protestant and a mother who was Catholic in a country where the line between the two was, quite literally, often a battle line. Where the line between church and state was . . . at the very least, a little blurry, and hard to see.

I remember how my mother would bring us to chapel on Sundays . . . and my father used to wait outside. One of the things that I picked up from my father and my mother was the sense that religion often gets in the way of God.

For me, at least, it got in the way. Seeing what religious people, in the name of God, did to my native land . . . and even in this country, seeing God's second-hand car salesmen on their TV cable channels, offering indulgences for cash . . . in fact, all over the world, seeing the self-righteousness roll down like a mighty stream from certain corners of the religious establishment . . .

I must confess, I changed the channel. I wanted my MTV.

So, even though I was a believer—and perhaps *because* I was a believer—I was cynical . . . not about God, but about God's politics. There you are, Jim [Wallis, author of the book *God's Politics*].

In 1997, a couple of eccentric, septuagenarian Christians—British, as it happens—went and ruined my shtick—my reproachfulness. They did it by describing the Millennium, the year 2000, as a Jubilee year, described this year as an opportunity to cancel the chronic debts of the world's poorest people. They had the audacity to renew the Lord's call—and were joined by Pope John Paul II, who, from an Irish half-Catholic's point of view, may have had a more direct line to the Almighty. But they got together to declare the year of Jubilee.

So . . . Jubilee. Why 'Jubilee'?

What was this year of Jubilee, this year of our Lord's favor?

I'd always read the Scriptures, actually, even the obscure stuff. There it was in Leviticus 25:35 . . . "If your brother becomes poor," the Scriptures say, "and cannot maintain himself . . . you shall maintain him . . . You shall not lend him your money at interest, not give him your food for profit."

This is such an important idea, Jubilee, that this is how Jesus begins his ministry. Jesus is a young man, he's met with the rabbi, he's impressed everybody, people are talking. The elders say, he's a clever guy, this Jesus, but, you know, he hasn't done much public speaking.

When he does, his first words are from Isaiah: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me," he says, "because He has anointed me to preach the good news to the poor." And Jesus proclaims the year of the Lord's favor, the year of Jubilee. I think that's Luke 4 [Luke 4:18].

What he was really talking about was an era of grace—we're still in it.

So fast-forward 2,000 years. That same thought, grace, is now incarnate—in a movement of all kinds of people. It wasn't a blessing club . . . it wasn't a holy huddle. These religious guys were willing to get out on the streets, get their boots dirty, wave the placards, follow their convictions with actions . . . making it really hard for people like me to keep our distance. Ruining my shtick. I almost started to like these church people.

But then, my cynicism got another helping hand.

It was what Colin Powell, a five-star general, called the greatest W.M.D. of them all: a tiny little virus called A.I.D.S. And the religious community, in large part, missed it. And the one's that didn't miss it could only see it as divine retribution for bad behavior. Even on children . . . Even if the fastest growing group of HIV infections were married, faithful women.

Ah, there they go . . . [lightly but firmly pounding on podium] "Judgmentalism is back," I thought to myself.

But in truth, I was wrong again. The church was slow but the church got busy on this the leprosy of our age. Love was on the move. Mercy was on the move. God was on the move. Moving people of all kinds to work with others they had never met, never would have cared to meet . . . We had conservative church groups hanging out with spokesmen from the gay community, all singing off the same hymn sheet on AIDS . . . See, miracles do happen. We had hip-hop stars and country stars . . . This is what happens when God gets on the move: crazy, crazy stuff happens. Popes were seen wearing sunglasses! Jesse Helms had a ghetto blaster now! Evidence of the Spirit moving. It was really . . . it was breathtaking. It literally stopped the world in its tracks.

When churches started demonstrating on debt, governments listened—and acted. When

churches starting organizing, petitioning, and even—that most unholly of acts today, God forbid, lobbying . . . on AIDS and global health, governments listened—and acted. I'm here today in all humility to say: you changed minds; you changed policy; and you changed the world. So, thank you.

[applause]

Check Judaism. Check Islam. Check pretty much anyone. I mean, God may well be with us in our mansions on the hill . . . I hope so. He may well be with us in all manner of controversial stuff . . . maybe, maybe not . . . But the one thing we can all agree, all faiths, all ideologies, is that God is with the vulnerable and the poor. God is in the slums, in the cardboard boxes where the poor play house . . . God is in the silence of a mother who has infected her child with a virus that will end both their lives . . . God is in the cries heard under the rubble of war . . . God is in the debris of wasted opportunity and lives, and God is with us if we are with them.

[applause]

"If you remove the yolk from your midst, the pointing of the finger and the speaking wickedness, and if you give yourself to the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then your light will rise in darkness and your gloom will become like midday and the Lord will continually guide you and satisfy your desire even in scorched places."

It's not a coincidence that in the Scriptures, poverty is mentioned more than 2,100 times. It's not an accident. That's a lot of air time. You know, the only time Jesus Christ is judgmental is on the subject of the poor. 'As you have done it unto the least of these my brethren, you have done it unto me.' I believe that's Matthew 25:40. [Quick glance at President Bush]—see, I've been doing my homework.

[laughter]

As I say, good news to the poor.

Here's some good news—[looks at President Bush]—for you, Mr. President. After 9-11 we were told America would have no time for the World's poor. We were told America would be taken up with its own problems of safety. And it's true these are dangerous times, but America has not drawn the blinds and double-locked the doors.

In fact, you have doubled aid to Africa. You have tripled funding for global health. And Mr. President, your emergency plan for AIDS relief and support of the Global Fund—you and Congress—have put 700,000 people onto life-saving anti-retroviral drugs and provided 8 million bed nets to protect children from malaria.

[applause]

Outstanding human achievements. Counterintuitive, I think you'll admit. But Historic. You should be very, very proud.

But here's the bad news. [looks at President Bush] There is so much more to do. There is a gigantic chasm between the scale of the emergency and the scale of the response.

And finally . . . getting to higher levels, higher callings, this is not about charity in the end, is it? It's about justice . . . the good news yet to come. I just want to repeat that: This is not about charity, it's about justice.

And that's too bad. Because we're good at charity. Americans, Irish people, are good at charity. We like to give, and we give a lot, even those who can't afford it. But justice is a higher standard. Africa makes a fool of our idea of justice; it makes a farce of our idea of equality. It mocks our pieties, it doubts our concern, it questions our commitment.

6,500 Africans are still dying every day of a preventable, treatable disease, for lack of drugs we can buy at any drug store. This is not about charity, this is about justice and equality.

Because there's no way we can look at what's happening in Africa and, if we're hon-

est, conclude that deep down, we would let it happen anywhere else. If we really accepted that Africans are equal to us. I say that humbled—[looks over at Senator Barack Obama, Democrat/Illinois, who is seated to his left]—in the company of a man with an African father.

Look at what happened in South East Asia with the tsunami. 150,000 lives lost to the greatest misnomer of all misnomers, "Mother Nature." Well, in Africa, 150,000 lives are lost every month. A tsunami every month. And it's a completely avoidable catastrophe.

It's annoying but justice and equality are mates. Aren't they? Justice always wants to hang out with equality. And equality is a real pain in the ass . . . Seriously. I mean, you think of these Jewish sheep-herders going to meet with the Pharaoh, mud on their shoes, and the Pharaoh goes, "Equal?.. Equal?" And they say, "Yeah, that's what it says here in the book here—we're all made in the image of God, sir." . . .

And eventually the Pharaoh says, "Look, I can accept that. I can accept the Jews—but not the blacks . . . not the women . . . not the gays . . . not the Irish. No way."

[laughter]

So on we go with the journey of equality. On we go in the pursuit of justice.

We hear that call in the ONE Campaign, a growing movement of more than two million Americans . . . five million by the next election, I can promise you . . . united in the belief that where you live should no longer determine whether you live.

We hear that call even more powerfully today, when we mourn the loss of Coretta Scott King—mother of a movement for equality, one that changed the world but is only really getting started. Because these issues are as alive as they ever were; they just change shape and they cross the seas.

Preventing the poorest of the poor from selling their products while we sing the virtues of the free market . . . That's not charity; that's a justice issue. Holding children to ransom for the debts of their grandparents . . . That's not charity; that's a justice issue. Withholding life-saving medicines out of deference to the Office of Patents . . . Well, that's not charity; to me, that's a justice issue.

And while the law is what we say it is, God is not silent on the subject. That's why I say there is the law of the land . . . and then there's a higher standard. And we can hire experts to write them so they benefit us—these laws—so that they say it's OK to protect our agriculture but it's not OK for African farmers to protect their agriculture to earn a living.

As the laws of man are written, that's what they say. But God will not accept that. Mine won't. Will yours?

[pause]

I close this morning on . . . very thin ice, probably.

