

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LYNDON BAINES JOHNSON DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 6, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, it is a great privilege to honor the 36th President of the United States, a great Texan and American, Lyndon Baines Johnson, by passing this resolution naming the headquarters of the Department of Education the "Lyndon Baines Johnson Federal Building." President Johnson's lifelong commitment to improving the American education system and the lives of children across the United States makes him a perfect choice for this honor.

President Johnson, known as the "Education President," made education a top priority of his Great Society programs, with an emphasis on helping poor children. This commitment resulted in the passage of the "Elementary and Secondary Education Act" and the "Higher Education Act" in 1965.

The Elementary and Secondary Education Act was the first comprehensive federal education program that provided substantial funds for elementary and secondary schools. This Act funded schools progressively, giving impoverished districts financial support to allow them to fund schools adequately.

The Higher Education Act also greatly improved our educational system by expanding access to higher education for low-income students. The Act established new grants, federal loans and work-study programs that have given innumerable students the opportunity to take advantage of their potential and go to college.

President Johnson also established the Head Start program, which has been critical to ensuring that low-income children have access to pre-school programs. Years of experience have shown that early childhood education leads to improved academic performance and life outcomes. Since its inception, the Head Start program has given over 22 million low-income children the opportunity to take advantage of early childhood education.

President Johnson's commitment to educating all American children was also evidenced by his appointment of the great justice Thurgood Marshall to the Supreme Court. Justice Marshall rose to prominence by winning the historic *Brown v. Board* case as chief counsel for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. By outlawing segregation in our schools, this case for the first time gave American children hope for the future, regardless of the color of their skin. That President Johnson was willing to appoint as justice a man who had dedicated so much of his life to justice for American children shows the commitment of President Johnson himself to this noble goal.

No president in the history of our great nation has shown a greater level of dedication to

the education of our children than President Johnson. I believe that it is just and fitting that the Department of Education headquarters be named in honor of a man with such unparalleled commitment to the education of our nation's children. I commend my colleague Mr. GENE GREEN from Texas for introducing this resolution.

D.C. HOUSE VOTING RIGHTS BILL OF 2007

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, the bipartisan bill we introduce today is a culmination of four years of during which Democrats and Republicans have worked together to accomplish a common goal for Utah and the District of Columbia. This effort has been worth every minute, as we are poised to clear the high hurdle to equal citizenship in the People's House—the House of Representatives. Representative TOM DAVIS (R-VA) and I have worked together on many tough bills and have gotten a fair number passed. Still, the bill we introduce today has surely been the toughest, has required the most work for us both, and has taken the most time. I am most grateful to Representative DAVIS who found the balance that makes this bill possible, modeled most recently on Alaska and Hawaii, both admitted to the Union in 1959 after Congress assured itself that their entry would benefit both parties. TOM DAVIS did not stop with his good idea but has worked relentlessly to reach this milestone. Speaker NANCY PELOSI has long fought for the rights of D.C. residents. It was she who personally insisted that this legislation go forward without delay as a bill of historic importance. Majority Leader STENY HOYER, my regional friend for years, has been an especially outspoken champion of this bill. Throughout this process Chairman HENRY WAXMAN (D-CA) has been a central figure, making every possible effort to ensure we would reach this day. From the very beginning, Chairman JOHN CONYERS (D-MI) as a founding member of the Congressional Black Caucus and a member of the Judiciary Committee has fought for our full rights throughout his years in Congress, pressing all along until as chair he will now preside over the committee that will send this bill to the floor. Governor Jon Huntsman Jr. and the entire Utah delegation have been steadfast and determined throughout.

TOM and I have understood that the essential metric required bringing both parties with us, not only bipartisanship in the usual sense but equivalence, that is no partisan gain and no partisan disadvantage. We have gone through many variations, beginning with TOM's original proposal, where the D.C. House seat would have included some Maryland residents. TOM then accepted our notion that a

D.C. stand-alone seat would be best and less controversial all around, and the talks and proposals proceeded. We since have tried several scenarios for moving the bill. I continued to keep my bill, the No Taxation Without Representation Act for the full representation that will never abandon until a bill agreeable to all could be fashioned.

The District of Columbia has waited 200 years to gain the equal citizenship rights they deserve and seek. The framers were clear that American citizens are entitled to equal representation in the House. Our status as second in the United States in federal income taxes that support our government argues indisputably for equivalent rights. However, in this time of war with residents serving in Iraq and Afghanistan, our bill for congressional voting rights for D.C. residents must and I believe will not be denied.

Finally, I hope I can be forgiven a personal moment. Throughout this process, I have never referred to the District's vote as my vote or what the vote would mean to me personally because it will not belong to me. I have never mentioned the special reason I personally wanted to be the first to cast that vote because this bill is for D.C. residents now and in the future, not for me. However, my 16 years in Congress has been defined by the search for some way to get full representation for the city where my family has lived since before the Civil War. That search has included the two-day debate followed by a vote on statehood more than 10 years ago, and the vote I won in the Committee of the Whole. The struggle has been driven by its own terms, by the here and now. Yet, I cannot deny the personal side of this quest, epitomized by my family of native Washingtonians, my father Coleman Holmes, my grandfather, Richard Holmes, who entered the D.C. Fire Department in 1902 and whose picture hangs in my office, a gift from the D.C. Fire Department, but especially my great-grandfather, Richard Holmes, a slave who walked off a Virginia plantation in the 1850s, made it to Washington, and settled our family here. By definition, subliminal motivation is unknown and unfelt. However, when TOM and I knew that we had reached the best agreement we could, I thought openly of my family. I thought especially of the man I never knew. I thought of Richard Holmes, a slave in the District until Lincoln freed the slaves here nine months before the Emancipation Proclamation. I thought of my great grandfather who came here in a furtive search for freedom itself, not the vote on the House floor. I thought of what a man who lived as a slave in the District, and others like him would think if his great-granddaughter becomes the first to cast the first full vote for the District of Columbia on the House floor. I hope to have the special honor of casting the vote I have sought for 16 years. I want to cast that vote for the residents of this city whom I have had the great privilege of representing and who have fought and have waited for so long. Yes, and I want to cast that vote in memory of my great-grandfather, Richard Holmes.

• 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.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CITIZENS
INVOLVEMENT IN CAMPAIGNS
(CIVIC) ACT

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. PETRI. Madam Speaker, today Representative PAUL KANJORSKI and I are introducing bipartisan legislation to establish a program of limited tax credits and tax deductions to get average Americans more involved in the political process. This bill, the Citizens Involvement in Campaigns (CIVIC) Act, will broaden the base of political contributors and limit the influence of big money donors in federal elections.

We need to take a fresh look at innovative approaches to campaign finance reform, with special attention paid to ideas that encourage, and not restrict, greater participation in our campaigns. Toward this end, I have been advocating tax credits and deductions for small political contributions for many years. An updated tax credit system would be a simple and effective means of balancing the influence of big money donors and bringing individual contributors back to our campaigns. The impact of this counterweight will reduce the burden of raising money, as well as the appearance of impropriety that accompanies the money chase.

Most would agree that the ideal way to finance political campaigns is through a broad base of donors. But, as we are all painfully aware, the economic realities of modern-day campaigning lead many candidates to focus most of their efforts on collecting funds from a few large donors. This reality alienates many Americans from the political process.

The concept of empowering small donors is not a new idea. For example, from 1972 to 1986, the federal government offered a tax credit for small political contributions. This provided an incentive for average Americans to contribute to campaigns in small amounts while simultaneously encouraging politicians to solicit donations from a larger pool of contributors. Currently, 6 geographically and politically diverse States (Oregon, Minnesota, Ohio, Virginia, Arkansas, and Arizona) offer their own tax credits for political contributions. These state-level credits vary in many respects, but all share the same goal of encouraging average Americans to become more involved.

The CIVIC Act can begin the process of building this counterweight for federal elections. This bill is designed to encourage Americans who ordinarily do not get involved in politics beyond casting a vote every 2 or 4 years (that is, if they bother to vote at all) to become more active participants in our political process.

The CIVIC Act will reestablish and update the discontinued federal tax credit. Taxpayers can choose between a 100 percent tax credit for political contributions to Federal candidates or national political parties (limited to \$200 per taxable year), or a 100 percent tax deduction (limited to \$600 per taxable year). Both limits, of course, are doubled for joint returns. As long as political parties and candidates promote the existence of these credits, the program can have a real impact and aid in making elections more grassroots affairs than they are today.

