

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF IBEW'S 100TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. PELOSI. Madam Speaker, on February 21, 2009 San Franciscans will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local 6. Local 6 has a proud history of providing labor and services to the citizens of San Francisco; with electrical lighting and power systems for more than 125 years and communications systems for more than 150 years.

Electrical workers were the pioneers who changed the face of society. Recognizing the need for unity, fair compensation and safe working conditions, they organized and affiliated with other electrical workers and were chartered by IBEW on February 21, 1895 and newly chartered on February 21, 1909. From helping to rebuild our fire-ravaged city after the 1906 Earthquake to developing San Francisco's infrastructure, including schools, hospitals, civic buildings, bridges and transportation, the Bay Area would not be the magnificent area it is today without Local 6.

In our more recent history, Local 6 played an integral role in building the Bay Area Rapid Transit system (BART), seismic retrofitting of City Hall, relocation of the main public library building, the new municipal court and federal buildings, Pacific Bell Park, University of California's development of Mission Bay, and they have made high-tech switching facilities and modern communication systems available for use.

This is a great opportunity to recognize all the brave men and women who struggled and sacrificed so that we can enjoy the quality and life and standard of living that we have come to cherish.

I pledge to continue to fight in Congress for economic opportunity, good jobs and good opportunities for America's working men and women. I will work with President Obama and Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis to ensure fair wages, safe workplaces and job training for working Americans. I join my constituents and all those in the San Francisco Bay Area to salute Local 6's success and unrelenting commitment to working Americans and to look forward to a bright future.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I have been proud to have served as a Mem-

ber of the State House of Representatives in Michigan and now as a Member of the United States House of Representatives for more than three decades. I know first-hand of the hard work and leadership of the long-term Chairman Emeritus JOHN DINGELL. People outside of the great State of Michigan, in which I have been proud to serve as a Member of the State House of Representatives in Michigan and now as a Member of the U.S. House of Representatives for more than three decades know the long-time Chairman Emeritus of the powerful Energy and Commerce Committee as JOHN D. DINGELL. In Michigan, we know Chairman DINGELL as a dedicated, devoted and dutiful public servant who continues to serve the people of Michigan's 15th Congressional District and the United States superbly. As the Dean of the U.S. House of Representatives, Chairman DINGELL has been a fighter for the automotive industry; a protector of our environment; a dogged investigator and leader of Federal oversight; and one of the leading supporters of health care for all Americans.

Chairman DINGELL's sense of public service goes beyond his service as a Member of Congress for more than the past five decades. Chairman DINGELL, who began learning his skill as a legislator at the feet of his father, John, the Chairman joined the U.S. Army at the age of 18 to fight in WWII. After graduating from college, working as a forest ranger and becoming a lawyer, Chairman DINGELL became a member of our august body after winning the seat of his departed dad.

Chairman DINGELL's influence upon the lives of all Americans is broad and deep. As the longtime Chairman of the Energy and Commerce Committee, to which more than two-thirds of all legislation in Congress is referred, Chairman DINGELL has been at the forefront of legislation that has improved the health of minorities, women, and men; improved the quality of the water we drink, the food we eat, and the very air that we breathe; and uncovered some of the worst fraud, waste and abuse of scarce American tax dollars.

Every Congress for more than the past five decades, Chairman DINGELL has introduced legislation that would guarantee each and every American access to health care. This is carrying on a family tradition that was begun by his father, and continued by the son. This is but one of the hundreds of bills and laws that Chairman DINGELL has directly influenced. Under Chairman DINGELL, we discovered that the Department of Defense were paying more than \$600 for a toilet seat. The "Do Not Call" law that restricted telemarketers from interrupting our homes. The recently-signed into law State Children's Health Insurance Plan, guaranteeing health insurance for millions of children of working families. Saving our beloved Great Lakes from pollution. Preserving America's forestry and animal heritage with the Endangered Species Act. Ensuring that women and minorities are counted and considered as we find cures for cancer, AIDS, and other debilitating diseases. Fighting for

the American automobile industry. And finally, Chairman DINGELL's work to establish a "Patient's Bill of Rights" that means that doctors, not insurance bureaucrats, make decisions for our health care. In more than half a century of service to all Americans, Chairman DINGELL has a record of achievement that will not be surpassed. It is a record that I respected as a Member of Michigan's State legislature, and it is one that I continue to respect to this very day.

I join my colleagues in congratulating Chairman JOHN DINGELL, along with all of Michigan's sons and daughters, regardless of race, religion, or party affiliation, on his record length of service to our Nation. Chairman DINGELL's service has made a difference for us all. I am proud to honor Chairman DINGELL for a lifetime of dedication to our country.

DTV DELAY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 4, 2009

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S 352, the DTV Delay Act.

America is unready and as always, the poor and elderly are the most at risk. In my district alone, 4,569 people have requested vouchers for their analog televisions and have not yet received the coupons. Unless Congress acts, these televisions will flicker black. These constituents will not be able to hear news alerts, be notified of national emergencies and continue to be connected to the outside world through their televisions because the Government didn't follow through with a promise to provide DTV vouchers.

It is the Federal Government that for years, has been assuring these constituents that their televisions will not turn black as long as they follow through with the instructions and submit requests for digital television vouchers. It is imperative that we delay implementation of the digital transmission and fulfill the commitment we have made to our constituents that have followed the rules.

The legislation being considered today has important provisions which allow the FCC with flexibility in implementing these requirements. The bill permits the FCC to approve full DTV conversion in markets where the consumers are prepared for the transition before the hard date in June. Where the transition does occur before the June 12th date, this legislation allows first responders to take over the airwaves immediately once the analog signal space is open.

While this delay is unfortunate, it is a necessary step to assure that the millions of Americans televisions will not go dark because of a bureaucratic snafu.

In the multiple media markets in Ohio, 6.88 percent of the Dayton market is unready for the digital transition, 5.91 percent of the

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Cleveland market, 4.4 percent of the Detroit market and 4.29 percent of the Columbus market. I urge a Yes vote on this legislation because I cannot simply turn my back on this many constituents.

TRIBUTE TO SUSAN RITSCHTEL

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of San Clemente, California, are exceptional. San Clemente has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Susan Ritschel is one of these individuals. On February 19, 2009, the San Clemente Chamber of Commerce will honor Susan as the "2008 Citizen of the Year."

I've known Susan for several years and can attest to all that she does for the community of San Clemente. Susan served on the San Clemente Planning Commission as Commissioner after which she served on the San Clemente City Council for two terms and was mayor of the city. Susan is a former president of the Orange County Division of the League of California Cities and a board member and chair of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board and was the Orange County planning commissioner.

Susan's accomplishments in 2008 are extraordinary. She was the honorary chair of the Capital Campaign for the new Dorothy Visser Senior Center in San Clemente. I was honored to join Susan for a short leg of her 1,000 miles to raise funds for the Senior Center. She also planned and held a major fundraiser entitled "Cruising to our Destination" as well as oversaw and coordinated outreach to foundations. Susan's passion for helping seniors in our community was the driving force in gathering support for the Dorothy Visser Senior Center from legislators at all levels as well as businesses, service clubs and other entities. Susan developed and implemented a Capital Campaign, which raised over 2.1 million dollars in pledges and payments to meet the Campaign goal.

In short, there is nothing Susan cannot do once she puts her mind to it. Susan Ritschel is a model citizen and in 2008 she worked untiringly to improve the lives of San Clemente seniors. She is held in high esteem by the city of San Clemente, the business community and the many people that she impacts everyday in a positive way.

Susan's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of San Clemente, California, and especially to the senior community. I am proud to call Susan a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she receives the much-deserved "2008 Citizen of the Year" Award.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS
100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the NAACP, which was founded on February 12th, 1909. For the past century, the NAACP has served as the driving force behind the American civil rights movement, as its founders, leaders and members risked everything to tear down the walls of ignorance and racism, demanding freedom, empowerment, opportunity and justice for all.

With a membership of a half-million strong, the NAACP membership represents communities across the country. The organization was formed partly in reaction to the unconscionable practice of lynching and also in response to the 1908 race riot in Springfield, Illinois. Horrified at the violence aimed at African Americans, a small group of concerned citizens met to discuss and find ways to address racial injustice and the NAACP was formed. Founding members included Mary White Ovington, Oswald Garrison Villard, Dr. Henry Moscovitz, Jane Addams and Charles Darrow. The stated goals included securing the rights of all people as guaranteed in the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments of the United States Constitution.

The NAACP was the principle legal advocate for numerous groundbreaking civil rights advancements, including the 1930 anti-lynching bill, the Dyer Bill, which passed the U.S. House of Representatives but not the U.S. Senate. Shortly thereafter, the NAACP published a report entitled, "Thirty Years of Lynching in the United States," which drastically decreased the incidence of lynching after its release. The impact of the NAACP's support of the civil rights movement is evidenced in numerous landmark court decisions, most notably, in *Brown v. Board of Education*, wherein the brilliant attorney, Thurgood Marshall, who later served as the NAACP's Chief Counsel and also as a United States Supreme Court Justice, argued his case against school segregation, and won.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of the members, past and present, of the NAACP, as they celebrate 100 years of service and sacrifice focused on protecting the rights of minority citizens, thereby raising our nation upon a platform where human rights and civil rights are protected for all.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD SHER

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor veteran broadcaster Richard Sher who is retiring from WJZ Television after 33 years.

Richard had a remarkable run in television news and worked as a news anchor and reporter in Baltimore. He anchored the popular

political talk show "Square-Off" and co-hosted the morning talk show "People Are Talking" with then up-and-comer Oprah Winfrey.

In 2006, he graced the silver screen and played himself in the movie *Man of the Year* featuring Robin Williams. In his stories, Richard had the ability to capture the true heart of the people and places that make Baltimore so unique.

Richard is home grown Baltimore. He went to St. Paul's School and received bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Maryland at College Park.

Richard began his broadcasting career as a radio disc jockey for WEAM in Arlington, Virginia. He moved to Baltimore to become a News Director for WCBM and made the move to television news a short time later when he joined WJZ in 1975.

Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I congratulate Richard Sher on his exemplary career as a journalist in Baltimore. I wish him well in his much deserved retirement.

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE OF MARY AT SMA-CAM-
ERON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize, before my esteemed colleagues, an exceptional woman whose contributions to the California dairy industry epitomize the tenacious spirit of industriousness and persistence found often in our Agricultural communities across this country. I would like to recognize Mary Atsma-Cameron, who on February 10th, 2009 was awarded the "2009 Outstanding Dairy Producer of the Year" award by Western Dairy Business magazine at the World Ag Expo in Tulare, California.

This indeed is a great honor. In an industry predominated by male ownership, Mary has distinguished herself as a force to contend with. According to her own words, "I'm a 'dairyman' and I say that because I've always worked like a dairyman, right alongside the men. I don't ask for special favors because I'm a woman." Mary has been in the dairy business now for 53 years and can still be found engaged in the day to day operations of the business; from driving tractor to managing the finances, purchasing feed and/or even assisting in "pulling" calves for cows struggling to deliver. Mary estimates that she has assisted in over 1,000 calf deliveries to date.

Not only has Mary Atsma-Cameron been an excellent hands-on "dairyman", Mary has also been a very active spokesperson and advocate for the dairy industry. Those who know Mary best, confirm that she is passionate and outspoken when it comes to dairy issues. Mary can be found continually urging local, state and federal officials concerning policy decisions affecting all dairy producers. From efforts to expanding the school milk programs to addressing supply management issues, Mary has a lengthy resume of involvement. Mary is a member of Kings County Dairywomen serving as president in 1981-82. She was a member of the National Dairy Board from 1994-2000 and was reappointed in 2003 where she continues to serve. Mary

was the first, and thus far, the only woman director to serve on the Board of Western United Dairymen Association. She has also served as secretary of Dairy Management Inc., and as director of Dairy Council of California from 1992–2004. Mary is presently on the board of directors for the Kings County Farm Bureau. Her awards include Kings County 2001 Agriculturalist of the year, the 2003 Woman of Distinction award by Soroptomist International of Hanford, CA and the 2003 Common Threads Honoree by California State University of Fresno.

Mary is truly a remarkable woman; always persistent, always engaged. Mary is definitely the sort of advocate that the dairy industry needs on its side. So I congratulate Mary Atsma-Cameron today on the receipt of this distinguished honor and to commend her before you, my colleagues, for her on-going contributions the dairy industry of California, indeed, the nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LOTTIE
FOX

HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today with deep sadness by the passing away of such a wonderful, spiritual, gentle, native Mississippian, Mrs. Lottie Fox. Mrs. Fox just celebrated, remarkably, her 104th birthday on Thursday, February 5, 2009. She was the oldest of fifteen siblings.

Lottie was dutiful and diligent and contributed tirelessly as an agricultural farmer to her native Calhoun County community for several years. Upon her retirement from farming, she made Water Valley, Mississippi, her home for over 30 years.

Lottie was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great grandmother. She is survived by her daughters, Opeal Trice; Ella Harris; Army Woodward; Bernice Minor; Molly Simmons; Dolly Fant; Catherine Brown; Rudy Swift; her son, Willie Fox and Step-daughters; Ella Coleman and Lela Doolittle. Lottie is also survived by 47 grandchildren, 69 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great grandchildren. Lottie was also a proud and devout member of Everdale Baptist Church.

Madam Speaker, with distinct honor and pride, I along with the citizens of both Yalobusha and Calhoun County, sadly mourn the death of such an inspirational Mississippian, as the 104 year old, Mrs. Lottie Fox. I want to personally thank her for her contributions. Her memory will live on.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
GILBERT ROBERT CRAFT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Citronelle and the state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor Gilbert Robert Craft and pay tribute to his memory.

