

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

INTRODUCTION OF BISHOP EARL J. WRIGHT, SR., GUEST CHAPLAIN FOR THE DAY

### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2007*

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker it is with great pleasure that I introduce Bishop Earl J. Wright, Sr., as the Guest Chaplain for the day. Bishop Wright is a member of the general board, the governing body of the Church of God in Christ, which he helped to create. He also serves as the jurisdictional bishop of the Second Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction of Southwest Michigan—Church of God in Christ, a district comprised of 19 churches. In addition, he is the pastor of Greater Miller Memorial Church of God in Christ located in Warren, MI, and also the pastor of Davis Memorial Church of God in Christ located in Grand Rapids. Bishop Wright also is a founding and supporting pastor of Miller Memorial Church of God in Christ #2 in Haiti.

Other accolades for Bishop Wright include being appointed the prayer leader for the Detroit National Day of Prayer in 1992. He was acknowledged for his ministries, church and community leadership roles in the international publication *Upscale Magazine* as 1 of 50 Most Influential Leaders in the United States in the same year. In 1996, the Christian Women Concerned Organization of Detroit selected Bishop Wright as the “COGIC Pastor of the Year.”

Bishop Wright is married to the lovely and gracious Dr. (Evangelist) Robin L. Wright, supervisor of Japan Jurisdiction—C.O.G.I.C. In addition to being an evangelist, she is also a writer, and a great administrative help to the local churches in Detroit and Southwest Michigan. Together they have five children: Earl, Jr., wife—Elaine; Michael, wife—Robin; Marvalyn; Ben; and Jonathan. He truly acknowledges his family as his first ministry.

The Church of God in Christ is a Church of the Lord Jesus Christ in which the word of God is preached, ordinances are administered and the doctrine of sanctification or holiness is emphasized, as being essential to the salvation of mankind. Elder Charles Harrison Mason is the founder and organizer of the Church of God in Christ, and under Bishop Mason’s spiritual and apostolic direction, the Church of God in Christ, the church has grown from 10 congregations in 1907, to the largest Pentecostal group in America.

This year the Church of God in Christ celebrated its 100th Annual Holy Convocation; its theme was Celebrating a Glorious Past: Embracing a Promising Future, and it was attended by over 70,000 delegates. In remarking about the convocation, COGIC’s Presiding Bishop Charles E. Blake, Sr., said, “In the last century the Church of God in Christ rose from a motley group of sanctified proselytes to a highly respected denomination with more than 6 million members in 64 countries. The Lord

has used the Church of God in Christ to accomplish great things in worship, proclamation, urban renewal, and gospel music.” The Church is also very active in promoting a social justice agenda that reverses the circumstances of black men, families, and urban communities as well as providing comprehensive programs for youth and young adults.

Bishop Wright has shown himself as a true disciple of Christ, relying heavily on his favorite scripture, Romans 4:21, “And being fully persuaded that, what he had promised, he was able also to perform.” He exemplifies service to his fellow man, allowing his words to always bring grace to the hearer. He constantly speaks words of hope, spreading the good news to all. He practices evangelism that reflects Christ-like compassion to reach the world with the Gospel. Bishop Earl E. Wright, Sr., is a wonderful man of God and I am happy to know him and to welcome him to the floor of the House of Representatives today as Guest Chaplain.

HONORING RETIRING BUFFALO COMMON COUNCIL MAJORITY LEADER DOMINIC BONIFACIO

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2007*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor perhaps the proudest member of the Buffalo Common Council, a great civic leader and conscience of the Common Council—its retiring majority leader, Dominic Bonifacio.

As a former member of the Buffalo Common Council myself—and as the son of another former member—I have a warm place in my heart for its membership. Few people in my memory have demonstrated more on an appreciation for the office he holds—and the responsibility that office confers—than Nick Bonifacio.

Nick’s service as a member of the Common Council and as its majority leader has seen more than its share of successes. Owing in great measure to his successful stewardship of the Council’s Finance Committee, the city is in stronger financial shape than it was when Nick first took office. Also poised for greater things is the Niagara District that Nick served so ably—as a part of the city probably best prepared for a renaissance in the months and years to come.

Nick Bonifacio is among the most effective and committed Common Councilmembers I have known during my career in public service. I am proud, Madam Speaker, that you have afforded me this opportunity to honor Nick’s service, and I know that you join me in wishing the best of luck and Godspeed to Nick in all of his future endeavors.