A limited tax credit for political contributions can be a bipartisan, cost-efficient method for helping balance the influence of large money donors in the American electoral process. Instead of driving away most Americans from participation in political life, we can offer an invitation for citizens to play a larger role in political campaigns. It seems to me that this will be a fruitful way to clean up our system, while at the same time convincing Americans that they actually have a meaningful stake in elections.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, on Friday, March 9, 2007, I was absent from Rollcall votes 132, 133, 134 and 135 due to official business.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on Rollcall vote 132, the rule providing for consideration of H.R. 720, the Water Quality Financing Act of 2007.

On Rollcall 133 for the Baker Amendment to H.R. 720, I would have voted "aye." I strongly oppose extending Davis-Bacon requirements for construction under H.R. 720.

On Rollcall vote 134, the motion to recommit H.R. 720, I would have voted "aye."

Finally, on Rollcall vote 135, final passage of H.R. 720, I would have voted "nay."

I ask that my statement appear in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HONORING LYNBROOK
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lynbrook Elementary School on their 50th anniversary.

Located in Springfield, Virginia, Lynbrook Elementary School opened its doors on February 11, 1957. Although it opened on that day and was dedicated a month later, the school continued to take shape over the next twenty years as the local population boomed and the true needs of the community were realized. An air-conditioning system, a gymnasium, a music room, additional classrooms and "the pod" were all added to create the Lynbrook that we know today. Additionally, in 1976 a contest was held to select a new school mascot. Out of this contest, and the imagination of a young Wee Lane Yee, Lenny the Leprechaun was born.

The school continued to evolve through the end of the last century. In the 1980's many of Lynbrook's long standing traditions, including "Shamrock Shindigs" and the medieval fair, were started. Also, the students began publishing the schools first newspaper, The Four Leaf Clover, which remains in circulation today.

Lynbrook strives to stay true to its long standing mission statement: to provide a safe environment where all students will become

lifelong learners and develop a positive sense of self-worth and an appreciation among students, staff and community for all diverse backgrounds and experiences.

To that end, the school is constantly seeking to improve its strong relations with its students, parents and community. The students' academic, social and emotional learning are met utilizing proven instructional strategies. Families are encouraged to participate in PTA events, such as: family nights, socials, concerts, student programs and cultural events. Additionally, Lynbrook has been repeatedly recognized for its students' active participation in the Marine Corps Marathon Healthy Kid Fun Run. All of these factors demonstrate a concerted effort on behalf of the school's faculty to mold the young people at Lynbrook Elementary into well rounded, high-functioning adolescents.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to commend and congratulate all of the students, faculty and parents who have played such an integral part in the establishment and growth of this fine academic institution. I call upon my colleagues to join me in congratulating Lynbrook Elementary School on its 50th anniversary and in wishing them many more years of continued academic success.

IN MEMORY OF DAVID IVORY

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor David Ivory, former Fort Worth city manager, who passed away on Friday, March 9, 2007. Mr. Ivory was known by many as a loyal, trustworthy, and dedicated public servant.

Mr. Ivory served his country for two years in Korea, achieving the rank of Lieutenant. In 1973, he received his master's degree in public administration from Brigham Young University. He also served in the Utah state legislature for a brief time.

After moving to the City of Fort Worth, Mr. Ivory served in many City Hall positions, ultimately being named city manager in 1989. His achievements include involvement in numerous economic developments, such as the annexation of the Perot Group's 5600 acres in North Fort Worth and the creation of Alliance Airport.

Mr. Ivory was 62 years old, at the time of his passing. He is survived by his wife, Margery; his son, Charles; and his daughter, Angela. I would like to extend my sincerest condolences to the Ivory family; my thoughts are with them as they endure this difficult time. The City of Fort Worth has lost a devoted public servant and a great man.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PRIVATE
KELLY YOUNGBLOOD, U.S. ARMY,
OF MESA, ARIZONA

HON. JOE DONNELLY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. DONNELLY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the sacrifice of Private Kelly

Youngblood of Mesa, Arizona, who was killed on February 18, 2007 after being shot by a sniper in Ramadi, Iraq. Kelly risked everything in a fight to bring democracy to people halfway around the world.

Kelly represented the best that the United States of America has to offer. After graduating from McClintock High School in Tempe, Arizona, Kelly set his sights on military service. While only 19 years old, he was aware of all of the potential dangers associated with his service. Yet, despite his young age, a sense of duty called him to enlist. It had been Kelly's lifelong dream to serve his country and shortly after his 18th birthday he achieved his dream by enlisting in the Army. Following basic training Kelly was sent to Iraq as a member of the 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division. He left behind his mother Kristen and sister Melaney of Mesa, Arizona, his grandparents, Charley and Jean Herrold of Westville, Indiana and many friends around the country. I stand here today to express my gratitude to Kelly and his loved ones for their sacrifice.

Today, I join Kelly's family and friends in mourning his death. While we struggle to come to terms with our sorrow over this loss, we can take pride in his example and joy in our memory of his life. Kelly served bravely as a soldier working to bring freedom to the people of Iraq. His courage and strength of character will provide an example for future generations and his memory will continue to bring comfort to his loved ones in their time of grief.

Kelly was known as a loving and kind young man with an excellent sense of humor. His grandmother told the local newspaper, "That kid was so much fun. He made jokes out of everything. He's going to be sorely missed." Today and always Kelly will be remembered by family members, friends, and fellow Hoosiers as a true American hero. We honor the life he laid down in service to his country.

As I search for words to do justice in honoring Kelly's sacrifice, I am reminded of a speech by General Douglas MacArthur to a graduating class at West Point. "The soldier above all other people prays for peace, for he must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war." Kelly's grandparents remember his last Christmas, when he worshiped at Westville United Methodist Church. As a soldier about to enter combat we can be assured that Kelly prayed for peace in Iraq, for his fellow soldiers and for his country he left behind. We too will continue this prayer in Kelly's memory and will continue his fight to bring peace around the world.

It is my sad duty to enter the name of Kelly Youngblood into the official record of the United States House of Representatives for his service to this country and for his sacrifice in the name of freedom, democracy and peace. When we think of this cause in which we are engaged and the pain that the loss of our heroes brings, I hope that the memory of Kelly and others like him will bring some solace in our grief and some hope for our future.

May God grant peace to those who mourn and strength to those who continue to fight and may God be with all of you, as I know he is with Kelly.

INTRODUCING THE "SENATOR PAUL SIMON STUDY ABROAD FOUNDATION ACT"

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, today I rise in partnership with my distinguished Foreign Affairs Committee Ranking Member, Ms. ROSELEHTINEN of Florida, to introduce a very significant piece of legislation, the "Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act." This measure will create a new government corporation with an annual budget of \$80 million—authorized for 10 years—to dramatically increase the number of non-traditional U.S. students studying abroad in non-traditional destinations.

This bill will provide significant long-term boost to our effort to prevail in the global war against terrorism. It will do so by dramatically increasing foreign understanding of the enduring strength and value of America's democratic culture by exposing foreign students and their families to one million of our best and most authentic diplomats, our American students. It will also vastly increase the talent pool of young Americans with foreign cultural experience and language knowledge to support our foreign affairs agencies, U.S. global NGOs and U.S. global corporations.

The bill responds to a landmark Congressionally commissioned November 2005 study entitled, "Global Competence and National Needs", authored by the Commission on the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program, which proposed ". . . a broad vision for the U.S.: send one million students to study abroad within a decade." The idea behind this vision, as articulated in the study, was that "making study abroad the norm and not the exception can position this and other future generations for success in the world much as the establishment of the land-grant university system and enactment of the GI Bill helped create the 'American Century'." The Lincoln Commission which was headed up by former AID Administrator Mr. Peter McPherson and included my colleagues, Ms. SLAUGHTER from New York and Mr. KIRK from Illinois, was established by Congress in 2004 at the urging of Senator Paul Simon who tirelessly advocated for this agenda.

Madam Speaker, I believe this is an incredibly important legislative initiative. If enacted it will democratize study abroad in the way that the GI bill democratized higher education. Today, many American college students still face financial and institutional impediments to study abroad. The Senator Paul Simon Act and the Foundation it creates will tear down these barriers and make foreign study a normal rather than an exceptional part of an American college education.