This is a dangerous idea I've put on the table: my God vs. your God, their God vs. our God . . . vs. no God. It's very easy, in these times, to see religion as a force for division rather than unity.

And this is a town—Washington—that knows something of division. But the reason I'm here, and the reason I keep coming back to Washington, is because this is a town that is proving it can come together on behalf of what the Scriptures call the least of these . . . It's not a Republican idea. It's not a Democratic idea. It's not even, with all due respect, an American idea. Nor is it unique to any one faith.

"Do unto others as you would have them do to you." [Luke 6:30] Jesus says that.

"Righteousness is this: that one should . . . give away wealth out of love for Him to the near of kin and the orphans and the

needy and the wayfarer and the beggars and for the emancipation of the captives." The Koran says that [2:177].

Thus sayeth the Lord: "Bring the homeless poor into the house, when you see the naked, cover him, then your light will break out like the dawn and your recovery will speedily spring forth, then your Lord will be your rear guard." The Jewish Scripture says that. It's Isaiah 58 [verses 7-8] again.

It's a very powerful incentive: "The Lord will watch your back." Sounds like a good deal to me, especially right now. . . .

[laughter]

Right? "The Lord will watch your back." [looks over at President Bush] You like that? OK.

[applause]

A number of years ago, I met a wise man who changed my life. In countless ways, big and small, I was always seeking the Lord's blessing. I'd be saying, "Look, I've got a new song—would you look after it?" . . . "I have a family, I'm going away on tour, please look after them." . . . "I have this crazy idea—could I have a blessing on it?"

And this wise man asked me to stop. He said, "Stop asking God to bless what you're doing. Get involved in what God is doing—because it's already blessed."

[applause]

Well, let's get involved in what God is doing. God, as I said, is always with the poor. That's what God's doing. That's what he's calling us to do.

I was amazed when I first got to this country and I learned how much some churchgoers tithe. Up to ten percent of the family budget. I mean. . . . How does that compare the federal budget, the budget for the entire American family? How much of that goes to the poorest people in the world? Well, it's less than one percent of the federal budget.

Mr. President, Congress, people of faith, people of America: I want to suggest to you today that you see the flow of effective foreign assistance as tithing. . . . Which, to be truly meaningful, will mean an additional one percent of the federal budget tithed to the poor.

Now, what is that one percent that we're asking for in the ONE Campaign? It's not merely a number on a balance sheet or pulled out of the air. One percent is the girl in Africa who gets to go to school, thanks to you. One percent is the AIDS patient who gets her medicine, thanks to you. One percent is the African entrepreneur who can start a small family business, thanks to you. One percent is not redecorating presidential palaces. One percent must not be—or don't give it—money down a rat hole. This one percent is digging waterholes to provide clean water—[looks at Senator Bill Frist, Republican/Tennessee]—like I saw with Bill Frist there in . . . Uganda.

OK, that's what we're asking for.

[applause]

One percent is a new partnership with Africa, not paternalism towards Africa, a new partnership with Africa, where increased assistance flows toward improved governance and initiatives with proven track records and away from the boondoggles and white elephants that we've seen before.

America gives less than one percent now. We're asking for an extra one percent to change the world, to transform millions of lives—but not just that, and I say this to the military men now—not just transform hundreds of thousands, indeed millions of communities, but transform the way they see us, which might be smart in these dangerous times.

One percent as national security, one percent as in enlightened economic self interest, and a better safer world rolled into one. Sounds to me that in this town of deals and

compromises, one percent is the best bargain around.

Thank you very much.
[extensive applause as Bono shakes hands with President Bush and senators]

THE FOLLOWING EXCERPT FROM PRESIDENT BUSH'S SPEECH TOOK PLACE MOMENTS LATER. . .

PRESIDENT BUSH: You know, I was trying to figure out what to say about Bono. . .

[laughter]

BONO: Careful.

[laughter]

PRESIDENT BUSH: And a story jumped to mind about these really good Texas preachers. And he got going in a sermon and a fellow jumped up in the back and said, "Use me, Lord, use me." And the preacher ignored him, and finished his sermon. Next Sunday he gets up, and cranking on another sermon. And the guy jumps up and says, "Use me, Lord, use me." And after the service, he walked up to him and said, "If you're serious, I'd like for you to paint the pews." Next Sunday, he's preaching, the guy stands up and says, "Use me, Lord, use me, but only in an advisory capacity."

[laughter]

So I've gotten to know Bono . . . He's a doer. The thing about this good citizen of the world is he's used his position to get things done. You're an amazing guy, Bono. God bless you.

[applause]

INTRODUCING THE TAXPAYER PRIVACY ACT

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. INSLEE, and Ms. BEAN in introducing the Taxpayer Privacy Act of 2006. This bill protects the privacy of millions of Americans, ensuring that taxpayers who rely on paid preparers do not have their confidential and sensitive personal information disseminated, sold or sent overseas.

The IRS is currently considering a rule that would make it easier for tax preparers to disclose the private information contained in tax returns—including name, address, Social Security number, employer, income, and charitable donations. Currently, paid preparers can only use taxpayer information to generate business within their own affiliates. The new rule would allow preparers to obtain taxpayers' approval to disclose tax information to generate outside business.

Taxpayers should not be coerced into giving up their privacy rights just to file their taxes. Our bill protects taxpayers by requiring preparers to use information only to prepare taxes—and not for any other purpose.

Reports also suggest that Ernst and Young and other large tax preparation firms are sending tax returns overseas for processing. But the IRS has no control over tax information once it's been sent to India or another country. Even the best data security systems can't protect private taxpayer information from entrepreneurial foreign businesses than can make huge profits selling U.S. taxpayer information.

Our bill strictly prohibits domestic tax preparers from sending returns overseas for processing. Preparers found to have disclosed private information to a foreign entity would be

assessed a \$1000 fine and up to one year in jail for each wrongful disclosure. The bill does not prohibit a taxpayer from choosing to have their taxes done by a preparer based overseas, it merely protects them from having their taxes shipped to a foreign country when they believe the forms are being completed by their local preparer.

This legislation is a common sense solution that protects taxpayers without burdening tax preparers. I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to stand up for taxpayer privacy and support this bill.

IN HONOR OF MAYOR KENNETH JOHNSON

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Kenneth Johnson on his retirement from eight years of dedicated service as Mayor of Carthage, Missouri. Kenneth Johnson distinguished himself in Southwest Missouri by his commitment to improving the lives of the citizens in the City of Carthage.

Kenneth Johnson served in the Army of Occupation in Korea in 1946 and returned to duty as a reservist in 1950 where he attained the rank of Master Sergeant. He worked for the Missouri Department of Transportation for 42 years and retired in 1989 as a Senior Construction Inspector. After being elected to the Carthage City Council in 1990 and 1992, he was elected Mayor of Carthage in 1998 and became the first mayor in 60 years elected to a second 4-year term. Mayor Johnson's public service also included serving as President of the Park and Recreation Board from 1977 to 1983 and President of the Board of Public Works from 1983 to 1988.

I congratulate Mayor Johnson on his accomplishments during his tenure in public service and wish him the best in his retirement.

RECOGNIZING NANCY CAMPBELL ON RECEIVING CARE AWARD

HON. TOM OSBORNE

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. OSBORNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Campbell of Lincoln, Nebraska, on receiving the Commonwealth Academy Recognition for Educators (CARE) Award. The CARE award, presented by Commonwealth Academy in Alexandria, Virginia, honors educators who have made outstanding educational contributions in their communities.

This year, Nancy Campbell was selected as one of only a few educators nationwide to receive this award for her work at the Lancaster County Youth Service and Juvenile Detention Center in Lincoln, Nebraska. Formerly of Scottsbluff, Nebraska, Nancy Campbell has been teaching for 38 years, and she has spent the past four teaching reading, basic skills and positive action in the boy's maximum security area at the Youth Service Center.

Ms. Campbell received her B.S. in Education from Appalachian State University in

Boone, North Carolina, and over her career she has taught at 12 schools in 9 States. Since one of her sons has Attention Deficit Disorder, she has a special understanding of students with learning challenges, serving as president of an Attention Deficit Disorder parents support group in Scottsbluff for 10 years.

Ms. Campbell lives in Lincoln, Nebraska, with her husband Dave. She has three sons, one of whom is adopted, and has also raised three foster children.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Nancy Campbell and congratulating her on this distinguished achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. COLE of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, on March 30, 2006 for rollcall vote No. 80, I was unavoidably detained. If I had been present, on rollcall vote No. 80, I would have voted "no."

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CREATION OF BUST HONORING LATE CHIEF JUSTICE WILLIAM H. REHNQUIST

HON. RICHARD W. POMBO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. POMBO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution memorializing and honoring the late Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States, William H. Rehnquist.

