

office of Second Assistance Presiding Bishop at the Church of God in Christ Inc.

Madam Speaker, I rise to commend and congratulate Bishop Phillip Aquilla Brooks on the occasion of his appointment as Second Assisting Presiding Bishop of the Church of God in Christ (C.O.G.I.C).

The third-longest serving Bishop of the Church of God in Christ in the history of Michigan, Bishop Brooks has served his community as a local pastor for 50 years and as a jurisdictional bishop for more than 30 years.

During this time, he has undertaken a number of initiatives to further the church's mission and strengthen it as an institution. Bishop Brooks organized the first Regional Council of Bishops, which unites the 12 jurisdictions of Michigan and Canada and allows them to work together to develop programs that benefit the church. He instituted the First Interactive Ministerial Alliance Meetings, which allow local pastors to plan and implement their own agendas, including workshops, praise and worship, and resource sharing. Bishop Brooks is responsible for the purchase and renovation of Northeast Michigan's Jurisdictional Cathedral Center. He also helped establish the nation's first Blue Cross/Blue Shield program for local pastors and C.O.G.I.C's first Credit Union.

Bishop Brooks has rightly been described as a man of prayerful reflection, honest discussion, humility, and mutual respect for all who have known him. I take great pleasure in knowing that the members of his church as well as the citizens of Michigan have benefited greatly by his guidance. I am confident that Bishop Brooks will serve the Church of God in Christ with passion, love, and dedication in this new capacity.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bishop Brooks as he takes on this new role of leadership. Bishop Brooks is truly deserving of this high honor, as well as our respect and admiration.

#### S. 5, THE STEM CELL RESEARCH ENHANCEMENT ACT

### HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2007*

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 5, the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act and commend Congresswoman DIANA DEGETTE and Congressman MICHAEL CASTLE for their leadership on this important issue.

Today, once again, Congress responds to the priorities and needs of the American people, in bringing forward a bill to expand federally-funded embryonic stem cell research.

S. 5 is supported by 72 percent of the American public, including over 200 patient groups, universities, and scientific societies. It has also been endorsed by more than 75 national and local newspapers, and 80 Nobel Laureates.

This bipartisan legislation will provide hope and opportunity for millions of Americans suffering from chronic and life-threatening health conditions. I have voted to expand this critical research 4 times. It is time for the President to listen to the American people and the majority of Congress and to sign this bill into law.

Recent research has shown that scientists have been able to create pluripotent stem

cells from mouse skin cells. This is an exciting development, and should be pursued in conjunction with embryonic stem cell research. We should support and pursue all ethical, life-saving research.

The expansion of funding to stem cell research has the power to make a real difference in the lives of Americans. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting S. 5.

#### HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MYROSLAVA GONGADZE

### HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2007*

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishment of Myroslava Gongadze of Arlington, Virginia and a proud member of our civil service. Ms. Gongadze serves as the leading spokesperson for American values in Ukraine, helping to move the nation in a more pro-western direction.

A native Ukrainian who was granted political asylum in the United States in 2001 and began working for Voice of America in 2004, Myroslava Gongadze is one of the most recognized journalists and human rights advocates in Europe. This episode during the 2004 elections is just one chapter in her long-running fight for justice in her homeland and across the globe.

For 17 days in November 2004, with temperatures below freezing in the central square in Kiev, Ukraine, a million people stood in a sea of orange color, protesting fraudulent presidential elections. Two huge screens flanked the makeshift stage hooked into Ukraine's only independent source of information, Channel5 TV. The broadcast they received was from the Voice of America's Washington studio, and the face they saw was Myroslava Gongadze. When Ms. Gongadze reported U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell's statement that the United States refused to recognize the falsified election results, it was one of the watershed moments of Ukraine's "Orange Revolution," which resulted in the election and peaceful installation of Viktor Yuschenko as Ukraine's new President.

While her story is inspirational, the circumstances that drove Ms. Gongadze to become a political activist are tragic. Her husband Georgy Gongadze was a renowned investigative journalist who exposed corruption and cronyism in the administration of the former Ukrainian President. In 2000, he was murdered by government police. Since his death, she has made it her mission to promote freedom of speech, the rights of journalists and the need to bring corrupt officials to justice.

She has pursued her agenda by working with many different organizations, including the European Court for Human Rights, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Committee to Protect Journalists. She even created the Gongadze Foundation, a nongovernmental organization working to protect journalists' rights and political freedom. However, the organization that has given her the platform to make her biggest impact has been the Voice of America.

Madam Speaker, I commend Ms. Gongadze for her leadership, and I am proud to have her

live in Virginia's 8th Congressional District as she contributes to the greatest civil service in the world. I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

#### TRIBUTE REGARDING THE 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF MIDWAY

### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2007*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, our Nation recently commemorated the 65th Anniversary of the Battle of Midway. Let me take this opportunity to reiterate the importance of that battle and remember the Americans who lost their lives in the defense of a small island northwest of Hawaii.

Between June 4 and June 7, 1942, the United States Navy defeated a Japanese attack against the Midway Atoll in what has come to be called the Battle of Midway. The battle was a decisive victory for Americans and is widely regarded as the most important naval engagement of World War II and a critical turning point in the Pacific Theater.

During the battle, 307 Americans lost their lives. We remember the sacrifices made by those men. They gave their lives for the cause of freedom. Through their actions, the war was won and peace preserved. We will not soon forget them.

At this time, it is also important to pause to remember the contributions of the many thousands of American sailors who participated in the Battle of Midway and survived. They—like so many of their generation—were touched by the ravages of war and continue to wear their scars. We owe them a debt of gratitude we cannot soon repay except by remembering their struggle, honoring their sacrifice, and continuing to keep in our thoughts those Americans who maintain our Nation's tradition of military excellence by serving with valor and distinction today.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE NATIONAL DAIRY EQUITY ACT OF 2007

### HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, June 18, 2007*

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague from New York, Mr. REYNOLDS, to introduce the National Dairy Equity Act of 2007 (NDEA), which is designed to establish a minimum price for fluid milk and create a market-based safety net for dairy farmers.

I greatly appreciate the men and women who work the extremely hard and long hours needed to produce milk, butter, cheese, ice cream, non-fat dry milk, and yogurt. Thus, I would like to begin by noting that June is Dairy Month. It is hard to overstate how important dairy is to the United States economy, nor for that matter, how important dairy is to the economies of New York and its 23rd Congressional District, which I represent. In fact, in 2006, New York was the Nation's third largest dairy state; it accounted for about 7 percent