Today our Nation faces a deficit of cultural knowledge that is a clear impediment to our effort to prevail in the global war on terrorism and to keep America competitive in a global economy. Our foreign affairs agencies are struggling mightily to find recruits who have firsthand understanding of critical cultures and languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Pashto, and Dari. The Senator Paul Simon Act will rectify this by vastly expanding the talent pool of young Americans with global skills.

I urge my colleagues to join this important effort by supporting this legislation.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 720, WATER QUALITY FINANCING ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 9, 2007

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to voice my pleasure and support of the passage of H.R. 720, the Water Quality Financing Act. I would also like to pay tribute to Chairman OBERSTAR for his efforts in reauthorizing this program for the first time in 13 years. Chairman OBERSTAR is a dear friend of mine and he has been one of my greatest partners in our efforts to clean the Nation's waters.

Under President Bush's proposed fiscal year (FY) 2008 budget, the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund is facing a \$16 million cut. H.R. 720, of which I am a proud cosponsor, would authorize \$14 billion for the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund over the next 4 years, providing communities with the financial means to construct municipal wastewater treatment plants. In recent years, Michigan has seen over 1,000 separate sewer overflows, totaling over 20 billion gallons of spilled sewage. Funding through the Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund is crucial to preventing further such disasters in Michigan.

Since Congress passed the Clean Water Act, the Federal government has provided more than \$82 billion for wastewater assistance which led to tremendous improvements in our wastewater infrastructure. However, this infrastructure is starting to deteriorate, leading to sewage and untreated waste flowing into our rivers and lakes and leaking onto our roads and even into our basements. It has been estimated by the EPA that each year, overflows from sewer systems discharge about 850 billion gallons of wastewater and storm water containing untreated waste, toxic debris, and other pollutants into the environment.

The Republican leadership allowed the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to expire in 1994 and has failed to reauthorize it because of their objection to the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage law. Furthermore, my colleagues on the other side of the aisle have cut funding by 34 percent. Unfortunately the Republican-controlled Congress has not been our only barrier; the Bush Administration has also repeatedly tried to obstruct clean water programs. In fact this week the White House issued a Statement of Administration policy conveying the President's opposition to H.R. 569 and H.R. 700, describing the bills as "excessive" and "unrealistic in the current fiscal environment" respectively. We have watched these setbacks to our clean water programs for far too long. I urge the Senate to pass these bills and show this Administration that the Congress will not let our waters be neglected any longer.

IN SUPPORT OF THE 90TH ANNIVERSARY OF U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS TRANSFER DAY, MARCH 31, 2007

HON. DONNA M. CHRISTENSEN

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise with great pride to celebrate the 90th anniversary of the transfer of the three small islands in the Caribbean from Danish to American control on March 31st, 1917. On that day, the Danish West Indies became the U.S. Virgin Islands and my district, the district that consists of St. Croix, St. Thomas and St. John and a host of other smaller islands became part of the American family.

The people of the U.S. Virgin Islands are both proud Virgin Islanders and proud Americans. We are a diverse community comprised of people who are native to the island, those who have moved there from Puerto Rico and many of the surrounding Caribbean island nations, mainlanders from the continental United States, and people from many other parts of Europe, Africa, Asia and the Middle East. In our 90 years, we have come to reflect the American melting pot, evolving from many people, yet striving to become one.

One of the aspects that make the U.S. Virgin Islands a special place is our reverence for our history and our past and our concern that we pass on to our children the story of how we came to this place and how we have lived here, and struggled here and thrived here.

Transfer Day, the day that our islands became part of the American family, has long been a source of pride as we have celebrated it over the years with parades and fanfare and speeches of historic significance. But our relationship with the United States of America, began long before 1917.

Christopher Columbus, credited with the discovery of the Americas stopped at Salt River Bay on the island of St. Croix on his second voyage, making it one of the only confirmed Columbus landing sites under the U.S. flag today.

One of this country's founding fathers, Alexander Hamilton, who also served as its first Secretary of the Treasury, spent his boyhood on St. Croix in the Virgin Islands, where he is said to have learned the rudiments of finance, as he worked as a clerk in the international trade business of his mentor Nicholas Cruger in the busy Caribbean port town of Christiansted. It was in the Virgin Islands that his talent was first noticed, as his writing in the local newspapers, in particular on the 1772 hurricane, spurred his supporters to send him to New York the next year where he became part of the brewing American Revolution.

The Virgin Islands with its natural harbors had long been a trading partner of the colonies of North America, and during the American Revolution, it was the small Danish fort on the western side of St. Croix, Ft. Frederik that was one of the first to salute the new American colors when one of its ships sailed into Frederiksted harbor.

The United States of America recognized the strategic importance of the tiny Virgin Islands, then known as the Danish West Indies as early as 1865 when negotiations began for their purchase. According to historians, "the

need for military bases at strategic points in the Caribbean" was bolstered by the construction of the Panama Canal. Purchasing the Virgin Islands became important because it would "enable the United States to defend the approaches to the Panama Canal and it would prevent the islands from falling into the hands of countries that were hostile to the United States."

During World War I, it was the fear that Germany wanted a foothold in the Caribbean and fear that Denmark, who owned the islands at the time would be overrun by the Germans in the war, that prompted a more aggressive approach towards their purchase. By January 1916, "agreement was reached on \$25 million as a compromise between the Danish demand for \$27 million and the American offer of \$20 million."

We are told by our parents and grandparents that Transfer Day, March 31, 1917 was one of mixed emotions. While some were excited at the prospect of becoming part of the American nation, others were sad that the ties with Denmark that were 250 years old were about to be broken. Residents of the islands were given the choice of Danish or American citizenship and some remained loyal to the Danish flag while others enthusiastically embraced their new nation.

The United States of America entered World War I one week after the Virgin Islands were transferred to its ownership and the islands were placed under Navy rule as they were used as a coaling depot for U.S. ships during that period. The Navy enacted a number of social reforms to include reorganizing the hospitals and improving its equipment, instituting a sanitary code and mosquito control which drastically reduced the death rate. They also built the St. Thomas catchment and the St. Croix Creque Dam which increased the amount of safe, reliable drinking water. They instituted a sewage disposal system, and a fire and police system. They built and improved schools and trained and hired teachers at a higher rate of pay. They were not as successful at economic development and annual revenues plunged to less than what it was under the Danes, prompting an out-migration to then U.S. controlled territories like Cuba, Puerto Rico, Panama and the mainland. During that time, new immigrants from Puerto Rico and the mainland and an increased birth-rate due to better sanitation bolstered the population numbers.

It was in 1931 that the Department of the Interior was given the authority to administer the islands and charged with the economic regeneration of the islands. It was during that time that the first civilian governor was appointed, Dr. Paul M. Pearson who was responsible for the institution of the homestead program which allowed for the purchase of old plantation lands for homes and small farms. It was during this period that our tourism industry began as the first three hotels were built on St. Thomas and that opportunities for higher education were provided with scholarships to Hampton and Howard Universities for our worthy students. But the economy of the islands was still in need of a shot in the arm and political development was still in its infancy. These were the cause of discontent among the people.

It was not until 10 years after the Transfer, on February 25, 1927, that United States citizenship was granted through congressional

enactment to all natives of the Virgin Islands and residents on and after January 17, 1917 including those who moved to the U.S. or Puerto Rico before or after January 17, 1917 who had not become citizens of any foreign country and to all children born in the Virgin Islands on or after January 17, 1917.

Another Act of Congress in 1932 further extended U.S. citizenship to all natives of the Virgin Islands living in the United States or any other U.S. territory who were not citizens of any foreign country regardless of their place of residence on January 17, 1917.

It was in the years between the Transfer and the early 1930s, that the people began awakening to their political power and began agitation for more local, democratic control, extended voting rights, and other enfranchisement common to the American Nation. Advocacy through the local press came from men such as Rothschild Francis on St. Thomas, D. Hamilton Jackson on St. Croix and Casper Holstein, a wealthy St. Croix born New Yorker. They began pushing for more local democratic control of the institutions that governed the people of the Virgin Islands.

In this atmosphere, under some political unrest which included demonstrations and congressional inquiries and investigations, two major constitutional achievements were gained, namely the right of women to vote in December of 1935 and the passage of the First Organic Act on June 22, 1936.