The resolution authorizes and directs the Curator of the United States Supreme Court to create a marble bust of the late Chief Justice and have it placed in the Supreme Court building to honor his memory and legacy to the Court and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Justice Rehnquist was first confirmed to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1971 as the new Associate Justice replacing Justice John Marshall Harlan. He then served as Associate Justice until 1986 when President Reagan nominated and the Senate confirmed him as the new Chief Justice to replace Chief Justice Warren Burger. Mr. Rehnquist presided as Chief Justice from September 1986 until September 2005 for a total of 19 years, making him the fourth-longest-serving Chief Justice in the history of the Court.

Prior to joining the Court, Mr. Rehnquist served in World War II in the United States Army. After the war ended, he attended Stanford University on the G.I. bill where he received bachelor's and master's degrees in political science and then attended Harvard University where he received a master's degree in government. He later returned to Stanford University to attend law school along with future Associate Justice Sandra Day O'Connor. In 1951, Mr. Rehnquist went to Washington, D.C., and began what would be his long and successful career with the U.S. Supreme Court when he worked as a law clerk for Justice Robert Jackson during the Court's 1951–1952 term.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Justice William Rehnquist served the people of this country and the court he loved for 33 years. I believe that a bust in the Supreme Court is but a small token of our deep appreciation for his dedication to this country and the rule of law.

HONORING THE INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE NORTH AMERICAN INTERFRATERNITY CONFERENCE, MR. JAMES R. ESTES

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of an outstanding individual, Mr. James R. Estes of Columbia, Missouri as he concludes his second term as the volunteer International President of the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC). Professionally, Jim is President of Gaslight Gundaker GMAC Real Estate, which is one of the nation's 500 largest real estate firms.

Jim Estes graduated from the University of Missouri, where he was initiated into the Kappa Alpha Order fraternity in 1960. Jim served his chapter as undergraduate president and was also a member of the University of Missouri football and baseball teams. He played in the 1961 Orange Bowl and was an All-Big 8 selection, while his work on the baseball team helped his Missouri Tigers earn three trips to the College World Series.

Jim Estes' commitment to the moral development of young men has extended to working with college fraternities, the organizations that build the character and leadership skills of tens of thousands of college men every year. Mr. Speaker, it is Jim's exceptional work for fraternity men nationwide that I rise to recognize today.

Jim Estes has had an exemplary record of service to Kappa Alpha Order fraternity and the interfraternal world. He served as a province Commander for the State of Missouri and was first elected to the Kappa Alpha Executive Council in 1995 and served as Vice President. In 1997, he was elected to the first of two terms as Knight Commander or National President of Kappa Alpha Order. He has also served as a member of the Kappa Alpha Order Educational Foundation, including two years of service as the Foundation's president.

Jim Estes has not been content to serve just his own brothers for he has had a larger mission of improving the collegiate experience of all men and women who join a college fraternity. For that reason, Jim Estes has served the interfraternal community as well, serving on the board of the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) for the past several years, including the past two years as the National President of the NIC. The NIC is the umbrella group for 66 national fraternities that have 350,000 undergraduate members and 4.2 million living alumni worldwide.

Mr. Speaker, it is hard to explain Jim Estes' contribution to the fraternity world without explaining what fraternity life is all about. Nine million Americans are proud fraternity and sorority alumni and their experiences in these organizations helped them become better students and better citizens of our great nation.

While only three percent of the nation's population has been a member of a fraternity or sorority, these organizations are proven leadership laboratories for developing the next generation of American leaders. For proof, you need look no further than this Congress itself, where 155 current Members of the House of Representatives and the Senate are alumni of fraternities and sororities.

College fraternities and sororities are one of the most successful leadership development programs available to college students today, helping members graduate with the management and interpersonal skills needed to excel in today's society. These fraternities are the nation's largest networks of student volunteers, providing 10 million hours of service a year and preparing members for a lifetime of community involvement. Fraternity housing is the largest not-for-profit housing market outside of the host colleges and universities themselves. The 250,000 students living in fraternity housing today at 8,000 chapter houses nationwide have an unparalleled opportunity to live and work together on a daily basis with students from different cultures, religions and life experiences. Fraternities are now the largest, most visible, and most active values-based organizations on college campuses today. The men and women who are fraternity members today learn how to incorporate the principles and values of their organization into their daily lives to form the moral foundation for their future actions.

Jim Estes has served the NIC as President during challenging times and he has helped foster a number of national initiatives to improve the standards that fraternity men live up to in their daily lives on campus. He has continued the NICs fight for freedom of association on campus and he has continued to champion passage of the Collegiate Housing and Infrastructure Act, which today is sponsored by almost 100 of my colleagues in the House. If that bill becomes law, it will allow all student associations on college campuses to use a private market approach to upgrade and replace their facilities in the future, thus making it possible for these student groups to continue to thrive for decades to come.

Mr. Speaker, at the end of April, Mr. Marc Katz of Alpha Epsilon Pi Fraternity will be sworn in as the new National President of the North American Interfraternity Conference. I welcome Mr. Katz and look forward to the opportunity to work with him to improve the fraternal experience for today's college students. As I welcome Mr. Katz to his new position of responsibility, I ask this chamber to join me in recognizing Jim Estes for his outstanding decades of service to the college fraternity world. I know he will continue to be an active and visible part of the fraternity movement in the future, but now is the moment to thank Jim Estes for his dedication and service in leading the fraternal community to better days.

CONGRATULATING DR. JOHN RAY TAITANO ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE GUAM ARMY NATIONAL GUARD, AND COMMEMORATING HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND DEDICATION TO HIS COUNTRY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my dear friend, Dr. John Ray Taitano on the occasion of his retirement from the Guam Army National Guard after twenty three years of service as a patriot and to express the gratitude and appreciation of the people of Guam and America for his accomplishments and his dedication to his country and the freedoms all Americans enjoy.

Dr. Taitano, even as he completed his college education at the University of Guam in 1968, was ever mindful of his duty to country, and continued his pursuit of a military career through the U.S. Army Engineer's Officer Candidate School at Fort Belvoir, VA, from where he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and then soon after deployed to Viet Nam where he served from 1971 to 1972. After that deployment and service, Dr. Taitano pursued his lifelong desire to continue serving his people as a doctor of medicine through the University of Hawaii's School of Medicine from where he was the first Chamorro graduate. He soon after returned to Guam to establish, with three fellow Chamorro doctors, the Family Medical Clinic, which eventually became The Doctors' Clinic, one of Guam's premier private medical clinics serving over 15,000 island patients. Today, John Ray Taitano continues to serve The Doctors' Clinic as a staff physician, stockholder and member of its Board of Directors.

Despite his busy schedule at The Doctors' Clinic, Dr. John Ray Taitano continued to serve his community through the years in many ways. As President of the Guam Memorial Hospital Medical Staff and Chairman of the Hospital's Medical Executive Committee; as President of the Guam Medical Society; as President of the Government of Guam's Commission on Licensure; as President of the Guam Heart Association; and as his latest adventure; as President of the Guam Veterans' Advisory Council. But his love for his country, and the men and women who proudly wear its uniforms, continued to motivate him to even greater personal accomplishments.

In 1983, Dr. Taitano was commissioned as a Captain of the Guam Army National Guard and became its first, and only, State Surgeon. He served as the chief advisor to eight (8) Adjutant Generals on all command medical matters and has ensured that all 800 plus personnel are medically qualified for deployment worldwide. He became the Senior Medical Officer of the Command, a position and responsibility he has held since 1997.

In pursuit of the best health for the soldiers under his watch, Dr. Taitano championed elimination of smoking inside all buildings of the Guam National Guard and established the first unit physical training program for MEDCOM, in addition to and apart from the Command PT program.

While serving as the Senior Medical Officer of the Guam Guard, Colonel Taitano attended

the U.S. Army War College where he graduated in June 2001 with a Master of Strategic Studies. The War College has honed to an even keener edge, Colonel Taitano's strategic planning and leadership skills in preparation for assuming positions as a general officer.

Despite already serving his country in the Viet Nam Conflict, for which he received numerous awards and commendations, Dr. Taitano did not shy away from the call to again serve his country in battle. In 2005, Colonel Taitano again responded to the call of duty with service in Operation Iraqi Freedom, fighting alongside our country's soldiers and attending to their medical needs as a Medical Corp Officer with the 199th Troop Medical Clinic of the 256 Brigade Combat Team of the Louisiana Army National Guard. Upon his retirement, many of our island people will look on John Ray Taitano's distinguished career with justified pride. Many of those who call him DOCTOR will be relieved at his retirement from the Guard; and many in the Guard will be saddened that a fellow soldier who championed their health causes has chosen to retire. But in the minds of all of these will always abide that knowledge that John Ray Taitano will forever be an outstanding doctor of medicine and always an untiring and unwavering patriot, soldier and defender of the American way of life. May God Bless Dr. Taitano as we all wish him the best upon retirement with a heartfelt, Si Yu'os Ma'ase.

COMMEMORATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MESSIAH FESTIVAL IN LINDSBORG, KANSAS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the 125th Messiah Festival in Lindsborg, Kansas. This April, the community of Lindsborg will celebrate Holy Week by performing Handel's "The Messiah." This musical interpretation of the Easter story has been enjoyed in Lindsborg since the late 1800s when local immigrant pioneers first gathered together to perform this historic piece.

Many pioneers settling in the Smoky Valley on the plains of Kansas journeyed far from their homes in Sweden. They sought a better way of life and the choice to practice a religion free from the will of Sweden's state church. These pioneers thrived in their newly adopted Kansas home. They adjusted to a new American way of life, but the citizens of Lindsborg never lost sight of the culture and values that formed their Swedish heritage.

One tradition that has sustained the life of this community through the years is the annual Messiah Festival. In 1881, Reverend Carl Swenson, the founder of Bethany College in Lindsborg, and his wife, Alma, organized the Bethany Oratorio Society in the parsonage of Bethany Lutheran Church. Alma taught the music and English words of "The Messiah" to 40 parishioners. After a winter and spring of instruction, Bethany Lutheran Church began a storied tradition as host to this community celebration marking Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday with beautiful music.

The enterprising spirit and strong Swedish heritage of the early pioneers who began the

Messiah Festival has since led to great cultural and educational additions to the State of Kansas. As the Messiah Festival tradition has grown, so has the town of Lindsborg, and Bethany College. This liberal arts institution has expanded to offer baccalaureate degrees in over thirty fields to an enrollment of 600 full and part-time students from 19 states and 12 countries. The Lindsborg community continues to honor its foundation of cultural expression by hosting art and music festivals and offering unique arts, crafts and import gift shops.

It is with great pleasure that I represent this Kansas community in Congress. Lindsborg demonstrates how collaboration, a rich cultural heritage, and appreciation for beautiful music celebrating the Lord can create a tradition worthy of 125 years of repeating.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the Lindsborg community for their 125th Anniversary Messiah Festival and for their many contributions to the State of Kansas.

TRIBUTE TO JERRY HOFFMAN

HON. JO ANN DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mrs. JO ANN DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of mine, Jerry Hoffman of West Point, Virginia. Born in Ironwood, Michigan, Jerry graduated from Michigan State University. In 1964, he entered the United States Air Force to serve his country. As a Special Agent with the Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AOSI), he was responsible for global counterintelligence operations. Upon retiring from the Air Force in 1984, Jerry continued to serve his country while working for the Central Intelligence Agency. In 1989, he cofounded the private security training company, International Training Inc. (ITI), in West Point, Virginia and served as its president and chief executive officer until 2001. At that time, Jerry was appointed as the president and chief executive officer of ArmorGroup North America, and in 2002 assumed this role at ArmorGroup International.

Jerry is married to Katharine Kropp and has two children, Scott, a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Air Force, and Tabitha, who owns a Medical Transcription Business. Jerry and Katharine are very active in various charities and organizations throughout Virginia, most notably the American Cancer Society.

Jerry has co-authored two novels, receiving the Edgar Allan Poe special award by the Mystery Writers Association of America in addition to a special research award presented by the United States Air Force Command and Staff College for a study of worldwide international and transnational terrorist groups.

I wish to extend to Jerry Hoffman my sincerest congratulations on his retirement. Both in and out of uniform, he has made a significant contribution to our country, and I am pleased to recognize this special occasion.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL GOODMAN,
CARE AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael Goodman, upon receiving the Commonwealth Academy Recognition for Educators (CARE) Award.

The CARE award honors outstanding educators who work to enhance the lives of their students. This year's honorees are recognized for their unrelenting work to enhance the lives of the students they serve. This award is presented by Commonwealth Academy, located in Alexandria, Virginia, and honors those committed to diverse learning throughout the nation. Michael Goodman, an Instructional Technology Coordinator at Kenmore Middle School in Arlington, Virginia, is honored for his work with assisting teachers and students with using technology to learn at Kenmore.

Mr. Goodman has been teaching for over ten years and has won numerous awards for his technology instruction. Because of his vision, many classrooms at Kenmore are "technology rich"—meaning the teacher uses a SMART board and other equipment to tailor instruction to engage and challenge all students. Without Mr. Goodman's exceptional and effort, the teachers would not be able to use the technology to reach students. He has been involved in numerous technology activities and programs. As an organizer of "An Adventure of the American Mind" Library of Congress program at Kenmore, his enthusiasm helped to motivate 54 teachers from Kenmore to complete the entire workshop series last year, and resulted in Kenmore Middle School receiving \$30,000 dollars in technical equipment from the program. Mr. Goodman says of his approach to teaching, "My job as Instructional Technology Coordinator allows me to work with teachers and students bringing in the unique advantages that technology offers to create and simulate activities based on [multiple] intelligences."

Mr. Goodman received his B.S. in Technology Education from Virginia Tech and his master's in Instructional Technology from Towson University. He and his wife, Dedra, have three young sons, Harrison, Xavier, and Remington.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Michael Goodman and congratulating him on this distinguished achievement.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND
OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 609) to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965:

Mr. POMEROY. Mr. Chairman, I rise to say that I will be voting against H.R. 609. In this age of rising global competitiveness, graduating from college has never been more important for America's students. However, as

the importance of obtaining higher education is rising, so is college tuition and the amount of debt that students must borrow to earn a college degree. Since 2002, the cost of college has increased over 40 percent, with North Dakota's largest schools increasing their tuition by double digits in the past two academic years. In addition, last year 9.7 million students received federal education loans, with the typical student borrowing \$15,500 to finance a bachelor's degree.

In this climate, the bill before the House today does not adequately address the problem of college accessibility. First, the bill does not reverse the changes made in the budget reconciliation bill passed earlier this year, which included the largest cuts to the student aid program ever. The reconciliation bill increased interest rates for new loans to students and parents and imposed new consolidation fees on borrowers, making the repayment of loans more difficult. Second, although H.R. 609 does include some improvements to aid programs, these changes are not adequate to address the problems outlined above. For example, although H.R. 609 increases the maximum Pell grant award, the award was only increased \$200—not enough to meet the increasing costs of college tuition. Unfortunately, H.R. 609 does not do enough for students and parents facing college costs and I am hopeful that this bill can be improved as it progresses through the legislative process.

RECOGNIZING DELL ROVANSEK AS THE RECIPIENT OF THE CARE AWARD

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dell Rovansek of Fairfax, Virginia, upon receiving the Commonwealth Academy Recognition for Educators (CARE) Award.

The CARE award presented by Commonwealth Academy of Alexandria, Virginia honors outstanding educators who work to enhance the lives of their students. This year's honorees are recognized for their unrelenting work to enhance the lives of the students they serve. Dell Rovansek, a second grade teacher at Bonnie Brae Elementary School in Fairfax, Virginia, is honored for her work in promoting academic achievement for all in the spirit of the No Child Left Behind Act.

Ms. Rovansek has been teaching for twenty-one years, and has extensive experience working with special needs students. She is originally from Wadley, Alabama, and received her B.S. in Education from Auburn University and her master's in Education from George Mason University.

Ms. Rovansek has been teaching in the Fairfax County Public Schools for the past fifteen years, and she calls teaching her "calling." She says, "I have the opportunity to directly impact children's lives, hopefully in a very positive way. Even at my level, early childhood education, I feel a great obligation to prepare children for future challenges, academic and social. I want children to walk into my classroom and feel safe and happy."

Ms. Rovansek has traveled extensively as the wife of an Army officer. She calls living in

Hawaii and Korea "great adventures." She and her husband have a daughter, Kelly, and a son, Joey.

I ask my colleagues to join me in applauding Dell Rovansek and congratulating her on this distinguished achievement.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 609) to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. I would be remiss if I did not make clear to the Chairman and to the Ranking Democrat on the Committee my very real concern about the Committee's failure to address an obvious shortcoming in this bill resulting from the creation of the Academic Competitiveness Grants and the SMART Grants in the Omnibus Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 (P.L. 109-171). Namely, while we have offered low-income, language minority, and "first-generation" college students an attractive reward—significant grant aid to help pay for college—especially for those who major in the STEM areas and in foreign language—we have not provided a means for many of them to qualify for such grants.

Two things must be done to ensure that we build a pipeline for these students to qualify for these important new additions to our Federal Student Aid arsenal if we are to pave the way for access and educational opportunity for all of our students. First, we must help prepare low-income, language minority, and "first-generation" students to be successful in the eighteen core courses that the extent research tells us will help ensure academic success in college. Second, we must work to be sure that those courses—Algebra I and II, Plane Geometry, Biology, Chemistry and Physics, World History, Geography, Economics, Government, English, and Foreign Language—are all well-taught in every high school in America.

