

and extreme hesitance on the part of private companies because we failed to come to their defense in this matter. This could be detrimental to U.S. security.

Instead of immunity, the FISA Amendments Act would allow the telecoms to defend themselves in court by lifting current restrictions and allowing classified information to be introduced as a part of their defense. This may or may not be sufficient to prove the innocence of the telecoms, but the introduction of this information would set a dangerous precedent. Over the objections of the President, highly classified information would be handed over to judges and lawyers who are unlikely to possess the appropriate and necessary security clearances. This would almost certainly make the introduction of such classified evidence in future proceedings easier, and could severely compromise our ability to collect and conduct future intelligence activities.

The initial House-approved FISA reform legislation, the RESTORE Act, did not contain any immunity provisions. I supported it with the expectation that we would consider immunity during a conference with the Senate. We voted instead on the FISA Amendments Act, which I believe is a good bill that represents a careful compromise. Immunity is critical and, because H.R. 3773 has no immunity provisions, I voted against its passage.

SHEYLINN WORK

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 Sheylinn Work who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth Award. Sheylinn Work 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 Sheylinn Work 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 Sheylinn Work 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.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE 200TH BIRTHDAY OF KNOX COUNTY OHIO

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 2, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Knox County, Ohio celebrated its 200th birthday on March 1, 2008 with great joy; and

Whereas, they will reflect on the past 200 years with fondness and celebrate; and

Whereas, the residents of Knox County have positively contributed to the history of America from the Civil War to the Industrial Revolution to today's society; and

Whereas, Knox County will reminisce on a lifetime full of memories and look forward to many more: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with my friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I wish Knox County, Ohio a happy 200th birthday.

JAMES C. DUDDY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to recognize the outstanding service and leadership of James C. Duddy on the occasion of his retirement after more than 50 years of service to the Kansas City, Missouri, Fire Department.

James began his career as a firefighter in 1955, and rose to Assistant Chief Fire Marshal. Over the years, James has earned many awards including Firefighter of the Year and the Medal of Honor.

James has also been instrumental in assisting several other organizations. He has assisted the Secret Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms on several occasions, and served as President of the Kansas City Arson Task Force for many years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in commending James C. Duddy for his dedicated service to ensuring the safety of the people of Kansas City, Missouri. I know James' colleagues, family and friends join with me in thanking him for his commitment to others and wishing him happiness and good health in his retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO BEVERLY WHITE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Beverly White of Altadena, California. Every March we celebrate Women's History Month in recognition of the contributions and the sacrifices made by our Nation's women. Accordingly it is my privilege to highlight Ms. White as a woman whose extraordinary efforts are vital to my district.

Beverly is well known in southern California for her current role as the co-anchor of the "Today in L.A." weekend edition and as a long-time reporter on the popular 11 p.m. Channel 4 News. She focuses in particular on the live coverage necessitated by local natural disasters such as regional wildfires and the Northridge earthquake.

Armed with a degree in broadcast journalism from the University of Texas at Austin, Beverly first set out on her multi-State career at KGEN-TV, NBC, in Temple/Waco and KENS-TV, CBS, in San Antonio. In the late 1980s, she moved to Cincinnati and became

the anchor of the top-rated morning newscast. There Beverly reported on the tumultuous saga of Pete Rose, as well as on the 1988 Democratic and Republican presidential conventions.

As a reporter for WTVJ in Miami, Beverly covered several stories on international affairs concerning Haiti and Cuba, as well as the rape trial of William Kennedy Smith. Exemplifying her specialty in live coverage, she was on the team that won a 1992 Peabody Award for their outstanding coverage of Hurricane Andrew.

Southern Californians encounter Beverly in the field in other ways as well. She is a past president of the Black Journalists Association of Southern California and is a member of the national affiliate, the National Association of Black Journalists. In addition to her professional leadership roles, Beverly supports community causes by hosting myriad annual awards functions, from YWCA's "Women of Excellence" event to Los Angeles Neighborhood Housing Service's luncheon.

As an icon of local journalism and a selfless volunteer, Beverly's dedication to the Altadena community is an invaluable addition to the legacy of Women's History Month. With gratitude and admiration, I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an extraordinary woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Ms. Beverly White.

