

Dr. Ellis served at Mt. Zion Baptist Church of Redwood City for nearly 10 years, serving as full-time minister during the last 4 years of his tenure there. Dr. Ellis' leadership has been instrumental in the revitalization of this Church. Dr. Ellis was called as the pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church on September 4, 1987.

In addition to his teaching and preaching at Pilgrim, he consistently remains involved in the community. In 1988, he founded C.H.O.I.C.E.S., a drug information and referral non-profit agency. He also serves on several civic and corporate boards. In 1996, Dr. Ellis achieved one of his most recent accomplishments when he became an Adjunct Professor at Golden Gate Seminary in Mill Valley, California. Among his many other accomplishments is the fact that, in 1998, he taught in Russia. Additionally, in 1999, he was selected as President of Congress Christian Education. He currently serves as Vice President of the State Congress of Christian Education. In 1999 Pastor Ellis also founded "Teach The Word" radio ministry. In 2002, he became President and Chief Executive Officer of the Pilgrim Organization, Inc., a youth through senior non-profit organization.

He is married to the former Vanderler Hines and proud father of three children, Tawana, Justin, and Austin.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House to join me in offering sincere congratulations and respect for the 20 years of dedication and service that Pastor Larry Wayne Ellis and his wife, Vanderler Ellis, have given to the Pilgrim Baptist Church community.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ERNEST R.
SUTTON

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen, Mr. Ernest R. Sutton. Mr. Sutton, a native of Elizabeth City, NC, is retiring after 36 years of loyal, dedicated service to the North Carolina Department of Correction. He has served this department in many capacities and now completes his career as the Superintendent for the Pasquotank Correctional Institution. Mr. Sutton is a graduate of Elizabeth City State University in 1977 with a bachelor's of science degree in political science.

I have had the privilege of knowing Mr. Sutton for many years as a friend, supporter, and community leader in the Albemarle Region of our state. I first met Mr. Sutton when he was intricately involved in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, an organization founded by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. Sutton currently serves as the Chairman of the Leadership Development and Governance Committees for the American Hospital Association. He is also a member of the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Community Relations Committee.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Sutton is an activist for change. In 1997, he introduced the first Hospital/Prison "Health Fair" in North Carolina, and played a key role in the transition of Albemarle Hospital from county owned to a free standing Regional Hospital Authority. In

2000, Mr. Sutton led the development of a unique process to search for and secure a new hospital president and CEO for Albemarle Hospital, Elizabeth City, NC.

Mr. Sutton served as past Vice-Chair of the International Association of the Friends of Africa; past Chairman of the Albemarle Hospital Authority Board of Commissioners; past Chairman of the Albemarle Hospital Executive Committee; past Chairman of the Personnel and Grievance Committee of the Albemarle Hospital Board of Trustees; and past Co-Chair of the Community Relations Committee of Elizabeth City, NC. He also served as Treasurer of the North Carolina 12th District NAACP, past member of the North Carolina Cultural Alliance, and past member of the North Carolina Council on Alcoholism.

Mr. Sutton's work reaches far beyond Elizabeth City. His article "Ernest R. Sutton: Growing Potential," which emphasizes his passion for leadership and human resources development, was featured in the September 2002 issue of Trustee Magazine. He was also interviewed on diversity in health care in the Bridges Magazine—Institute for Diversity in Health Management in the Fall of 2002. As President of Faith Consultants, LLC, Mr. Sutton has conducted several health care lectures and seminars at local universities and for many religious organizations.

Mr. Sutton has received many awards for his work. In 1984, he was the recipient of NAACP Outstanding Humanitarian Award, and went on to receive the silver, gold, and platinum Gavel Awards from the Governance Institute of Physicians, Trustees and Healthcare Executives in La Jolla, CA. In 2002, he received the North Carolina Hospital Association Trustee Service Award: Trustee of the Year, and received the Harvard School of Conflict Resolution and Healthcare Negotiations: Graduate with Distinction Award.

Over this extensive career, Mr. Sutton has made a tremendous impact on his community. Through his commitment and devotion to service, he has helped to lay the ground work for continued change in both Elizabeth City and beyond. I ask that all of my colleagues join me in paying tribute to an exemplary citizen, Mr. Ernest Sutton.

PASSPORT BACKLOG REDUCTION
ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 16, 2007

Mr. CAPUANO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the passage of S. 966, a bill that will help ease the lengthy delays that citizens are experiencing obtaining a passport.

The House will have the opportunity to pass amendments to S. 966, the Passport Backlog Reduction Act. The Senate passed the bill, originally introduced by Senator SCHUMER, by unanimous consent on June 29.

After hearing from many constituents about problems they were having, I introduced my I own bill, H.R. 2960, the Department of State Crisis Response Act of 2007. Along with my colleagues Representatives LOUISE SLAUGHTER, RUBEN HINOJOSA, TED POE, AL GREEN,

MAC THORNBERRY, CHARLES GONZALEZ, EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, SHELLEY BERKLEY, HENRY CUELLAR, CAROL SHEA-PORTER, JERRY MCNERNEY, PETER WELCH and JASON ALTMIRE, I introduced this legislation to enable the Department of State to respond to a critical shortage of passport processing personnel by re-employing vital former employees. I am pleased that the House Foreign Affairs Committee decided to send the Senate bill, similar in purpose to my bill, to the floor in an effort expedite the process. With passage of S. 966, the State Department can begin working to reduce the passport backlog.

I am hopeful that this legislative action will go far to ease the difficulty and delay many of our constituents have experienced in getting or renewing their passports.

RECOGNIZING ANTONIO
MANIBUSAN PALOMO

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 19, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Antonio Manibusan Palomo for a lifetime of service to our community, and for his efforts to preserve Guam's history and culture. Mr. Palomo, a prolific writer and long-time reporter for Guam media, and a former Guam lawmaker, recently retired as the administrator of the Guam Museum on June 13, 2007.

Tony was born in 1931 in Hagatna, the eldest of the nine children of the late Vicente Gogo Palomo and Dolores Lydia Mendiola Manibusan. He attended Guam's prewar Padre Palomo and Agana Elementary Schools and graduated from George Washington High School. He also attended Belmont Abby Preparatory School in Belmont, North Carolina, and Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, graduating from Marquette's College of Journalism in 1954. He worked full-time as a copy boy for the Milwaukee Sentinel while in school. Upon his return to Guam, Tony applied his skills as a proofreader, a general assignment reporter, a sports editor, and an assistant managing editor for the Guam Daily News, forerunner of the Pacific Daily News. He also served as a correspondent for the Associated Press and as a stringer for the Pacific Stars and Stripes.

During his long career as a journalist, Tony served as editor of the Pacific Journal, a daily newspaper; as publisher-editor of Pacific Profile, a monthly magazine; and editor of the Pacifican, a weekly newspaper.

He then served as a special assistant to Guam's first elected Governor, Carlos G. Camacho, and as administrative director and records manager for the Eighth Guam Legislature before being elected to the legislature himself. Tony served in the 12th, 14th, and 15th Guam Legislatures. As a lawmaker, Tony chaired the legislature's Committee on Rules and the Committee on Territorial and Federal Affairs, which spearheaded the movement for a change in Guam's political status. He served as president of Guam's first Constitutional Convention in 1969 and was a member of Guam's first Commission on Self-Determination. He served briefly as general manager of the Guam Tourist Commission, predecessor of