In many urban and rural high schools, academically rigorous college preparatory courses are simply not taught, and our students and the Nation suffer as a result. This week, the Center for Education Policy released the results of a recent survey under the No Child Left Behind Act. The Center for Education Policy survey not only found that teachers are "teaching to the test," but that non-reading and math course work is being short-changed or eliminated to ensure that poor performing students achieve the NCLB performance levels. This means that history and science are not being taught so kids can perform well on reading and math tests. Clearly this will achieve one goal, but it will sacrifice these students' future preparedness for post-secondary academic success.

We can do better and we must. I want to work with my colleague Representative FATTAH, with you Mr. Chairman and with my friend from California Mr. MILLER to fashion a solution that will work.

IN HONOR OF KATHLEEN'S KITCHEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Kathleen's Kitchen, located in the heart of Cleveland's Westside neighborhood, as they are closing their doors on April 1, following a twenty-four year run of great food, great service, laughter and lively conversation.

The restaurant, located in Kamm's Corners, is owned by sisters Kathleen Verrell, Cindi Condol and Micki Speck. The sisters took over the business when their mother, founder Kathleen Finnerty, passed away. Mrs. Finnerty opened Kathleen's Kitchen in 1982, and her kind heart and generous nature was continued on through her daughters, whose collective goodwill consistently extended out into the neighborhood, as they offered hot meals or coffee to those in need.

Kathleen's Kitchen's warm and inviting atmosphere evolved from a corner diner into a favorite gathering place for residents, families, business owners, and people in all lines of work, from plumbers to presidents. President Bill Clinton visited Kathleen's Kitchen several times during his presidency. Though customers came from differing backgrounds, everyone was connected by a common quest—a familiar place to relax, enjoy a great meal, connect with others and capture the viewpoints of the day's events.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and gratitude of the owners, staff and customers of Kathleen's Kitchen, whose energy, warmth and friendship served as a daily reflection of real life in America. Although Kathleen's Kitchen will be missed by countless people, including myself, our wonderful time spent there will remain in our memories forever.

IN MEMORY OF GEORGE L. BROWN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to my dear friend and an exemplary American, George Brown, who passed away Friday, March 31, 2006. George made history in his lifetime, as a civil rights trailblazer and a political leader who made a career of serving his community and his country.

Born in Lawrence, Kansas on July 1, 1926, George excelled educationally, and in World War II served his country as a member of the famous Tuskegee Airmen. Following the war, he went off to college at a time when only the GI Bill made it possible for African Americans to do so in the face of racial discrimination and economic hardships. He graduated from the University of Kansas in 1950. In the 1960's, as a reporter for the Denver Post, he was part of that cadre of journalists who chronicled the heroic struggles of African Americans and their supporters in the civil rights movement. The tumult of that era helped forge his deep social consciousness.

George's entire career was devoted to public service. In the 1950's, he was named to head the Denver Housing Authority. In 1955, he was appointed to the Colorado House of Representatives, and later became the first African American elected to the Colorado State Senate. In 1974 he gained national attention when he was elected Lieutenant Governor of Colorado—the first African American so honored in U.S. history. As a major public figure, he became an influential spokesman for justice and equity in Colorado and beyond.

Following retirement from government George worked as a consultant in the private sector in Washington while remaining involved with public causes, including the Boys Choir of Harlem. Just two weeks before his passing, George co-chaired the National Black Peoples Unity Convention in Gary, Indiana, addressing economic strategies to empower African Americans.

With all of his professional success, George was first and foremost a family man. I remember his joy with the addition of each new grandchild to his family. He is survived by his wife, Modeen; two sisters, Harriet Baskerville and Laura Gilyard; nine children, Gail Chandler, Cindy Brown, Kim Brown, Laura Mitchell, Angela Ashley, Carolyn Smith, Sharolyn Williams, Nyra Crenshaw, and Ronald Crenshaw, as well as seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

George was not only a great man, but a loyal friend who would always be there to lend a helping hand or to just listen. He was a source of inspiration to me and to everyone who knew him. May God bless him and his family.

TRIBUTE TO GREEK
INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Greek Independence Day. I am proud to represent Greek-town in Chicago and the many Greek-Americans that live on the near west side.

185 years ago, on March 25, 1821, Greece declared its independence from the Ottoman Empire. On that day, a great friendship was born between the two nations. Americans went to fight for Greece's independence and Americans and Greeks have fought side by side since that time. Over the past 185 years many Greeks have immigrated to the United States and a great number live in my district today.

Greece's location at the southern end of the Balkan Peninsula on the Mediterranean has positioned Greece at the crossroads of Europe, Asia, and Africa ensuring that it shares not only the cultural richness of that diverse region, but also some of the great troubles that have plagued that area.

Hopefully this Congress we can work together to ensure peace in the region, the sovereignty of Greece, and a strong and lasting friendship between the United States and Greece.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND
OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 29, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 609) to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to address the need for high quality teachers in our Nation's schools. In many of our urban and rural school districts there continues to be a shortage of teachers who have a solid background in the subjects of math, science and foreign language. This shortage is resulting in sub-standard education for these students where in many cases college preparatory courses are not available in upper level math, calculus, physics, chemistry and biology. As a result many of these students will not complete high school or pursue a college education. Even if students go onto higher education, they face numerous obstacles completing their college coursework as they have not had the same college preparatory background as their counterparts. Providing high quality teachers in these critical subject areas is key in ending the achievement gap that exists throughout this country.

I fully support the ideas behind the Amendment offered by Ms. MCMORRIS, Mr. HOLT, and Mr. DREIER. For low-income urban and rural schools an Adjunct Teacher Corp. could offer a lifeline for these students. It is extremely unfortunate that there were not provisions within the amendment that would expand training requirements for these faculty members. We must ensure that our students not only have teachers with a strong background in their subject area, but also have the proper training to convey that knowledge to their students. While I agree, that it is imperative to get these teachers into the classroom as soon as possible, there needs to be specific training requirements and adequate monitoring of faculty. In addition, I continue to have serious reservations regarding the undercutting of collective bargaining laws within this amendment. Without clarification on these provisions, I unfortunately could not support this amendment.

I do however, applaud my colleagues for their efforts on this important issue, and would like to work with them in the future on efforts to provide high quality teachers in every classroom.

IN HONOR OF EUGENIA
STOLARCZYK'S POLISH RADIO
PROGRAM

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute and recognition of the 45th Anniversary of Eugenia Stolarczyk's Polish Radio Program, broadcast every Sunday morning on Cleveland's WCPN 90.3 FM and WERE 1300 AM,

as she is honored by the Polish American Cultural Center of Cleveland, established in 2001.

The native language, music and news of Poland streams from the radio on Sunday mornings, here in Cleveland and around the country, connecting Americans of Polish heritage to their beloved homeland. The music and song of Poland, from classical to polka, serves as a living bridge that transcends time and distance, connecting the memories, history, spirit and culture of Poland.

Eugenia Stolarczyk's talent, passion and joy in promoting Polish music, culture and news brings the soul of Poland into the kitchens and living rooms of people living on Fleet Avenue in Cleveland and along avenues across the country. American citizens who emigrated here from Poland add significant depth, richness and brilliant color to the diverse fabric of nations that comprise the cultural fabric of Cleveland, reflecting the heart and soul of our nation—a nation founded on, and unified by, the grit and struggle for freedom—a nation of immigrants.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Eugenia Stolarczyk, whose dedication, talent and energy has illuminated the radio waves from Cleveland to California every Sunday morning for the past 45 years, echoing the spirited melodies and language of Poland. This vital radio broadcast serves as a guardian of ancestry, protecting and preserving the song and spirit of Poland for every new generation to come to embrace—with just a turn of the dial.

ACKNOWLEDGING THE TENTH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF
RONALD H. BROWN, FORMER
SECRETARY OF COMMERCE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the legacy and memory of Ronald H. Brown, the former Secretary of Commerce on this tenth anniversary of his untimely passing and to enter into the RECORD an article written to Ron Brown's legacy entitled "The Constituency for Africa Remembers Ron Brown".

On April 3, 1996, Ron Brown and a 34-person United States delegation had concluded a trade mission to the Balkans and were returning to the United States when their airplane crashed into the side of a mountain in Croatia.

Ronald Harmon Brown, the first African American to hold the office of U.S. Secretary of Commerce, was born in Washington, D.C. in 1941. He grew up in New York, and with the help of a scholarship attended Middlebury College in Vermont. He received his law degree from St. John's University, attending at night while working by day as a welfare case-worker for the City of New York. He also served for four years in the Army in both Germany and Korea.

