

This legislation is necessary because the IRS stated that “under existing GSA Federal Supply Schedule, FSS, contracting procedures, it cannot set a specific number of awards aside for contractors employing significant numbers of persons with disabilities,” only for the one disabled employer who may never hire another disabled person.

This is an oversight in our law which needs to be corrected. It makes no sense that current law provides an employment opportunity for ONE disabled person, while this initiative would create opportunities for hundreds—if not thousands—of people who are disabled and without a college education.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned previously, there is particular concern over the group of young, disabled veterans who have few employment options. Most able-bodied soldiers without formal education, upon leaving service, take positions as bus drivers, cafeteria workers, janitorial services, or security personnel. If the Disability Preference Program is not enacted soon, a viable opportunity will be lost.

This initiative is supported by the Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the American Association of People With Disabilities, the One Percent Coalition, and the National Rehabilitation Association. In addition, the language has been passed by the other body on numerous occasions.

I ask my colleagues in the House to join with me in supporting the Disability Preference Program for Tax Collection Contracts. I ask them to join me in providing meaningful employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and for our returning soldiers who have been disabled in the line of duty.

IN HONOR OF CALDWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Caldwell Public Library, serving the Borough of Caldwell, Essex County, NJ, a vibrant community that I am proud to represent! On October 12th, the good citizens of the borough will celebrate their library's 90th anniversary with a rededication and the dedication of the Gene and Kathryn Collerd Local History Resource Room. The Caldwell Public Library, an Andrew Carnegie Library dedicated in 1917, is situated on Bloomfield Avenue, diagonally across from President Grover Cleveland's Birthplace Memorial, a national historic site.

On October 1, 1906, at a regular meeting of the Borough Council, a communication was received from the Caldwell Borough Improvement Association, requesting the Borough to assume the responsibility of operating and supporting a public library.

The following year, 1907, Professor Hedden, Superintendent of Schools, requested the Caldwell Borough Council submit to the voters a referendum to establish a free public library under the State Library Act. The councilmen endorsed the necessary requirements, and at the November elections, the Act was passed by the voters. The State Library Com-

mission accepted and approved the proposed charter.

On June 8, 1908 a letter from the Carnegie Library Foundation offered a sum of \$7,500 to construct a library. To meet the grant's specifications, the town was required to provide an appropriate lot, plus \$750 or 10 percent of the grant annually to sustain the library.

For the next 9 years, the library board was confronted with problems which hindered the construction of a new edifice. Acquiring a suitable location was the principal issue. West Caldwell resident Mr. George W. Canfield generously donated \$2,000 toward the purchase of a site for the library. With this contribution, and donations from other interested persons, a total of \$3,000 was raised to purchase a site.

On October 12, 1917, the Caldwell Library was formally dedicated by Mayor Peck, who was also President of the Library Board of Trustees.

Gene Collerd recorded much of the history of this area over the course of his life (1913–2004), and this Collerd Collection, to be housed in the Gene and Kathryn Collerd Local History Resource Room, will be an invaluable resource to not just the Caldwell, but beyond.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Caldwell Library on the celebration of its 90th anniversary!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 958, Final Passage of H.R. 2895, the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007, I was not present. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MARIN CONSERVATION CORPS ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute the Marin Conservation Corps, MCC, on its 25th anniversary of helping young people to a brighter future by providing jobs and learning opportunities, at the same time protecting and conserving our natural resources.

MCC began more than 25 years ago when founder Richard Hammond was out jogging along one of the many gorgeous trails of the Marin Headlands. The father of teenage sons at the time, he had been seeking something productive to keep them occupied during summer vacation and came up with the idea to combine trail maintenance with young people's need for work. But it wasn't until devastating floods hit Marin in 1982 that the corps took shape.

The first local conservation corps in the country, MCC literally blazed the trail for others to follow. Workers have put in more than

3 million hours to maintain and conserve Marin County's 150,000 acres of public land. In association with AmeriCorps, MCC has partnered with the National Park Service to create a one-on-one mentoring program. MCC also provides young people with summer jobs through a combination of outdoor education, community service and recreational activities through its Project ReGeneration.

