HON. JOE DONNELLY
OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007
Mr. DONNELLY. Madam Speaker, I am so proud to rise before you today to offer a word of congratulations to Special Olympian Jessica Crook of Logansport, Indiana, for her accomplishments at this year’s World Games in Shanghai, China, and for being selected as a member of the 2007–2009 class of Sargent Shriver International Global Messengers. Not only is Jessica the first Global Messenger to be selected from the State of Indiana, but she is an accomplished athlete as well. She became involved with the Special Olympics in 1999, with the Cass County Aquatics program. In June 2005, Jessica won a Gold Medal in the Summer Games, and followed up with two more in 2006. Also in 2006, Jessica won top honors in three events at the National Games. This year, Jessica was one of seven Houstoners representing Team USA at the World Games in Shanghai, China. She competed in three events at the World Games, held in November, placing sixth in the 50-meter Freestyle, winning a Silver Medal as part of the 4x50-meter Medley Relay team, and winning a Gold Medal in the 50-meter Butterfly. As an International Global Messenger, Jessica will serve for two years as a voice of the Special Olympics. Sargent Shriver International Global Messengers (IGM) are a group of twelve Special Olympians from around the world that speak on behalf of the Special Olympics, appearing in various national and international media outlets. The new class, consisting of athletes from across the globe, is committed to the vision and benefits gained from participation in athletics. Jessica is the first Special Olympian athlete from Indiana to receive this distinguished appointment, and she is eager to relay the powerful declarations of hope, acceptance, dignity and courage of Special Olympics Athletes around the world.

Again, it is my honor to join with the constituents of Indiana’s Second Congressional District and around the country in congratulating Jessica Crook of Logansport, Indiana, for her accomplishments at the 2007 Special Olympics World Games and for being selected as a Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger.

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007
Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Riley Bell, of Trinity Christian Academy, on qualifying for induction into the Spring 2007 National Honor Roll. Riley resides in The Colony, TX and is in her third year of high school at Trinity Christian.

The National Honor Roll offers several benefits that can contribute to the success of its student members. The National Honor Roll chooses students based upon their academic performance. Each student that qualifies for induction must have a B average or better, and show ambition in areas such as grade point average, interests, activities, and future goals.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Ms. Riley Bell for her remarkable dedication to education and exemplary learning. Her commitment to her studies, her school, and her future should serve as an inspiration to all. I am honored to represent her in the 26th District of Texas.

HON. RON PAUL
OF TEXAS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, December 5, 2007
Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably out of town on October 23, 2007, when a vote was taken on H.R. 1955, the Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted against this misguided and dangerous piece of legislation. This legislation focuses the weight of the U.S. government inward toward its own citizens under the guise of protecting against “violent radicalization.”

I would like to note that this legislation was brought to the floor for a vote under suspension of regular order. These so-called “suspension” bills are meant to be non-controversial, thereby negating the need for the more complete and open debate allowed under regular order. It is difficult for me to believe that none of my colleagues in Congress view H.R. 1955, with its troubling civil liberties implications, as “non-controversial.”

There are many causes for concern in H.R. 1955. The legislation specifically singles out the Internet for “facilitating violent radicalization, and the homegrown terrorism process” in the United States. Such language may well be the first step toward U.S. government regulation of