Known to his many friends as “Bobby,” he was a lifelong resident of Citronelle. He graduated from Citronelle High School and Spring Hill College. He also served in the U.S. Army and attained the rank of captain.

Bobby began his career in public service in 1968 when he was elected to the Citronelle Town Council. In 1970, he was appointed to Citronelle’s Utility Board, which later became South Alabama Utilities. He served as chairman from 1972 until 1984 when he was named executive director, a position he held for more than 39 years. Under Bobby’s leadership, the local utility company encompassing one municipality grew to become one of the most respected utilities in the South, expanding into Semmes, west Mobile County, and at one time, southern Mobile County.

In honor of his service and unwavering devotion to his city, Bobby was twice named Citronelle’s Citizen of the Year. He was the owner of two companies, Craft Auto Parts and Craft Oil Company, and was a devoted member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church where he was a member for more than 70 years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Gilbert Robert Craft will be dearly missed by his family—his wife, Patricia; his children, Gilbert Robert Craft Jr. and his wife Deena, Patricia D’Nette Fagan, and Matthew Reed Craft and his wife Kirsten; his five grandchildren, Tiffani Marie Craft, Joshua Robert Craft, Blakely Danelle Fagan, Reed Alexander Craft, and Raleigh Connell Craft; and his three brothers, Joseph P. Craft, James B. Craft, and William M. Craft—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TAX RELIEF FOR TRANSPORTATION WORKERS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act. This legislation helps those who work in the port industry cope with the costs of complying with Congress’s mandate that all those working on a port obtain a Transportation Worker Identity Card, TWIC. The Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act provides a tax credit to workers who pay the costs of obtaining TWICs. The credit is refundable against both income and payroll tax liabilities.

When Congress created the TWIC requirement, it placed the burden of paying the cost of obtaining the card on individual workers. Imposing the costs of obtaining TWICs on port workers has several negative economic impacts that Congress should help mitigate by making the cost associated with obtaining a TWIC tax deductible. According to the Department of Homeland Security, a port worker will have to pay between \$100 and \$132 to obtain a card. The worker will also have to pay a \$60 fee for every card that is lost or damaged. Even those employers whose employers pay the substantial costs of obtaining TWICs for

their workforce are adversely affected by the TWIC requirement, as the money employers pay for TWICs is money that cannot go into increasing their workers’ salaries. The costs of the TWIC requirement may also cause some employers to refrain from hiring new employees.

Ironically, many of the employees whose employers are unable to pay the TWIC are part-time or temporary workers at the lower end of the income scale. Obviously, the TWIC requirement hits these workers the hardest. According to Recana, an employer of port workers in my district, the fee will have a “significant impact” on port workers.

Unless Congress acts to relieve some of the economic burden the TWIC requirement places on those who work in the port industry, the damage done could reach beyond the port employers and employees to harm businesses that depend on a strong American port industry. This could be very harmful to both interstate and international trade.

Regardless of what one thinks of the merits of the TWIC card, it is simply not right for Congress to make the port industry bear all the costs of TWIC. I therefore urge my colleagues to stand up for those who perform vital tasks at America’s ports by cosponsoring the Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act.

CALL FOR CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO WHITE HOUSE POLITICIZATION OF THE CENSUS BUREAU

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, yesterday we learned of two important developments as the White House plans to grab control of the day-to-day management of the U.S. Census Bureau: (1) The U.S. Senate’s chief committee on government oversight scheduled its first hearing of the year to investigate the matter; (2) Senator GREGG withdrew his name for the consideration of the Commerce Secretary position, citing “irreconcilable difference” with the President on the future of the U.S. Census.

These developments solidify what we already know: a political grab of the Census will jeopardize the non-partisan operations of the Bureau, and potentially disrupt the completion of a competent, reliable census.

My Republican colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously joined my call for an oversight hearing in the House. The Senate has heard our call. What do House Democrats have to hide? Americans deserve a non-partisan and accurate census, not one driven by partisan politics. Let’s hold a hearing and ensure that we give them that.

RECOGNIZING THE FOUNDING OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I wish to take a moment to acknowledge the

99th anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America. This organization, which was incorporated on February 8th, 1910, under the laws of the District of Columbia, has long been the largest youth organization in the nation and has done well in producing responsible citizens of strong character.

The Boy Scouts of America was rapid in its initial growth; only two years after its founding, Boy Scout troops were established in every state. Time and time again the Boy Scouts of America has proven its commitment to our nation, with initiatives such as, "Every Scout Feed a Soldier" and "A Good Turn for America". The past 99 years have seen more than 112 million youth bear the traditions of excellence rooted in the history of the Boy Scouts of America.

In the Chicagoland Area, Scouting is as prevalent of a force as it has always been. Currently, nearly 10,000 youth are actively involved in the Scouting program of our local council. In addition, through the Chicago Area Council's involvement in Learning for Life Programs, over 35,000 additional youth are immersed as well in the principles of scouting. Combining the two programs, nearly one in every seven youth in Chicago is in some way involved in the Scouting program.

I am sure that the spirit of Scouting is present in this very body, as it has been in the past. A survey conducted by the Boy Scouts of America revealed that nearly 60 percent of the membership of the 110th Congress had at some point participated in Scouting.

I am grateful that the twin pillars of the Scout Oath and Scout Law have served to shape the character of both young men and women of all ages, colors, codes, and creeds. With the continued contributions of the Boy Scouts of America and organizations like it, we can be sure that our youth are developing into good citizens.

IN SUPPORT OF RESTORING THE
WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF CON-
SUMER AFFAIRS

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, over the past eight years, American consumer safety has taken a back seat to the special interests. As a result, many Americans have been exposed to dangerous toys for their children, hazardous household products for their families and even contaminated food, resulting in illness. Now is the time to support consumer advocates across the country by encouraging the new administration to restore the White House Office of Consumer Affairs.

Our country gave the government a clear mandate for change in November. Without question, a new focus on consumer safety should be part of this change. Under President Clinton, consumers had an effective advocate with a long record of commitment to protecting consumers in Ann Brown, former Chairwoman of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission. Unfortunately, staff cutbacks suffered by the Food and Drug Administration and the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission have undermined effective efforts to protect consumers.

While bipartisan legislation has attempted to address these challenges, it is clear that more progress is required. We must act now. Americans should have confidence that the products they use are safe and will not pose any dangers to them or their families. The new Administration can make significant progress toward this goal by restoring the Office of Consumer Affairs to its rightful place in the Executive Branch. I strongly encourage President Obama's administration to do so, and I echo the New York Times and their call to action.

The editorial follows.

[From the New York Times, Jan. 4, 2009]

A VOICE FOR THE CONSUMER

The time has come to give the American consumer a much stronger voice in Washington. President-elect Barack Obama has already named what amounts to an energy and environmental czar in the White House, and America's beleaguered consumers deserve no less.

Mr. Obama should restore the White House Office of Consumer Affairs, which vanished during the Clinton years, and appoint a director who has both the president's ear and the authority to rebuild the consumer protection agencies that were undercut or hollowed out by the fiercely anti-regulatory Bush administration.

There is no shortage of agencies ostensibly designed to protect consumers. But without an emergency like killer spinach or lead in children's toys, the Bush administration has mostly failed to hear customers' complaints. The consumer safety net is simply far too weak.

The Food and Drug Administration has suffered cutbacks in expert personnel, and still relies too heavily on industry to police itself. Credit-card holders who have been subject to all kinds of Dickensian tricks and traps were finally told by the Federal Reserve that relief is in sight—in 2011. Not so long ago, there was only one official toy tester at the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and oversight generally was so weak that Congress was forced to step in with new protections, which still could be strengthened.

It will be up to the Obama administration to bring these agencies back to life. In part this means restoring the morale of government workers who have too often been stymied by the anti-regulators at the top. It will also mean stronger consumer protection policies and hiring more skilled people. It will mean giving one official responsibility for coordinating the entire apparatus.

Presidents Johnson and Carter both recognized the need for a strong person to do that job. Both chose Esther Peterson, who during about eight years in office pushed for then-radical ideas like nutritional labeling on food and truth in advertising. As the Reagan anti-government era began, the consumer protection job steadily lost clout until it was shuttered in the late 1990s.

During his campaign, Mr. Obama promised consumers that he would help them get a fairer deal. As the victims of lead toys and predatory lenders can attest, they certainly need one. Restoring the Office of Consumer Affairs and appointing a director as strong and capable as Mrs. Peterson would be an encouraging first step.

LONG-TERM SOLUTION FOR LONG-
TERM CARE

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, with an ever aging population, most families at one point or another are forced to make a decision regarding the future of a loved one who needs assistance with everyday living. These decisions are made upon few available options and are very costly—many find themselves struggling between the high price of nursing homes or informal family care. The financial and emotional burden on families is vast and action such as the "Long-term Care Retirement and Security Act of 2009" must be taken.

Long-term care is a variety of services that includes medical and non-medical care to people who have a chronic disability or illness. This form of care may be provided at home, in the community, in assisted living or in nursing homes. While long-term care is often used for the elderly, it is important to remember that it could be needed at any age.

It is important to note that families who choose to care for their loved ones are left responsible for otherwise costly services because Medicare does not pay for long-term care. Adult children or grandchildren are cited as the main care givers to the elderly population. According to research conducted by the American Association of Retired People (AARP), two-thirds of older people with disabilities relied solely on "informal" help; approximately 75% of which was unpaid care from friends and family. The AARP Public Policy Institute reported that the annual economic value of unpaid long-term care in the United States is approximately \$354 billion, based upon an estimation that 34 million adults provided some type of long-term care in 2006.

It is time to address the growing needs of our aging population and motivate younger generations to take the necessary steps toward insuring their long-term care needs. For this reason, I have reintroduced the Long-term Care and Retirement Security Act, H.R. 897.

This legislation would encourage individuals to plan for their own long-term care needs by amending the Internal Revenue Code to allow a tax deduction for eligible long-term care insurance premiums for a taxpayer and the taxpayer's spouse and dependents. This legislation would also establish an applicable tax credit for eligible caregivers caring for individuals with long-term care needs, multiplied by the number of individuals receiving care. The Long-term Care and Retirement Security Act would also permit long-term care insurance to be included in employee benefit cafeteria plans and flexible spending arrangements, resulting in more active employees participating in long-term care policies. Finally, this long overdue measure would establish consumer protections based on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' recommendations for qualified long-term care policies.

It is my hope that this legislation will encourage more Americans to take personal responsibility for their long-term care needs through these incentives and help families afford long-term care insurance.

TRIBUTE TO MARTHA PUTNEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and honor the life and legacy of Martha S. Putney, of Washington D.C. Mrs. Putney passed away December 11, 2008, at age 92.

Mrs. Putney was one of the first black women to serve in the Women's Army Corps during World War II. She is also a renowned historian and made strong contributions to the African American history literature.

Martha Settle was born in Norristown, Pa. She attended Howard University in Washington D.C. from which she earned a bachelor's degree in 1939 and a master's degree in history in 1940.

Martha encountered racial barriers when trying to start a teaching career. Unable to find a job, she entered the government's War Manpower Commission as a statistical clerk. In 1943 she was one of the first black women to join the Women's Army Corps, then less than a year old. In the Army, she experienced segregation and racial discrimination.

In 1946, Martha Putney left the women's Army Corps with the rank of first lieutenant. She married William M. Putney in 1948. She eventually began her dreamed teaching career after earning a doctorate in European history from the University of Pennsylvania in 1955. She became a history teacher at Bowie State College in Maryland, where she chaired the history and geography department until 1974. She then taught at Howard University in Washington D.C. until 1983.

Dr. Putney wrote "Black Sailors: Afro-American Merchant Seamen and Whalemens Prior to the Civil War," in 1987 and "When the Nation Was in Need: Blacks in the Women's Army Corps During World War II" in 1992. She also published a number of scholarly articles on African American history.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Putney was an outstanding mother, soldier, teacher and author. I know the Members of the House will join me in expressing our sincere condolences to Mrs. Putney's son, William M. Putney Jr. On behalf of Congress, I thank Mrs. Putney for her great contributions to our nation and for her role in educating our children.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE
MR. ROBERT C. PETTY SR.**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Mobile and indeed the entire state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Robert C. Petty Sr. was a musical legend in Mobile.

As the senior member of Mobile's Excelsior Band, Mr. Petty spent more than 50 years with the band, performing its Dixieland and conventional jazz in local Mardi Gras parades, at many Mobile weddings, and other special city events.

Anyone who knew Mr. Petty knew he loved playing the trombone. In addition to the Excelsior Band, which has marched the streets of downtown Mobile for over 100 years, he had been the lead trombonist with the E.B. Coleman Orchestra and the C.T. Jazz Ensemble. He was a longtime member and former president of the Musicians Federation Union as well as a veteran of the U.S. Army, where he also played in the band.

Mr. Petty was a 1937 graduate of Dunbar High School and received his Bachelor of Science degree in history from Morehouse College in 1950. While he was at Morehouse, he played the trombone and was awarded the Morehouse Service "M" in band for his outstanding performance. Mr. Petty was also a retiree of the U.S. Postal Service.

Madam Speaker, the Excelsior Band—and Mobile Mardi Gras—will not be the same, and I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering this talented man. Robert C. Petty Sr. will be deeply missed by his family—his wife of more than 50 years, Gloria; his seven children, Phyllis McArthur, Robert Petty Jr., Cynthia Taylor, Sharon Kuttner, Minda "Carol" Petty, Kenneth Petty, and Wendell Petty; his 14 grandchildren, and his two great-grandchildren—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

HONORING MAJOR SHELIA FLOWERS FOR HER PROMOTION TO
LIEUTENANT COLONEL IN THE
UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a fellow Georgian, Major Shelia Flowers. Major Flowers hails from Robersonville, North Carolina. In 1987, she graduated from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University with a bachelor's degree in Business Administration. After graduating, she was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and attended the Adjutant General Officer Basic Course at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana.

