

I believe that this legislation will help future administrations avoid the issues that seemed to plague this White House with reports that officials were using RNC e-mail accounts to conduct official business and then deleting those e-mails from servers. H.R. 5811 will enhance the transparency of government while ensuring an accurate historical record.

REMEMBERING BOSNIAN
GENOCIDE VICTIMS

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. OLVER. Madam Speaker, as we commemorate the 13th anniversary of the Srebrenica genocide, perpetrated by nationalist Serb forces predominantly against Bosniaks, Bosnian Muslims, it is time to pay tribute to the tragic episodes not only in Srebrenica, but also in other less-known places in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

In the spring of 1992, a deliberate, centrally planned, and well-organized campaign of ethnic cleansing, mass murder, rape, torture, and intimidation terrorized the civilian population throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina and took the lives of 200,000 men, women, and children. Out of those, 8,000 perished in Srebrenica alone during a period of less than five days in July of 1995. In the end, 2 million Bosnians were displaced from their homes, and the country's rich cultural and religious heritage and monuments were deliberately destroyed. Shattered state institutions remain dysfunctional from the chaos and are struggling to cope with the significant loss of Bosnia's population. Today, survivors are battling post-traumatic stress disorder, orphans are still searching for their parents' remains, and new mass graves continue to be discovered. The entire western Balkans region has still not fully recovered from the violent break-up of Yugoslavia.

The human tragedy that befell Bosnia and its citizens in places less known such as Bihać, Zepa, Gorazde, and Visegrad needs to be revisited and marked in its proper place in the memory of human experience and history. If the international community had possessed the will to protect the UN-designated "safe haven" of Srebrenica, it would have prevented the tragic outcome and thousands of innocent lives would have been with us here today. The world had said "never again" to genocide, only to abandon the people of Bosnia to an unspeakable nightmare. Today, let us remind ourselves of the consequences: Srebrenica was the worst single atrocity in Europe after World War II. We cannot pretend that Bosnia's struggles are simply in the past, nor that the country has fully stabilized. The people of Bosnia are still trying to rebuild their country, to reform the institutions that were responsible for the genocide, and to move beyond ethno-territorial divisions into a functional democratic state.

As we mark July 11th, we must always remember the innocent people who lost their lives while the international community failed to act. We must acknowledge that justice will prevail only when General Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic are apprehended, and we must never forget the horrors that befell the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

RETIREMENT OF JAMES M.
LARIVIERE, REPUBLICAN STAFF
DIRECTOR, COMMITTEE ON VET-
ERANS' AFFAIRS, UNITED
STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and bid farewell to an exceptional leader, patriot, and friend, James M. Lariviere, as he retires from civilian Federal service. A Marine Corps Reserve colonel selected for promotion to brigadier general, he is returning to active duty to continue his distinguished military career.

Throughout his life Jim Lariviere has been a devoted servant to his country and fellow citizens. A native of Rochester, New York, he earned a bachelor's degree in history from the Citadel in 1979. During my freshman year at the Citadel, Jim personally ensured that I was "squared away" when I navigated the trials and tribulations of "knob year" in the Corps of Cadets. While at the Citadel, Jim distinguished himself with scholarship having worn academic gold stars, and with military bearing as a member of the junior sword drill, Summerall Guards, and as Regimental Adjutant for the Corps of Cadets.

Upon graduation, Jim was commissioned as an officer with the United States Marine Corps. During his time on active duty, Jim Lariviere commanded a force reconnaissance platoon in Beirut, Lebanon, and served as a company executive officer, company commander, assistant operations officer, and White House Social Aide. He is a graduate of the Amphibious Reconnaissance School, U.S. Army Ranger School and earned the privilege to wear the Navy Marine Corps Parachutist Insignia. In every assignment he excelled in his service, being recognized by numerous awards and medals, including: The Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (2), Navy Marine Corps Commendation Medal (4), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Citation, Afghanistan Campaign Medal (with 2 campaign stars), Global War on Terrorism Medal. Jim also holds a masters degree in national security affairs from Georgetown University and he is a graduate of the Air War College.

Jim left active duty, transitioned to the Marine Corps Reserve and joined my congressional staff in 1993, bringing his military values and experience to the United States House of Representatives. Jim successfully balanced his Reserve duties with a career on Capitol Hill. Initially, he worked on my office staff as the military legislative assistant handling national security, veterans', and technology issues. He also acted as the lead staff member for the House National Guard and Reserve Components Caucus. In February 1999, he joined the professional staff of the House Armed Services Committee as a member of the policy group where he had responsibility for a wide variety of defense policy issues including national security and military strategy, force structure policy, on-going military operations, peacekeeping, and military readiness policy.

In 2003, Jim Lariviere joined the firm of Holland & Knight LLP as a Senior National Secu-

ity Policy Advisor, working directly with the late Congresswoman Tillie Fowler. He also served as a consultant to the Defense Policy Board. In May 2005, he returned to Capitol Hill as the Republican Staff Director of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs during the 109th Congress, when I was chairman. While staff director, he was ordered to active duty in Afghanistan from June through December 2006. While in Afghanistan as part of operation Enduring Freedom, he served as Deputy Director for Training Operations, Plans and Education at the Combined Security Assistance Command. During the same period, he also served as mentor to the G-3 of the Afghan National Army. For his military service in Afghanistan he was awarded the Bronze Star.

During his tenure as staff director, he led and supervised the committee and subcommittee staffs in their legislative and oversight work, which included the enactment of the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Enhancement Act of 2005, which became Public Law 109-80, and the Veterans' Benefits, Health Care and Information Technology Act of 2006, which became Public Law 109-461.

When I became the Ranking Republican Member in 2007, Jim Lariviere continued as the Republican staff director. He was instrumental in the minority staff development of a Republican alternative budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2008 and 2009 and in a successful amendment to the Wounded Warrior Act, which was incorporated into the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008, Public Law 110-181. His tireless efforts resulted in significant improvements in the care and treatment of injured or ill servicemembers returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Jim has spent his life dedicated to serving this Nation. As he takes yet another step in continuing that service, as a warrior, a leader, and a patriot in every facet, I am confident that he will do so with strong devotion to the country and to men and women who defend our freedom and way of life.

I am honored to call this family man my friend. He has earned the respect and admiration of all who know him and he embodies the principles and character that epitomizes what is expected of a model Marine Corps officer, or any officer.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing the remarkable career of Jim Lariviere and to thank him for his leadership and honorable service to our country. I say to him, "Bravo Zulu" and wish him, his wife, Virginia, and their four children, much success and happiness during the next chapters of their lives. "Hit it smack"

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT
COLONEL EDWARD M. FORTUNATO

HON. ROBIN HAYES

OF NORTH CAROLINA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Thursday, July 10, 2008

Mr. HAYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Edward M. Fortunato, United States Army, on the occasion of his retirement from active duty. Lieutenant Colonel Fortunato, a