

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE CAREER OF DR.
DHARMAPURI VIDYASAGER

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize the service of a distinguished faculty member in the College of Medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Dharmapuri Vidyasager currently serves as the Director of Neonatology and Co-Director of the Perinatal Center at UIC. Hired specifically to establish a Neonatal Intensive Care unit, he began his career with UIC as the Director of Newborn Nurseries in 1974. During the interim 33 years, he became a full professor in 1977 and served as the interim Head of the Department of Pediatrics in 1983. I seek to recognize Dr. Vidyasager today in anticipation of his retirement in November of this year.

Without question, Dr. Vidyasager has contributed significantly to the field of neonatology as a physician, a researcher, and an educator. From establishing the first neonatal care unit in the State of Illinois at Cook County Hospital in 1971 to helping decrease the Illinois infant mortality rate from 25 to 7 deaths per 1,000 births to aiding other nations in reducing neonatal and infant mortality, his medical work has had a substantial, direct effect on newborn children. Dr. Vidyasager's research on surfactant systems in lungs and the treatment of the hyaline membrane disease has proved quite essential to the major advancements that have taken place in the field of neonatology. In addition, Dr. Vidyasager has demonstrated a strong commitment to developing high caliber physicians. During his tenure, Dr. Vidyasager trained more than 70 neonatologists, some of whom are nationally and internationally known academicians. He was responsible for developing the UIC Medical Center's teaching program into one of the most highly recognized physician training centers. Further, he has conducted training sessions and provided free consultations on the establishment of modern neonatal intensive care units across the globe including—but not limited to—China, India, Poland, Lithuania, and Uzbekistan.

In 2006, Dr. Vidyasager's work was honored via his nomination for inclusion in the Castle Connolly Medical Ltd.'s Top Doctors of America and The Best Doctors Directory. His service to the field of neonatology, his patients, the University of Illinois at Chicago, and to the City of Chicago has been quite extraordinary. I honor his retirement in November 2007 with the words of Frederick Douglass as he once said, "Man's greatness consists in his ability to do and the proper application of his powers to things needed to be done." The accomplishments of Dr. Vidyasager over the last three decades have done a great deal to illustrate his greatness.

IN HONOR OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SACRAMENTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of the Sacramento Public Library's 150 years of providing excellent service to Sacramento residents. In 1857 the Sacramento Library was established by community leaders and has grown to include 26 other branches and bookmobiles. I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in saluting 150 years of first-rate service provided by the Sacramento Public Library.

The Central Library, located in downtown Sacramento has evolved since Sacramento's leaders established it as the center for scholarly thought in the region in 1857. Led by the efforts of distinguished Sacramentans such as Leland Stanford, Charles Crocker, Collis Potter Huntington, Mark Hopkins and Newton Booth, the library officially opened on November 6, 1857. At its inception, the library originally served about 40 visitors per day and issued 150 books per week. A decade later the library association's prosperity continued to increase, and they were able to purchase a downtown lot on I Street. Eventually, through donations from the Carnegie Foundation and the city, the Central Library moved into the distinctive 3 story brick building on April 23, 1918. Today, the Central Library's vast collection has grown to include nearly 300,000 volumes, with more than 1,000 periodical subscriptions. Their catalog also includes special collections and a variety of historic government documents.

The Sacramento Public Library provides service to 1,269,000 residents in the Sacramento region making it the fifth largest library in California. Its extensive collection makes it the sixth largest library in terms of materials held. The library's 340 staff members help to operate the 27 branches. The library owns over 100,000 audio-visual items, subscribes to 4,000 periodicals and provides 345 technology workstations for public use.

In 1984, The Sacramento Public Library Foundation was created as a nonprofit corporation to encourage and support the benefits of the Sacramento Public Library. The Foundation has been instrumental in raising money to purchase books, computers, reading enrichment programs, bookmobiles, literacy classes, and after school homework centers. Without the \$7 million raised by the Foundation to date, many of these vital services would not be possible. The Foundation's strength stems from its wide support of over 16,000 donors who have been supportive of the Sacramento Public Library and its abundance of resources.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize the 150 years of service provided by the Sacramento Public Library. In the coming years

the library will continue to expand its collection and make its services more readily available to Sacramento residents. As the Sacramento Community and library's supporters gather to celebrate 150 years of success, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the Sacramento Public Library.

NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY MEETINGS IN REYKJAVIK, ICELAND

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 18, 2007

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, I recently led a bipartisan House delegation to NATO Parliamentary Assembly meetings in Reykjavik, Iceland, from October 5–October 9. The co-chair of my delegation was the Hon. JOHN SHIMKUS. In addition, Representatives JOHN BOOZMAN, JO ANN EMERSON, JEFF MILLER, DENNIS MOORE, RALPH REGULA, MIKE ROSS, DAVID SCOTT, ELLEN TAUSCHER, and TOM UDALL, and staff, worked to make these meetings a success in the examination of a number of front-line NATO issues.

The NATO Parliamentary Assembly brings together members of parliament from all 26 allied states. In addition, observer delegations from such countries as Russia, Georgia, Macedonia, Croatia, and Albania bring a wide range of views to the table in discussion of issues of interest to Americans and Europeans. The NATO Parliamentary Assembly breaks into committees for presentation and discussion of reports by the parliamentary delegates. These sessions provide an opportunity to gauge the issues of greatest interest to NATO governments, and give our own Members not only the chance to voice their own views, but to understand the debates occurring in such key countries as Germany, France, and Britain.

There were several key issues that surfaced in the different committees. NATO's mission in Afghanistan was perhaps the most important. The future of Kosovo, now in the final stages of its quest for independence, was another. Enlargement of the alliance, an important subject of discussion at the coming NATO summit in Bucharest in April 2008, drew considerable attention. Other issues evident in the different committees were Russia's relations with the alliance, energy security, and missile defense.

I have been chairman of the Committee on Economics and Security, and was re-elected to that position in Reykjavik. I will take the opportunity to mention that Rep. BOOZMAN was also re-elected to serve another year as a rapporteur in that committee. Together with a Lithuanian member of parliament, he presented a well-received report on the rise of an east Asian economic system. There was also a report on trends in allied defense management in burdensharing. The report triggered a vigorous discussion of NATO's effort to stabilize Afghanistan. Forces from the United

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