The First Organic Act was said to represent a considerable extension of political power with the creation of two municipal councils, St. Thomas-St. John and St. Croix and a Legislative Assembly consisting of the two councils. Property and income qualifications were abolished, but English literacy was required of voters. Other features of the Act were a governor appointed by the President, who had veto power which could be overridden by a two-thirds majority of the Council, with final decision making rested in the President. The governor was also required to report annually to the Secretary of the Interior on financial transactions.

It was during this period that the first of our Virgin Islands soldiers began fighting and dying for their new country. Whether joining the military from Puerto Rico, the closest enlisting station to the territory or from where they had migrated in New York or elsewhere, our young men joined to defend our nation and some of them paid the ultimate sacrifice.

It was after World War II, in the period between 1950 and 1970, with increased economic expansion and political power that the population in the Virgin Islands began to double and triple. It was the result of increased birth rate, immigration from the mainland, Puerto Rico and the surrounding Caribbean islands to fill the new jobs created by the expanding tourism industry and the new oil and aluminum refineries and watch industry. There was also a movement of native Virgin Islanders who had moved away in earlier decades for economic opportunity back to the islands.

In 1950, the first native Virgin Islander, Morris deCastro was appointed governor. With his appointment came the recognition by the United States of the growing ability of the people of the Virgin Islands to govern themselves. The growth of political parties and the increased participation of the electorate, the growth and diversification of the economy and the population all set the stage for the need to

revise the Organic Act to provide for the political and administrative re-organization of the Virgin Islands. With the Revised Organic Act of 1954, the present governmental structure of the Virgin Islands with its laws, administrative departments and its unicameral legislature were formed. The English literacy requirement instituted in 1936 was removed paving the way for Spanish speaking residents to have a voice in governmental affairs.

In 1968, after the First Constitutional Convention of 1964–65, the Elective Governor Act of 1968 provided for an elected governor and Lt. governor to serve four year terms, a delegate to Congress, and the lowering of the voting age to 18. In 1970, the U.S. Virgin Islands elected the first of its seven governors to office. The Honorable Melvin Evans was elected the first Governor. My predecessor, the Honorable Ron de Lugo became our first Delegate to Congress and I am proud to serve as the fourth elected and first woman Delegate to Congress.

Since that time there have been several attempts to deal with the internal structure of our government, through drafting a new Constitution in 1981 and through a referendum on the nature of the territory's relationship to the United States which culminated in a referendum in 1993. This summer, Virgin Islanders will again attempt to draft a constitution to address many of the structural issues that continue to pose challenges to governance and every day living. It is my hope that on the 90th anniversary of the Transfer and our sojourn as part of the American family that we use it to analyze, plan and bring to fruition a common vision for our territory by 2017, the hundredth anniversary celebration.

Madam Speaker, there is much good that has come from this 90-year-old relationship between the U.S. Virgin Islands and the United States of America. Our islands have not only grown in population and diversity, but have made strides in governmental infrastructure and the provision of services in health, education, transportation infrastructure, and social welfare. Much of this has been accomplished in partnership with the federal government. There are many challenges that have also arisen because of rapid growth and development and lack of control over issues such as border control and the lack of a plan to manage our resources to include land and water use. We have been a beacon for development and advancement in the region and have attracted people from all over the world. It is my hope that this 90th anniversary will strengthen our resolve to become a stronger, more cohesive community with a dream and a plan for peace and prosperity into this 21st century and beyond.

RECOGNIZING THE COMMUNITY OF COLLYER, KANSAS

HON. JERRY MORAN

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the citizens of Collyer, Kansas for continuing efforts to sustain and revitalize their community.

On September 26, 2004 that effort was formalized through creation of the Collyer Com-

munity Alliance. Donna Malsom, president of the alliance, said the organization was formed because residents want to see their hometown raise another generation of Kansans. "Our community is made up of hard working individuals who pull together to support businesses, projects and each other, Malsom said. "Through our combined efforts, we made a conscious decision to 'save' our community."

Despite its small size—133 people—Collyer is making a large commitment to its future. In the nearly 30 months since it was formed, the alliance has grown from zero to more than 200 paid memberships.

In order to obtain financing for community initiatives, the alliance has conducted a number of fundraising activities—the most famous of which are fish fries that are held every Friday evening during the Lenten season. In 2006, more than 1,000 plates were served. Having personally attended a fish fry, I can affirm that the food is delicious and the community spirit is inspiring.

Funds have also been raised by organizing Hunter's Burgers and Brats and Ground Hog Celebration Soup suppers, the Walsh Auction Lunch, Quinter School Forensics Tournament Lunch, WaKeeney Trash and Treasure Flea Market, Quinter May Day Celebration, Switchback Benefit Barn Dance and alumni celebrations. Money raised from these activities is supplemented by generous financial support from individuals, families, businesses and local units of government. Since its inception, approximately 75 entities have achieved "sponsor" status through the alliance.

This fundraising effort translates into impressive promotion of and support for the community. Last year, the Collyer Café opened in the refurbished Saint Michael's Convent. The alliance purchased the convent and the community donated well over 1,000 volunteer hours to this restoration project.

In July, the community hosts an After Harvest Music Festival which brings approximately 500 people to town. In October, the Fall Street Festival attracts more than 1,000 visitors to Collyer.

The alliance further promotes Collyer by maintaining an extensive website at www.collyerks.com. The site includes a history of the community, ongoing development projects, fundraising activities and community events.

An effort is being made to preserve the legacy of Collyer by obtaining historical designations on 14 community buildings. The Saint Michael's Buildings, Zeman Dance Hall, the old mercantile/grocery store and the Collyer Depot are just a few of these historically significant structures. With persistent effort, the alliance has achieved 501(C)3 nonprofit status retroactive to May of 2005. This approval is allowing the community to aggressively pursue restoration efforts.

An additional boost to preserve Collyer's legacy occurred in May of 2006 when the community was awarded a grant from the Kansas Humanities Council in support of an initiative to gather and record stories of immigrant families that settled in Collyer. Alliance members supplied the volunteer hours needed to complete this and several other grant applications.

Sandra Stenzel, community volunteer, acknowledges that the work required to create a future for Collyer is not easy. However, she believes the effort is worth it. "Our community

was founded on the principles of faith, freedom, education, progress and agriculture," Stenzel said. "We are proud of our past, but we are even prouder of the vision we have for the future and the plan we have to get there."

For rural communities to survive and prosper, citizens must be willing to create their own opportunities for success. Ongoing efforts to revitalize Collyer are an example of how hard work, vision and involvement support can create just such an opportunity. Citizens throughout Kansas are working together to enhance the quality of life in their communities. Collyer is a developing success story that demonstrates how teamwork and creative thinking can make a positive difference in rural America.

WALTER REED MEDICAL CENTER

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, the scandal at Walter Reed Army Medical Center has placed a spotlight on our entire military and veteran health care system. That is a good thing because the system is in need of a thorough reorganization. As a result of cuts in VA health care, more than a quarter of a million vets were refused enrollment in 2005 alone because they "didn't qualify". How many of these men and women were told when they reported for duty that they may or may not "qualify" for veteran's care after separation?

Mr. Speaker, I do not accept the notion that America's promise to its veterans is subject to later, arbitrary qualifications, but that quarter of a million veterans is the number we know of. Perhaps even more insidious are those vets who because of their PTSD or other injuries were discharged with less than honorable discharges most of the time with no hearing, no review. These men and women now reside in a kind of abyss between earth and hell. They have served their nation but their nation has turned its collective backs on them.

Mr. Speaker, we need to recall Vietnam Vet Jim Hopkins who finally drove his Jeep into the lobby of the Wadsworth VA Hospital out of frustration and protest in 1981. Jim Hopkins didn't get the treatment he needed and couldn't get anyone in the VA or the administration to listen to him. His subsequent tragic death led to a fifty-three day hunger strike by vets and finally shed some national light on our refusal to acknowledge the reality of PTSD and the impact of dioxin on the human nervous system. Now, a quarter of a century later there are many more frustrated vets, men and women who responded when their nation called, men and women who we have promised lifetime medical care in return who are shut out of the VA system. Men and women have been kicked to the curb, unseen and unserved. Mr. Speaker, the hour and day have come: it is time for this Congress, in turn, to kick open the doors of the VA system—to ensure that every veteran, every veteran, has received his or her due for their service.