Under the leadership of Marilee Eckert since 1992, the nonprofit has grown to provide year-round employment to 116 people, operating under a budget of more than \$5 million and helping more than 3,000 young men and women gain job skills along with an education. Marilee also holds leadership roles in many local and national organizations. Her efforts have earned her recognition and awards from the county and the Sierra Club, as well as the gratitude of the many corps members who have benefited from her hard work.

Many of those who have benefited come from underserved populations. One such corpsman is Matthew Rainey, a 21-year-old convicted felon. “I didn't have an opportunity to work anywhere else,” he says. “Honestly, I was living in my car, didn't have anything going for myself, but every single day, I would come to work.”

Because of MCC, Rainey has earned his GED, saved enough to rent an apartment, and is considering following the trade he learned through his work at MCC.

“He has so totally blossomed,” notes Deborah Schoenbaum, MCC's deputy director. “He has won just about every award you can get in the corps. It's been a life-changing experience for him.”

Working at MCC has been a life-changing experience for many others, as well. An average of 300 young people go through the various MCC programs each year. In fact, some of MCC's sponsors and greatest supporters were previously in the corps program.

Corpsmembers not only arrive at work at 7 a.m. for a full day of work each day, but must put in 10 hours of education each week, as well. Marvin was one such young man willing to work this hard for a better future. Marvin came to the corps speaking absolutely no English, Schoenbaum remembers. “He now speaks English and has gotten a job with a top landscaping firm because he went through a landscaping program we have with College of Marin.”

Such success stories, Madam Speaker, is why the Marin Conservation Corps deserves to be congratulated for its past 25 years of service. May it have an equally successful future.

GREG SMITH: EDUCATOR, HUMANITARIAN, SCHOLAR AND CHAMPION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, October 20, 2007, California State University Dominguez Hills, CSUDH, will celebrate the dedication of the Greg Smith Memorial Garden on its campus. Inspired by the late

Professor Smith's appreciation of nature, commitment to the preservation of the environment, and love for CSUDH, the Memorial Garden will serve as a lasting legacy to this extraordinary father, husband, activist, scholar, and teacher. Supported by his widow, June Smith, her family, and many friends, this garden will provide, as June says, "a place where people can have quiet contemplation and appreciate nature."

Greg Smith was a city of San Pedro resident, a leader in my district who became a faculty member at CSUDH in 1968 because he wanted to give back to his community. He taught with intelligence and passion, but most importantly he taught from the heart.

A noted scholar and educator, Greg took his students all over Los Angeles so that they could better understand the demographics and issues of the different communities within LA County. Greg was a political geographer who not only studied how the shifting political landscape affected the world, he became actively involved in organizations such as the California Coastal Commission and Los Angeles Tree Commission in order to influence the preservation of the environment in California.

Greg retired from CSUDH in 1992 after having inspired and touched thousands of students, staff and faculty colleagues. It was 5 years after his retirement, while hiking in the Sierra Nevada Mountains, that Greg died of an apparent heart attack at the age of 66.

Greg was a role model to those who knew him and inspired many to continue his efforts to preserve the environment. His research on environmental stability, preservation of mountain tops, land surface design and river water containment contributed greatly to the Nation's knowledge base and ability to preserve agricultural and natural resources.

Greg met his wife June, a professor of English at Harbor Community College, while they were undergraduates at Reed College in Portland, OR. They have been residents and active members of the San Pedro community since the late 1960s and have two children, Gillia and Cyrus, and a grandson, Hudson Gregory.

I am proud that Greg Smith was my constituent. I am delighted that his family and CSUDH will be honoring the memory of this extraordinary individual with the Greg Smith Memorial Garden.

CONGRATULATING PATIENCE ANN DAVIS ON HER ADMISSION TO THE NORTH CAROLINA BAR

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Patience Ann Davis on her admission to the North Carolina Bar. After years of hard work and dedication to her studies, Ms. Davis will now begin pursuing a career in the legal field.

Ms. Davis attended the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as an undergraduate. During her time at UNC, Ms. Davis was active in campus activities and academic life. Upon graduation from UNC, Ms. Davis enrolled in classes at the Norman Adrian Wiggins School of Law at Campbell University to pursue her Juris Doctor degree.

She completed this program in the spring of this year, and successfully passed the bar exam soon after graduation.