Major Flowers has held numerous challenging positions throughout her 21 years of service in the Army Reserve. Her assignments as a drilling reservist have included: (1) Serving as a Civil Affairs Officer with the 407th Civil Affairs Company at Fort Snelling, Minnesota; (2) Platoon Leader with the 342nd Adjutant General Postal Company in Rome, Georgia; (3) and a Lanes Training Observer Controller with the 1st Battalion of the 347th Regiment located at Fort Gillem, Georgia. While in her last drilling assignment, Major Flowers earned a Master of Science degree in Conflict Resolution from Kennesaw State University.

In 2003, she was mobilized in support of Operation Noble Eagle/Enduring Freedom and has spent the last six years of her career on active duty. Her parent command is the U.S. Army Reserve Command Headquarters at Ft. McPherson, Georgia. While mobilized to active duty, she served in the G-1 Directorate in support of Operation Noble Eagle as a Crisis

Action Team Leader, Equal Opportunity Officer, Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program Manager, and Staff Action Officer.

Major Flowers was assigned to directly support Operation Enduring Freedom upon her transfer to OARDEC in November 2007. She has performed myriad tasks with ease including ARB Case Research Officer, CFO, Lead Case Research Officer, and Tribunal Recorder.

Major Flowers' professional military education includes the Adjutant General Officer Advance Course, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, and Command and General Staff College. She has applied to the Naval War College. Her military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal and the Army Achievement Medal.

In keeping with one of the tenets that sustains the Reserve Component, Major Flowers serves her community as a member of a 100 year old service organization, the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority. She is an 18-year employee of Lockheed Martin Corporation. She is married to LTC Eric Flowers, who is currently deployed to the Horn of Africa, and they have one daughter.

Major Shelia Flowers is being promoted to Lieutenant Colonel today, and I would like to extend her my congratulations on the floor of the United States Congress and thank her for an exemplary record of service to our nation. The United States—and my home state of Georgia—are proud of Lieutenant Colonel Flowers' commendable professional competence, sound judgment, and total dedication to duty. She has reflected great credit upon herself and upholds the highest traditions of the United States Army Reserve. I wish Shelia and her husband all the best in their future endeavors, and I thank them once again for their leadership in serving our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 57, I was absent from the House. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

HONORING THE MEMORY OF ALA-
BAMA STATE SENATOR W.H.
"PAT" LINDSEY**HON. JO BONNER**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor Alabama State Senator W.H. "Pat" Lindsey and pay tribute to his memory.

Considered by many to be a living legend in Alabama politics, Sen. Lindsey was one of the most powerful members of the Alabama Senate. At the time of this death, he held the second longest active tenure in the state Senate.

Born in Meridian, Mississippi, Sen. Lindsey graduated from Choctaw County High School, where he was a five-year letterman in football,

basketball, and baseball. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in geology from the University of Alabama. He served in the U.S. Army and Army Reserves from 1958 until 1963 and in the Alabama Army National Guard's 156th Military Police Battalion from 1963 until he retired with the rank of captain in 1972. In 1963, he graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law and, just three years later, was elected to the Alabama Senate and served two terms until 1974.

Sen. Lindsey returned to the Alabama Senate in 1990 and was reelected in 1994, 1998, 2002, and 2006. He was a longtime member of the Senate Judiciary Committee and was well known for questioning his fellow lawmakers on how their bills would affect everyday people. With his background in geology, Sen. Lindsey was regarded by his colleagues as an expert on oil and natural gas exploration and was often sought out by his colleagues for his advice on related legislation.

Described by the Choctaw Sun-Advocate as a "champion of education," Sen. Lindsey was well-known for his "staunch support, both financial and otherwise, of K-12 and the college level education." He played a key role in securing funds for the construction of the library and adult education center at Alabama Southern Community College in Gilbertown. At the opening of the W.H. "Pat" Lindsey Library and Adult Education Community Center in March of 2005, Sen. Lindsey told the crowd, "There are two things that I have a passion for: kids playing ball and libraries. I've had other things named for me in other places, but this means more because this is home."

Beginning in 1993, Sen. Lindsey served for 12 years on the board of trustees of the University of South Alabama and, in that capacity, he was instrumental in helping to improve the university's academic and healthcare missions. He was a member of the Alabama Bar Association, the American Bar Association, the Choctaw County Chamber of Commerce, and the University of Alabama Alumni Association. Sen. Lindsey had also represented both the Choctaw County Commission and the town of Butler as chief legal counsel since 1965.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout Alabama. Senator W.H. "Pat" Lindsey will be dearly missed by his family—his son, Patrick Lindsey; his daughter, Lori Champion and her husband Jamey; his sister, Kay Kimbrough; and his two grandchildren, Kate and Sophie—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

CREATING AWARENESS ABOUT HEART DISEASE

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, In an effort to create awareness about an issue that hits close to home, I want to share with you that February 7–14th is National Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week.

It is a little known fact that the number of children affected by heart disease is higher

than those affected by Autism or Down Syndrome. According to the March of Dimes, congenital heart defect is the number one birth defect. In the U.S. alone, more than 25,000 babies are born each year with a defect, many of which are undetected and life threatening.

Chances are that you or someone you know, including my family, has been affected by a similar circumstance. Although it is a difficult and fearful process, there are a lot of families in our community who have been through it and are willing to offer their support. In South Florida, we are fortunate to have the Holtz Children's Hospital, where our son Cristian was treated for a serious heart condition, among other incredible hospitals. While good medical care is critical, it is also important to have a strong support group. Hospitals often offer guidance in getting families in touch, and there is also the Angel's Pediatric Heart House, which focuses on helping the entire family cope with the diagnosis. Families affected by heart disease do not have to feel alone, because they are not.

OREGON'S NATIVE AMERICANS DURING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF OREGON

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, on February 14, 2009 we will mark the 150th anniversary of Oregon's admission to the Union. We have much to reflect upon and celebrate since Oregon became the 33rd state. As we commemorate this occasion, I would like to highlight the role of Indian tribes in Oregon.

We must not forget the original inhabitants of what we now call Oregon. Native Americans have been living in this region for well over 12,000 years. During this time tribes developed strong cultures and economies, many of which were well documented first via oral histories, and later by white settlers. Many of the tribes were formally recognized by the United States when treaties were signed in 1855, four years before Oregon became a state.

We must not attempt to overlook the loss of lives, culture, and well-being that tribes have experienced during the last several hundred years. However, what we can do, and must do, is remember and celebrate the first Oregonians; their history before Oregon; and their cultural, economic, and political contributions during the last 150 years.

Nine federally recognized tribes exist in Oregon. Each tribe has its own history that is interwoven with the history of Oregon. Today many tribes are experiencing economic development and cultural revitalization through self-determination. For others, more work needs to be done. Poverty in Indian country continues to be greater than in the rest of the United States. But as we move into the next 150 years of Oregon's history, it is my hope that the federal government, the state of Oregon, and the tribes can work together to improve the lives of tribal members and others in their communities.

So on the occasion of Oregon's sesquicentennial, I recognize the Indian tribes for their historical, cultural, political, and economic contributions to the state of Oregon.

CONGRATULATING GEORGE WERNETH ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM MOBILE'S PRESS-REGISTER

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with both pride and pleasure that I rise today to honor George Werneth on the occasion of his retirement from Mobile's Press-Register.

Over the course of his career, George has played an influential role in honoring the service and actions of our nation's servicemen and women. After nearly four decades of reporting issues ranging from maritime operations to military news, George has become the trusted voice for the news of Alabama's veterans.

In honor of his efforts, George was recently made an honorary member of the Marine Corps League at the American Legion Post 88 in Mobile. One of George's latest accomplishments was a series of stories he wrote profiling a veteran from Eight Mile, Alabama, who struggled to receive disability care after having been "waterboarded" in a 1975 Navy survival course. Due in large part to George's spotlight highlighting the oversight, the veteran soon received his benefits.

Madam Speaker, George Werneth's distinguished career in journalism has provided a great service to the people of southwest Alabama, and I know his colleagues, family, and friends join with me in praising him for his years of hard work.

George will surely enjoy the well deserved time he now has to spend with family and loved ones. On behalf of a grateful community, I wish him the best of luck in all his future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ILLEGAL, UNREPORTED, AND UNREGU- LATED FISHING ENFORCEMENT ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2009

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, today I have introduced a bill to strengthen enforcement mechanisms to stop illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing. The difficulties of managing fish stocks that migrate across political boundaries are exacerbated by the increased fishing power now available as a result of modern technology. While the United States is recognized for its commitment to domestic fisheries conservation and as an international voice in science-based ocean conservation, the failure of other nations to adopt similar approaches has both economic and conservation implications for U.S. industry and management. Additional action is needed from Congress if we are to be successful in combating IUU fishing and the depletion of fish stocks worldwide.

Recent reports have documented that IUU fishing accounts for between 11 and 19 percent of the reported global fish catch, or \$10–25 billion in gross revenues each year (MRAG, 2005, Sumaila et al., 2006 and

Agnew et al., 2008). This undermines the United States' conservation focused approach to fisheries management and the efforts of its fishermen, and has implications for sustainable international fisheries that benefit the world's marine ecosystems. Unsustainable fishing practices by foreign fishing fleets adversely affect stocks that migrate between the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and the high seas. This problem can be particularly acute in places like Guam, where the EEZ is vast, and where the United States Coast Guard, despite its best efforts, will never have sufficient resources to patrol all of our waters.

There are many ways to address the issue of IUU fishing, including depriving fishers of the economic benefits of illegal fishing, increasing leverage on nations to effectively monitor and control their fishing vessels, and building capacity for enforcement and good governance in developing countries, all of which were addressed with the 2006 reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA). The January 13th release of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) biennial report to Congress of identified IUU nations was a positive first step in addressing IUU fishing. Notwithstanding these and other efforts by NOAA, the Department of State, and the United States Coast Guard, further enforcement authorities could enhance the ability of these agencies to address IUU fishing.

The "Illegal, Unreported, Unregulated Fishing Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2009", which I have introduced today, will further enhance the enforcement authority of NOAA and the United States Coast Guard to regulate IUU fishing. This bill would amend the High Seas Driftnet Fishing Moratorium Protection Act (HSDFMFA) and other international and regional fishery management organization (RFMO) agreements to incorporate in them the civil penalties, permit sanctions, criminal offenses, civil forfeitures and enforcement sections of the MSA. It would also strengthen the enforcement authority of NOAA and the United States Coast Guard to inspect conveyances, facilities, and records involving the storage, processing, transport and trade of fish and fish products, and to detain fish and fish products for up to five days while an investigation is ongoing.

In addition, this bill makes technical adjustments to allow NOAA to more effectively carry out current IUU identification mandates, including extending the duration of time of identification of violators from the preceding two years to the preceding three years. This bill also broadens data sharing authority to enable NOAA to share information with foreign governments and to clarify that all information it collects may be shared with international organizations and foreign governments, particularly for the purposes of conducting enforcement. These amendments promote the conservation and sound management of fish stocks internationally and in a manner that is consistent with the expectations placed on U.S. fishermen.

Finally, this bill would establish an international cooperation and assistance program to provide funding and technical expertise to other nations to help them address IUU fishing. It authorizes \$5 million annually from 2010 to 2015 to carry out this program oriented towards establishing a coordinated and effective global system to combat IUU fishing.

IUU fishermen are "free riders" who benefit unfairly from the sacrifices made by U.S. fishermen and others for the sake of proper fisheries conservation and management. I look forward to working with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance this important bill through the legislative process.

HONORING RALPH GRANT

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Ralph Grant. An Oakland icon, loving father, husband, friend, and compassionate soul, he will be dearly missed by all who knew him. Ralph passed away on February 2, 2009.

Ralph was my accountant but, more importantly, he was my friend; he was my brother. Like many, I could totally trust him with my private business and I benefitted from his "tough love." As his client, he gave me solid advice on my personal matters. My former company, the W.C. Parish Co., Inc., survived many ups and downs thanks to Ralph's genius, his patience and his wise counsel.

Mr. Grant was a graduate of McClymonds High School in Oakland, CA. His educational experiences included earning both his Bachelor of Arts (Accounting) and Masters of Business Administration (MBA) degrees from San Francisco State University, and his Doctor of Jurisprudence (JD) degree from Golden Gate University.

Mr. Grant's professional accomplishments are extremely impressive and span the areas of law, accounting, taxation, investment banking, real estate, and professorship. Mr. Grant was a J.D. as well as a CPA. He founded Grant & Smith, LLP, a certified public accounting and management consulting firm, located in Oakland, California which has serviced the San Francisco Bay Area for over thirty years.

Prior to establishing Grant & Smith, LLP, Mr. Grant's professional experiences included five years as an Internal Revenue Service Agent with the United States Treasury Department, and three years as an instructor in taxation and small business management at San Francisco State University. He was also a real estate broker, an officer of RVS Realty & Mortgage Corporation, and a member of RVS Investment Advisors of California, LLC, a registered investment advisory firm.

Mr. Grant was licensed with the California State Bar, the California State Board of Accountancy, the Supreme Court of the State of California, the United States Tax Court, California Department of Insurance, and the California Department of Real Estate. Mr. Grant also passed the Series 7 and 66 examinations.