Brown, a strong, independent leader, was a lawyer, a skilled negotiator, a pragmatic bridge builder and a highly successful past chairmen of the Democratic National Committee. He brought this wide range of experiences to the position of Secretary of Commerce and vowed to reach out to our neighbors abroad to promote long-term economic growth that included

rebuilding their industrial bases and working with small business owners and minority entrepreneurs to create and expand employment opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, Ronald Brown was an exceptional individual with accomplishments too numerous to list. He left an indelible impression not only in the United States but in many countries abroad. As evidenced by the article that I submit to the RECORD, I join the Constituency for Africa (CFA), a U.S.-based coalition with interest in Africa, in acknowledging the many contributions made in Africa by the late Secretary of Commerce.

(March 31, 2006, Washington, DC)

THE CONSTITUENCY FOR AFRICA REMEMBERS
RON BROWN

April 3 marks the tenth anniversary of the plane crash in Croatia which ended the life of late Commerce Secretary Ronald H. Brown and 34 others traveling with him on a trade mission to the Balkans. The Constituency for Africa (CFA), a Washington, D.C. based coalition of organizations, groups and individuals with interest in Africa, acknowledges the contributions made by the late Secretary in forging U.S. ties with Africa.

"Ron Brown opened the doors to recognition of the importance of the U.S.-Africa relationship, highlighting the trade and investment opportunities, traveling to Africa and supporting organizations seeking to educate, advocate and build ties with Africa," said Melvin P. Foote, the Chief Executive Officer of the Constituency for Africa. In celebration of Ron Brown's legacy, CFA established a highly regarded Ronald H. Brown African Affairs series during Congressional Black Caucus Week which features speakers and seminars on critical issues confronting Africa, including issues of health, agriculture, energy and trade.

"The term, 'Africa matters' was used by the National Summit on Africa and many other events over recent years, but was first used in a major speech by Ron Brown. He truly put the spotlight on Africa's potential for the Clinton Administration. He got American companies who would never have considered trading and investing, to take a closer look. He also elevated the African diplomatic corps and Africa focused organizations by engaging them in dialogue and showing them the respect he believed they deserved," reflected Leonard Robinson, President of the Africa Society of the National Summit on Africa.

Ron Brown was the first African-American chairman of the Democratic National Committee and the first to travel to sub-Saharan Africa. During that trip in 1990 he talked about political development, but also the importance of trade and investment. Later, when he became Secretary of Commerce, he made good on his belief in the importance of economic development and commercial ties by leading numerous trade missions to Africa including one to South Africa a few days after sanctions were lifted by the U.S.; he opened a U.S. commercial center in South Africa, now named after him; opened and expanded commercial offices in regional hubs throughout Africa; supported passage of the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act; rallied other U.S. Government Agencies around Africa issues and invited senior officials from those agencies to travel with him to Africa and to develop solutions to problems in a cooperative manner. He helped to create the Corporate Council on Africa and remained a loyal supporter during his tenure as Commerce Secretary.

Michael Brown, Board Member of CFA, lobbyist and candidate for Mayor of Washington, DC, reflected on his father's travels

to Africa. "My father is still remembered in many places in Africa. Fellows from the Ron Brown Institute based in Pretoria have been interns in companies in southern Africa. Small and medium sized companies go to the Ron Brown Commercial Center in Johannesburg for help with their commercial transactions. He introduced us to the benefits of commercial diplomacy."

The Constituency for Africa is a non-profit and non-governmental organization based in Washington, DC, that focuses on advocacy and educational initiatives directed at U.S. Africa policy. CFA's mission is to advocate, educate, inspire, act upon and inform its constituency about issues, concerns and challenges impacting the quality of life for the nations of Africa.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MS. CARRIE COLEMAN ROBINSON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Ms. Carrie Coleman Robinson, a citizen of Hilton Head Island who will celebrate her 100th birthday on April 21, 2006.

The Hilton Head Island Town Council recently issued the following proclamation in her honor:

Whereas, Carrie Coleman Robinson, her family, and friends will be gathering on Hilton Head Island, South Carolina from April 21–23, 2006 to celebrate her 100th birthday, and

Whereas, many of Ms. Robinson's family and friends will be coming from such diverse locations as Minnesota, California, Indiana, Alabama, North Carolina and Illinois, and

Whereas, Carrie Coleman Robinson was born April 21, 1906 to James and Cordelia Coleman in Madison County, Pocahontas, Mississippi, and

Whereas, Carrie was the 5th of 6 siblings, all of whom are now deceased, and

Whereas, Carrie was married to Dr. Thomas L. Robinson of Hilton Head Island for 54 years until his death in 1989, and

Whereas, Ms. Robinson's education is unparalleled as she received an Associate Bachelor's degree from Tougaloo College in 1931, a BLS degree from the Hampton Institute in 1932, and an MLS degree from the University of Illinois in 1949 while she also attended Columbia University from 1940–41 and Advanced Studies from 1953–55,

Now, therefore the Hilton Head Island Town Council hereby proclaims April 21, 2006 as: The Centennial Birthday of Carrie Coleman Robinson on Hilton Head Island.

FLORIDA GATOR MEN'S BASKETBALL REMARKS

HON. MARK FOLEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. FOLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commend the Florida Gators men's basketball team for winning their first ever national championship title. They handily beat the UCLA Bruins last

night in Indianapolis by a score of 73–57. This marks the first NCAA men's title in basketball for any Division I school in Florida.

As you may know, the team lost most of its scoring players from last season and many pundits questioned whether this year's Gators would even make it into the NCAA tournament. First, they started the season by winning their first 17 games. Then they went on to secure the SEC Conference tournament championship. And, just when it was thought they couldn't top that, they ended their historic season winning the national title.

During the past month, these young, energetic Gators won the hearts and minds of fans everywhere. Their success came down to a simple formula: they played as an unselfish, hardworking and passionate team.

Head coach Billy Donovan deserves enormous credit for building such a dominant program. His team held to his often professed mantra of "PHD"—"be poor, be hungry and be driven"—in their pursuit of excellence whether on the court or in the classroom.

I applaud the strong performances by the entire team: Joakim Noah, Al Horford, Corey Brewer, Taurean Green, Lee Humphrey, Chris Richard, Adrian Moss, Walter Hodge, Brett Swanson, Jack Berry, Garrett Tyler and David Huertas.

Again, congratulations to the University of Florida for this impressive and historic win. Today it is truly great to be a Florida Gator.

COMMENDING THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM ON WINNING THE NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of Florida men's basketball team on winning the 2006 NCAA national championship.

None of college basketball's so-called experts picked the University of Florida to do much, if anything, this season. In fact, they were not even ranked in the preseason polls. This was to be a rebuilding year for the Gators. They lost three prolific scorers to the NBA last season and were considered too young and inexperienced to play with most of the Southeastern Conference, let alone the elite teams in the NCAA tournament.

However, Coach Billy Donovan and his unwavering team knew differently. Through hard work, drive, discipline, and determination, the Gators soon made their presence felt. Led by four sophomores and one junior, they began their historic season with a 17-game winning streak, the longest in Florida basketball history. And they concluded their title run by winning their last 11 games, including an SEC tournament championship, an unbelievable run through the Minneapolis region, and a dominating performance in the Final Four.

In the championship game, the Gators faced a very talented UCLA team, heralded for their defense and rich with basketball tradition. But on this night, Florida wrote the next and best chapter of their basketball tradition. Poised and focused, the Gators took the court where their balanced offensive attack swamped

UCLA's defense. Furthermore, the Gators quickly demonstrated that their defense was the more domineering on the court, limiting their opponents' scoring options.

I want to recognize Coach Donovan and his assistant coaches, who have helped lead the Gators to national prominence. This is Coach Donovan's second title game appearance with UF, and with this victory, he becomes the second youngest head coach to win a national championship. I also would like to acknowledge the Gators' starters. Joakim Noah, the Final Four's Most Outstanding Player, led the Gators with 16 points, nine rebounds, three assists, and six blocked shots, a title game record. Taurean Green ran the point nearly to perfection, refusing to allow UCLA's pressure to lead to turnovers. Corey Brewer had great offensive statistics; however, it was his shutdown defense which held UCLA's leading scorer scoreless for most of the game. Al Horford helped control the interior and defend UF's basket, and Lee Humphrey's barrage of three-point jump shots helped put the game out of reach. Additionally, I would like to congratulate the Gators' only senior, Adrian Moss, who finished his college career with a sensational game, posting nine points and six rebounds in only ten minutes of play.

I also want to applaud the rest of the Gator team: Chris Richard, Walter Hodge, David Huertas, Garrett Tyler, Jimmie Sutton, Jack Berry, Brett Swanson, and everyone involved with the Men's basketball program. They are all to be commended for their contributions to the Gators' success.

