

and greywater, and research on water storage.

Mr. Speaker, at a time when water shortages are becoming more commonplace in our Nation, I applaud the bipartisan work of the Science Committee under the leadership of Chairman GORDON and Ranking Member HALL on this important legislation. They understand the need for us to work across the aisle on these important issues, and I commend them both for their leadership.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 631.

DEATH IN CUSTODY REPORTING
ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 3, 2009

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 738, the Death in Custody Reporting Act of 2009. This legislation would mandate prompt reporting of prisoner and immigration detainee deaths in state and local prisons to the Attorney General. Under current law, many families of prisoners and detainees often do not receive timely information regarding deaths in custody. An inmate death in a local and state correctional facility is a serious matter that deserves full reporting to family members as well as federal regulators so that a full and transparent investigation can take place into the causes and circumstances surrounding a death. I applaud this Congress's action on this critical issue and would hope that I can work with my colleagues to implement widespread reform in our Nation's prison system.

For too long, America has turned a blind eye to abuse and neglect in our prisons and detention centers. In particular, immigration prisons have been the focus of great concern as recent deaths in facilities in Virginia and my home state of Rhode Island have made the need for transparency as important as ever. Immigration detainees, many of whom have neither been charged nor convicted of a criminal act and are in custody awaiting a hearing or deportation, often do not receive timely or adequate health care. Others are indiscriminately transferred thousands of miles away from family members and legal counsel. These issues must be addressed in our ongoing efforts to reform our prison system. This legislation lays the groundwork for those reforms and I applaud Chairman SCOTT's leadership on this issue.

I thank Chairman SCOTT, and I would urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support H. Res. 117, to "sup-

port the goals and ideals of National Engineers Week, and for other purposes."

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 117 recognizes the need to support the goals and ideals of National Engineers Week and its aims to increase understanding of and interest in engineering and technology careers and to promote literacy in math and science; and will work with the engineering community to make sure that the creativity and contribution of that community can be expressed through research, development, standardization, and innovation.

New discoveries and technologies are changing the way Americans live and work. Through dedicated research and development, engineers expand our knowledge and lay the foundation for the progress of our country. This week is an opportunity to recognize engineers for their many contributions to our way of life and to encourage young people to pursue their curiosity by studying math and science.

Engineering education began in America under circumstances that differ substantially from those of the other leading professions. Medical schools, for example, were established by individual physicians, and then loosely affiliated with universities.

By contrast, engineers were first trained by apprenticeship, particularly on canal construction projects. This tradition was perpetuated on railroad construction projects, and later in factories and machine shops, long after college engineering programs were established. Eventually, engineering schools in the United States were sponsored by the federal government (the U.S. Military Academy in 1802) and the land-grant colleges (beginning in 1862). They were also fostered by public-spirited citizens who fostered the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and from within established universities in response to interest or demand.

The engineering workforce is the driver of society's technological engine, an awesome responsibility. We will not be able to address this responsibility without diversifying the pool of science and engineering talent. This broadening of participation must come from The Land of Plenty, our mostly untapped potential of underrepresented minorities and women—America's "competitive edge" for the 21st century.

We know that more than any other species, humans are configured to be the most flexible learners. Humans are intentional learners, proactive in acquiring knowledge and skills. And, it turns out that we are more successful learners if we are mindful or cognizant of ourselves as learners and thinkers.

The revolution in information technologies connected and integrated researchers and research fields in a way never before possible. The nation's IT capability has acted like 'adrenaline' to all of science and engineering. A next step is to build the most advanced computer-communications infrastructure for researchers to use, while simultaneously broadening its accessibility.

The great state of Texas boasts excellent schools that produce many of the nation's outstanding engineers. Texas Tech University's Whitacre College of Engineering is an internationally recognized research institution ranked among the best in the country. The Dwight Look College of Engineering at Texas A&M University is one of the largest engineer-

ing colleges in the nation, with nearly 9,000 students and 12 departments. Texas A&M University ranks among the top five producers in the country for undergraduate engineering degrees. Prairie View A&M University's College of Engineering has a rich and well established legacy of producing some of the most outstanding engineers, computer scientists and technologists in the nation.