Mr. Grant's organizational affiliations included memberships with the National Association of Black Accountants, American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, California Society of Certified Public Accountants and Charles Houston Bar Association. Mr. Grant was elected to and served as the 2004-2005 Western Region Representative and San Francisco Bay Area Chapter Director for the National Association of Black Accountants Division of Firms.

With all of these professional accomplishments, Mr. Grant's deep commitment to the community was unparalleled. Mr. Grant was a philanthropist who cared deeply about youth and education. He regularly provided volunteer services as a board member to entrepreneurial and youth focused not-for profit organizations such as the Marcus Foster Educational Institute, Oakland African American Chamber of Commerce, Eddie Walker Memorial Scholarship Fund, Donald McCullum Youth Court and the Oakland Private Industry Council. With all of these activities, one of Mr. Grant's favorite pursuits was coaching in the Oakland Metropolitan Babe Ruth Baseball League, and he often joked that this occupied his "spare time."

Several years ago I had the opportunity to work with Ralph to take the team to Cuba. My official duties prevented me from going, but Ralph and I enjoyed many conversations about his experience in Cuba. He was truly a Renaissance man who had dreams and worked to make them come true.

Ralph showed us how to live life to its fullest and he showed us how to die with dignity and with grace. For that we are deeply grateful. Although we will miss him in our daily lives, his spirit will be kept alive by embracing his mantle of service, mentorship, strength, commitment and compassion.

Today, California's 9th Congressional District salutes Ralph Grant, honoring his incredible life and inspiring legacy. We thank his family for sharing this amazing human being with us, especially his wife, Gloria Grant, his two children, Casey Grant and Kimberley Henderson, his son-in-law Lee Henderson, and a host of additional family members and friends. May the Grace of God reassure his family that his soul is resting in eternal peace.

TRIBUTE ON THE 100TH YEAR PASSING OF GOYATHLAY

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 100th year passing of Goyathlay.

Goyathlay or Goyaaalé, also known as Gerónimo, was a Chiricahua Apache leader that leader that led the Apache people through some of the roughest times they would experience.

Goyathlay is a strong figure in the history of the Apache people. He was considered by many a great spiritual and intellectual leader and is recognized throughout the country as a military leader during the late 1800s.

On this anniversary Apache Tribes from Arizona, New Mexico, and Oklahoma will join in San Carlos, Arizona to begin a healing process.

Next week's gathering will be a search for answers for some and a healing for others.

For all present it will be a reflection of what the Apache people endured and the strength that lies within them. The Apache have overcome great adversity, but they are strong as a culture, as a people and in what their future holds.

The Apache people are working to connect families, tribal members, and communities that were separated while Goyathlay was alive.

Goyathlay was a strong believer in the sovereignty of his nation, a struggle he had regularly with the representatives of the US Government at the time that did not understand the Apache ways or homelands.

Madam Speaker, I would hope that our country has learned and corrected its ways since the passing of Goyathlay. That we as a nation commit to ensuring families are kept together, not separated. And that we as a nation do not negate the culture and tradition of others.

I believe that we all join with the Apache people in working to find answers and heal.

I commend the Apache people for their strength and work in uniting. We must care for our elders and provide them peace. We must remind our children of our past and educate them to pursue a just future of respect and to not allow atrocities to occur anywhere.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF JUAN LUJAN PANGELINAN

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Juan Lujan Pangelinan, who passed away on January 23, 2009. Juan was a dedicated public servant who served as a Commissioner of Agana Heights, an elected position now called Mayor.

Juan was born on May 18, 1922 to Francisco Borja and Natividad Lujan Pangelinan in Anigua, a district of Hagatna, Guam's capitol. Experience he gained working with his family businesses in Sumay, the pre-war economic center of Guam, paved the way for his entrepreneurial spirit and establishment of his own commercial ventures after World War II.

He co-founded Kotla's Store, and as one of the island's first village retail stores, Kotla's Store prospered for over forty years as a community corner store and laundromat. He established the "Villa Kotla" where many of his family members reside today. He was known for using his personal resources to help families in his village during their time of need.

For his commitment to his village, the community of Agana Heights elected Juan as Guam's first write-in village commissioner in 1952 and re-elected him to four consecutive four-year terms. As the elected leader of his village, Juan avidly involved himself in various community organizations. He founded the Agana Heights Drum and Bugle Corps, Majorettes and Armed Drill Team to provide the youth of the village the spirit and pride of community. In the aftermath of the devastation of Super typhoon Karen in 1962 Juan helped in finding shelters for families whose homes were destroyed.

Juan's community spirit extended beyond his village as a member of the Helping Hands of Guam, the Young Men's League of Guam, the Agana Heights Holy Name Society, and the Agana Heights Association. Juan retired after thirty years of dedicated public service to our island community.

With a passion for family genealogy, Juan published two books, *Familian Kotla* and *Familian Haniu* and began working on

Familian Lujan and *Familian Untalan*. Today, these genealogies provide accurate histories, not only of the families of which Juan Pangelinan was a part of, but also of the communities of Agana, Agana Heights, Anigua, Sumay and other villages on Guam.

My thoughts and prayers are with his surviving siblings Sister Mary Alma, RSM, and Luisa and Antonio, his children, Frank, Toni, Tita, Loling, John, Gerianne, and Joseph and his grand children and great grand children. We honor his life's work as a civic leader and his contributions to our community. Most of all, he will be remembered by many as a generous and giving man. We are grateful for his public service and we will miss him dearly.

LEE V. CHARLTON PRESENTED WITH THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, while I very much enjoyed attending the Democratic Retreat and found it very valuable, it did have one downside for me: It meant that I had to miss the ceremony held at the Public Library in New Bedford on Saturday, February 7th, recognizing Lee V. Charlton for the great work he has performed on behalf of equality for all in Southeastern Massachusetts, and indeed for all that he has done in a wide variety of ways to improve the quality of life in the Greater New Bedford area.

In recognition of his leadership role, including his longtime presidency of the New Bedford branch of the NAACP, his work in the YMCA, his efforts on behalf of United Front Housing, the leadership he has shown in our community action agency, People Acting in Community Endeavors, and many other areas, he was presented with the Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Service Award by Bridgewater State College at this year's Martin Luther King Breakfast. I very much regret the fact that the Inauguration of our new President also kept me from attending that event, because I would very much have liked to have been there to pay a very well-deserved tribute to Lee Charlton. As a Member of Congress representing New Bedford since 1993, I have benefitted enormously from Lee Charlton's commitment, wisdom and thoughtful approach to public policy.

Madam Speaker, as a dedicated public servant, serving as plant engineer at New Bedford High School and the Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School, and as a citizen activist, Lee Charlton has been a source of strength on whom others have relied.

It is entirely fitting that he was given the Martin Luther King Award, and that the people of his home city of New Bedford honored him on February 7th. Lee Charlton is an example of the kind of citizenship we should be promoting and I ask that the information about Mr. Charlton and the award he won be printed here.

THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

MR. LEE V. CHARLTON

Mr. Charlton has been president of the New Bedford branch of the National Association

for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) since 1983. He has also held office on the regional level, representing 20 NAACP branches in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Rhode Island and Vermont.

His affiliations are numerous as he has served on boards of directors for the Greater New Bedford YMCA, the Salvation Army of New Bedford, United Front Housing, South Shore Minority Business Circle, People Acting in Community Endeavors, New Bedford Historical Society, South Center Community Development Corp. and New Bedford Economic Development Council, among many others.

Prior to his retirement, he was plant engineer at both New Bedford High School and later at Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School. Previously, he was employed with IBM and at the Job Corps Center of New Bedford. He served for eight years in the United States Air Force in civil engineering in the field of steam engineering, HVAC and plumbing.

He has earned numerous professional and community awards in recognition and appreciation of his service and contributions, especially in the arena of social justice.

A native of West Virginia, he is the husband of Francisca (Britto) Charlton. They have two children, Kenneth L. Charlton, and Karen L. Charlton, and a great-grandchild, Lee V. Charlton II. Mr. Charlton is a graduate of Huntington High School in Huntington, WVa, the Steam Engineering/Utilitiesman School of the United States Air Force and the United States Navy in Oxnard, CA; Customer Engineering School at IBM in Boston; and the Refrigeration/Air Conditioning Services Engineers in Boston.

LEE V. CHARLTON

Lee V. Charlton was born in Coalwood, West Virginia, the son and grandson of bituminous coal miners. Charlton attended all-black segregated schools until 1956 when he transferred from Frederick Douglass High School to his neighborhood school, the predominantly white, Huntington High School in Huntington, West Virginia. Charlton made local history by being the first African to show up and play for the school's football team. While stationed in at Keno Air Force Station in Klamath Falls, Oregon, Charlton and two other airmen from Kingsley Field requested the assistance of the local NAACP. The Klamath Falls Branch of the NAACP met in private homes and was at least 60% white. The Klamath Falls Branch inspired Charlton to "pay back the support whenever possible." Charlton was quoted as saying "because the NAACP and the state of Oregon upheld my civil rights, while the military denied three career airmen the right to wear their military uniforms to the discrimination hearing. I will forever grateful and indebted to the cause of the NAACP."

Charlton's expressed indebtedness to the NAACP proved to be no idle declaration. Charlton served as 2nd Vice and 1st Vice President from 1978-1982. In 1983 Lee V. Charlton began the first of twelve consecutive terms of President of the New Bedford Branch, twenty four years of stellar leadership to the organization that he held so dear to his heart. In addition to service to the New Bedford Branch, he has served in numerous capacities with the NAACP New England Area Conference of Branches. This including being elected three times as 1st Vice President to NEAC/NAACP. His contributions and impact have been realized throughout the region. During those twenty four years Charlton served with distinction, raising the stature, stability, and accomplishments for and through the Branch.

In 1996, Lee Charlton joined with former City Councilor, George Rogers to move the

City of New Bedford to pay proper tribute to one its greatest historical figures, the slave abolitionist, feminist, and champion of universal human rights, Frederick Douglass, who formerly lived in New Bedford. Charlton and Rogers were instrumental in getting a marvelous monument to Frederick Douglass erected in front of City Hall. More than erecting the monument, the effort served to bring greater attention and awareness of people of New Bedford to the historical contributions of New Bedford's people of color. To enhance his effectiveness as President of the NAACP Charlton has volunteered to serve on many community executive boards or Committees. The following is a partial list: Chairman; New Bedford Title I Parents Advisory Council, Moby Dick Boy Scouts/OLOA Church; Chairman, webelo Leader, Scoutmaster, Executive Boards; SouthCoast YMCA, Salvation Army, People Acting in Community Endeavors (PACE), United Front Homes Board of Directors, New Bedford Economic Development Council, Cooperator Compass Bank, Garden Of Peace (Boston), New Bedford District Wide School Improvement Council, South Central Community Development Corporation, First Vice President; South Shore Minority Business Circle.

TRIBUTE TO DOMINICAN HERITAGE MONTH ON THE 165TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, today I join with the hundreds of thousands of Dominican residents of my congressional district and across our Nation to commemorate February 27th, the 165th anniversary of the Dominican Republic's Day of Independence. This celebration comes at the tail end of Dominican Heritage Month.

Dominican Heritage Month gives us the opportunity to acknowledge and applaud the economic, cultural, and social contributions Dominican Americans have made to this great nation. Dominicans living in our shores have been motivated by the value of hard work and the bonds of family—the same pillars of our society that have built this great Nation for over 230 years.

It also gives us an opportunity to consider the many Dominican achievements, on the island and in the United States. Many of our hemisphere's first institutions were established on the shores of Quisqueya, including the first cathedral and the oldest university.

Since the initial wave of Dominican migration in the 1960s to the most recent arrivals of today, Dominicans have worked hard to contribute to our national identity, educating us all on their culture and traditions and enriching the quality of our shared futures. Their contributions can also be found in every facet of U.S. life—from the many baseball stars in our national pastime, to fashion legend Oscar de la Renta to the thousands of professionals that do battle as soldiers, doctors, lawyers, journalists, educators, and public servants.

This past year, the Dominican community and I shared the loss of our fallen soldier,

Army SGT Jose E. Ulloa, who lost his life tragically in Sadr City on August 9, 2008, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. We also shared the grief of Hurricanes Gustav and Hanna, the deadliest storms of the 2008 hurricane season, along with hurricanes Ike and Fay responsible for approximately 14 deaths and the displacement of more than 20,000 people in the Dominican Republic.

The Dominican people are known to triumph in the face of tragedy. They first began their campaign for the independence of the Dominican Republic in 1831 under the leadership of Juan Pablo Duarte, who formed a secret society named The Trinity. Thirteen years later, he succeeded in commanding a decisive uprising, which resulted in independence for the Dominican Republic. After the long and hard campaign for freedom had ended, a ceremonial musket shot fired on February 27, 1844, marked the Dominican Republic's first official Independence Day.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in marking this celebration of not just the independence and triumphs of the Dominican people, but also the invaluable impact that this small island nation has had on our country and the world.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF JOSEPH C. MURPHY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Joseph C. Murphy, who passed away on February 5, 2009. Joe will be remembered as a former editor of the Pacific Daily News and as a sharp-witted columnist.

Joe was born on February 23, 1927, in Appleton, Wisconsin. At the age of 17 he joined the United States Navy and spent a year in combat during World War II. He returned home to finish high school and later obtained a degree in journalism from the University of Wisconsin at Madison. After graduation, Joe worked as a reporter, editor and columnist in Wisconsin, Oregon, and California before moving to Guam in 1965.