This young team showed their maturity by playing unselfish basketball. We have seen the results when players are out for the greater good of the team, rather than playing for themselves. This Florida squad epitomizes that philosophy. They shared the ball, always looking for an open teammate rather than seeking personal glory.

I'm tremendously proud of these young men and honored to be an alumnus. It truly is great to be a Florida Gator!

TRIBUTE TO THE CHILD WITHIN,
INC.

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Celebrate the Child Within, Inc.—a unique organization in my home district that offers support and encouragement for adult survivors of childhood sexual abuse.

Celebrate the Child Within is dedicated to helping negate the shame of childhood sex abuse, as well as the promotion of healing by recapturing happier childhood times. Those involved with CTCW, Inc. are committed to helping sufferers to focus on the little boy or girl within who endured the assault and survived to adulthood, and to celebrate that survival. The celebrations are done with wholesome, happy activities in order to help this specific group feel more accepted by society and to foster better understanding of themselves and their families.

Each year for the last three years CTCW's Board of Directors has identified a survivor of childhood sexual abuse who achieved excel-

lence in their field of endeavor as an adult. The board has held a celebratory event that involved the community to recognize their success—and to raise awareness about childhood abuse, as well as the potential for recovery.

More people than ever are willing to talk about this ongoing tragedy, which is a significant step in helping rid this problem from our society.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Celebrate the Child Within for their much-needed work, and to wish them many more years of success.

FREEDOM FOR ROBERTO DE
JESÚS GUERRA PÉREZ

HON. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about Roberto de Jesús Guerra Pérez, a political prisoner in totalitarian Cuba.

Mr. Guerra Pérez is an independent journalist and a chronicler of truth amid the lies and deceit of Castro's villainous regime. He writes about the reality of the reprehensible repression inflicted on the Cuban people by the dictatorship. Because of his belief in truth in print, truth for the people of Cuba, and truth to enable the world to better comprehend the daily horrors of totalitarian Cuba, Mr. Guerra Pérez was a target of the tyrannical regime. Make no mistake, brave men and women who seek truth and freedom are the enemies of Castro's totalitarian dictatorship.

According to Reporters Without Borders, Mr. Guerra Pérez was arrested for "disturbing the peace" on July 13, 2005, while staging a fast along with a dozen other opposition activists to protest against the incessant harassment of independent journalists. Over eight and half months later, he is still locked in the totalitarian gulag and still waiting for a trial.

Castro's ruthless machinery of repression does not stop after sentencing innocent Cubans to the totalitarian gulag. In the U.S. Department of State's Country Reports on Human Rights Practices—2005, it is reported:

Prison conditions continued to be harsh and life threatening. Conditions in detention facilities also were harsh. Prison authorities frequently beat, neglected, isolated, and denied medical treatment to detainees and prisoners, particularly those convicted of political crimes or those who persisted in expressing their views . . . Prisoners sometimes were held in "punishment cells," which usually were located in the basement of a prison, with continuous semi-dark conditions, no available water, and only a hole for a toilet.

To protest these grotesque abuses, Mr. Guerra Pérez has conducted four hunger strikes to call international attention to the inhuman treatment in the gulag. In a cry of solidarity for Mr. Guerra Pérez, Reporters Without Borders said, "We are all the more concerned about this hunger strike as he had only called off the preceding one a few days before and he was still very weak. There are no serious grounds for holding him as all he did was describe what life is really like for Cubans. We demand his immediate release."

Mr. Speaker, it is intolerable for Mr. Guerra Pérez to languish in a gulag where he is

abused and tortured. It is morally abhorrent that, in the 21st Century, brave men and women like Mr. Guerra Pérez are still locked in repugnant gulags for reporting the truth. My Colleagues, we must demand the immediate and unconditional release of Roberto de Jesús Guerra Pérez and every prisoner of conscience languishing in the totalitarian gulags of the nightmare called the Castro regime.

TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT MAJOR
WILLIE BEASLEY

HON. STEPHANIE TUBBS JONES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mrs. JONES of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, congratulations to Sergeant Major Willie Beasley on his retirement from Collinwood High School in Cleveland, Ohio. Sergeant Major Beasley has served as Assistant Instructor and Military Property Custodian at Collinwood High School for the past 12 years.

Sergeant Major Beasley is a valued member of the faculty at Collinwood High School and has earned the reputation of being an outstanding teacher and mentor to young adults. He is highly regarded in the community for his dedication to the cadets in the Army JROTC program at Collinwood. Through the Army JROTC, over 1200 students have been directed under his tutelage.

Sergeant Major Beasley also served in the 4th Infantry Division in Vietnam where he demonstrated leadership in combat as a platoon sergeant and acting platoon leader. There he distinguished himself earning a Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, and the Combat Infantryman's Badge.

Sergeant Major Beasley's selfless service, superior achievement and loyal dedication to the youth of the City of Cleveland are immeasurable. On behalf of the nation and the constituents of the 11th Congressional District of Ohio, I thank you for your service and tremendous sacrifices you have made for our country. Congratulations on your retirement and on a job well done.

IN RECOGNITION OF PHIL LARSON,
2006 FRESNO COUNTY FARM BUREAU
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE
AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues, Representatives CARDOZA, NUNES and RADANOVICH, to honor Phil Larson of Kerman, California, the recipient of the 2006 Fresno County Farm Bureau "Distinguished Service" Award.

Phil has been a lifelong farmer and Fresno County resident. He began his career as an agricultural chemical sales representative and worked for over 37 years for the Wilbur Ellis Company. While fulfilling this job, he also farmed for his family's vineyard in Kerman; where today, he still farms raisins. The expertise he gained over the years in agriculture earned Phil much respect from members in

the agriculture community, particularly the Fresno County Farm Bureau.

Phil has had an extensive and outstanding career in the Fresno County Farm Bureau. Following his long membership, he became involved on the board of directors where he served as the first agricultural chemical chairman in the late 1980s. In 1996, he became the president of the bureau and served for over two years. Phil believes, and once stated, the "Farm Bureau represents the morality of agriculture."

During his term as president of the Fresno County Farm Bureau, Phil was a strong advocate for agriculture and farming industries. He spearheaded the advancement and introduction of several water supply, pesticide use and farm related pieces of legislation. Phil was also on the forefront of several priority-setting documents such as "A Landscape of Choice"—the land use policy document of April 1998. He was extremely dedicated in addressing agricultural issues and was deemed a "24-hour President" for his unrelenting commitment to serve the bureau.

Amazingly enough, the 24-hour President also found time to lend a helping hand in his community. Phil Larson's involvement in his community has been far-reaching, ranging from serving as the Kerman High football announcer to the California Farm Bureau Federation State Director for District 7 in 2000–2001. He has served on the State board of California Agriculture Production Consultants Association and has been involved with several other boards and organizations including the Western Crop Protection Chemicals Association, Fresno County/City Chamber of Commerce, Kerman Unified School District Board, Kerman Covenant Church Board and Kerman High Boosters. At present, he serves as the District One supervisor and chair of the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

As the supervisor for District One and board chair, Phil Larson represents the Fresno County Board of Supervisors on several boards and commissions such as the Central Valley Project Authority, Mid-Valley Water Authority, San Joaquin River Conservancy, San Joaquin Valley Supervisors Endangered Species Committee, Transportation Authority and the Governing Board of the Fresno Madera Area Agency on Aging. Undoubtedly, Phil continues to serve his community and has received numerous awards and recognitions for his exceptional service.

Phil Larson's commitment to advance the agricultural industry in the Valley and his wide-ranging contributions to the community, and his church are accomplishments worthy of recognition. It is my pleasure to honor such a great man and I want to extend, on behalf of the residents of Fresno County, my sincerest appreciation for his dedication and service and offer my heartfelt congratulations to Phil for receiving the 2006 Fresno County Farm Bureau "Distinguished Service" Award.

STATEMENT ON THE 38TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSASSINATION OF DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, today, on the 38th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., I urge my colleagues to join me in remembering this solemn day. Yet while we reflect on Dr. King's death, we should also celebrate his legacy of service and justice—for he was ever hopeful about the future of our nation.

Martin Luther King, Jr., was born on January 15, 1929. He was one of three children of the Reverend Martin Luther King, Sr., and Alberta Williams King, in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. King graduated high school two years early and went on to study at Morehouse College, Crozer Theological Seminary, and Boston University. He began his career as an assistant pastor at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta.

During his time leading the civil rights movement, Dr. King was arrested on more than thirty occasions for doing the right thing. He served as president of the Montgomery Improvement Association during the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott. He founded and led the Southern Christian Leadership Conference from 1957 until his death in 1968. He led the March on Washington in 1963, delivering the "I Have A Dream" speech to thousands, and focusing the eyes of the world on the American civil rights movement.

