

I urge my colleagues to support its expeditious passage.

HONORING KATHRYN GUSTAFSON

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, on the occasion of the honoring of her lifetime achievement, one of Seattle's great historic organizations, the Rainier Club, the People of the State of Washington would like to hold up as a national inspiration the special record of one of our State, Nation, and world's most notable landscape architects, the distinguished and virtually peerless Kathryn Gustafson.

I have supported and honored the arts as a unique vehicle for personal growth and community enrichment. Landscape architecture in particular has the capacity to elevate the daily experiences of people from all walks of life while promoting harmony and balance between people and nature.

Ms. Kathryn Gustafson's significant contributions to the discipline of landscape architecture are as impressive as they are vast in geography, style, theme and dimensions ranging from 1 acre to 150 acres.

As the BBC noted in a 2002 article, Ms. Gustafson's work "is about harmony between the land and the mind, body and soul, she says, and harmony between the site's past and how it can be adapted for the future."

My home city of Seattle has been the beneficiary of her fine touch with projects such as Seattle's City Hall Plaza and the McCaw Hall Opera House.

From Seattle to London and Paris to Beirut, Kathryn Gustafson's work in designing landscapes for complex, high-use spaces has enriched the lives of countless people. A sampling of her works include The Square of Human Rights in Evry, France; the Square Rachmaninov in Paris; the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fountain in Hyde Park, London; the Museum of Art at the University of Michigan; and countless others.

While Ms. Gustafson's awards are too numerous to list, she has been honored with the prestigious 2007 National Heritage of the 20th Century Award, bestowed by the French Minister of Culture; the 2003 Design Merit Award of the American Society of Landscape Architects for her work on the Arthur Ross Terrace at the American Museum of Natural History in New York City; and in 2001 the esteemed Chrysler Design Award, which is described by Chrysler as honoring the "achievements of individuals who have consistently championed seminal works of architecture and design, and significantly influenced modern American culture."

But perhaps the most enduring honor of all is to lay claim to the translation of one's talents and vision into works that lift the spirits of millions of world citizens each and every day, and for decades and perhaps centuries to come.

We in Washington's Seventh Congressional District give thanks to Kathryn Gustafson for her unique abilities and for sharing them with so many of her fellow citizens in the public sphere. We are proud to have such a distinguished architect among us.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING COACH ALISHA NUMBERS FOR COACHING THE HILAND HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' BASKETBALL TEAM TO WINNING THE GIRLS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Coach Alisha Numbers showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Alisha Numbers was a leader and mentor for the Hiland High School Girls' Basketball Team; and

Whereas, Coach Numbers has been a role model for sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that along with her friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Coach Alisha Numbers for leading the Hiland High School Girls' Basketball Team to winning the Girls' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and leadership she has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 Basketball season.

KRISTEN VASQUEZ

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kristen Vasquez who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Kristen Vasquez is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Kristen Vasquez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Kristen Vasquez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character to all her future accomplishments.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING CREATION OF REFUGEE POPULATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 1, 2008*

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, this week the House passed House Resolution 185, which expresses the sense of the House regarding the existence of refugee populations

in the Middle East, North Africa, and the Persian Gulf region. In addition to the international concern about Palestinian refugees, this resolution calls attention to the injustices suffered by Jews and other ethnic groups that have lived as minorities in the region. I fully support this resolution's call for recognition of the rights of former Jewish, Christian, and other refugees from Arab countries.

While much of the resolution is important and sets forth historically accurate information, the final paragraph of the resolving clause conditions resolution of "all refugees displaced from Arab countries." I share the goal of resolving all refugee issues in the Middle East, but I do not believe it is likely that they can be resolved through the Annapolis process or some future Israeli-Palestinian negotiating process. In my view, imposing such a condition will likely doom Annapolis and any subsequent good-faith effort to follow the roadmap to a permanent two-state solution first laid out in 2003. I certainly hope that all Middle Eastern refugee issues can and will be resolved, including refugees of the Jewish, Christian, Muslim and other minority faiths, but I cannot support linking the resolution of all Middle Eastern refugee issues to the resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. It's not fair to Israelis or to Palestinians to tie the resolution of their conflict to a global resolution of all Middle Eastern refugee issues.

I also disagree with the way the U.S. Congress, by passing this measure, has imposed new stipulations for any agreement, which effectively ties the hands of the Israeli and Palestinian negotiators.

These negotiators already have enough roadblocks to dismantle; the last thing that they need is the U.S.

Congress trying to prescribe a certain method or outcome on a difficult issue in the negotiations, which is the refugee issue. Many of my colleagues and I believe the Annapolis negotiations have not gone as well as we hoped, but they are still—for the moment—moving forward. Rather than trying to impose a particular outcome on refugee issues, the Congress should express its support of the process and encourage the parties to work toward resolution of the issues they have already agreed are most essential.

Again, I favor reducing the impediments to a final resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Instead, this week's resolution raises a new roadblock to the implementation of the roadmap. I urge all parties to support the peace process as they carefully balance the interests of all refugees. Let's support the negotiations, move the panics to final status, and work towards of vision of peace.

TRIBUTE TO 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. BESSIE (DAVIS) WYNN

**HON. CORRINE BROWN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 3, 2008*

Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to celebrate the 100th birthday of Mrs. Bessie (Davis) Wynn, a poet, born April 5, 1908 in Carr, Florida.

Mrs. Wynn is the daughter and second child of James Stephen Davis II and Annie Elizabeth Ware Davis. As a child she went to