Joe was the editor of the Guam Daily News, the precursor to the Pacific Daily News, a Gannett newspaper. He wrote an insightful column called "Pipe Dreams" which made us laugh, think and debate. His writings were observations and musing on island life, our unique community, and local politics.

Over the years he developed the concept of "OOG", "Only On Guam", a phrase that became synonymous with island life and oddities about our community. His humorous OOG anecdotes were later consolidated into two publications, Guam Is a Four Letter Word and Son of a Four Letter Word.

Joe loved Guam and his columns often urged our community and our leaders to tackle the challenges of a developing island. He often wrote retrospective pieces where he observed the progress and changes that our island has undergone since his arrival forty four years ago.

My thoughts and prayers are with his wife Marion, their children, Colleen, Maureen, Shannon, Kerry, Tim, Erin, Megan, and Joey and their extended family and friends. We honor his life's work as a journalist and his contributions to our community. Most of all, he will be remembered by many as a gifted writer who had an enormous impact in our island community. We are grateful for his contributions and we will miss him dearly.

RECOGNIZING THE FOOD BANK OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the dedication and labors of the people at Greenville branch of the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. The Greenville branch of the Food Bank has distributed more than 50 million pounds of food to people in 10 counties since 1999. While this reflects a tremendous amount of success and effort, it also highlights the intensity of hunger facing families in eastern North Carolina.

The Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina was established in 1980 to provide food to people at risk of hunger in 34 counties in central and eastern North Carolina. In 2006–07, the Food Bank distributed over 32.6 million pounds of food through 870 partner agencies including soup kitchens, food pantries, shelters and afterschool programs for children.

Nearly 30 percent of the people served by the Food Bank's network are children, and another 18 percent are elderly. Thirty-eight percent of the families served are the "working poor"—people who work hard and still have to choose between eating and other basic necessities such as medicine and housing.

Even before this severe economic downturn, families were struggling to put food on the table. And as the crisis deepens, it is intensifying the struggle for millions of Americans to keep from going hungry.

Food banks across the country are seeing appreciable increases in requests at a time when the U.S. Department of Agriculture reports that more than one in ten American households are struggling to get enough food.

In the nation with the safest, most abundant food supply in the world, it is unconscionable that so many people go hungry. There is a moral obligation and a necessary responsibility we have as Americans to ensure a strong country for future generations. I am proud that the good people at the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina have answered that call.

Madam Speaker, today I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating and acknowledging the efforts of the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina, which embodies the essence of what we believe in: local citizens and businesses pulling together to help solve a local problem.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE KEEP
OUR PACT ACT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, it is with a sense of urgency that I reintroduce the Keep Our Promises to America's Children and Teachers Act at the beginning of the 111th Congress.

I offer the Keep Our PACT Act today to help meet the aspirations of our nation's school children—and to help provide all of their teachers and schools with the resources they need to help them achieve those aspirations. Additionally, I offer this bill as a reminder to those of us in government of the importance of keeping our promises and of truly making education a priority.

Put simply, the Keep Our PACT Act would put Congress on a fiscally responsible path to fully funding the No Child Left Behind Act and the Individuals with Disabilities Act—on a mandatory basis, once and for all.

Madam Speaker, since 2002, Title I of NCLB—the funding that goes to our highest-need students—has been funded at \$54.7 billion below its authorized level. Currently, approximately 4.3 million students are not getting the extra Title I help they were promised.

Furthermore, since IDEA's reauthorization in 2004, IDEA Part B has been funded at \$20.3 billion below its authorized level and funding has never reached even half of the 40 percent average per pupil expenditure the government originally promised states more than 30 years ago.

We need to keep our commitments to education, support our schools and provide all of our students with resources they need to succeed.

Madam Speaker, once again I am proud to make the Keep Our PACT Act the very first piece of legislation I introduce this Congress. Additionally, I want to thank my colleagues joining me as original cosponsors on this bill today. We pledge to stand for the fundamental values this bill represents and invite Members from both sides of the aisle to embrace those values and get this bill passed.

TRIBUTE TO OFFICER JASON D.
VIA

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Officer Jason D. Via, who was named the 2008 Springfield Police Patrolman's Association Patrolman of the Year.

Officer Jason D. Via began his career with the Springfield Police Division on November 17, 2003. After completing his recruit training, he was assigned to the uniform patrol, where he continues to serve today. He is an extremely dependable, well respected officer who is a person his fellow officers and citizens can rely upon. Jason was nominated for the Patrolman of the Year Award for 2008 because of these exceptional traits.

During 2008, Officer Via was selected to participate in the Safe Streets Task Force with

three other officers. During his service in the Task Force, he took a subject who was arrested for trying to solicit another officer and turned this person into a confidential informant. Using this information, he was able to make several arrests of street-level drug dealers. From these arrests, he was able to "flip" some of them and arrest several suppliers.

Upon making his last arrest, he seized over seven ounces of crack cocaine, as well as at least \$5,000 in cash. Due to his diligence and hard work, approximately nine mid-level dealers and suppliers were arrested, making our streets safer.

For these reasons Officer Via deserves our gratitude and special thanks.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION
CONCERNING MEMBERSHIP OF
THE UNITED STATES IN THE
INTERNATIONAL RENEWABLE
ENERGY AGENCY

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. MARKEY. Madam Speaker, I am introducing a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States seek membership in the International Renewable Energy Agency because our energy security, the health of our planet, and the strength of our economy have reached a critical juncture. With volatile energy prices, emissions of heat-trapping gases continuing to climb to dangerous levels, and the U.S. economy in turmoil, two things have become clear. First, a fundamental change is needed in the way we generate and use energy here at home. Secondly, the rest of the world must be also part of this new energy future. The resolution I am introducing today calls for the United States to seek membership in the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) to address both of these challenges.

On January 26, 2009, 75 countries signed the statute to establish IRENA, marking a promising step towards international collaboration and mitigating climate change. This collaboration was a good start, but the urgency of global warming and our dependence on fossil fuels require that we take the lead in the permanent international agency to drive the development and deployment of renewable energy in all countries, including ours. The United States still has a chance to be a founding member of the body if it signs on by April 30th of this year. As a founding member country, the United States would be eligible to nominate a Director General and bid to host the IRENA headquarters on American territory.

Despite the enormous strides renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies have made over the last several years, hurdles remain to major and rapid scale-up on the level needed to meet the world's need for energy while also addressing global warming. IRENA is the first international organization to focus solely on renewable energy and include a broad constituency of industrialized and developing countries. It will provide the institutional support needed to address the technological, financial, informational, and policy barriers that keep renewable energy and energy efficiency technologies from reaching their full potential.

Renewable energy has the potential to reduce global warming pollution while also creating millions of green jobs, reducing our dependence on foreign sources of energy, and spurring the technological development that will fuel the global economy over the coming century.

In 2007, new investment in clean energy technology worldwide increased 60 percent over 2006, but vast markets remain untapped and not included in the green economy. Over the next two decades, greenhouse gas emissions from developing countries are projected to grow at more than twice the rate of those in developed countries. Encouraging growth of renewable energy in developing countries reduces the extent and likelihood that these economies will follow a carbon-intensive, fossil energy development path. It also opens a valuable market for the clean energy companies that developed economies will rely on for growth over the coming century, a market that American businesses and American workers can benefit from. The International Renewable Energy Agency will have the independence, credibility, and expertise necessary to assist governments at the national, state, and local level implement renewable energy policies and projects.

Other international energy agencies were formed to address narrow problems. The International Energy Agency (IEA): oil security and fuel supply disruptions. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA): nuclear proliferation and safety. With the aid of institutional support, these energy resources became foundations of modern economies. An International Renewable Energy Agency is needed to support the unique problems facing renewable energy: marketplace failures, political inertia, and information gaps. Our membership in the organization will allow us to help shape the direction of this agency. To this end, IRENA will:

Support governments in drafting policies and programs for the promotion of renewable energy and energy efficiency measures.

Assist governments in conducting studies that analyze the potential of renewable energies and the appropriateness of different technologies.

Provide long-term projections and scenarios based on existing data and policy in order to identify opportunities as well as gaps, barriers, and failures in markets and policies.

Organize training programs, information campaigns, and courses for civil servants, scientists, businesses, and non-government organizations.

Supply curriculum for schools and universities on relevant renewable energy topics.

Work with financial institutions to support innovative financing mechanisms for renewable energy projects.

Develop international norms and quality standards.

Gather and disseminate data, statistics, and reports on renewable energy deployment, policy approaches, and technology development.

The status quo is not working for America or the planet. The environmental, energy, and economic problems we are facing are largely due to a failed energy policy. The International Renewable Energy Agency represents an opportunity for America to change its energy path and confront global warming while reestablishing its leadership role and reputation in the international community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND PUBLIC SERVICE OF ALFRED SAN NICOLAS FLORES

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Alfred San Nicolas Flores, a former Guam Senator who passed away on February 6, 2009 at the age of 93. Alfred, known as "Davy Crockett" to family and friends, was devoted to his community and will be remembered for his public service and his love of farming.

Born on June 20, 1916 to Jose Duenas Flores and Rafaela San Nicolas, Alfred was raised by his step-mother Margarita Flores in the village of Inarajan. He became a Lancheru, or "rancher," farming his family's land and raising cattle. He later established the Flores Poultry Farm which became a major supplier of fresh eggs to Guam's civilian and military communities.

Alfred entered public service, first as an Assemblyman in the Guam Congress, and later as a six term Senator in the Guam Legislature. He promoted agriculture by establishing a special water rate for farmers and establishing a crop insurance program. He also authored legislation to create low and moderate income housing subdivisions. In 1976 he was elected to the office of Commissioner (Mayor) of Inarajan. Senator Flores was a founding member of the Democratic Party of Guam and he was known for his fiery campaign speeches.

Alfred Flores served on the Selective Service Board, the Guam Housing and Urban Renewal Authority Board of Directors, the Guam Farmers Cooperative Association, and the Soil and Water Conservation District. He was active in his village church, St. Joseph's Parish in Inarajan. He also mentored young men by volunteering with the Boy Scouts of America.

Senator Alfred Flores was a dedicated public servant who made many lasting contributions to our community. He was recognized later in life as a Master Lancheru for his contributions to preserving traditional farming. My heartfelt condolences are with his wife Ester, their children Lucille, May, Fred, and Roy and his extended family and friends. He will be dearly missed.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION CELEBRATE LINCOLN'S 200TH BIRTHDAY

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the efforts of the Esther Reed Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. In honor of the 200th anniversary of the birthday our Sixteenth President these women will conduct a wreath laying ceremony at the base of a statue of President Lincoln in downtown Spokane, WA.

This 12-foot bronze statue was dedicated in Spokane on November 11, 1930 before a

crowd of 40,000 people and depicts the Sixteenth President as Commander in Chief reviewing the Union Army. This statue is a valued part of the landscape of Spokane and acts as a steady reminder of the trials our country has faced and our ability to overcome them.

As part of their long and continuing efforts to preserve and celebrate our history, the Esther Reed Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution has organized a week long celebration to honor this great man. The celebrations will include several lectures by prominent Lincoln historians, a concert, and an ongoing art show featuring Lincoln-related works.

Madam Speaker, I believe the dedication shown by the Daughters of the American Revolution and their ongoing efforts to celebrate our leaders and history is worthy of recognition before this body. I invite my fellow members in joining with me to honor a past president's birthday and the efforts by the Daughters of the American Revolution to observe it.

ABILITYONE, FORMERLY JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY, PROGRAM

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, for the past 70 years the AbilityOne formerly Javits-Wagner-O'Day (ABILITYONE) Program has empowered Americans who are blind or severely disabled by providing them with a diverse set of employment opportunities. Today over 40,000 disabled Americans are realizing their potential by working in their local communities across the country under this program. These Americans are proud to provide federal and military customers with a wide array of SKILCRAFT and other ABILITYONE products and services. The ABILITYONE Program prides itself on delivering high quality products and services at a competitive price in the most convenient way possible.

Some of the product categories offered by the ABILITYONE program include office supplies, military specific, safety, maintenance, repair, medical-surgical, janitorial-sanitation, and customization. The services that are provided to the federal and military customer include but aren't limited to call center and switchboard operation, military base and federal office building supply centers, CD-Rom duplication-replication, data entry, document imaging and grounds care. I rise today in support of the AbilityOne Program and the opportunities it provides for an underemployed population of hard working Americans. Furthermore, I urge my colleagues to purchase SKILCRAFT and ABILITYONE products from the House-Senate Stationary stores not only because of their quality and value, but also because of the socioeconomic benefits that can come from supporting the program. By purchasing these products and using these services we are enabling more disabled Americans to have the opportunity to become taxpayers.

Today in Winston Salem, North Carolina 156 blind Americans are employed under the ABILITYONE Program and are producing high quality items or services for us. The ABILITYONE Program is administered by the Presidentially-appointed Committee for Pur-

chase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, with much assistance from National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and NISH, which serves people with a wide range of disabilities. More than 650 local nonprofit agencies associated with NIB and NISH employ people who are blind or disabled to produce the quality products and offer the services authorized for sale to the federal government under the ABILITYONE Program.

The ABILITYONE Program is a great illustration of a successful partnership that has the ability to continuously grow with the changing procurement environment within the federal government. This is a Program that works for America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, February 10, 2009, I missed Rollcall Vote 55, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Girls and Women in Sports Day, because I was attending to official events in my home state of Florida. If present, I would have voted "aye."

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MONIQUE YVE'TTE PORTUSACH-CEPEDA

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life and service of Monique Portusach-Cepeda, a dedicated community leader who continually gave back to the people of Guam. Monique passed away on January 3, 2009 after a battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband, Nathaniel Fejeran Ulloa, her mother Frances Portusach Hudgens, and her father Anthony Calvo Cepeda.