RECOGNIZING LEWISVILLE AND FLOWER MOUND STUDENTS FOR RECEIVING TOP HONORS AT THE INAUGURAL NORTH TEXAS TEEN COURT TRAINING

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize student volunteers with the Lewisville-Flower Mound Teen Court, who were named "Best Overall Prosecution Team" and "Best Overall Defense Team" at the inaugural North Texas Teen Court Training.

The event was held on March 3, 2007, at the Texas Wesleyan University School of Law in Fort Worth, Texas. Volunteer youth attorneys, bailiffs, clerks, and jurors are given an opportunity to conduct trials of actual cases with Class C misdemeanor defendants from local Teen Courts. Over 200 teens, adult volunteers, and judges were involved in the competition.

Seth Duban, of Marcus High School, and John Maksym, a home-schooled student, were members of the winning prosecution team. Lewisville High School students Sarah Abdel and Jennifer Stanley, along with Lexia Chadwick of Huffines Middle School, composed the competition's winning defense team.

The North Texas Teen Court Training is a great event for the students, the community, and the Texas Wesleyan University School of Law. These exceptional young men and women had the opportunity to see and act out the judicial process in a way that they could not have otherwise. I would like to extend my congratulations and best wishes to the five winning students, and to all other participants. I am honored to represent such intelligent and academically driven students.

THE EMPLOYEE FREE CHOICE ACT

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, with one of the most misleading names ever put to a piece of legislation, the House of Representatives voted last week on a bill entitled "The Employee Free Choice Act." (H.R. 800). If made law, the Act would result in the most important changes in federal labor law since the enactment of the Wagner Act in 1935 and, contrary to its title, would deprive employees of free choice in the two most important issues involving unions by denying employees the right to a secret ballot election to determine whether or not they want to be represented by a union and by denying employees the right to approve or disapprove the first labor contract with their employer.

Under present law, the most common way to determine whether employees want to be represented by a union is through a secret ballot election conducted by a federal agency, the NLRB. The United States Supreme Court has emphasized that other methods of deciding about unionization are inferior. Under the new bill, a union would be able to gain the

right to represent employees through a "card check" in which a union simply would have to collect the signatures of a majority of employees on union authorization cards in order to represent them. The result would be that employees' signatures on union cards, which now are used to call for an election, would be used to preclude them from having an election. Moreover, once unionized through a card check, employees would not be able to change their mind by the same mechanism.

Nothing could be more undemocratic, as is evidenced by the AFL-CIO's own study showing that when unions get from 60 to 75 percent of employees to sign union authorization cards, they win less than 50 percent of elections.

It seems painfully obvious that, as Congressman HOWARD BERMAN (one of the Act's co-sponsors), said when he was in the California Assembly, secret ballot elections are essential to "the self determination of the workers" that federal labor law seeks to promote. As Yale's Robert Dahl concluded: "In the late nineteenth century, the secret ballot began to replace a show of hands. . . . [S]ecrecy [in voting] has become the general standard, a country in which it is widely violated would be judged as lacking free and fair elections." Federal law now requires that in elections for federal office, the citizens must be able to vote "in a private and independent manner" and that "the privacy of the voter and the confidentiality of the ballot" must be protected. 42 U.S.C. §15481(a)(1). The lack of privacy under H.R. 800 would subject employees to overwhelming pressure from union organizers and other workers to sign union cards, putting them back in the 19th century.

Card checks not only violate the workers' right to privacy but deprive workers of the right to hear the arguments against as well as for unionization. Again, as Professor Dahl observed, "voters must have access . . . to alternative sources of information that are not . . . dominated by any . . . groups or point of view." Unions usually solicit cards with no notice to the employer, so that H.R. 800 would deprive employees of the "alternate sources of information" necessary to make an informed, and hence free, decision.

H.R. 800 compounds these inherent defects in the card check process by providing no remedy if a union uses improper pressure or deception in getting employees to sign cards. Present law establishes a detailed and comprehensive procedure for dealing with election misconduct by both employers and union. H.R. 800 contains no such protections.

H.R. 800's card check provisions also violate the parity of the processes for employees to bring in a union and rejecting an existing union representative. Under present law and under the proposed new law, once employees bring in a union, it is not easy for them to change their mind and get rid of the union. In most cases, a secret ballot election is necessary both to bring in a union and jettison one. Under the proposed law, it would be easy for unions to get in through a card check, but difficult for employees to get free of union representation because the formalities of a secret ballot election would be required. There is no rational basis for establishing different procedures for choosing to be represented by a union and choosing not to.

H.R. 800 would deprive employees of their other basic free choice: the right to use their

collective economic power to negotiate the best agreement they think they can get and the right to approve or reject any contract negotiated by their union. Presently, employees are free to strike if they do not approve of a proposed labor contract, but H.R. 800 makes the contract fixed by a panel of government-appointed arbitrators binding for two years and now most employees covered by a proposed labor contract have the right to vote whether or not to accept it. H.R. 800 would strip this right away from them for the first (and most important) contract with their employer. If their employer and union did not reach agreement on a first contract after 90 days, the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service ("FMCS") would appoint a board of private arbitrators to determine the terms of the contract, which would be binding on the employees, the union, and the employer. There is no limit on the arbitrators' authority. They could raise wages by 100 percent or lower them. They could require employees to pay union dues or lose their jobs. This part of the law is clearly unconstitutional because it establishes no standards or procedures for the arbitrators to follow and does not provide for any review of the private arbitrators' decisions, either administrative or judicial.

In 1925, the Supreme Court declared unconstitutional under the Fourteenth Amendment a state law requiring certain private sector employers and workers to submit to binding interest arbitration by a panel of judges if the parties could not agree on a contract.

Accordingly, H.R. 800 can be upheld only if it provides procedural due process. It does not. Conspicuously absent from the statute are the procedural safeguards customarily considered necessary to ensure a fair hearing (e.g., the right to notice, to know what standards will be applied, to present evidence, to some kind of review, administrative or judicial). Of course, it is possible that the NLRB will utilize their rulemaking authority to provide for such procedures. Even so, neither agency is authorized to review an arbitration board's decision on the basis of non-compliance with such procedures. Similarly, an arbitration board's non-compliance with procedural safeguards is not a basis for judicial review. Moreover, in most arbitrations, the parties' agreement to a particular procedure is the best guarantee of fairness. Under H.R. 800, the parties have no voice in determining procedure.

In addition to due process infirmities, H.R. 800 effectuates an impermissible delegation of legislative authority to private actors, violating principals of separation of powers. Pursuant to H.R. 800, private arbitrators are vested with the ability to bind nonconsenting parties. Most importantly, employees are not parties to the mediation and have no right to participate in the arbitration proceeding or challenge the arbitrators' decision. While a majority of the affected employees will have signed union authorization cards (as defective as they are) supporting the union, the contract imposed by the arbitrators will bind all bargaining unit employees, including those who did not support union representation.

Aside from constitutional defects, H.R. 800 would eviscerate large portions of the over 70 years of case law developed carefully under the National Labor Relations Act. The resulting uncertainty would be a major force in destabilizing labor relations and causing labor strife the NLRA was intended to resolve. For example, over 97 percent of private sector labor

contracts contain provisions for the binding arbitration of disputes under those contracts. Such arbitration provisions are enforceable only if they are consensual.

The underlying problem with the mandatory arbitration portion of H.R. 800 is that in addition to depriving employees of the right to disapprove of the arbitrators' "agreement", it would destroy collective bargaining by eliminating the role of economic power and injecting procedural requirements for a fair adjudication or rulemaking proceeding that are inconsistent with collective bargaining. A labor negotiation is a contest of economic power, fundamentally different than an adjudication or rulemaking. Any attempt to graft direct government determination of the terms and conditions of employment onto a law promoting private decision-making through collective bargaining is bound to fail. The two cannot be reconciled.

I stand firm behind my vote against H.R. 800 and fully support a Presidential veto of the bill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, due to a family obligation, I was unable to vote March 9th of this year. I would like the record to reflect how I would have voted on the following votes.

On rollcall vote No. 132 I would have voted "yes." On rollcall vote No. 133 I would have voted "no." On rollcall vote No. 134 I would have voted "yes." On rollcall vote No. 135 I would have voted "yes."

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD AND VIRGINIA DOAK

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it is with deep sadness that I inform the House of the death of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Doak of Stover, MO.