Martin Luther King, Jr., worked tirelessly to promote the political, economic and social rights of millions of Americans, particularly those who felt that equal justice was beyond their reach. His passion was unmatched, his strength and perseverance were remarkable, and his enduring commitment to peace has provided an example to us all.

On April 3, 1968, Dr. King was in Memphis to support the striking Sanitation Workers' Union. The night before his assassination, Dr. King prophetically declared that the movement for racial equality may have to continue without him. That night, he and other civil rights activists stayed at the Lorraine Motel in Memphis.

The next afternoon, April 4, Dr. King, the Rev. Ralph Abernathy, and Memphis minister Rev. Billy Kyles, met at the Lorraine motel. The three of them spoke briefly before Dr. King and Rev. Kyles stepped out onto the balcony. His colleagues, including the Reverend Jesse Jackson, the Reverend James Bevel, Hosea Williams, and the Reverend Andrew Young Jr. waited in the parking lot below with the car that would have taken Dr. King to his dinner. At 6:01 PM, a single shot rang out. One hour later, Dr. King, the icon of peaceful, nonviolent change, was pronounced dead at St. Joseph's Hospital.

The following day, President Lyndon B. Johnson declared Sunday, April 7 a day of national mourning. Attending his funeral on April 9 were nearly 100,000 mourners who had felt Dr. King's impact and had come to pay their

respects. His coffin traveled through his hometown of Atlanta from Ebenezer Baptist Church to Morehouse College, his alma mater.

In the years since his death, his widow, Coretta Scott King, whom we mourned in January, carried on his work and his legacy. So many others who fought alongside Dr. King have also dedicated themselves to keeping the dream alive. I consider it an honor to serve on the Ways and Means Committee with my friend and colleague, John Lewis, who spoke so eloquently this morning of his friendship with Dr. King.

The anniversary of Dr. King's assassination should remind us that America has far to go in the struggle to recognize all its citizens as equals. I look forward to the vote in this chamber to renew the Voting Rights Act before its provisions expire in the summer of 2007, and I would hope that we would remember and honor Dr. King's commitment to end poverty and injustice in all our work in the House.

At Dr. King's funeral, former Morehouse President Dr. Benjamin Mays spoke these words: "Martin Luther King, Jr., believed in a united America. He believed that the walls of separation brought on by legal and de facto segregation, and discrimination based on race and color, could be eradicated." Let us all share in Dr. King's beliefs and his dream for a better America.

CELEBRATING DOMINIC PETER TORLONE'S 80TH YEAR AND CONTINUED COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, today we extend best wishes on the occasion of the 80th birthday of Dominic Peter Torlone of Huntington, West Virginia. Born in Logan, West Virginia on April 7, 1926, Dominic has lived in Huntington for the past 44 years and was the long-time owner and operator of Torlone's Community Bakery, a staple of the Huntington community, along with his brothers, Louie and Alfred. His parents, Peter and Carmela Maria Torlone, originally opened Torlone's Bakery in 1946.

As any Huntington native will attest, Dominic is loved by all in the community. He is always ready with a warm smile and cheerful greeting for his fellow Huntingtonians, either in English or his favorite Italian. He exemplifies the decency and strong citizenship of his generation.

Dominic and his wife, Mrs. Harriet Torlone, are the proud parents of four children, Amy Harris, Lisa Koch, Mark Torlone, and Beth Sigall, and nine grandchildren. Although he officially retired from Torlone's Bakery in 1995, he remains an active member of Huntington's civic landscape, devoting many hours of service to worthy causes such as the Knights of Columbus and St. Joseph's Catholic Church, where he attends daily mass. He is truly a favorite son of West Virginia and we salute his continued service to Huntington on this his 80th birthday.

HONORING CHAPLAIN EDWARD
BASTILLE ON HIS RETIREMENT
FROM SERVICE WITH VETERANS
ADMINISTRATION PALO ALTO
HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable individual, Chaplain Edward Bastille who has dedicated his life to the service of facilitating the recovery of our veterans. During his tenure at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System (VAPAHCS), Chaplain Bastille coordinated and implemented numerous programs and services that meet the needs of an ever-diversifying residency.

As an inspiring leader, Chaplain Bastille, himself a 100 percent disabled service-connected Vietnam combat veteran, was responsible for hiring a talented and progressive clergy at VAPAHCS including: the first nun in the VA as a Eucharistic Minister, the first Catholic Dean in the VA as a Fee Basis Eucharistic, the first Buddhist Chaplain in the VA, the first Muslim chaplain, the first endorsed woman Mormon spiritual leader, and for hiring the first Indian Spiritual Leader.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to finding appropriate spiritual counselors for the patients of the VA, Chaplain Bastille established a number of ongoing services and training programs that the facility now offers to comfort and accommodate the healing process for both patients and families alike. A fine example of Chaplain Bastille's efforts is the establishment of the American Indian Cultural Center at Menlo Park, which includes a sweat lodge program to meet the spiritual needs of the Native American patients. This program received a VA Best Practice Award and has been emulated by other VA health care facilities.

Also, Chaplain Bastille assisted in revitalizing the Chaplain Program at the VA Northern California Health Care System (VANCHCS) by training staff, rewriting procedures, and providing operational leadership for three years.

For the families and other loved ones of patients at the VAPAHCS, he established a Memorial Rose Garden as an extension to the Chapel Garden. The Rose Garden provides a touching space for families to memorialize their loved ones at the health care center.

Mr. Speaker, Chaplain Bastille's extraordinary efforts to help humanity has not been

limited to the VA. For example, after Hurricane Mitch, Chaplain Bastille helped organize the Palo Alto aid effort: the Honduras Relief Project, which helped send three medical teams to Honduras through funding provided by 12 local churches. He organized the church fundraising and recruited hospital volunteers. For 18 years, Chaplain Bastille has also directed the Patient PTSD chorus and helped lead to trips to the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington, DC., and one trip to Russia to meet with Russian-Afghanistan PTSD Veterans.

Chaplain Bastille's invaluable work has been duly recognized. In 1991 he received a Commendation given by VA Secretary Derwinski. He also received the Distinguished Service Award in 1992 from the Military Chaplain Association for his work in Ethics and the Julius Varwig Award in 2003 from the National Council for Health and Human Services Ministries for the United Church of Christ. Aside from being a phenomenal and selfless public servant, Chaplain Bastille enjoys a family of three brothers, and his lovely wife, Louise, to whom he has been married for 21 years.

Before Chaplain Bastille became a spiritual counselor and leader, he served as an Air Force Specialist in Vietnam. He went on to be the Chaplain for this unit until 1978. Chaplain Bastille obtained his B.S. degree from Springfield College and earned his Master's in Theology from Andover Newton Theological School in 1975. In 1985, Chaplain Bastille continued at Andover Newton to complete his doctorate.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me and rise to pay tribute to this extraordinary individual, Chaplain Edward Bastille. He is a fine example of the power of one to make a difference in this world. As he retires to become the owner of an inn in Gilford, New Hampshire, I wish him every ounce of happiness and success.

THE RETIREMENT OF BUREAU OF
RECLAMATION COMMISSIONER
JOHN W. KEYS, III

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 4, 2006

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues from California Mr.

CALVERT and Mrs. NAPOLITANO to express congratulations, best wishes, and warm thanks to Commissioner John W. Keys, III as he retires from a distinguished nearly 40-year career with the Bureau of Reclamation on April 14th.

Commissioner Keys began his career with Reclamation in 1964 as a civil and hydraulic engineer. Over the years, he worked his way up through the ranks, gathering valuable experience on numerous western water issues, including the Missouri River Basin, the Colorado River Basin, and the Columbia River Basin. In 1986 John began, what would eventually be a 12-year stint, as Regional Director for the Pacific Northwest Region of Reclamation. In this capacity he received the Interior Department's highest honor, The Distinguished Service Award in 1995.

John retired for the first time in 1998 to spend more time in Moab, Utah with his two loves, his wife Dell, and his airplanes. A certified commercial airline pilot, he owns a Cessna 182 and over the years has logged hundreds of hours of flight time. As if all of that wasn't enough, John also finds time to referee high school and college football games. Originally raised in Sheffield Alabama, he received a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology and a Master's Degree from Brigham Young University.

On July 17, 2001, John came out of retirement to be sworn in as the 16th Commissioner of the Bureau of Reclamation. Over the past five years, Commissioner Keys has traveled the country and worked tirelessly developing solutions to long-standing water conflicts. He was instrumental in the development of Interior's Water 2025 Initiative, the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, and resolving the 75-year dispute regarding California's share of Colorado River water. It has been a pleasure knowing John personally. Commissioner Keys has served his government and country admirably and will be missed. Although we are saddened by his departure, we wish him the best of luck in his retirement.