Monique graduated from George Washington High School as valedictorian in 1996. Monique enrolled in Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island and in 2001 graduated with a degree in American Civilization and Bio-Medical Community Health. While at Brown University, Monique was awarded the President Harry S. Truman Fellowship before continuing her education at Harvard University. In 2002, Monique graduated from Harvard University with a Master's Degree in Public Policy. Monique was also selected as a Presidential Management Fellow, a program for individuals dedicated to promoting sound policy and programming in government agencies.

Monique worked with the Social Security Administration on Guam as a Federal Disability Examiner where she helped residents of Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa through the disability claims process. She continued to give back to her community through participation in organizations such as Youth for Youth, Democrats for a Better America, and Young Government Leaders. Monique

was also a representative for the San Diego area to the Pacific Asian Advisory Council.

My prayers are with Monique's family and friends whose hearts she so deeply touched. Her contributions towards our island community will be remembered and honored always.

HONORING COACH GENE
PINGATORE OF ST. JOSEPH HIGH
SCHOOL ON HIS RECORD-BREAK-
ING 827TH WIN IN ILLINOIS

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Coach Gene Pingatore for his outstanding and inspirational career as head coach of the St. Joseph High School boys basketball team in Westchester, Illinois, as well as to recognize his achievement as the all-time winningest boy's basketball coach in Illinois high school history.

Always considered one of the most fabled coaches in the storied history of Illinois basketball, Coach Pingatore's legacy reached a new level on January 16th, 2009 when his St. Joseph's squad faced Carmel Catholic High School. Their 49–26 victory gave Pingatore his record-breaking 827th win as a head basketball coach in Illinois.

What especially sets Gene Pingatore apart, however, is not his incredible record but rather his winning philosophy and his perseverance. His legendary program was not built overnight. In 1969–1970, Pingatore only managed three wins in his first season as a coach. The next year St. Joseph's managed seven wins, and Coach Pingatore only enjoyed 3 winning seasons in his first 7 seasons. Coming through that difficult stretch, however, Pingatore's work ethic and undeniable coaching ability spawned a dynasty. Since 1976, St. Joseph's has only suffered once losing season.

Only two other coaches in Illinois men's basketball history have passed the elusive 800 win barrier. Even before setting the all-time wins mark, Pingatore's outstanding accomplishments were recognized by the East Suburban Catholic Conference as they made him a member of their inaugural Hall of Fame class in 2006.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Gene Pingatore for the positive role model that he is to the young men of St. Joseph High School and for his continuing commitment to excellence from his players, both on and off the court. As the Representative of the 3rd District of Illinois, I would like to say that we are proud to be home to the state's winningest coach, in every sense of the word.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
"BUSINESS ACTIVITY TAX SIM-
PLIFICATION ACT"

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. GOODLATTE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Business Activity Tax Simplification Act. I joined my good

friend RICK BOUCHER of Virginia to introduce this legislation in order to provide a "bright line" test to clarify state and local authority to collect business activity taxes from out-of-state entities.

Many states and some local governments levy corporate income, franchise and other taxes on out-of-state companies that conduct business activities within their jurisdictions. While providing revenue for states, these taxes also serve to pay for the privilege of doing business in a state.

However, with the growth of the Internet, companies are increasingly able to conduct transactions without the constraint of geographical boundaries. The growth of the high tech industry and interstate business-to-business and business-to-consumer transactions raises questions over where multi-state companies should be required to pay corporate income and other business activity taxes.

Over the past several years, a growing number of jurisdictions have sought to collect business activity taxes from businesses located in other states, even though those businesses receive no appreciable benefits from the taxing jurisdiction and even though the Supreme Court has ruled that the Constitution prohibits a state from imposing taxes on businesses that lack substantial connections to the state. This has led to unfairness and uncertainty, generated contentious, widespread litigation, and hindered business expansion, as businesses shy away from expanding their presence in other states for fear of exposure to unfair tax burdens.

In order for businesses to continue to become more efficient and expand the scope of their goods and services, it is imperative that clear and easily navigable rules be set forth regarding when an out-of-state business is obliged to pay business activity taxes to a state. Otherwise, the confusion surrounding these taxes will have a chilling effect on e-commerce, interstate commerce generally, and the entire economy as tax burdens, compliance costs, litigation, and uncertainty escalate.

Previous actions by the Supreme Court and Congress have laid the groundwork for a clear, concise and modern "bright line" rule in this area. In the landmark case of *Quill Corp. v. North Dakota*, the Supreme Court declared that a state cannot impose a tax on an out-of-state business unless that business has a "substantial nexus" with the taxing state. However, the Court did not define what constituted a "substantial nexus" for purposes of imposing business activity taxes.

In addition, fifty years ago, Congress passed legislation to prohibit jurisdictions from taxing the income of out-of-state corporations whose in-state presence was nominal. Public Law 86–272 set clear, uniform standards for when states could and could not impose such taxes on out-of-state businesses when the businesses' activities involved the solicitation of orders for sales. However, like the economy of its time, the scope of Public Law 86–272 was limited to tangible personal property. Our nation's economy has changed dramatically over the past fifty years, and this outdated statute needs to be modernized.

The Business Activity Tax Simplification Act of 2008 both modernizes and provides clarity to an outdated and ambiguous tax environment. First, the legislation updates the protections in P.L. 86–272. This legislation reflects

the changing nature of our economy by expanding the scope of the protections in P.L. 86–272 from just tangible personal property to include intangible property and services.

In addition, our legislation sets forth clear, specific standards to govern when businesses should be obliged to pay business activity taxes to a state. Specifically, the legislation establishes a "physical presence" test such that an out-of-state company must have a physical presence in a state before the state can impose corporate net income taxes and other types of business activity taxes.

In our current, challenging economic times, it is especially important to eliminate artificial, government-imposed barriers to small businesses. Small businesses are crucial to our economy and account for a significant majority of new product ideas and innovation. Small businesses are also central to the American dream of self-improvement and individual achievement, which is why it is so vital that Congress enact legislation that reduces the tax burdens that hinder small businesses and ultimately overall economic growth and job creation.

Unfortunately, small businesses are often the hardest hit when aggressive states and localities impose excessive tax burdens on out-of-state companies. These businesses do not have the resources to hire the teams of lawyers that many large corporations devote to tax compliance, and they are more likely to halt expansion to avoid uncertain tax obligations and litigation expenses.

The clarity that the Business Activity Tax Simplification Act will bring will ensure fairness, minimize litigation, and create the kind of legally certain and stable business climate that frees up funds for small businesses to make investments, expand interstate commerce, grow the economy and create new jobs.

At the same time, this legislation will protect the ability of states to ensure that they are fairly compensated when they provide services to businesses that do have physical presences in the state.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF SHERIFF
MARGARET MIMS AND SUPER-
VISOR JUDY CASE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Fresno County Sheriff Margaret Mims and County Supervisor Judy Case for their heroic actions taken on Wednesday February 11, 2009, to save the life of a heart attack victim in the Capitol South Metro stop.

When Sheriff Mims and Supervisor Case came upon the victim who had collapsed on the floor of the Metro station, they immediately leapt into action by organizing an emergency response from the surrounding onlookers. Sheriff Mims who is trained in first aid and Supervisor Chase, a registered nurse, then began giving chest compressions and breaths to the victim for fifteen minutes until paramedics arrived. Their heroic efforts were captured by Fresno news stations as well as The Fresno Bee and McClatchy newspapers.

While the life-saving actions of Sheriff Mims and Supervisor Chase were both courageous and heroic, they were not unfamiliar—in both their careers, they have never hesitated to help those in need. While the victim remains anonymous to them, Margaret and Judy have touched the life of an individual in a most profound way and I commend them for it.

HONORING COMMANDER CONSTANTINE TSOUKATOS OF OAK LAWN, ILLINOIS

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Commander Constantine Tsoukatos on the occasion of his promotion to Commander of the 314th Maintenance Operations Squadron.

Commander Tsoukatos was raised by his parents Helen and Emanuel Tsoukatos in Oak Lawn, IL. In Oak Lawn, Constantine attended Richards High School, before moving on to the University of Illinois where he studied Engineering Mechanics. Upon receiving his Bachelor's degree, Constantine continued his schooling and obtained his Master's degree in Human Resource Development from Webster University in 1999.

Constantine began his service in 1997 when he was commissioned as a second lieutenant following Officer Training School. Serving as an aircraft maintenance officer, he has held a variety of flightline and backshop positions. His first tour began at Scott AFB, on the C-9 Aircraft. Commander Tsoukatos then taught in the Reserve Officer Training Corps as an Assistant Professor of Aerospace Studies at Detachment 560, Manhattan College in Bronx, New York, where he also served as the Commandant of Cadets. He was next stationed at Osan AB, ROK, serving both as maintenance flight commander and then as the A-10 AMU IOC. Commander Tsoukatos spent the following 3 years at RAF Mildenhall with the 100th Air Refueling Wing, before moving to his current position within HQ AFMC in June of 2006.

Commander Tsoukatos has been recognized previously with the following commendations: the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with three oak leaf clusters, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Korean Defense Service Medal.

Aside from his military service to our nation, Commander Tsoukatos is dedicated to his family as a loving father and husband. He and his wife, Jazmin, have two sons, Manuel and Joaquin and one daughter, Gabriela.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the outstanding service and achievements of Commander Constantine Tsoukatos. We acknowledge his accomplishments and express our gratitude for his dedicated service.

CONGRATULATING HAMILTON STEPHENS WINTER

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Hamilton Stephens Winters, who was recognized as the Overall Middle School Student of the Year by the Ouachita Parish School System.

Hamilton was nominated by his school, West Ridge Middle, to compete in the annual competition.

It is always outstanding to see the diligence with which the young students of Louisiana work to better their schools and communities. I have the highest confidence that Hamilton will succeed in whatever endeavor he pursues.

Earning this recognition is a tremendous honor, and I am grateful the 5th Congressional District can list Hamilton among our own.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Hamilton Stephens Winters for receiving this remarkable recognition.

RECOGNIZING LAYTON ROY FAIRCHILD, SR.

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Layton Roy Fairchild, Sr., of Spotsylvania, Virginia on his achievements and contributions to his community. Mr. Fairchild was born March 22, 1927 to the late master carpenter Alfred Linwood Fairchild and homemaker Rose Anna Lewis Fairchild. He is part of the second generation of Fairchilds born in Spotsylvania. His father, Alfred Linwood Fairchild, was the second individual and first generation Fairchild born in Spotsylvania, and the first to remain in the county, start a family and a very successful carpentry business.

Mr. Fairchild is a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. While on duty in Japan, he was the captain of the baseball team that traveled the country playing against native teams in an effort to develop goodwill after the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Mr. Fairchild worked for 33 years at FMC, the largest industry employer in Fredericksburg, Virginia. For the first 15 years, he was a machine operator. He was promoted in 1957 to control lacquer operator-inspector. During his more than 30 years at the FMC plant, he worked all three shifts. After his shift, regardless of which shift it was, he would come home and farm. Many days his wife brought his meals out to the field for him to eat while he was on his tractor.

He started his own business, Fairchild Trucking Inc. in 1975. For more than 30 years, he provided employment and benefits for county citizens. Showing appreciation for his two longest working employees, he recently purchased two 24-ton trucks for each to use to earn a living on their own.

Mr. Fairchild was the first mortgage lender to numerous individuals and families who were

unable to receive traditional financing, allowing them to purchase and maintain a home of their own. His belief was that honest people with limited opportunities could indeed thrive if they had help.

He is very active in his local church, Spotsylvania Baptist Church, in Spotsylvania. One example of his philanthropy is the brick enclosure of the church's cemetery. It was designed, constructed and donated in honor of his parents.

Mr. Fairchild married the former Bertha Pratt in 1945 and together they had four daughters and one son. Mr. and Mrs. Fairchild are also the foster parents of three boys they raised and provided for as their own.

Madam Speaker, I ask you to join me and countless others as we recognize the many contributions of Layton Roy Fairchild, Sr.

COMMEMORATING ABRAHAM LINCOLN ON THE BICENTENNIAL OF HIS BIRTH

SPEECH OF

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 12, 2009

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, it is with profound admiration and respect that I commemorate the 200th anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's birth. From humble beginnings in a one room log cabin in the backwoods of Kentucky, Lincoln, a self-taught lawyer, went on to win a narrow victory in 1860 to become our 16th president.

Not long after he took office, our country was plunged into a war between the states that threatened to destroy everything our Founding Fathers had fought so hard to establish. As the war raged, Lincoln led the Union through the maelstrom to save our Republic. At the same time, he paved the way to freedom for millions who had never known it. Sadly, an assassin's bullet stole Lincoln from his people just days after the Civil War ended.

Madam Speaker, as we commemorate his 200th birthday, I reflect upon the life of President Lincoln and the sacrifices he made to protect the principles of freedom we cherish so deeply. A man of great wisdom and courage who guided our country through some of its darkest hours, President Lincoln embodies the true meaning of what it is to be an American.

While, in the words of Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton, Lincoln "belongs to the ages," he lives in the hearts of freedom loving people in the United States and around the world.

HONORING THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF EAST NORRITON TOWNSHIP

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor an outstanding southeastern Pennsylvania municipality celebrating its centennial anniversary.

East Norriton Township, Montgomery County, is a 6.1-square mile municipality that was established on March 9, 1909. However, East Norriton's roots can be traced back to the early days of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The vast tract where East Norriton is located was one of William Penn's early manors known as Williamstadt. The Township's long history includes a direct connection to America's courageous fight for independence. George Washington visited his wounded troops at Bartle Bartleson's Tavern along Germantown Pike during the Revolutionary War, according to historians.

