

United States of America and the Organization of American States. They were among the first persons selected to represent Barbados immediately following the granting of Independence in November 1966. All of you will agree that Barbados, the Caribbean and the Inter-American System are better off from their leadership and commitment to improving the quality of life and the promotion of justice for all citizens of the Hemisphere.

On behalf of the Government and people of Barbados I wish to express our sincerest expression of sympathy to his wife, Elia and daughter, Gail and the rest of the family.

I wish to end by reading the first verse of the poem "Los Heraldos Negros" (Black Messengers) by the great Peruvian, Cesar Vallejo:

"Hay golpes en la vida, tan fuertes . . . Yo no sé!

Golpes como del odio de Dios; como si ante ellos, la resaca de todo lo sufrido se empozara en el alma . . . Yo no sé!

In English:

There are in life such hard blows . . . I don't know!

Blows seemingly from God's wrath; as if before them

The undertow of all our sufferings is embedded in our souls . . .

I don't know!

May he rest in peace!

#### TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AND MANUFACTURING STIMULATION ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 3, 2007*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 1868) to authorize appropriations for the National Institute of Standards and Technology for fiscal years 2008, 2009, and 2010, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Chairman, I rise today in support of H.R. 1868, the Technology Innovation and Manufacturing Stimulation Act, which will reauthorize the National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST, for the next 3 years.

H.R. 1868 is the first reauthorization of NIST since 1991. Authorizing \$2.5 billion over 3 years, this bill would increase funding for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program, which keeps jobs in the United States; creates the Technology Innovation Program, which allows universities partnering with businesses to apply for funding through NIST and speed research in high-risk, high-reward technologies in areas of critical national needs; continue funding NIST on a 10-year path to doubling; and provide necessary construction funding for laboratory upgrades.

Founded in 1901 under the National Bureau of Standards Act, NIST has been in the forefront of innovative technology in areas of public safety, industrial competitiveness and economic growth through standards and measurements. Its mission is to promote U.S. innovation and industrial competitiveness by advancing measurement science, standards, and technology in ways that enhance economic security and improve our quality of life.

NIST works tirelessly with industry, universities, and other government agencies to address technological innovations that will fundamentally change products and services available in the 21st century. NIST is renowned for working on cutting edge technology. Innovations from this research will ultimately impact our quality of life.

Also supported in this reauthorization would be the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, founded by NIST and given by the President of the United States. The Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award recognizes businesses for their standard of performance excellence in their business practices. Minnesota has been the recipient of three Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Awards in the past 10 years. Most recently in 2005, Sunny Fresh Foods, Incorporated won its second Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award for its quality and leadership that continually focuses people and business processes on improving product and services to its customers and stakeholders.

NIST sits at the nexus of science and industry. NIST's unique role is to advance measurements and standards so that the next innovation can be realized and commercialized. In today's global economy, the ability of the United States to remain competitive relies increasingly on our ability to develop and commercialize innovative technologies. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1868 in order for National Institute of Standards and Technology to remain as the premier institute for measurements and standards in the world.

#### RECOGNIZING THE NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION AS THE "2007 BEST PLACE TO WORK IN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT" AND AS THE "BEST DIVERSITY COMPANY"

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2007*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize recent achievements of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The NRC recently captured the top ranking among large Federal agencies in the "2007 Best Places To Work in the Federal Government" rankings announced Thursday, April 19, 2007 by the Partnership for Public Service and the American University Institute for the Study of Public Policy Implementation.

This recognition is a great honor for all of the men and women at the NRC. Agency employees are clearly committed to the mission of licensing and regulating the Nation's civilian use of byproduct, source, and special nuclear materials to ensure adequate protection of public health and safety, promoting the common defense and security, and protecting the environment. As evidenced by this award, the NRC staff has the dedication and commitment that make the NRC a great place to work.

The NRC was also recently recognized as a "Best Diversity Company" by the readers of Diversity/Careers in Engineering and Information Technology. Reader survey results highlighted the NRC for the agency's strong support of women and minorities, attention to work/life balance, and commitment to supplier diversity.

These two awards highlight what we in the National Capital Region have known for a long time—the NRC is a top-notch employer. With its headquarters offices located in my district in Rockville, Maryland, I commend the NRC for its recent achievements and I applaud the agency's dedication to its employees while enabling the Nation to safely use radioactive materials for beneficial civilian purposes and ensuring that people and the environment are protected.

#### HONORING HARRY BELAFONTE FOR A LIFETIME OF HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISM

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 9, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to praise Harry Belafonte, legendary musician and world renowned entertainer, for a lifetime of activism for equality and human rights for people across the globe. His passion, sincerity, and empathy for those who are overlooked and underprivileged have inspired many to act and have brought about significant change in our society.

Harry Belafonte's courage to speak out against the war in Iraq, to support the victims of Hurricane Katrina, and to fight for an end of the AIDS epidemic is a mirror to his integrity and undying commitment to improving society. Amy Goodman reflects on his endless service in her article "Harry Belafonte, The Lion at 80" published by Carib News. Harry Belafonte is a true humanitarian for his lifetime of endless work for all.

[From the Carib News, Apr. 3, 2007]

HARRY BELAFONTE, THE LION AT 80

(By Amy Goodman)

Harry Belafonte just turned 80. The "King of Calypso" was the first person to have a million-selling album and the first African-American to win an Emmy, and is perhaps the most recognizable entertainer in the world. On Saturday, March 3, I attended his birthday party at a restaurant adjoining the New York Public Library.

The setting seemed very appropriate, as Belafonte himself is a living library of not only the civil rights movement but of liberation struggles around the world. In 1944, just before shipping out as a U.S. Navy sailor in World War II, he was banned from the Copacabana nightclub in New York. Ten years later, he headlined there. He knew Rosa Parks, Paul Robeson and Eleanor Roosevelt. He corresponded with the imprisoned Nelson Mandela when the U.S. government considered the South African leader a terrorist.

Belafonte was a close confidant of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. He spoke daily with King. The FBI was listening. Taylor Branch, the award-winning author of a trilogy of books on King, was at Harry's party. Belafonte describes how Bunch's final book in the trilogy, "At Canaan's Edge," uncovered extensive FBI wiretaps of their conversations.

For fighting for the right to vote and to end segregation, Belafonte says: "We were looked upon as people who were insurgents, that we were doing things to betray our nation and the tranquility of our citizens. That engaged the FBI. Everything we talked about was tapped." The FBI even went to his house when he was away and frightened his