EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING KATHLEEN KEMP, PH.D.

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the career of Kathleen Kemp, Ph.D., who is retiring this year after nearly 40 years of teaching political science, the past 28 years of which were spent at my alma mater, Florida State University.

Dr. Kemp is a skilled and popular instructor who has authored many publications and won numerous awards. In 1990, I was a student in her American Presidency class. I can say without reservation or exaggeration that Dr. Kemp changed my life.

On the last day of my last class at Florida State, Dr. Kemp pulled me aside to recommend that I consider volunteering for a local congressional campaign. I took her advice and worked for the campaign throughout that summer and into the fall of 1990. Following the election, the candidate, Congressman Pete Peterson, hired me to work on his Capitol Hill staff. This opportunity, which would never have arisen without Dr. Kemp's advice, started me on a road that would eventually lead to my election to Congress. More importantly, I met my future wife, Kelly, on that same campaign and we now have two beautiful daughters.

So, Madam Speaker, I can honestly say that Professor Kathleen Kemp greatly influenced my career and had a profound impact on my life. I have no doubt that countless other students she has instructed over the years can say the same.

I thank her and wish her all the best in her retirement.

RECOGNIZING DR. TIMOTHY BLOCK FOR HIS ROLE IN HEPATITIS TYPE B RESEARCH

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Timothy Block for his efforts in the research of Hepatitis B. This truly remarkable individual has dedicated his life to expanding knowledge of and solutions to a disease that kills one million people each year.

Motivated to cure Hepatitis B by one afflicted area family with nowhere else to turn, Dr. Block established the Hepatitis B Foundation in 1991. Its mission: to discover a cure and to help patients with the disease. In 2003, Dr. Block and the Hepatitis B Foundation created the Institute for Hepatitis and Virus Research, a nonprofit organization that researches the disease in search of a breakthrough. As volunteer President of the organization, Dr. Block led the formation of the Pennsylvania Biotechnology Center of Bucks County, Pennsylvania's first Biotech center.

In addition to his work with Hepatitis B research, Dr. Block has initiated a Summer Research Internship Program. The program affords college students the opportunity to participate in research careers under the supervision of scientists. The Hepatitis B Foundation also hosts an annual convention called the "B Informed Patient Conference," at which people from around the country can share experiences and learn from experts.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Block has brought hope to millions of Hepatitis B patients and has spearheaded discovery research in the field. His zeal for helping other members of his community is unparalleled and the personal responsibility he has taken on for Hepatitis B patients throughout his career is commendable. I applaud his service to his community and to those affected by a deadly disease.

CIVICS CLASS VOICES CONCERNS ABOUT IRAQ

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak on behalf of the growing sentiment about the war in Iraq felt by not only the youth of my district, but by the youth of the Nation as well.

Recently, a senior Civics Class from Boone County in my district wrote to me expressing their concerns for the war and the effects this war has had on the homefront. These students represent a generation that will have to deal with the direct consequences of the actions we take today.

I'd like to read to you a portion of that letter.

> Our primary concern is the war in Iraq. We are in favor of fighting terrorism, but America went into Iraq under false pretenses. We now know that Iraq had nothing to do with the attack on 9/11. We believe that the reason we went to Iraq is to gain a stronghold on the oil fields. We are trading blood for oil. We have a strong feeling that American should have never invaded Iraq because our presence there is breeding more terrorism around the world. We are giving terrorists a common foe to retaliate against. We are incubating more hatred from other terrorists and now giving them a reason to unite.

I not only share the students' concerns about the war in Iraq, but I also share their concerns about the effect our involvement in the region has had here at home. The men and women of our military have gone above and beyond the call when it comes to serving their country in Iraq, but more is still being asked of them. While many of our troops are serving their third tour of duty, the President continues to move forward with his plan to send more troops into the region.

These students also point out that as this added strain on our military families continues, the strain on our domestic budget grows every day.

They go on to write, "Another of our concerns is the way our economy is being affected by the war. Just think of what $2.9 trillion dollars could have done for this Nation. Oil companies are making an annual profit of $39.5 billion dollars while many people in this Nation suffer in poverty. They are suffering because in today's society one cannot support a family on the minimum wage of $5.15 an hour. The money spent on the Iraq war has put a tremendous amount of pressure on the recipients of Social Security. Many older Americans have to choose between medication and food because they cannot afford both. Add to this the fact that thousand of Americans still do not have any health insurance."

I believe that no American should have to be burdened with such consequences. We must find a way to balance the cost of this war with the cost that families are continuing to pay here at home.

I applaud these young men for speaking up. They represent the voice of the majority of Americans who want us out of Iraq, and I want them to know that concerns have been heard. Rest assured, I will continue to do all that I can to make sure that their voices never go silent and that we continue to strive for the best course of action in Iraq and for our Nation here at home.

IN HONOR OF THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE GARDEN STATE SYMPHONIC BAND

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial anniversary of the Garden State Symphonic Band.

The Garden State Symphonic Band was founded in 1907 as the Goodwill Fife & Drum Corps. In 1920, the name was changed to the Goodwill Band, and they performed under this name until 1958, when it became the Bay City Band. It was not until 1967 that the Garden State Symphonic Band took its current title.

Modeled after the extraordinarily successful Sousa Band of the early 20th century, the Garden State Symphonic Band's primary goal is to remain a traditional American professional concert band while reaching as much of the community as possible. This organization is the oldest band of its nature in New Jersey and one of the only remaining in the entire mid-Atlantic region.

Currently, the band is under the direction of Christian Pedersen, Jr., of Fords, NJ, and is composed of an ensemble of musicians hailing from some of the most prestigious music conservatories in the Nation. Many band members have previously performed with well-known orchestras such as the New York Philharmonic and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra, while others have performed on Broadway with major musicals.