To date, our knowledge of the "science of learning," is just the tip of the iceberg of what we have yet to learn. Our ultimate goal is truly not to waste a single child and to teach and train a workforce that is well prepared and can adapt and change.

I thank my colleague, Rep. DANIEL LIPINSKI, of Illinois, for introducing this important resolution, to ensure that we continue to cultivate the understanding of and interest in engineering and technology careers that will be quite beneficial to society. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution.

HONORING JOHN D. DINGELL FOR
HOLDING THE RECORD AS THE
LONGEST SERVING MEMBER OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. EDWARDS of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my friend and colleague, JOHN DINGELL for becoming the longest serving Member of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Mr. DINGELL's service is unparalleled. For 53 years, he has worked diligently for the American people and his legislative accomplishments are unparalleled. Serving alongside Chairman DINGELL, I've come to know why he has earned the deep respect and admiration of scores of House Members, Senators and 11 different Presidents.

A true champion of health care reform, JOHN DINGELL has been at the center of every major health policy reform of the last 50 years. In 1965, he was central to the creation of Medicare, a program that saves millions of elderly Americans from the horrors of poverty and disease every year. Continuing his fight for a healthier country, JOHN has worked on behalf of children, the poor, and many others who can't afford quality health care and has been a visionary in authoring legislation to ensure affordable health care for all.

Today JOHN DINGELL broke a record, but that record won't be why we remember him. It will be his character, his accomplishments, and his unyielding belief that this institution can make a positive impact in the lives of everyday Americans. Today JOHN DINGELL made history, but his lasting legacy will be how he has shaped the history of a great nation through a lifetime of public service.

I consider it one of the true privileges of my lifetime to know JOHN DINGELL as a colleague, a mentor and a close personal friend. His wisdom and his example of leadership will continue to make a difference for American families long after we here are long gone. God bless JOHN DINGELL and the love of his life, his wife, Debra.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS
100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a co-sponsor and strong supporter of H. Con. Res. 35, a resolution to recognize the 100th anniversary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and acknowledge the numerous contributions of the NAACP in helping create a more just and equitable society.

The NAACP is the oldest and largest civil rights organization in the United States. For the past 100 years, the association has fought actively and fervently for equal justice for all Americans under the idea that all men and women are created equal.

In February 1909, a handful of courageous and fearless citizens—including Ida Wells Barnett, Mary White Ovington, Oswald Garrison Villiard, William English Walling, Henry Moscowitz and W.E.B. Du Bois—formed the National Negro Committee with the intent of addressing the social, economic and political rights of African-Americans. This organization would later become the NAACP, and for the next century would dedicate itself to eliminating racial hatred and ending racial discrimination.

The NAACP has accomplished and will continue to accomplish great things for our nation. In 1954, the NAACP achieved one of its greatest victories in the *Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka* case when the Supreme Court overturned segregation in the nation's public schools. This decision rendered "separate but unequal" unconstitutional. More importantly it helped to break down the barriers that divided the nation.

Through nonviolent methods such as protests, marches and media outreach the NAACP was instrumental in moving President Truman's Executive Order banning discrimination in the armed forces. The NAACP also played an active role in the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

The NAACP continues to fight for the rights of Americans confined to the corners of our society. The NAACP maintains active branches nationwide, including one in the 12th District of New Jersey, located in Trenton. I am grateful to the NAACP members who live in my Congressional District including Edith Savage-Jennings, a pioneer of the civil rights movement. The work they do to continue to advance the struggle for civil rights in our country is an inspiration to us all.

The NAACP gracefully and tirelessly has fought for the political, social, economic, and educational rights of all Americans, and has sought to ensure that our nation recognized the inalienable rights of all citizens, regardless of race, class, or ethnicity. They have paved the way for some of our most celebrated leaders like my good friend JOHN LEWIS and President Barack Obama to accomplish what they have. Moving forward the NAACP will shift its focus to ensure the attainment of human rights for all; a noble, honorable and needed effort. The enormity of the NAACP's contributions these past 100 years is immeasurable, and I

am certain that the next 100 years will produce more accomplishments and milestones for this historic and vital organization. I am proud to join with my colleagues in supporting this resolution.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. PETER
SMYTH AND THE BORDES FAMIL-
Y RECEIVING THE 2009 BROAD-
CASTERS OF AMERICA GOLDEN
MIKE AWARD

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Mr. LYNCH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Peter Smyth and the Bordes Family, for their outstanding dedication to Greater Media of Braintree, Massachusetts, and to mark the great achievement of being presented with the 2009 Broadcasters Foundation of America Golden Mike Award.