As a Member of Congress, I have seen firsthand how the law can be used as a force for good. I look forward to following the career of Ms. Davis, as she uses her knowledge and expertise in the law to serve others and to pursue legal and social justice.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Ms. Patience Ann Davis.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR.
ROLAND R. PINEAU

HON. THADDEUS. G. McCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. McCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor and acknowledge the extraordinary life of aviation electronics technician Chief Roland R. Pineau, and to mourn his passing upon the 40th anniversary of his death.

Born on July 6, 1929, Chief Pineau devoted his life to God, family and our country in the U.S. Navy. In 1946, at the age of 17, Chief Pineau embarked on a 21-year naval career, which included service in both the Korean and Vietnam Wars. After more than 20 years of service, Chief Pineau volunteered for a third tour of duty in Vietnam where he was stationed as an aviation technician chief on an E-1B aircraft commonly known as "Willy Fudd." On October 8, 1967, during a combat support flight mission the "Willy Fudd" went down 14 miles south of DaNang, South Vietnam on a steep mountain slope. Chief Pineau and 4 other crew members were listed as Prisoners of War/Missing in Action. For his courage and bravery, Chief Pineau was awarded 3 Air Medals, 2 Gold Stars, 2 National Defense Awards, a Korean Service Medal, China Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and a Navy Commendation Ribbon.

And there his story remained, until November 2006, when communist Vietnam announced its recovery of Chief Pineau's remains from the Willy Fudd's crash site. After 40 years, on October 9, 2007, having finally returned home, Chief Pineau was formally laid to rest by his loved ones, who never succumbed to their grief and faithfully fought for this day on his behalf. Chief Pineau is survived by his parents, Robert and Elizabeth Pineau, his brother, Dennis Pineau, and his beloved wife, Jackie Pineau. A beloved and noble man—an American—Chief Pineau will be sorely missed.

Madam Speaker, Chief Roland Pineau is remembered as a brave soldier, a loyal friend, and a dedicated husband. Today, as we bid him farewell, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning his passing and honoring his unwavering patriotism and eternal sacrifice to our community and country.

CONGRATULATING KIRSTIE E.
WADE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Miss Kirstie E. Wade of Argyle High School in Argyle, Texas, for being chosen as a semifinalist in the 44th Annual National Achievement Scholarship Program. It is an honor to have such a qualified student in the 26th District of Texas.

The National Achievement Scholarship Program began in 1964 as a way to provide scholarships to promising black students. Since 1964, almost 28,000 students have been provided with scholarships totaling more than \$88 million.

Miss Wade was one of 114 semifinalists from the State of Texas. She was chosen based on her Preliminary SAT scores. Finalists will be chosen based on abilities, achievements, and potential for success. The scholarship winners will be announced in April of 2008.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Miss Kirstie E. Wade and her family for her academic achievements at Argyle High School. Her dedication and commitment to her education will lead her to great things. I wish her the best of luck with the remainder of the National Achievement Scholarship Program.

IN HONOR OF MONTEREY-SALINAS
TRANSIT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I have the distinct honor and privilege of representing California's 17th congressional district and, on behalf of all the residents of the central coast, I would like to commend to my colleagues' attention the 35th Anniversary of Monterey-Salinas Transit.

The Monterey Peninsula Public Transit System Joint Powers Agency was formed by the cities of Carmel, Del Rey Oaks, Monterey, Pacific Grove, Seaside and the county of Monterey on October 1, 1972. As the predecessor of Monterey-Salinas Transit, it served the Monterey Peninsula area, and later expanded to provide service to the cities of Marina, Salinas, and Watsonville, now serving all of northern Monterey County with new connections into Santa Clara County, including downtown San Jose. It is the foresight of the MST member jurisdictions that has enabled the transit service to be on the cutting edge of technology and service, with ridership of nearly five million passengers each year, including a paratransit van service for disabled customers, a Waterfront Area Visitor Express service for tourists, and the innovative Carmel Valley Grapevine Express.

Not only does MST play a significant role in the transportation system of the Monterey Bay region, but it helps meet the basic transportation needs of thousands of constituents. A majority of MST passengers are either elderly or low-income. More than two out of every five