

According to Governor Linda Lingle, in 2006 the State of Hawaii spent an estimated \$91 million in State funds to provide health and social services to migrants from the FAS. This amount is almost double the cost of \$48 million reported to the U.S. Department of the Interior by the State of Hawaii for health and social services provided to Compact migrants in 2003, which was the last year such figures were compiled. Clearly, the cost to the state is growing and will continue to grow.

No State can expect its taxpayers to bear such an increasingly costly burden for an agreement that is in the interest of our entire Nation. The Federal Government should do more to help address the unintended social services consequences of the Compact.

I know that Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands face the same challenges in the provision of health and social services to FAS citizens as the State of Hawaii. I look forward to working with my colleagues on this important issue.

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SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND  
IDEALS OF NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK

SPEECH OF

**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 22, 2007*

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 751, a resolution I have introduced supporting the goals and ideals of National Chemistry Week, which starts today, October 22, 2007.

During the next 5 days, millions of people, particularly students in elementary and secondary schools, will be engaged in chemistry-related activities that show the importance of chemistry to our quality of life. With assistance from American Chemical Society, ACS, staff, thousands of volunteers will conduct these activities in venues from shopping malls, to classrooms, to university labs.

National Chemistry Week was created by ACS in 1987 to draw attention to the positive contributions chemistry makes to our everyday lives. These contributions include helping feed, house, and clothe the world's population; tapping new energy sources; providing renewable substitutes for limited materials; improving public health; strengthening our national security; and protecting our environment.

During this year's 20th anniversary of National Chemistry Week, we are celebrating "The Many Faces of Chemistry." This theme was chosen to emphasize the extensive variety of careers available in the world of chemistry and to honor the tremendous diversity of people who have contributed and will contribute to the advancement of chemistry and all of its branches. This year's theme takes added importance when you consider that a disproportionately low number of minority, underprivileged, and young women students are taking up careers in science and technology.

The inclusion of women and under-represented minorities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields, STEM, is not just important to correct for historical employment inequities, but to provide under-represented minorities an opportunity for pros-

perity. The increased education and participation of this segment of the workforce is also essential to supplying the American economy with the STEM expertise the country needs to innovate and remain competitive. According to the U.S. Census, 39 percent of the population under the age of 18 is a racial or ethnic minority. That percentage is on a path to pass 50 percent by the year 2050. Yet, in 2000, only 4.4 percent of the science and engineering jobs were held by African Americans and only 3.4 percent by Hispanics. Women constitute over half of the post-secondary students in the Nation, but represent a little more than one-quarter of our science and engineering workforce. We must correct these disparities, and fast.

This is not an issue of compromising high standards. If America is to achieve its strategic objectives in STEM, the enormous potential of groups that are currently under-represented in the STEM fields must be realized through expanded and focused educational opportunity. Some see tension between policies that focus resources on certain groups and the pursuit for excellence, but the simple truth is that the general achievement of excellence is strongly linked to the prevalence of opportunity.

Scientists from these under-represented groups have demonstrated excellence through important contributions to our understanding of the environment and the sciences. Two notable examples include Mario Molina, an atmospheric chemist who received a Nobel Prize for his work establishing the link between CFCs and atmospheric ozone destruction, and Percy L. Julian, who was the first black chemist elected to the National Academy of Sciences and whose work in synthesizing a compound used to treat glaucoma led to his having been ranked by ACS as one of the top 75 Distinguished Contributors to the Chemical Enterprise.

If we are to remain an innovative and economically competitive nation, the face of our high-tech workforce must reflect the true face of America. Our workforce will not be the best America has to offer if we do not ensure that we are taking advantage of all pools of domestic talent. "The Many Faces of Chemistry" theme is especially significant because it focuses on promoting diversity, which will help ensure national competitiveness by encouraging broad participation from all sources of talent in the sciences and chemistry.

I thank the American Chemical Society for their work in promoting the chemical sciences and the important role of diversity. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. XAVIER BECERRA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 25, 2007*

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, on Monday, October 22, 2007, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall votes 983, 984 and 985.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" for rollcall votes 983, 984 and 985.

TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH ONSLOW

**HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 25, 2007*

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize and celebrate the tenure of Deborah Onslow, President and General Manager of WMHT Educational Telecommunications in Troy, NY.

On November 1, 2007, the Tech Valley community in my district will come together to celebrate Ms. Onslow's many years of dedication, hard work, and accomplishment on behalf of public broadcasting at the community and national levels. Her leadership and commitment to local community values is integral not only to the success of WMHT, but to the entire public television and radio community.

Ms. Onslow assumed the position of President and General Manager of WMHT Educational Telecommunications in March 2001, becoming the first woman ever to head a New York State public broadcasting station. During her distinguished career, Ms. Onslow has received national recognition for outstanding achievements in local fundraising, as well as for local program production. Before joining WMHT, Ms. Onslow served as Vice President and General Manager of WGBY in Springfield, MA, and as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of WXXI in Rochester, NY.

Ms. Onslow is a member of the WGBH Educational Foundation, and has also served on the PBS Board of Directors. Locally, she is serving on the Business-Higher Education Roundtable, as well as on the Board of Directors of the Center for Economic Growth. She was co-chair of the 2003 American Heart Association's Capital Region American Heart Walk.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Deborah Onslow for her distinguished career in furthering the mission and values of public broadcasting.

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HONORING THE LOUISIANA  
HONORAIR VETERANS

**HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY JR.**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 25, 2007*

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from South Louisiana.

On October 27, 2007 a group of 97 veterans and their guardians will fly to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these veterans from my home State of Louisiana to visit Washington, DC on a chartered flight free of charge. During their visit, they will visit Arlington National Cemetery and the World War II Memorial. For many, this will be their first and only opportunity to see these sights dedicated to the great service they have provided for our Nation.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thanking them for their unselfish service.