Greater Media was co-founded in 1956 by Peter A. Bordes and is one of the last remaining family-owned broadcasting companies in the United States. Now parent company of 23 AM and FM radio stations in the Boston, Charlotte, Detroit, New Jersey and Philadelphia markets, Greater Media continues to be a shining example of good corporate citizenship in the fast paced and ever evolving media industry.

From its beginning, Greater Media has stressed the autonomy of local management, dedication to local community service, and leadership in developing and adapting new technology and services to improve media communications. Greater Media consistently seeks to improve the lives of their listeners and readers, and the communities in which they live.

In 1986, Peter Smyth joined the Greater Media family. In October 2000, Mr. Smyth was named President and Chief Operating Officer, and in March 2002, was promoted to Greater Media's President and Chief Executive Officer. He was named Chairman of the Board in October 2008.

Since his arrival at Greater Media, Mr. Smyth has received such prestigious honors as "America's Best Broadcaster" and has been named one of the 40 "Most Powerful People in Radio" for eight years. Most recently he was honored with the "Radio Executive of the Year" award.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Mr. Smyth and the Bordes Family for their commitment to excellence in broadcasting and journalism. I applaud their success, and I wish them the best in their future endeavors.

HONORING GEORGE C. WELKER

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today recognize George C. Welker at the close of his 40-year career serving the employees of CWA Local 1108 in Patchogue, New York. His remarkable tenure spans dramatic changes in the telecommunications in-

dustry and labor relations in America. Unwavering and undiminished in that time is Mr. Welker's devotion to the members of CWA Local 1108 and his Long Island community.

In 1969, George Welker joined CWA as Steward for his gang of installers at New York Telephone's St. James garage. He rose through the ranks, serving as Chief Steward of Repair, Area Representative and Business Agent, before being elected President of Local 1108 in 1990 and serving until 2008. He was also a member of the Regional Bargaining Committee, participating in the negotiation of four collective bargaining agreements, and served the CWA National Union as chairman of its Finance Committee.

The most significant of Mr. Welker's many achievements at CWA Local 1108 include negotiating the addition of 3,200 temporary employees to Bell Atlantic's regular payroll in 1998, winning an arbitration case that restored the livelihoods of 215 union members who were wrongfully dismissed in 2002, and overseeing Local 1108's successful merger with Local 1110 in 2004.

Madam Speaker, organized labor deserves much of the credit for the rise of America's middle class. The labor movement and its successes are built on the shoulders of leaders like George Welker. He will be sorely missed by the workers of CWA Local 1108, and I join them in thanking him for his service and offering best wishes for a retirement free of grievances.

HONORING LEE ROY MAYHALL

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to posthumously honor the life of Lee Roy Mayhall. Mr. Mayhall passed away on January 26, 2009 at the age of seventy-seven, after a long battle with cancer.

Lee Roy Mayhall took great pride in his hometown of Oakhurst, California. He was one of the original founding members of the Citizens on Patrol (COP) program that was launched in 2000. The COP concept began in 1999, with one car and a couple of volunteers. Mr. Mayhall and his wife, Jean, were among those few original volunteers. Within seven years, the small unit expanded into an entire fleet. With the increase in volunteers, they are able to cover the rural communities of Oakhurst, North Fork, Coarsegold, Chowchilla, Eastside Acres and the Madera Ranchos, all in Madera County. During the summer months the COP volunteers assist the Sheriffs Boat Patrol on Bass Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Mayhall, along with the dedicated COP volunteers, serve as a second set of eyes and ears for the Sheriff's Department. They served as partners in the programs; together they donated countless hours and money to assist in financing critical training. Mr. and Mrs. Mayhall were honored in 2007 by the Madera County Supervisors for their years of service and dedication to the citizens of Madera County. Mr. Mayhall was also the recipient of the "Above and Beyond" award for his outstanding contributions to the community.

Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Lee Roy