

RECOGNIZING THE HONORABLE  
TOM DAVIS ON THE OCCASION  
OF HIS RETIREMENT

**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2008*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the distinguished career of the Honorable THOMAS M. DAVIS for his service to the people of Virginia and the United States House of Representatives. Congressman DAVIS has represented the 11th Congressional District of the state of Virginia for the past 13 years.

Born in Minot, North Dakota, TOM moved to Fairfax County, Virginia, at an early age. He graduated from the United States Capitol Page School as president of his class and went on to Amherst College where he graduated with a degree in political science. TOM earned his Juris Doctor from the University of Virginia and attended Officer Candidate School, serving on active duty in the U.S. Army. He spent eight years serving in the Virginia National Guard and the U.S. Army Reserve.

Before his election to Congress, TOM became the chief elected official of Fairfax County, Virginia, the nation's 11th most populous municipality with the second largest county budget in the United States. While serving as the chairman of the board of supervisors, Fairfax County was recognized as the best financially managed county in the Nation.

Upon his election to the United States House of Representatives in 1995, TOM was put in control of the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee's Subcommittee on the District of Columbia, marking the first time a freshman had been appointed as a chairman in over 40 years.

TOM is well known for his advocacy on behalf of federal employees and contractors as well as his support of students in the District of Columbia. He was the integral force behind the passage of the D.C. College Access Act, allowing high school graduates in the District to attend public colleges in Maryland and Virginia at in-state tuition rates.

TOM is also known as a strong supporter of political and ethics reform in the House, while still fighting for issues most important to Virginia's 11th District. He was instrumental in gaining funding for the construction of the new Woodrow Wilson Bridge, designed to ease chronic gridlock in northern Virginia. He has also been an ardent supporter for advancements in information technology, which is critical to northern Virginia's high tech community.

In addition to serving as the Chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee from 1998 to 2002 and chairing the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee during the 108th Congress, TOM'S crusade against government waste concentrated on monitoring federal contracts of large dollar amounts.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing a dedicated leader and friend to many in this body. I know his family, his wife, Jeannemarie Devolites; his three children; his four stepchildren; and his many friends and colleagues join me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his service over the years on behalf of the com-

monwealth of Virginia and the United States of America.

TOM will surely enjoy the well deserved time he now has to spend with his family and loved ones. I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE BRUCE  
McCANDLESS COLORADO STATE  
VETERANS NURSING HOME

**HON. DOUG LAMBORN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2008*

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent accomplishments of the Bruce McCandless Colorado State Veterans Nursing Home. This superior performing facility is the recipient of the highly coveted American Health Care Association and National Center for Assisted Living's (AHCA/NCAL) Quality Award and is the Nation's first state veterans nursing home accepted into the Eden Alternative Registry. The Eden Alternative Registry is a grass roots non-profit organization whose core value centers on a holistic belief of quality care and empowerment of the aging.

For over 32 years, the Bruce McCandless Colorado State Veterans Nursing Home has been providing 24-hour, skilled nursing care to veterans and their families, and I am proud to commend them on their well-deserved achievements. Their superiority is exhibited not only by being one of four long-term care facility award recipients in Colorado, but as one of only 312 long-term care facilities in the United States to have qualified for the AHCA/NCAL Step I award.

These prestigious accomplishments exemplify the Bruce McCandless Colorado State Veterans Nursing Home's commitment to providing the very best of care to some of our Nation's finest—our veterans. Their continuous strive to meet the needs of their residents clearly demonstrates a strong commitment to continuous quality improvement and I am pleased to have this facility within both my district and the great state of Colorado.

THE DAILY 45: A LONELY DEATH  
IN SAN FRANCISCO

**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2008*

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, the Department of Justice tells us that, everyday, 45 people, on average, are fatally shot in the United States. Far too often, while our culture is caught up in the exciting history of our nation's political season right now or the blessed peace that some of us enjoy from living life to its fullest, there are dozens of people, each and every day, who lose their life abruptly and in silence at the hands of a gun-wielding assailant.

Such was the case, last night, on the streets of San Francisco. Twenty-four-year old Donovan Mumphy, of Pinole, just outside of San Francisco, was shot and killed by an unknown assailant in the parking lot of an apartment

complex. Witnesses said Mumphy was approached by someone who demanded cash and fled after the shooting.

I extend my condolences to Mr. Mumphy's family and continue to pray for an end to this senseless violence. Americans of conscious must come together to stop the senseless death of "The Daily 45." When will we say 'enough is enough, stop the killing.'

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR  
DEMOCRACY IN KAZAKHSTAN

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 26, 2008*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today before you to draw attention to an issue which concerns our continued efforts to establish democratic principles around the world. The recent conflict between Russia and Georgia has highlighted the acute need for the U.S. to maintain and strengthen its resolve to support and strengthen the former Soviet Republic countries.

Kazakhstan is among these countries and it is an important partner in many ways. Kazakhstan is a key energy-producing ally where a large number of U.S. corporations are doing business as part of the global effort to meet our domestic energy needs.

While I certainly appreciate that Kazakhstan has worked closely with the U.S. on matters of nonproliferation, I have become increasingly concerned by reports indicating that Kazakhstan's governmental system lacks the basic rights of democracy: elections are neither free or fair; political opposition faces physical danger; there are few independent media outlets; the wide-scale corruption which has begun to affect major U.S. companies doing business in Kazakhstan; and, there is no respect for human rights, religious freedom, freedom of speech or economic liberalization.

Last year's election in Kazakhstan was far from democratic. Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev's reelection in 2005 with 91 percent of the vote prompted widespread complaints of vote fraud. The Nur-Otan party which supports President Nazarbayev won all 98 contested seats in the country's parliamentary election last August. Pledges to institute overhauls have failed to move forward according to recent reports by the U.S. Department of State and Freedom House.

In fact, a number of opposition parties have decided to boycott Kazakhstan's upcoming Senate elections with one of the opposition parties stating that "we do not intend to give a veneer of 'competition' to a forthcoming farce and to become a pseudo democratic entourage".

As part of an agreement that allows Kazakhstan to ascend to the Chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), a multilateral organization devoted to European Security, Kazakhstan pledged to implement an opposition party law and other reform measures by the end of this year. To date, little has been achieved and opposition parties assert that they are not consulted with on formulating an opposition party law.

I applaud my distinguished colleagues Chairman ALCEE HASTINGS of Florida and Co-