As the region grew, a number of additional municipalities did as well. Eventually, East Norriton was formally incorporated in 1909 when it was carved out of the larger municipality known as Norriton Township.

Residents have been commemorating the 100th anniversary with events throughout the past year and will continue their celebration on Friday, February 20, 2009 with a Centennial Celebration Dinner.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in congratulating the Township on its momentous anniversary and extending best wishes for continuing prosperity, harmony and quality of life.

TRIBUTE TO PRIVATE FELIX
LONGORIA

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I stand here today to honor the 60th Anniversary of WWII Private Felix Longoria, the first Mexican American to be buried at the Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, DC.

Private Felix Z. Longoria was drafted into the United States Army on November 11, 1944, at the age of 25 from Three Rivers, Texas.

While on a voluntary patrol on June 1945, Private Longoria was killed in action by a Japanese sniper in Cagayan Valley, Luzon, Philippines. He posthumously received the Purple Heart, the Bronze Star, the Good Conduct Medal, and the Combat Infantryman Badge for his service and sacrifice.

Sadly in 1945, when the remains of Private Longoria were finally identified and returned back to the United States, Beatrice Longoria, the widow of Private Felix Longoria, was turned away and unable to hold a funeral service for her deceased husband at a private funeral home in Three Rivers, Texas. At the time, the city of Three Rivers' sole cemetery was divided by a barbed wire fence, into two sections, one for whites and another for non-whites.

This act of discrimination moved Beatrice Longoria to contact Dr. Hector P. Garcia a surgeon general of the area, and the founder of the newly created American GI Forum.

Dr. Hector P. Garcia sent out seventeen telegrams to elected and government officials, which stated "the denial was a direct contradiction of those same principles for which this American soldier made the supreme sacrifice in giving his life for his country, and for the same people who deny him the last fu-

neral rites deserving of any American hero regardless of his origin".

Just recently founded during that time on March 26, 1948, the American GI Forum and its founder, Dr. Hector P. Garcia launched a civil rights movement to help the Longoria family.

Then a junior United States Senator, Lyndon B. Johnson, on January 11, 1949, sent a telegram to Dr. Hector P. Garcia that read "... I have today made arrangements to have Felix Longoria buried with full military honors in Arlington National Cemetery here in Washington where, the honored dead of our nation' war rest. . . This injustice and prejudice is deplorable. I am happy to have a part seeing that this Texas hero is laid to rest with the honor and dignity his services deserve".

Thanks to the AGIF, Dr. Garcia and Senator Johnson, Private Felix Longoria became the first Mexican American serviceman to be awarded this honor. On February 16, 1949, Private Felix Longoria was given a full military burial with honors in Arlington National Cemetery. The Longoria family was joined at the service by United States Senator Lyndon B. Johnson, Lady Bird Johnson, Congressman John Lyle and President Harry Truman's military aide, General Harry H. Vaughan.

The work and legacy of the late Dr. Hector P. Garcia and the American GI Forum that he founded, still continues to this day, in the name of all Veterans and Hispanics in the United States.

February 16, 2009 marks the 60th anniversary of the burial of Private Felix Longoria, the first Mexican American servicemen to be awarded this honor. On this day, I encourage all Americans to remember the great sacrifices made by our American heroes in all the conflicts in the history of the United States.

IN THAT MOMENT

HON. DIANE E. WATSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. WATSON. Madam Speaker, to commemorate the heroism of the Captain and crew of US Airways Flight 1549, as well as the emergency personnel of the New York fire and police departments, Congresswoman DIANE E. WATSON would like to submit this poem to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

This poem is dedicated to the valor and heroism of Captain Chesley B. Sullenberger III; First Officer Jeffrey B. Skiles; flight attendants Sheila Dail, Doreen Welsh, and Donna Dent; the fine men and women of the New York fire and police Departments; the Coast Guard; ferry boat captains; and the citizens of New York.

IN THAT MOMENT

In . . .
In that moment . . .
When who lives or dies!
But, to see another sunrise . . .
All in their hand's which lies . . .
All of those most precious lives . . .
Whose loved ones, upon them rely
Who will be left to cry . . .
When high above, up in those blue skies . . .
With just seconds to react . . .
Just moments from the black . . .
With eminent death approaching, the facts . . .

With only a few choices . . .
Listening, to their most inner voices . . .
A lifetime of training . . .
All for this one moment counting . . .
With the time to live or die, so waning
Most precious moments in time which lie . . .

Now remaining . . .
Determining, who lives and dies . . .
With but no room for error . . .
As born, all in this moment such heroes . . .
While, all around them crisis looms . . .
As they must keep their cool . . . as their
fine hearts must swoon . . .
While, against all odds . . . they give to this
our world this jewel . . .

This gift, which will now forever over our
hearts so rule . . .
This moment, when they stood strong . . .
with hearts full . . .

Full of courage and might, to win the day
. . . to win that night . . .

To carry with us until we grow old . . .
As God was with them on that day, in this
miracle on 48th street in so many ways . . .

On A Wings of A Dove, as he helped bring
them down so safe . . .

As City, once again must unite . . .
Police Officers, Firefighters, Citizens, Coast
Guard, Ferry Boat Captains bringing
the light . . .

As the echoes of a past were all heard in
their hearts that night . . .

A Gotham City, with Gotham Hearts . . . as
on this day, all did their part . . .

And what child will be born?
Who might save the world, or upon it such
great things unfurled . . .

Because of that moment!
And what loves will be worn? Given that sec-
ond chance now to now continue on . . .

For only a future knows . . .
From these moments as time will tell us . . .
will show . . .

When in that moment . . . Quiet Heroes so . . .

We would discover, the true meaning of that
word heroes . . . our new lovers . . .

Bless them, bless them all . . .
For each and everyday, our lives on them so
depend so all . . .

For we will long remember . . .
This winter day, all in the embers . . . of our
hearts . . .

When, in the moment of truth . . .
A Magnificent Captain and Crew gave us the
proof . . .

That miracles do come true . . .
And how courage can come shining through . . .

In That Moment . . .

HONORING EASTERN MICHIGAN
UNIVERSITY AS A RECIPIENT OF
THE 2008 COMMUNITY ENGAGE-
MENT CLASSIFICATION

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Eastern Michigan University for being selected by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching to receive its 2008 Community Engagement Classification.

The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1905, is a highly regarded, independent higher education policy and research center. Of the 217 institutions who declared an

interest in applying for the classification, Eastern Michigan University was one of the select few institutions to receive this high distinction.

As an institution receiving this Carnegie classification, EMU is recognized as a national model for community engaged campuses. Eastern Michigan University has always promoted and supported involvement in the community and this is evident in their mission, as they seek to “extend our commitment beyond our campus boundaries to the wider community through service initiatives and partnerships of mutual interest addressing local, regional, national, and international opportunities and challenges.”

Eastern Michigan University and its students reach out a helping hand to the community in so many different ways, from fundraising for Habitat for Humanity, Relay for Life, and St. Jude’s Hospital to the students’ partnerships with Ypsilanti Meals on Wheels, S.O.S. community services, and Upward Bound. Even with all their academic commitments, students at EMU still managed to provide over 38,000 volunteer hours in the community through VISION and student organizations. This is a testament to the great students and community outreach programs at Eastern Michigan University.

Madam Speaker, the Carnegie Foundation of Advancement of Teaching has bestowed its 2008 Community Engagement Classification upon Eastern Michigan University because of its remarkable work to interact with, aid and improve its surrounding community. This is a tremendous honor and it speaks to the fine character and great dedication of the university’s faculty, administration, and students. EMU truly serves as a model for community engagement between this nation’s higher education institutes and their respective communities. I ask that you and all of my colleagues join me in congratulating EMU on this remarkable accomplishment.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE
YOUTH PROMISE ACT

HON. ROBERT C. “BOBBY” SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today, along with the gentleman from Delaware, Mr. CASTLE, to introduce the “Youth Prison Reduction through Mentoring, Intervention, Support and Education Act”, or “Youth PROMISE Act,” a bill we believe will greatly reduce crime and its associated costs and losses. Companion legislation to this bill is also being filed today in the Senate by Senator CASEY of Pennsylvania, and Senator SNOWE of Maine.

The Youth PROMISE Act implements the best policy recommendations from crime policy makers, researchers, practitioners, analysts, and law enforcement officials from across the political spectrum concerning evidence- and research-based strategies to reduce gang violence and crime. Under the Youth PROMISE Act, communities facing the greatest youth gang and crime challenges will be able to enact a comprehensive response to prevention and intervention of youth violence through a coordinated response that includes the active involvement of representatives from

law enforcement, court services, schools, social services, health and mental health providers, foster care providers, Boys and Girls Clubs and other community-based service organizations, including faith-based organizations. These key players will form a council to develop a comprehensive plan for implementing evidence-based prevention and intervention strategies. These strategies will be targeted at young people who are involved, or at risk of becoming involved, in gangs or the juvenile or criminal justice system to redirect them toward productive and law-abiding alternatives. The Youth PROMISE Act will also enhance state and local law enforcement efforts regarding youth and gang violence.

Title I: Federal Coordination of Local and Tribal Juvenile Justice Information and Efforts. Sec. 101 creates a PROMISE Advisory Panel. This Panel will assist the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in selecting PROMISE community grantees. The Panel will also develop standards for the evaluation of juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention approaches carried out under the PROMISE Act. Sec. 102 provides for specific data collection in each designated geographic area to assess the needs and existing resources for juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity prevention and intervention. This data will then facilitate the strategic geographic allocation of resources provided under the Act to areas of greatest need for assistance.

Title II: PROMISE Grants. Sec. 201 establishes grants to enable local and tribal communities, via PROMISE Coordinating Councils, PCCs, Sec. 202, to conduct an objective assessment, Sec. 203, regarding juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity and resource needs and strengths in the community. Based upon the assessment, the PCCs then will develop plans that include a broad array of evidence-based prevention and intervention programs. These programs will be responsive to the needs and strengths of the community, account for the community’s cultural and linguistic needs, and utilize approaches that have been proven to be effective in reducing involvement in or continuing involvement in delinquent conduct or criminal street gang activity. The PCCs can then apply for federal funds, on the basis of greatest need, to implement their PROMISE plans, Sec. 211–213. Title II also provides for national evaluation of PROMISE programs and activities, Sec. 222, based on performance standards developed by the PROMISE Advisory Panel.

Title III: PROMISE Research Center. Sec. 301 establishes a National Research Center for Proven Juvenile Justice Practices. This Center will collect and disseminate information to PROMISE Coordinating Councils and the public on current research and other information about evidence-based and promising practices related to juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity and intervention. Sec. 302 provides for regional academic research partners to assist PCCs in developing their assessments and plans.

Title IV: Youth-Oriented Policing Services. Sec. 402 provides, within the office of Community Oriented Policing Services, for the hiring and training of Youth Oriented Policing, YOPS, officers to address juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity in coordination with PCCs and other local youth

services organizations. Sec. 403 also establishes a Center for Youth Oriented Policing, which will be responsible for identification, development and dissemination of information related to strategic policing practices and technologies to law enforcement agencies related to youth.

Title V: Enhancing Federal Support of Local Law Enforcement—Mynisha’s Law. Mynisha’s Law provides appropriate federal coordination and collaboration by requiring the placement of an interagency task force—consisting of representatives from the Departments of Justice, Labor, Education, HUD and HHS—to prevent and address gang activity in specific designated high intensity gang areas. The interagency task force would be responsible for identifying and coordinating access to federal gang prevention resources, such as after-school programs, Job Corp programs, and low income affordable housing.

Sec. 511 authorizes the COPS Office to make grants to local and tribal governments with a PROMISE Council to develop community-based programs that provide crime prevention, research, and intervention services designed for gang members and at-risk youth. Sec. 522 authorizes the Attorney General, in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services to award grants to partnerships between a state mental health authority and one or more local public or private entities to prevent or alleviate the effects of youth violence in urban communities with a high or increasing incidence of such violence by providing violence-prevention education, mentoring, counseling, and mental health services to children and adolescents. Priority is given to grant applicants that agree to use the grant in communities that lack the resources to address youth violence.

Title VI: Precaution Act. To coordinate the volumes of data and research on crime prevention and intervention, this Title creates a national commission on crime prevention and intervention strategies to identify those programs that are most ready for replication around the country, and to provide guidance in a direct and accessible format to state and local law enforcement on how to implement those strategies. The commission also would identify those promising areas of crime prevention and intervention programming that would benefit from further research and development, and would report to federal, state, and local law enforcement on the outcomes of a grant program administered by the National Institute of Justice to pilot programs in these areas and test their effectiveness. The use of this information would ensure that the criminal justice community is investing its limited resources in the most cost-effective way possible.

Title VII: Additional Improvements to Juvenile Justice. Sec. 701 provides additional improvements to current laws affecting juvenile delinquency and criminal street gang activity, including support for youth victim and witness protection programs. Sec. 702 provides for an expansion of the Mentoring Initiatives program for system-involved youth. And Sec. 703 calls for a study on adolescent development and the effectiveness of juvenile sentences in the Federal system.

During my more than 30 years of public service, I have learned that when it comes to crime policy, we have a choice—we can reduce crime or we can play politics. For far too

long, Congress has chosen to play politics by enacting so-called “tough on crime” slogans such as “three strikes and you’re out”, “mandatory minimum sentencing”, “life without parole”, “abolish parole” or “you do the adult crime, you do the adult time”. My personal favorite is “no cable TV.” You can imagine the cable guy disconnecting the cable and then waiting for the crime rate to drop. As appealing as these policies may sound, their impacts range from a negligible reduction in crime to an increase in crime.