HONORING MARTY GRIFFIN

### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2007*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to honor Dr. Lloyd Martin Griffin for his outstanding contributions to Sixth Congressional District, the State of California and the Nation. Dr. “Marty” Griffin is a physician who realizes that a healthy individual depends on a healthy environment. Since the fifties Marty has been involved in successful preservation efforts in Marin and Sonoma Counties, founded several environmental groups, and fought numerous battles to protect the environment.

Born in a cabin on the banks of the Ogden River in Utah, Marty recalls “being intoxicated by the cool desert canyon smell of trout, willow and sage, while my father’s mandolin and the murmuring river waters put me to sleep.” Then, not long after moving to Oakland and becoming a Boy Scout, he met Brighton “Bugs” Cain. Learning from Bugs and his father, Loyal, Marty became enamored with nature and medicine. After working his way through college to earn a M.D. at Stanford University in 1946, he set up practice in Marin County. Over the next decade became one of the county’s top physicians and was instrumental in founding several clinics, hospitals, and retirement homes.

In 1958, Marty joined three legendary patriotic activists, Elizabeth Terwillinger, Caroline Livermore and Rose Barrell, and Dr. David Steinhart and members of the Marin Conservation League and Martin Audubon to save Richardson Bay from fill and development. The bay was saved through a strategic purchase of 900 watery acres, which was leased to the National Audubon Society and became the Richardson Bay Wildlife Sanctuary.

In 1958 Marty discovered plans for transforming rural Highway 1 into a coast hugging freeway from Golden Gate Bridge to Sonoma, destroying wildlife habitat and threatening the rich agricultural lands of West Marin. The freeway would lead to a marina in Bolinas Lagoon and several new coastal communities. In response, in 1961, he teamed up with another Audubon leader Stan Prichard and created the Audubon Canyon Ranch and several projects to raise money, buy land and block the proposed freeway and preserve the gateway to the then proposed Point Reyes National Seashore. From this came the Bolinas Lagoon, Bouveri, and Tomales Bay Preserves. In 1973 Marty lent his skills to a successful effort to overturn a development-oriented Marin General Plan and replace it with one that preserved the open spaces of west Marin.

In 1961, Marty purchased a 240-acre ranch on the banks of the Russian River in Sonoma County. With his usual energy he planted grapevines, turned an old hop drying barn into a winery and eventually hauled onto the property a 100-year-old farm house, which he had

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

exquisitely restored. In the mid-seventies he produced his first wines, including award winning Petite Syrah, Johannesburg Riesling, and Zinfandels.

Hop Kiln Winery became a Sonoma County landmark, and Marty soon became a Sonoma County force to be reckoned with. He saw that local gravel mining operations were destroying the banks and bed of the Russian River, filling its aquifer, lowering water tables, blocking off tributary mouths, and endangering salmon migration. Marty then began a long struggle against river gravel mining that goes on today.

Also in the Sixties, Marty became the public health director at Sonoma State Hospital and Developmental Center, where with his usual tenaciousness and energy, he rooted out corruption, and founded a model program to fight hepatitis. In 1999, Marty was honored with a Public Health Hero Award from the University of California, Berkeley.

Today Marty Griffin lives with his wife, Joyce, in Belvedere in Marin County not far from where his environmental battles began. In his eighties, he remains active and abreast of environmental issues. His work goes on through several organizations he founded including the Marin County Environmental Forum, the Sonoma County Environmental Forum, and Russian Riverkeeper (founded as Friends of the Russian River). His book, "Saving the Marin and Sonoma Coast: the Battles for Audubon Canyon Ranch, Point Reyes and California's Russian River" is an engaging story of the ongoing battles and larger than life personalities involved in preserving nature's treasures on the edge of the Bay Area's teaming cities.

Madam Speaker, it is a book as well worth reading as Dr. Griffin's life is well worth emulating.

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IN MEMORY OF JOHN DENVER

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2007*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, the year 2007 marks the 10th anniversary of singer, musician, actor, composer, humanitarian and global citizen John Denver's passing from this planet that he worked so lovingly to protect.

A man who reached out consistently to help those in need; the planet, its creatures, its waters, its wildernesses and its people, John ceaselessly gave of himself in an effort to lift all life to its finest and highest potential.

While his awards, recognitions and achievements are many, it may be more appropriate to remember him as a unique human being who was able to touch the hearts and souls of people all over the planet. The over 300 songs that he recorded during his lifetime expressed the longings of the human family for compassion, unity and peace. His vision for all life can be best expressed in the lines from one of his songs:

"We are standing all together, face to face and arm in arm; we are standing on the threshold of a dream. No more hunger, no more killing, no more wasting life away; it is simply an idea, and I know its time has come."

ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND  
SECURITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. ELLJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 6, 2007*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Energy Independence and Security Act and the long-overdue measures it contains—including reasonable increases in CAFE standards—to help our Nation conserve energy and to lower the energy costs that weigh so heavily on our citizens.

I applaud Speaker PELOSI, Chairman OBERSTAR, and all of the Members who have worked on this measure for their foresighted leadership on this Act and for their dedication to completing the hard work necessary to bring this Act to the floor today.

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Coast Guard and Maritime Transportation, I will draw particular attention to the Short Sea Shipping Initiative created in this Act.

This Initiative will support the expansion of short sea shipping—which is simply the alliterative name of shipping voyages between two points in the United States or between Canada and the United States.

At the present time, trucks carry nearly 70 percent of the freight tonnage transported in the United States. By contrast, the most highly developed water freight transportation routes in the U.S.—those running on the Mississippi River, the Great Lakes, and the St. Lawrence Seaway—carry just 13 percent of freight tonnage in the United States.

The Short Sea Shipping Initiative seeks to make water a mode competitive with roads and rails by supporting the development of the vessels used in short sea shipping voyages as well as of the port and landside infrastructure needed to load and unload those vessels.

Specifically, the Act will make vessels built under the Jones Act in the United States eligible for assistance from the Capital Construction Fund administered by the United States Maritime Administration, MARAD.

As I know there has been debate on this point, I emphasize that MARAD shall exercise sole authority to determine issues relating to operation of a qualified program vessel in the short sea trade.

We further expect that to ensure this program is initiated right away, the Secretary of Transportation shall work to revise current regulations to conform to this legislation while also approving Fund contributions and withdrawals related to eligible short sea shipping transportation projects immediately.

As I close, I want to note that additional measures can still be taken to promote the development of short sea shipping. Perhaps the most important among them is to exempt these voyages from the Harbor Maintenance Tax. H.R. 1499, which I authored, would achieve that exemption and I thank Chairman CHARLIE RANGEL for continuing to work with me to advance this legislation.

I again commend Speaker PELOSI, Chairman OBERSTAR, and all who have worked so diligently to help reduce our dependence on foreign and non-renewable energy sources.

With that, I urge adoption of the Energy Independence and Security Act.

GENOCIDE ACCOUNTABILITY ACT  
OF 2007

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 5, 2007*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 888, Genocide Accountability Act of 2007, which ensures that U.S. laws provide adequate authority to prosecute acts of genocide. Genocide, despite its being such a heinous and atrocious crime, has taken place too frequently, it needs to stop and the perpetrators need to be held accountable for their actions. This systematic destruction of a group of people based on religion, ethnicity or nationality is one of the most horrifying acts that a person can imagine.

Genocidal tendencies can be traced back to the Armenian Genocide that occurred more than seventy years ago and again during the Holocaust. But the end of those conflicts did nothing to prevent genocide from being committed again. Acts of genocide occurred again in Cambodia, Bosnia and Rwanda and are currently taking place in Darfur. Too many have died and continue to die as we stand by and watch. It is our job to do whatever is in our power to end these conflicts.

Individuals who have committed acts of genocide have been identified as seeking refuge in the United States. The constitution of the United States does not allow them to be prosecuted here because they are not U.S. nationals. The Genocide Accountability Act of 2007 will give the U.S. the authority to prosecute the perpetrators in the U.S. as opposed to just deporting them and not knowing if they will ever be held accountable for their actions. This bill will assure that justice is served for their acts of torture and murder.

By passing this bill we are contributing to the welfare of the world. Genocide affects people around the world and not only the direct victims; therefore, I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

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TWO MEDICAL BREAKTHROUGHS  
FROM UTMB

**HON. RON PAUL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 12, 2007*

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, researchers at the University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) have been responsible for two significant medical breakthroughs that have the potential to dramatically improve American health care.

Earlier this year, Dr. Lisa Elferink, an associate professor at UTMB's Cancer Center, led a national research team that discovered how use of the bacterial pathogen, *Listeria monocytogenes* could help medical researchers and practitioners understand the mechanisms by which cancer cells develop. This discovery is a major step in developing successful treatments for a variety of cancers.

Another team of UTMB researchers, lead by Dr. Angela Shepherd, have helped American men at risk of osteoporosis by developing the Male Osteoporosis Risk Estimation Score