APPLAUDING THE RISE IN REMITTANCES SENT TO THE CARIBBEAN AS CRUCIAL TO THE AREA'S DEVELOPMENT

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to note the significant role remittances play in the economies of the Caribbean and to applaud their record-setting increases, as described in the New York CARIB News article, "Remittances to Caribbean Reach Record High of \$8 Billion in 2007." That money, sent on behalf of family and friends living abroad, represents a considerable—and pivotal—portion of the region's GDP. These funds go a long way in contributing to the area's development and provide aid for its people to better afford food, shelter, clothing, and medicine.

This boost is a remarkable and laudable sign of global support for our neighbors to the south. Jamaica, Haiti, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname and Belize have particularly benefitted from it, receiving each a record amount. It is my hope that the region continues to see an influx of these funds from supporters worldwide who care intimately about the progress of the Caribbean.

REMITTANCES TO CARIBBEAN REACH RECORD HIGH OF \$8 BILLION IN 2007

The amounts typically range from \$200 to \$300 at each time.

Still, in 2007, they amounted to a whopping \$8.1 billion to the Caribbean, accounting in some cases to at least a third of the economies of nations in the region which receive funds from nationals in North America, Europe and elsewhere. At least \$5 billion of those funds went to Caricom states, particularly Jamaica, Haiti, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Suriname and Belize.

In its annual report on remittances to Caribbean and Latin American nations in 2007, the Inter-American Development Bank's Multilateral Investment Fund stated that Jamaicans, Haitians, Guyanese, Trinidadians, Surinamese and Belizeans in that order sent a record amount of funds to their relatives and close friends last year.

And while the MIF didn't cite a specific sum for Barbados, the United Nations and the World Bank had previously estimated that Bajans abroad had sent more than \$140 million to their country.

Overall, remittances to the Caribbean and Latin America rose by seven per cent in 2007 over the figure for 2006, the first year for which there wasn't a double digit increase stated the Fund.

The importance of the remittances, the MIF explained, could be seen in "the significant contribution to the region's economy. For instance, Jamaicans remitted \$1.9 billion to relatives, accounting for 18% if country's gross domestic product while Haitians' \$1.8 billion in remittances represented 35% of the GDP. Guyana's was by far the largest single contributor to the GDP. The \$424 million may have been about 16 per cent if Jamaicans' flow but the money was 43% of the economy.

The smallest contribution was the \$125 million repatriated to Trinidad and Tobago. It represented one per cent of the economy while in Suriname's case, the \$115 million was 5%.

The Dominican Republic was the largest single recipient of remittances in the larger Caribbean region, receiving \$3.1 billion.

Belize's receipts of \$105 million were the equivalent of 8% of the GDP.

A closer look at the figures for 2007 and prior years showed that remittances to:

Jamaica rose from \$983 million in 2001 to almost \$1.5 billion in 2004.

Haiti, they skyrocketed from less than \$900 million in 2001 to just under \$1 billion in 2005, rising to last year's record level of 1.5 billion.

Guyana are considered a "crucial source of income."

The Caribbean and Latin America as a whole reached \$66.5 billion, about seven per cent more than in 2006.

Mexico amounted to almost \$24 billion, and was virtually unchanged, rising barely by one percent. Apparently Mexicans "appear to be less inclined to send money home, citing concerns about stricter enforcement of immigration laws and a slowing economy in the United States," the MIF reported.

Brazil, totaled \$7 billion, a decline of 4%. The reason: "increasing opportunities at home and a strengthening local currency, the "Real," has appreciated 14 percent against the dollar over the past 12 months.

The various countries pay for "basic expenses such as food, shelter, clothing and medicines but some of them are saved.

The region, about 75 percent of them "come from the United States, Spain and Japan."

Jamaica, the Dominica Republic, Guyana, Haiti and Trinidad and Tobago have risen every year since the beginning of the 21st century.

STATEMENT OF THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to honor the 60th anniversary of

the state of Israel and to honor the people and accomplishments of this great nation.

