

the retirement of John Milazzo as the chairman of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions (NAFCU). Elected to the NAFCU Board in 1999, John has been a leader in the credit union community both nationally and within my great state of Louisiana.

For the past nine years, Mr. Milazzo has been balancing his time as a NAFCU Board member, including the past two years as the chairman of the NAFCU Board, against his responsibilities at Campus Federal Credit Union, where he has been the president/CEO since 1985. Headquartered in Baton Rouge, Campus Federal Credit Union is a \$320 million multibranch credit union serving 39,000 members that is known for its use of technology and innovation to improve operational efficiency.

Throughout his tenure as chairman of the NAFCU Board of Directors, Mr. Milazzo worked tirelessly to enhance the federal credit union charter by working with Congress for regulatory relief legislation for credit unions. As chairman, he has also helped maintain NAFCU's status as a leading credit union trade association. John has been an active credit union advocate on local, state and national levels, having served on the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Financial Institutions Advisory Committee and as chairman of the Southern Financial Exchange and now serving as a member of Fannie Mae's National Advisory Council.

Many would think that the work he does for credit unions would be enough to fill a day, but that is not the case. Mr. Milazzo is a dedicated family man who finds time to volunteer with the United Way Campaign and the Community Fund for the Arts. He is a current member of Kiwanis International and previously served as club president and former district lieutenant governor of the organization. He is also a Eucharistic minister and member of the finance committee of Saint Anne's Catholic Church. A graduate of Louisiana State, he may also be one of the most loyal LSU Tigers fans in the nation, and he continues to serve the LSU community through Campus Federal Credit Union.

It is with great honor that I rise today to congratulate Mr. John Milazzo on his fine work throughout his illustrious tenure as chair of NAFCU. I have worked with him on issues that are important to the credit union community in the past, and I am committed to continuing this relationship. I have no doubt that, with Milazzo's more than 20 years of experience in the credit union community, his departure will leave a great void. Congratulations on your retirement from the NAFCU Board, Mr. Milazzo.

CELEBRATING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST AMERICAN WOMAN IN SPACE—DR. SALLY K. RIDE—AND HONORING HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SPACE PROGRAM AND TO SCIENCE EDUCATION

**HON. NICK LAMPSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2008*

Mr. LAMPSON. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution "Celebrating the

25th Anniversary of the First American Woman in Space—Dr. Sally K. Ride—and Honoring Her Contributions to the Space Program and to Science Education." On June 18, 2008 we mark the historic date, twenty-five years ago, when the STS-7 Space Shuttle mission flew the first American woman into space. Dr. Sally Ride, an accomplished athlete who once considered pursuing a professional career in tennis, holds this special distinction and has continued to be a passionate and inspiring advocate for space and for science throughout her career.

Dr. Ride, who earned undergraduate degrees in both English and physics at Stanford University and who continued her academic training leading to a doctorate in physics, was selected as an astronaut candidate in the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's) eighth astronaut class, the first to include women. On the historic STS-7 mission, Dr. Ride served as a mission specialist; her work with the STS-7 crew included launching two communications satellites, conducting demonstration activities with the Shuttle robotic arm, and facilitating experiments in materials science.

On October 5, 1984, Dr. Ride made her second spaceflight aboard the STS 41-G mission, which launched the Earth Radiation Budget Satellite and demonstrated the capability to refuel satellites in orbit, among other accomplishments. Sadly, training preparations for Dr. Ride's third spaceflight assignment, the STS 61-M mission, ended following the *Challenger* accident. She then was asked to serve on the Presidential Commission that investigated that accident, and later she served with distinction on the Columbia Accident Investigation Board.

Madam Speaker, following her NASA career, Dr. Ride has focused her experience, talent, and dedication as a leader and advocate for educating the next generation of scientists and engineers—especially young women. As a professor and scientist, she has served on the faculty of the University of California San Diego and as director of the University of California's California Space Institute. She has authored scientific publications on free electron lasers. She has also authored several children's books about science and space.

Dr. Ride's current focus has been through her efforts to provide hands-on learning about science, math, and technology for young students and teachers. She has been the principal investigator of Earth Knowledge Acquired by Middle School Students (EarthKAM), a NASA education program that allows students to control a digital camera that is attached to the International Space Station, to determine what to photograph, and to use the imagery for their science studies. The project also instills experience in teamwork, communication, and problem-solving. In addition, Madam Speaker, as the first American woman in space, Dr. Ride has used her fame constructively, mentoring and encouraging girls and young women to pursue careers in space, science, and engineering. To that end, she has developed science festivals, science camps and other opportunities for girls and young women to engage in science, math, and technology activities.

Madam Speaker, as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of the first American woman in space we also celebrate the dawn of the space age a quarter of a century earlier. The

historic milestone of Dr. Ride's flight encourages us to look forward to the additional "firsts" for our nation's space program in the coming decades. Dr. Ride's profound dedication to promoting opportunities for science and engineering learning is helping to build that exciting future.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues in Congress to support this resolution celebrating the 25th anniversary of the first American woman in space and to extend our appreciation and gratitude for Dr. Ride's excellence in service to the nation as an astronaut, educator, and advocate for the next generation of women scientists and engineers.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

**HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 26, 2008*

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, in the past 10 years, the price of crude oil has risen by more than 400 percent, accounting for much of the nearly 200 percent increase in gasoline prices during that time. America should have spent the past decade investing in renewable energy and infrastructure, but we instead remain the number one importer of oil. Foreign oil accounts for 23.5 percent of United States energy consumption, the largest component of our energy profile. To meet its needs, the U.S. spends over \$100 billion on foreign oil, helping to sustain corrupt political systems and state terrorism. This will continue to persist as long as we are dependent on oil, as nearly two-thirds of proved world oil reserves reside in countries considered "not free" by leading human rights organizations.

America's dependence on oil is a threat to our national security, economic prosperity and environmental sustainability.

Forty-five years ago, President Kennedy pledged to send man to the moon. We need a similar "moon shot" program to end our dependence on foreign oil. The bill I stand here to introduce, the Apollo Energy Independence Act, taps the greatest asset of the United States, Yankee ingenuity and free markets, to boost alternative vehicles and increase renewable energies to get off foreign oil. By cutting funding for low-priority programs, we can fund a massive effort to end our dependence on the Middle East.

The Apollo Energy Independence Act first and foremost permanently extends investment tax credits for renewable energy such as wind; closed-loop biomass; open-loop biomass; geothermal; small irrigation; hydropower; landfill gas; marine power; trash combustion facilities; solar energy property; fuel cell property; micro-turbines; and nuclear energy. The bill also permanently extends a number of energy efficiency tax incentives.

Each Congress, lawmakers scramble at the last minute to renew these effective incentives, then shortsightedly extend them for just a short period. This has undoubtedly stifled the growth of our renewable energy industry. Some studies estimate that renewable energy could supply up to 37 percent of our electricity needs by 2030, resulting in \$700 billion in economic activity and 5 million new U.S. jobs by 2025. Yet in years which the production tax credit is set to expire, investments significantly