

already address identification needs [while] . . . This legislation contains only a vague promise to reimburse states for the cost of providing voter ID's to indigent individuals. There is no specific appropriation for this . . . and little likelihood for one."

If the Republican leadership had been willing to allow the House to consider amendments, changes could have been made to remove any doubts about its constitutionality and to avoid burdening the state and local governments with unnecessary burdens. However, instead the leadership insisted on bringing the bill to the floor under a procedure that prevented that—one of the reasons that many have questioned whether the real purpose of the bill is less to respond to potential election fraud and more to make it harder for some citizens to vote.

I am not opposed to a carefully constructed and constitutional bill that would enhance workplace identity, which is why I support H.R. 98. Nor am I opposed to legislating in order to ensure that non-citizens and others ineligible to vote are prevented from voting fraudulently. And I am hopeful that once the heat of this election season passes, the House will return to a more deliberative and bipartisan way of doing business on this issue and others.

But, in the meantime, I think this bill does not merit enactment as it stands because its defects outweigh whatever value it may have as a supplement to the existing state and federal laws against election fraud.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BAY HAAS
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RE-
TIREMENT FROM THE MOBILE
AIRPORT AUTHORITY AFTER 24
YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to recognize the outstanding service and leadership of Bay Haas upon the recent announcement of his plans to retire. For the past 33 years, Mr. Haas has served the Mobile community in a distinguished manner.

Following 9 years at IBM, Mr. Haas began his career in public service in 1972 when he was elected to serve on the Mobile County Commission, one of the youngest men at the time to serve in such an important post. He has since devoted his life to the well-being and development of south Alabama. In addition to his two terms on the Mobile County Commission, Bay Haas has served as executive director of the Mobile Airport Authority since 1983.

Following 24 years at the Mobile Airport Authority, Mr. Haas announced his plans to retire in June of next year. For nearly a quarter of a century at the Mobile Airport Authority, Bay has been committed to aiding Mobile's industrial growth. His efforts have been critical in recruiting what is now ST Mobile Aerospace Engineering for Brookley, Mobile's largest industrial employer, and more recently, EADS North America. Bay's distinguished work has helped gain Mobile greater recognition in the international aerospace field.

Not only has Bay served the Mobile community with his role at the Mobile Airport Author-

ity, but he has various other leadership positions throughout the city. He currently serves as a member of the vestry at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, the Cruise Ship Task Force, the Chamber of Commerce Legislative Affairs Task Force, the Mobile Area Education Foundation, and as chairman of the Salvation Army Advisory Board, among many others.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending Bay Haas for his tireless service to Mobile. I know Bay's colleagues, his family, and his many friends join with me in praising his significant accomplishments and extending thanks for all his efforts over the years on behalf of the citizens of the First Congressional District and the state of Alabama.

A TRIBUTE TO COLONEL WILLIAM
S. "BILL" MCARTHUR

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Mr. McINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Colonel William S. "Bill" McArthur for his valiant service as an Astronaut with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Colonel McArthur's dedication, determination and devotion are an inspiration to America and particularly to the citizens of his home county of Robeson and all of southeastern North Carolina.

A native of the community of Wakulla, and a graduate of nearby Red Springs High School, Colonel McArthur has heroically served his country for 33 years. After graduating from West Point in 1973, Colonel McArthur was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Army and was assigned a tour with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg. Following his tour, he entered the U.S. Army Aviation School from which he graduated at the top of his flight class and was designated an Army aviator. He then served as an aeroscout team leader and brigade aviation section leader with the 2nd Infantry Division in Korea and later as a company commander, platoon leader, and operations officer with the 24th Combat Aviation Battalion. After receiving a Master of Science degree in aerospace engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1983, he was assigned to the Department of Mechanics at West Point as an assistant professor. Four years later, Colonel McArthur graduated from the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School and was designated an experimental test pilot. As a dedicated Master Army Aviator, he completed over 4,500 flight hours in 39 different air and spacecraft.

In 1987, McArthur began his career with NASA as a Space Shuttle vehicle integration test engineer at the Johnson Space Center. Determined to be an astronaut, Colonel McArthur applied 7 times before he was selected by NASA in January 1990 and was officially designated an astronaut in July 1991. Since then, McArthur has worked in various positions within the Astronaut Office and has served as the Chief of the Astronaut Office Flight Support Branch. He has flown on four space flights including the *Columbia* in 1993; the *Atlantis* in 1995; the *Discovery* in 2000; and *Expedition 12* in 2006 of which he was

the Commander and International Space Station Science Officer. During his devoted service, Colonel McArthur has logged 224 days, 22 hours, 28 minutes and 10 seconds in space, including 24 hours and 21 minutes of EVA time in space walks, and he has completed 556 orbits of the Earth.

Mr. Speaker, in 1962 President John F. Kennedy said, "We set sail on this new sea because there is new knowledge to be gained, and new rights to be won, and they must be won and used for the progress of all people." Colonel Bill McArthur reminds us that there is still much to be gained—for the benefit of all mankind—as we continue to explore space. On behalf of all the citizens of southeastern North Carolina and the United States, we thank him for all he has done to make this a better place. May God bless him and his family.

TRIBUTE TO DR. BILLY TAYLOR

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 21, 2006

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as an original Co-Chair of the Honorary Congressional Host Committee for the Duke Ellington Jazz Festival, with Representative JOHN CONYERS, I rise today to recognize one of America's great jazz musicians and celebrated music innovators, Dr. Billy Taylor. As we look forward to and celebrate the second annual Duke Ellington Jazz Festival in the District of Columbia, we recognize the talented individuals who contributed to the unique sounds that form modern jazz. As a world-renowned jazz artist who uses his talent not only to entertain, but also to educate and inspire, Dr. Billy Taylor will be honored this year with the Festival's Lifetime Achievement Award. He joins last year's inaugural honoree, David Brubeck, as a recipient of this award.

I am proud that Dr. Taylor grew up in the District of Columbia in a family that valued artistic expression through music. His talent was undeniable. Dr. Taylor experimented with the sounds of the saxophone, drums, guitar and piano, receiving lessons from Henry Grant, who taught classical piano to the legendary Duke Ellington 20 years earlier. By the age of 13, Dr. Taylor had made his first professional appearance at the Republic Gardens on U Street.

After graduating with a Bachelor of Science in music from Virginia State University, Dr. Taylor took time off to continue to study, practice and perfect his musical skills. In 1944, he set out for New York City and became instantly emerged in the music scene. Soon after his arrival, Dr. Taylor was invited to play piano in saxophonist Ben Webster's quartet. He also performed on 52nd Street with the legendary Dizzy Gillespie. In 1946, Dr. Taylor embarked on an 8-month tour of Europe with Don Redman's Orchestra, the first American band to visit the continent after World War II. Upon his return, Billy Taylor became the house pianist at Birdland, the historic jazz venue where he was surrounded by pioneering jazz musicians and played with greats such as Ella Fitzgerald and Miles Davis.

As an eminent jazz musician, Billy Taylor began to educate the public on the world of