From its inception in 1948, Israel has had a long and painful struggle to sustain itself. On May 14, 1948, the United States was the first Nation to extend its formal recognition of Israel as a state, and our two states have since maintained a strong relationship through shared values and interests. Israel has a great deal to be proud of. It has built itself into a strong democracy with an advanced industrial, market economy in one of the most volatile regions of the world. While facing many challenges, it places a great emphasis on quality of life and leads the region in regards to education, democratic participation, and having a free press. The United States and Israel have had a strong relationship throughout their history, sharing these values. Our own country has benefited from Israel's prosperous economy, and in 1985, Israel and the United States concluded a free trade agreement. Israel's Silicon Wadi, an area comparable to the U.S.'s Silicon Valley, is one of the most robust telecommunications and technology industry areas in the world. As testament to this fact, important American companies have research and development facilities located there.

As we honor Israel's accomplishments, we also recognize the continued security threats the country faces from terrorist organizations and aggressive neighbors. Innocent Israelis are attacked with rockets and suicide bombings while belligerent leaders of other nations call for nothing short of Israel's destruction. The American people and Congress have consistently condemned these attacks on our friends. In the most recent example—rocket attacks from Gaza—the House passed a resolution strongly condemning these attacks, as well as the organizations and states supporting them. We have also provided aid for Israel's defense and for the security of the Middle East and will continue to support Israel's right to defend itself. While the challenges remain, the Israeli people have endured and persevered throughout history, and they will continue to do so, and the United States will remain a stalwart ally.

Madam Speaker, I again congratulate the people of Israel on this historic anniversary and wish them a peaceful and prosperous future.

A TRIBUTE TO LISSA LAYNG REYNOLDS

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Lissa Layng Reynolds of South Pasadena, California. Every March we celebrate Women's History Month in recognition of the contributions and the sacrifices made by our Nation's women. Accordingly, it is my privilege to highlight Mrs. Reynolds as a woman whose extraordinary efforts are vital to my district.

Lissa is a professional theater, film, and television actress whose interaction with her community goes far beyond the stage and screen. As the president of the California Performing Arts Centre and co-artistic director of the award-winning Fremont Centre Theatre in

South Pasadena, Lissa will celebrate the theatre's 10th anniversary this year. She shares the milestone with her husband, James, who also serves as the theatre's co-artistic director and can be seen on NBC's "Days of Our Lives" as Commissioner Abe Carver. Together they have produced and co-produced over 30 plays during the Fremont Centre Theatre's decade of existence. Lissa and her family have lived in South Pasadena for over 20 years. Her son, Jed Reynolds, graduated from South Pasadena schools and now coaches the high school junior varsity basketball team. Jed is also pursuing a career as an actor and is currently starring in the Fremont Centre Theatre's hit show "Ravensridge."

In addition to the Fremont Centre Theatre, Lissa and James own and operate Classes Unlimited, an adult learning center, and Big Men Stuff, a clothing company that uses slogans to combat domestic abuse. The Reynolds' were selected as two of the most influential people in Pasadena by Pasadena Weekly and they received the Gold Crown Award from the Pasadena Arts Council for supporting local arts education and development.

Giving back to the community is a priority for Lissa. Her busy schedule is packed equally with volunteer, fundraising, and professional efforts. Examples include the Haven House Women's Shelter in Pasadena, the Pasadena Humane Society, the Foothill YMCA, and the South Pasadena Police Department. For many years Lissa has joined her husband on USO handshake and educational tours for the troops and for their families. To encourage students to become active in the arts, the pair frequently directs local elementary school productions of Shakespeare and hosts an annual charity celebrity basketball tournament to benefit South Pasadena schools. For her continued philanthropic efforts Lissa has been honored by numerous organizations, including Women at Work, the South Pasadena Chamber of Commerce, and the Tournament of Roses Association.

Lissa's stage is her community; rather than focus on herself, she works to make South Pasadena the star. Her selfless service to the South Pasadena community is an invaluable addition to the legacy of Women's History Month. With gratitude and admiration, I ask all Members of Congress to join me today in honoring an extraordinary woman of California's 29th Congressional District, Mrs. Lissa Layng Reynolds.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING COACH MICHELLE MISHLER 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

Friday, April 4, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Coach Michelle Mishler showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

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