Richard L. Doak was born on December 24, 1922, and was the second of seven children to the late Grace and Edgar Doak. Upon completion of high school, Richard became a student at the University of Missouri-Columbia. His college education was interrupted to volunteer for service in the United States Army in World War II. On August 19, 1944, he married Virginia Ray McClesky and soon after completed his undergraduate education, receiving a B.S. in Agriculture. He again served his country as an infantry platoon leader, 7th Division, 31st (Polar Bear) Regiment, Charlie Company, during the Korean War. In honor of his commitment to the U.S. Army, he was awarded both the Silver Star for gallantry in combat and the Bronze Star for meritorious service. After his service, the Doaks returned to Missouri where they would raise their four children on the family farm. Mr. Doak later earned a master's degree in Education from

the University of Missouri-Columbia, and served as a teacher at Payne School and as an elementary school principal at Hallsville, Jefferson City, and Versailles, MO. In 1985, Richard retired from teaching and returned to work on his farm raising and showing Southdown sheep.

Virginia Ray (McClesky) Doak was born on December 8, 1922, in King, Texas, to Estelle and Henry McClesky. Virginia graduated from high school in Gatesville and attended the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. After receiving her degree, Virginia taught school at Purmela and Plainview in Texas and Payne School in Missouri. On August 19, 1944, she married Richard Doak, a Missourian she had met while he was stationed at Fort Hood. While raising a family in Missouri, Virginia remained close to her family in Texas and looked forward to visiting them at Christmas and during the summer.

Madam Speaker, Richard and Virginia Doak were great friends of mine and were valuable members of the Stover community. I know the Members of the House will join me in extending heartfelt condolences to their family.

TRIBUTE TO THELMA CLARK

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a community activist that touched many lives throughout her 79 years as a resident of Youngstown, Ohio. Thelma Clark, who was born in Youngstown on August 15, 1927, passed away this past October. Mrs. Clark graduated from The Rayen School and later went on to graduate from the Choffin School of Nursing as a licensed practical nurse. She worked at Northside as well as Southside Hospital, but Thelma Clark's career as a nurse is not what her family and friends will think of when reminiscing about her life.

Thelma Clark's most significant and lasting impact on the Youngstown community came through her many organization memberships and dedication to those organizations. Maybe no better example of this was her steadfast faith and love of the Mt. Zion Baptist Church, to which she was a member for 63 years. Thelma served as the secretary for the church for 25 years and also played an important role as the official church historian.

Through her constant commitment to urban development and advancement of African Americans in the community, Thelma Clark was a shining example to her many children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Mrs. Clark was a member of the local branch of the NAACP for 52 years and served as 2nd vice president of the organization for many of those years. She was a member of the National Council of Negro Women while also serving as a co-chairperson of the Annual Negro College Fund Banquets.

These are just a few of the many activities that became intrinsically connected to the life of Thelma Clark. In addition, Mrs. Clark was a member of the Pink Carnation Club, treasurer of the McGuffey Football Boosters Club, and a member of the Parent Booster Club of the Boy Scouts.

Learning about people like Thelma Clark and the proactive and selfless life that she led,

gives me a great sense of inspiration and optimism for the future of Youngstown and the Mahoning Valley. The scope of Thelma Clark's influence on current and future generations is immeasurable, and I am deeply honored to have represented her.

WALTER REED MEDICAL CENTER

SPEECH OF

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my extreme disappointment over the deplorable living conditions that our brave men and women of the Armed Services have been subjected to upon returning home from their courageous service in Iraq.

How can the same administration that is calling on these young soldiers to put their lives in harm's way over and over again, allow them, after they are subsequently injured, to come back to these shameful living conditions?

As a veteran, myself, I am truly ashamed and appalled. When our brave warriors are treated like second class citizens, after being injured fighting for the values and interests of this country, it sends a very dangerous signal to those presently serving in Iraq, as well as to those who are considering serving their country through military service.

Let us fix this mess today, and make the welfare of our Armed Service members a real priority, instead of treating them like pawns in this administration's war games.

WATER QUALITY INVESTMENT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 7, 2007

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 569, introduced by my colleagues Mr. PASCRELL and Mr. CAMP. This bill would reauthorize a grant program that expired in 2003, which authorized grants to States and municipalities to combat the problem of combined sewer overflows and sanitary sewer overflows. I was proud to be an original co-sponsor of this legislation.

In 2001, the EPA estimated there were 772 communities in the country that have combined sewer systems, including all of the communities in my district: Boston, Cambridge, Chelsea, and Somerville. The EPA also estimated that to address these problems would cost communities \$50.6 billion for CSOs and an additional \$88.5 billion to address SSOs. These enormous costs cannot be borne by the communities alone.

Since the Clean Water Act was first passed in 1972, the condition of our Nation's waters has improved greatly. H.R. 569 demonstrates a renewed commitment by Congress to clean water by providing targeted assistance to address two large outstanding problems still affecting water quality, CSOs and SSOs. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

APPRECIATION OF "100 WOMEN
WHO CARE"

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support and admiration of the goals and efforts of Illinois' "100 Women Who Care" organization.

These 100 local women have seized on the remarkable idea that a small group of individuals pooling their talent, energy, and resources together can exercise an exponentially greater ability to affect positive change in our communities.

The concept is simple. "100 Women Who Care" meets four times a year to select a worthy local charity to support. At each meeting, its members contribute the seemingly insignificant sum of \$100. But taken together, these 100 checks for \$100 amount to the very significant sum of \$10,000. This money has an incredible ability to impact the important community service work of local charities.

Already this year, "100 Women Who Care" has enabled Outreach Ministries in Carol Stream, Illinois, to provide two apartments for single, homeless refugee women and their children as they work to get back on their feet.

I commend the women of "100 Women Who Care" for their dedication to serving others. This organization is a wonderful example of how working together can have a huge impact on our local communities. I wish these ladies all the best for the future. Keep up the good work!

CHIROPRACTIC CARE FOR ALL
VETERANS

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, since the creation of the Department of Veterans Affairs' health care system, the Nation's doctors of chiropractic have been, until recently, kept outside and all but prevented from providing proven, cost-effective and much-needed care to veterans—including many in need of the health care services that doctors of chiropractic are licensed to provide.

A little history: Over the years, representatives of the Department of Veterans Affairs have come before the House of Representatives Veterans' Affairs Committee and have insisted that chiropractic benefits are available to veterans and that no bias exists within the VA against the chiropractic profession. Access is becoming greater, and hopefully the bills I am introducing will not be necessary, but for all practical purposes, access to chiropractic care, until very recently, had been non-existent within the VA system. Chiropractic care was so seldom offered to veterans that it could have been fairly said to be a phantom benefit.

Because of the track record of neglect, in recent years Congress enacted 3 separate statutes seeking to ensure veterans access to chiropractic care (Public Law 106-117, Public Law 107-135 and Public Law 108-170). The

last of those statutes gave explicit authority to the VA to hire doctors of chiropractic as full-time employees. I'm proud to have worked with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to help advance those initiatives.

In addition, former VA Secretary Anthony Principi released policy directives before his departure regarding the true and full integration of chiropractic care within the VA, and it is beginning to happen, offered in more than 25 medical centers. But we must remain concerned until we see these policies firmly in place and working well in all VA treatment facilities.

As insurance, the enactment of the legislation I propose will guarantee the right of a veteran to obtain this important service at the local VA without the cost and stumbling blocks of going through potentially hostile gatekeepers.

I am proud to re-introduce a bill that former Congressman Jeb Bradley had introduced in the last session of Congress: H.R. 1470, the "Chiropractic Care Available to All Veterans Act," and to reintroduce my bill from the last session: H.R. 1471, the "Better Access to Chiropractors to Keep Our Veterans Healthy Act (BACK Our Veterans Health Act)."

The first, H.R. 1470, requires that the provision of chiropractic services and care be phased in so that it will be provided at not fewer than 75 medical centers by December 31, 2009 and at all medical centers by December 31, 2011. Within five years, all veterans will have access to chiropractic care if and when they need it.

The second, H.R. 1471, is designed to provide veterans with direct access to chiropractic care at VA hospitals and clinics. The measure directly prohibits discrimination among licensed health care providers by the VA when determining which services a patient needs.

In developing these bills, I have worked closely with chiropractic patients, particularly our veterans, who know the benefits of chiropractic care and bear witness to the positive outcomes and preventative health benefits of chiropractic care. I also was pleased to work with the American Chiropractic Association (ACA), the nation's largest chiropractic organization and the national voice of doctors of chiropractic and their patients. I have been told by the ACA that there are more than 60,000 doctors of chiropractic and in excess of 25 million chiropractic patients across America. Some of these doctors certainly should be directly available to our veterans. Finally, I am a chiropractic patient myself and have been greatly helped by chiropractic care for physical problems caused by an automobile accident. I hate to think that veterans do not have this same opportunity for relief from pain.

A large number of all medical problems in the returning soldiers from Iraq and Afghanistan—42 percent—are musculoskeletal injuries, which are injuries that are often directed to chiropractors. So the timing could not be better for passage of these bills.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting unimpeded access to chiropractic care throughout the veterans' health care system and help enact these measures.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE
MARION BERRY TRIBUTE TO
DONALD LYLE WATERWORTH

HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to a dear friend, Donald Lyle Waterworth Sr. Don is a man who exemplifies the definition of public service. He has dedicated many of his God given talents to serving our country and making his community a better place for all. Don Waterworth is an example of what it means to be a true American.

Don is a decorated war veteran, who served our country in both World War II and the Vietnam War. Some of his most notable honors from the United States Air Force include the Good Conduct Medal, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Vietnam Service Award, World War II Service award, and the Victory Medal.

Although Don has dedicated 30 years of his life to serving our country in the military, his commitment to serving others began at a young age. At the tender age of 6, Don volunteered to help his first grade teacher, Ms. Swanson with classroom chores. She later told his mother she had never had a student that was so helpful. After Don finished school, he volunteered with the United States Army and later joined the United States Air Force in 1953.

After he retired from the military, Don continued his service to our country in a different capacity. He immediately became a full-time volunteer and started his own non-profit organization called The Good Earth Association, which focused on restoring old farm machinery. While in Vietnam he organized a group to train troops in aviation skills so they could become pilots once they returned home from the war. While in Taiwan, he created a program to fund operations for crippled and disadvantaged children. The Freemasons recognized Don's lifetime of outstanding civic service and presented him with their most prestigious honor, the Solomon Award.

Despite his busy schedule, Don continues to give his time to a variety of organizations including the American Retired Military Association, Randolph County Food Bank, and The Randolph Chapter of the AARP. For over 20 years, Don has been a member of the local Masonic lodge and an observer for the Randolph County National Weather Service. He also worked for the Red Cross in Randolph County by helping families of dead or wounded soldiers get the resources they needed to care for their loved ones.

He has been married to his wife Elisabeth Waterworth for 35 years. They have 4 children, 1 foster daughter and 9 grandchildren. Don's commitment to our country through his decades of military and volunteer service is a remarkable achievement. I ask my fellow members of Congress to join me celebrating his extraordinary life on his upcoming 80th birthday.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
CLAUDE MOOSE

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the memory Claude Moose. Claude was a longtime resident of San Lorenzo, California and died on February 17, 2007, a day before his 93rd birthday.

He was committed to his family of five children and his wife Betty, a former member of the San Lorenzo School Board. His commitment to making a positive difference in the lives of others also extended to the community in which he lived.

Claude Moose was very active in his community as a Scout leader and was also appreciated for his corny sense of humor. He was an avid golfer into his late 80s and won a hole-in-one contest and many trophies. He taught his daughter, Claudia, to play when she was nine years old and they enjoyed courses from Alameda to Skywest.

Claudia describes her father's golf game—“He may not have hit long, but he hit straight. He was a dead eye on the game, no short games with him.”

Retired for many years, Claude was active in the Friends of the Library-San Lorenzo, serving as the hospitality chair and book sale volunteer. He was a volunteer and active member of the Gray Panthers of Alameda County, Hayward Demos Democratic Club, Fairmont Service League Senior Meals Program, and San Lorenzo Heritage Society and was chaplain of Disabled Veterans Chapter 51 of San Lorenzo.

Claude worked 37 years as a mail carrier and postal clerk at Oak Knoll Naval Hospital in Oakland, California. He served in the U.S. Army in World War II for five years in the South Pacific, with his last tour in New Guinea. He received many medals and was a staff sergeant in the 143rd Ordinance-Maintenance Company 77th Division.

The Moooses lived in the same San Lorenzo house for 56 years and have been members of Christ Lutheran Church since its inception 56 years ago. A memorial service will be held on March 1st at Christ Lutheran Church. A military service will be held on March 9th.

My family and staff join the community in paying tribute to Claude Moose and expressing sympathy to Betty and her family on the tremendous loss of this proud father, avid golfer and community activist. He is a model to follow.

WELCOMING KOREA INTERNATIONAL TRADE ASSOCIATION DELEGATION TO WASHINGTON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, a delegation headed by the Chairman of the Korea International Trade Association (KITA), The Honorable Hee-Beom Lee, will visit Washington during the week of March 12 for a series of meetings with business leaders, government officials,

members of this House, the Senate, journalists, and members of the Korean-American community in the metropolitan area. The purpose of the delegation's visit is to commemorate the U.S.-Korea business and trade relationship as well as support the progress of talks designed to lead to a Free Trade Agreement between the United States and the Republic of Korea.

Founded in 1946 with 105 members, KITA now represents more than 80,000 Korean businesses seeking to sell their products and services overseas, and in turn buying products and services from foreign countries. KITA, which owns office buildings in Washington and New York City, participates in the World Trade Centers Association, which has more than 300 members in 101 countries. It works closely with virtually all World Trade Centers to promote trade by providing facilities and services on a reciprocal basis.

In addition, to promote bilateral economic cooperation, KITA sponsors the Korea-U.S. Economic Council, the Korea-Japan Industry and Trade Committee, and the Korea-Hong Kong Business Roundtable.

In its efforts to promote freer trade, not only between the U.S. and Korea, but around the world, KITA organizes various functions and events to enhance mutual understanding on trade issues, seeking to resolve private-sector trade disputes through dialogue. It also works together with its overseas counterparts and international economic organizations to provide member firms with opportunities to interact fully with the international community.

Moreover, KITA places special emphasis on developing and maintaining cooperative relationships with overseas trade promotion organizations as well as major international organizations to facilitate trade and investment on a reciprocal basis. These cooperation activities include trade information exchange, organizing trade promotional events, joint research, and provision of facilities.

Barely half a century ago, the Republic of Korea was an impoverished casualty of imperialism and war; it has now grown to be the 12th-largest trading nation in the world. Korea is also the largest trading partner of the United States, with over \$70 billion in business between our countries each year. Credit for such remarkable development belongs in large part to the efforts of the Korea International Trade Association.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to extend their good wishes to Chairman Hee-Beom Lee, and welcome the delegation of the Korea International Trade Association as it visits Washington, D.C. I hope you join me in wishing them a pleasant and productive stay in our Nation's Capital.

SALUTING THE BLACK PRESS ON ITS 180TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Ms. KILPATRICK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and salute the 80th anniversary of the Black Press, and issue the following statement in support of the National Newspaper Publishers Association:

Whereas, the Black Press has been a main recorder of the history of Black people in

America and has courageously told the violent and often painful history of Blacks in their struggles for freedom and equality in America;

Whereas, the first Black newspaper, Freedom's Journal, was published in 1827, in which this abolitionist paper served as a catalytic agent in support of the anti-slavery movement;

Whereas, one of the most famous and effective fighters against the inhumanity of American slavery, Frederick Douglass, published The North Star as a voice of American Blacks crying out in the wilderness of slavery for freedom and justice;

Whereas, Black newspapers led the fight against lynching and other cruel acts against Black people at the turn of the century;

Whereas, Black editors and publishers, as leaders in their communities, joined the NAACP, National Urban League, the Black church, and other organizations in pushing for the Federal Government and the U.S. Congress to take decisive steps to protect and expand the civil rights of African American citizens;

Whereas, reporters of Black newspapers risked their lives in covering the Civil Rights Movement, including the Emmett Till trial, the violent integration of Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas, the Freedom Rides, and lunch counter sit-ins, in the South;

Whereas, the Black Press produced a long list of outstanding publishers such as John H. Murphy, Sr., Robert S. Abbott, Robert V. Vann, John H. Johnson, John S. Sengstacke, Claude A. Bennett, Louis Martin, and Dr. Carlton Goodlett;

Whereas, the Black Press continues to serve as a vital source of information about the lifestyle, culture, achievements, activities, and ongoing struggles of African American citizens for equal opportunities in education, employment, housing, and healthcare in order to live a quality life in America's democracy.

I know that my colleagues will join me in giving special recognition to what has become a great American institution, the Black Press, on its 180th anniversary in this year of 2007, especially during its annual celebration of Black Press Week March 14 through March 16. We commend the National Newspaper Publishers Association (NNPA), the trade group for more than 200 Black newspapers across the country, for organizing an annual observance of Black Press Week. We celebrate the thousands of publishers, editors, and staff of the Black Press who have documented the stories of Black Americans and continue to make sure the world is aware of the African American experience. Finally, we appreciate the struggle, the challenge and the success that is the unique contribution of the Black Press and the NNPA during this week.

HONORING WENDELL W. YOUNG III AND DR. REGINA M. BENJAMIN

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 12, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise today to recognize the remarkable work of Dr. Regina M. Benjamin and Mr. Wendell W. Young III, recipients of the Saint Katharine

Drexel National Justice Award. These two outstanding individuals were recognized by The Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament for their dedication and commitment to the betterment of others.

Dr. Regina M. Benjamin, a graduate of Xavier University and Morehouse School of Medicine, has dedicated her life to caring for the health and social welfare needs of the people in Bayou La Batre, Alabama. She is committed to enhancing physician access and patient care through her work as a member of local, state and federal boards.

Mr. Wendell W. Young III, as President of the Retail Clerk International Association of Philadelphia Local Union, promoted and created equity and equality for workers. His life has been dedicated to Catholic social teachings.

Madam Speaker, on the occasion of the Feastday of Saint Katherine Drexel, March 3, 2007, we honor both recipients for their tireless efforts to bring peace and justice to their communities. The selfless work of both Mr. Young and Dr. Benjamin has been on the behalf of those in need, a calling that is truly noble. Madam Speaker, these two individuals have taken up the fight for equality, justice and the well-being of all Americans, and for that we are all grateful.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, March 13, 2007 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 14

9:30 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the threat of Islamic radicalism to the homeland. SD-342

10 a.m.

Finance

To hold hearings to examine charting a course for health care moving toward universal coverage. SD-215

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 624, to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide waivers relating to grants for preventive health measures with respect to breast and cervical cancers, Keeping Seniors Safe From Act of 2007,

S. 657, to amend the Public Health Service Act to add requirements regarding trauma care, and any pending nominations. SD-430

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine reinvigorating the Freedom of Information Act relating to open government. SD-226

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine S. 223, to require Senate candidates to file designations, statements, and reports in electronic form. SR-301

10:15 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine enhancing patient access and drug safety relating to Prescription Drug User Fees. SD-430

10:30 a.m.

Appropriations

Defense Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Army. SD-192

2 p.m.

Budget

Business meeting to consider the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for the fiscal year 2008. SD-608

2:30 p.m.

Foreign Relations

East Asian and Pacific Affairs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine strategies to end the violence relating to extrajudicial killings in the Philippines. SD-419

Appropriations

Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine federal funding for the No Child Left Behind Act. SD-124

MARCH 15

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To receive testimony on the posture of the United States Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2008 and the future years Defense Program. SH-216

Budget

Business meeting to consider the Concurrent Resolution on the Budget for the fiscal year 2008. SD-608

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Zalmay Khalilzad to be a Representative to the United Nations, with the rank and status of Ambassador, and the Representative in the Security Council of the United Nations, and to be a Representative to the Sessions of the General Assembly of the United Nations during his tenure of service as Representative to the United Nations. SD-419

Appropriations

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine solvency and reform proposals for the Federal Housing Administration. SD-138

10 a.m.

Appropriations

Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine international food assistance. SD-124

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Gregory B. Cade, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the United States Fire Administration, Department of Homeland Security. SD-342

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 236, to require reports to Congress on Federal agency use of data mining, S. 261, to amend title 18, United States Code, to strengthen prohibitions against animal fighting, S. 376, to amend title 18, United States Code, to improve the provisions relating to the carrying of concealed weapons by law enforcement officers, S. 231, to authorize the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program at fiscal year 2006 levels through 2012, S. 368, to amend the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to enhance the COPS ON THE BEAT grant program, S. 627, to amend the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974 to improve the health and well-being of maltreated infants and toddlers through the creation of a National Court Teams Resource Center, to assist local Court Teams, and S. Con. Res. 14, commemorating the 85th anniversary of the founding of the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association, a leading association for the 1,300,000 United States citizens of Greek ancestry and Philhellenes in the United States and possibility of certain subpoenas in connection with investigation into replacement of United States Attorneys. SD-226

Commerce, Science, and Transportation Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2008 for the U.S. Coast Guard. SR-253

Environment and Public Works

Transportation and Infrastructure Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine water resources needs and the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2008 for the Army Corps of Engineers. SD-406

2 p.m.

Appropriations

Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Appropriations

Energy and Water Development Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the Department of the Army, Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of the Interior. SD-192

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

MARCH 16

10 a.m.
Appropriations
Legislative Branch Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for the fiscal year 2008 for the Government Accountability Office, Government Printing Office, Congressional Budget Office, and the Office of Compliance.

SD-138

MARCH 19

1 p.m.
Appropriations
Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2008 for the National Institutes of Health.

SH-216

MARCH 20

10 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Interstate Commerce, Trade, and Tourism Subcommittee
To continue hearings to examine economic and safety concerns relating to promoting travel to America (Part II).

SR-253

Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine combating war profiteering, focusing on investigating and prosecuting contracting fraud and abuse in Iraq.

SD-226

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Retirement and Aging Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the state of Alzheimer's disease research 100 years later.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine S. 126, to modify the boundary of Mesa Verde National Park, S. 257, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to conduct a study to determine the feasibility of establishing the Columbia-Pacific National Heritage Area in the States of Washington and Oregon, S. 289, to establish the Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area, S. 443, to establish the Sangre de Cristo National Heritage Area in the State of Colorado, S. 444, to establish the South Park National Heritage Area in the State of Colorado, S. 500, to establish the Commission to Study the Potential Creation of the National Museum of the American Latino to develop a plan of action for the establishment and maintenance of a National Museum of the American Latino in Washington, DC, H.R.512, to establish the Commis-

sion to Study the Potential Creation of the National Museum of the American Latino to develop a plan of action for the establishment and maintenance of a National Museum of the American Latino in Washington, DC, S. 637, to direct the Secretary of the Interior to study the suitability and feasibility of establishing the Chattahoochee Trace National Heritage Corridor in Alabama and Georgia, S. 817, to amend the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to provide additional authorizations for certain National heritage Areas, and for other proposes; and S. Con. Res. 6, expressing the sense of Congress that the National Museum of Wildlife Art, located in Jackson, Wyoming, should be designated as the "National Museum of Wildlife Art of the United States".

SD-366

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Investigations Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine medicare doctors who cheat on their taxes.

SD-342

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Innovation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine energy innovation.

SR-253

MARCH 21

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine assessing the effectiveness of the current United States sanctions on Iran relating to minimizing potential threats from Iran.

SD-538

MARCH 26

2 p.m.
Armed Services
Emerging Threats and Capabilities Subcommittee
To receive a briefing on the reorganization of the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for policy.

SR-232A

Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the progress of the European Union's Emissions Trading Scheme and to receive information on lessons learned for policymakers who want to better understand how a market-based trading program could operate efficiently and effectively in the United States.

SD-G50

MARCH 27

9:30 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold oversight hearings to examine the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine Department of Veterans Affairs and

SH-216

Department of Defense cooperation and collaboration, focusing on health care issues.

SR-418

MARCH 28

10 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the future of the Coast Guard Dive Program.

SR-253

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Space, Aeronautics, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine transitioning to a next generation Human Space Flight System.

SR-253

MARCH 29

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs to examine the legislative presentation of AMVETS, Ex-POWs, Military Order of the Purple Heart, and Fleet Reserve Association.

SD-106

APRIL 11

10 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the availability and affordability of property and casualty insurance in the Gulf Coast and other coastal regions.

SD-538

CANCELLATIONS

MARCH 14

9:30 a.m.
Veterans' Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense cooperation and collaboration, focusing on education and training.

SR-418

MARCH 15

8:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To receive a closed briefing on Iraq.

S-407, Capitol

POSTPONEMENTS

MARCH 14

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science, Technology, and Innovation Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine technology solutions for climate change.

SR-253