However, over the past two decades, we continued to enact slogan-based sentencing policies. As a result, the United States now has the highest average incarceration rate of any nation in the world. At over 700 persons incarcerated for every 100,000 in the population, the U.S. far exceeds the world average incarceration rate of about 100 per 100,000. Russia is the next closest in rate of incarceration with about 600 per 100,000 citizens. Every other major incarcerator is much below that. Among countries most comparable to the U.S., Great Britain is 146 per 100,000, Australia is 126, Canada is 107, Germany is 95, France is 85, and Japan is 62. India, the world’s largest Democracy, is 36 per 100,000 and China, the world’s largest country by population, is 118 per 100,000. Since 1970, the number of individuals incarcerated in the U.S. has risen from approximately 300,000 to over 2 million.

All this increase in incarceration does not come for free. Since 1982, the cost of incarceration in this country has risen from \$9 billion annually to over \$65 billion a year.

And the U.S. has some of the world’s most severe punishments for crime, including for juveniles. Of the more than 2400 juveniles now serving sentences of life without parole, all are in the U.S. Some were given their sentence as first-time offenders under circumstances such as being a passenger in a car from which there was a drive-by shooting.

The impact of all this focus on tough law enforcement approaches falls disproportionately on minorities, particularly Blacks and Hispanics. While the average incarceration rate in the United States is 7 times the international average, for Blacks the average rate is over 2200 per 100,000, and the rate in some jurisdictions exceeds 4,000 per 100,000 Blacks, a rate 40 times the international average. For Black boys being born today, the Sentencing Project estimates that one in every three will end up incarcerated in their lifetime without an appropriate intervention. These children are on what the Children’s Defense Fund has described as a “cradle-to-prison pipeline.”

Despite all of our concentration on being tough on crime, the problem persists and reports suggest that it is growing in some jurisdictions. While nothing in the Youth PROMISE Act eliminates any of the current tough on crime laws, and while it is understood that law enforcement will still continue to enforce those laws, research and analysis, as well as common sense, tells us that no matter how tough we are on the people we prosecute today, unless we are addressing the underlying reasons for their developing into serious criminals, nothing will change. The next wave of offenders will simply replace the ones we take out and the crimes continue. So, just continuing to be “tough” will have little long term impact on crime.

There is now overwhelming evidence to show that it is entirely feasible to move chil-

dren from a cradle to prison pipeline to a cradle to college, or jobs, pipeline. All the credible research and evidence shows that a continuum of evidenced-based prevention and intervention programs for youth identified as being at risk of involvement in delinquent behavior, and those already involved, will greatly reduce crime and save much more than they cost when compared to the avoided law enforcement and social welfare expenditures. There are programs for teen pregnancy prevention, pre-natal care, new parent training, nurse home visits, Head Start, quality education, after-school programs, Summer recreation and jobs, guaranteed college scholarships, and job-training that have been scientifically proven to cost-effectively reduce crime. And the research reveals that these programs are most effective when provided in the context of a coordinated, collaborative local strategy involving law enforcement, social services and other local public and private entities working with children identified as at risk of involvement in the criminal justice system. This is what the Youth PROMISE Act provides for.

Aside from reducing crime and providing better results in the lives of our youth, many of these programs funded under the Youth PROMISE Act will save more money than they cost. The state of Pennsylvania implemented in 100 communities across the state a process very similar to the one provided for in the Youth PROMISE Act. The state found that it saved, on average, \$5 for every \$1 spent during the study period.

The bill is supported by 69 original co-sponsors. A coalition of over 200 national, state and local organizations, listed below, supported the Youth PROMISE Act last Congress, and we expect that list to continue to grow this Congress. We know how to reduce crime and we know that we can do it in a way that saves much more money than it costs. Our children, victims of crime, taxpayers and our economy can no longer afford for us to delay adoption of the Youth PROMISE Act. So, I ask my colleagues to join me in passing and this bill and seeing to it that it is quickly enacted into law.

ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTING THE YOUTH PROMISE ACT

NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Alliance for Children and Families
American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU)
American Correctional Association
American Council of Chief Defenders
American Federation of School Administrators, AFL-CIO
American Federation of Teachers (AFT)
American Jewish Congress
American Psychological Association
Asian American Justice Center
ASPIRA, Inc.
Bazon Center for Mental Health Law
Campaign for Youth Justice
Catholic Charities USA
Center for Children’s Law and Policy
Child Welfare League of America
Children’s Defense Fund
Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants (CURE), International
Coalition for Juvenile Justice
Coalition on Human Needs
Correctional Education Association
Council for Educators of At-Risk and Delinquent Youth
Council for Opportunity in Education
Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators (CJCA)
Covenant House International Headquarters
Federal CURE

Fight Crime: Invest in Kids
Girls Inc.
Human Rights Watch
Immigrant Justice Network
Institute for Community Peace
International Community Corrections Association
Justice Policy Institute
Juvenile Justice Trainers Association
Legal Action Center
Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service
Mennonite Central Committee Washington Office
Mental Health America
Mexican American Legal Defense & Educational Fund (MALDEF)
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd
National African-American Drug Policy Coalition, Inc.
National Alliance to End Homelessness
National Alliance for Faith and Justice
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
National Association of Juvenile Correctional Agencies
National Association of Secondary School Principals
National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials (NBC-LEO)
National Black Police Association
National Center for Youth Law
National Consortium of TASC (Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities) Programs
National Council for Community Behavioral Health
National Council of La Raza
National Council on Crime and Delinquency
National Council on Educating Black Children
National Council for Urban (Gang) Peace, Justice and Empowerment
National Education Association
National Federation of Families for Children’s Mental Health
National Head Start Association
National Hire Network
National Immigration Project of the National Lawyers Guild
National Juvenile Defender Center
National Juvenile Detention Association
National Juvenile Justice Network
National Network for Youth
National Organization of Concerned Black Men, Inc.
National Partnership for Juvenile Services
National Parent Teacher Association (PTA)
National Trust for the Development of African-American Men
National Urban League
National Women’s Law Center
Penal Reform International
Presbyterian Church (USA), Washington Office
Prison Legal News
Prisons Foundation
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center
Southern Poverty Law Center
The Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, Public Policy Section
The Rebecca Project for Human Rights
The School Social Work Association of America
The Sentencing Project
Therapeutic Communities of America (TCA)
Time Dollar Youth Court
TimeBanks USA
Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations

United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries
 United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society
 United Neighborhood Centers of America
 VOICES for America's Children
 W. Haywood Burns Institute
 Washington Office on Latin America
 World Vision
 Youth Law Center
 Youth Matter America

STATE ORGANIZATIONS

ACLU of Illinois (IL)
 ACLU of North Carolina (NC)
 ACLU of Ohio (OH)
 Action for Children North Carolina (NC)
 Advocates for Children and Youth (MD)
 Alabama Youth Justice Coalition
 Alston Wilkes Society (SC)
 Archdiocese of Los Angeles, Office of Restorative Justice (CA)
 Asian Law Caucus (CA)
 ATTC Correctional Services, Inc. (WI)
 Barrios Unidos—Santa Cruz Chapter (CA)
 Barrios Unidos—Virginia Chapter (VA)
 CASA of Maryland, Inc. (MD)
 Center for Community Alternatives (NY)
 Central American Legal Assistance (NY)
 Chicago Area Project (IL)
 Children's Action Alliance (AZ)
 Children's Campaign, Inc. (FL)
 Citizens for Juvenile Justice (MA)
 Columbia Heights Shaw Family Collaborative (DC)
 Connecticut Juvenile Justice Alliance (CT)
 Contra Costa County Public Defender's Office (CA)
 Correctional Association of New York (NY)
 Council for Children's Rights (NC)
 DC Alliance of Youth Advocates (DC)
 DC NAACP Youth Council (DC)
 Delaware Center for Justice (DE)
 Equal Justice Initiative (AL)
 Facilitating Leadership in Youth (FLY) (DC)
 Faith Communities for Families and Children (CA)
 Families & Allies of Virginia's Youth (VA)
 Families & Friends of La.'s Incarcerated Children (LA)
 Families Moving Forward (CT)
 Florida Public Defender Association, Inc. (FL)
 Florida Public Defender, Fourth Judicial Circuit (FL)
 Florida Families for Fair Sentences (FL)
 Franklin County Public Defender (OH)
 Fusion Partnerships, Inc. (MD)
 Hispanic Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program (OH)
 Homies Unidos (CA)
 H.O.P.E., Inc (KS)
 Identity, Inc. (MD)
 John Howard Association of Illinois (IL)
 JustChildren (VA)
 Justice for DC Youth (DC)
 Juvenile Justice Center of Suffolk University Law School (NY)
 Juvenile Justice Coalition (OH)
 Juvenile Justice Initiative of Illinois (IL)
 Juvenile Justice Project of Louisiana (LA)
 Kansas CURE (KS)
 L.A. Youth Justice Coalition (CA)
 Latin American Youth Center (DC)
 Leaders in Community Alternatives, Inc. (CA)
 Life Pieces to Masterpieces, Inc. (DC)
 Law Office of Anthony J. Keber (MA)
 Maryland Juvenile Justice Coalition (MD)
 Maryland Office of the Public Defender (MD)
 Mental Health Association in Pennsylvania (PA)
 Michigan Council on Crime and Delinquency (MI)
 Mid-Atlantic Juvenile Defender Center, Juvenile Law and Policy Clinic, University of Richmond School of Law (VA)

Midwest Juvenile Defender Center (IL)
 Minnesota Juvenile Justice Coalition (MN)
 Mississippi CURE (MS)
 Mississippi Youth Justice Project (MS)
 New Hampshire Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NH)
 New Jersey Association on Correction (NJ)
 New Mexico Council on Crime and Delinquency (NM)
 New Mexico Criminal Defense Lawyers Association (NM)
 Pacific Juvenile Defender Center (CA)
 Parents Who Care Coalition (SD)
 Parents, Youth, Children and Family Training Institute (AL)
 Partnership for Safety and Justice (OR)
 Puerto Rico Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (PR)
 Public Justice Center (MD)
 PTA of Illinois (IL)
 Southern Juvenile Defender Center (AL)
 Texas Criminal Justice Coalition (TX)
 The Fortune Society (NY)
 The Law Offices of Public Defender Bennett H. Brummer (Miami-Dade Public Defender's Office) (FL)
 The Pendulum Foundation (CO)
 The Poor People's Alliance, Connecticut Chapter (CT)
 The S.T.O.P. Family Investment Center at Oakmont North (VA)
 Southern Poverty Law Center (AL)
 Tennessee Commission on Children and Youth (TN)
 UNC Juvenile Justice Clinic, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Law (NC)
 United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries (OH)
 Virginia Coalition for Juvenile Justice (VA)
 Virginia Commonwealth University School of Education (VA)
 Virginia Commonwealth University Center for School-Community Collaboration (VA)
 Virginia C.U.R.E. (VA)
 VOICES for Alabama's Children (AL)
 VOICES for Children in Nebraska (NE)
 VOICES for Ohio's Children (OH)
 Washington Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (WA)
 Washington Defender Association (WA)
 Washington Defender Association's Immigration Project (WA)
 Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. (PA)
 Youth Advocacy Project of the Committee for Public Counsel Services (MA)
 Young America Works Public Charter School (DC)

ELECTED OFFICIALS AND ACADEMICS

Donna M. Bishop, Northeastern University (MA)
 Susan J. Carstens, Psy.D., L.P. Juvenile Specialist, Crystal Police Dept. (MN)
 The Honorable Toni Harp, Connecticut State Senator
 The Honorable Alice L. Bordsen, North Carolina State Representatives
 Jolanta Juskiewicz, Ph.D., American University (D.C.)
 The Honorable Kelvin Roldán, Connecticut State Representative
 Tony Roshan Samara, George Mason University (VA)
 Earle Williams, Psy.D. Hampton University (VA)
 Aaron Kupchik, Ph.D., University of Delaware

HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF CHIRICAHUA APACHE LEADER GOYATHLAY, ALSO KNOWN AS GERONIMO, ON THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF HIS DEATH

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. COLE. Madam Speaker, as the Republican Co-Chair of the Native American Caucus and as the only enrolled tribal member in Congress, I rise today in recognition of the 100th Anniversary of the passing of a Native American hero, Goyathlay, more commonly known as Geronimo.

Born into one of the most dangerous eras in Native American history in 1829, this Apache leader devoted his life to leading his people both spiritually and militarily. Though outnumbered and less armed, Goyathlay valiantly and successfully fought both Mexican and American troops in order to maintain the independence of his own people for decades. Even when his own wife and children were killed by attacking soldiers, his resolve never ended to keep his people free and safe.

In 1886, when the United States government launched an expedition to capture Goyathlay, he never rested. Constantly moving, and exhausted, he demonstrated true leadership and resolve by and preventing his band of Apaches from resigning their sovereignty to the United States government. When Goyathlay and his band were finally captured, they were moved as prisoners of war to several different bases in Florida, Alabama and Oklahoma. Finally, Goyathlay was transferred to Ft. Sill in Lawton, Oklahoma where he is buried today.

On this 100th Anniversary of his death, it is my sincerest hope, that his descendants might find healing and peace as they heal from the tragedies suffered by their ancestors. Today, Goyathlay can serve as an example for all of Indian Country. Though the United States policy toward Indian Country has drastically improved since the time of Goyathlay, the fight for tribal sovereignty is far from over. His strong dedication to this principle as well as his determined leadership is truly inspirational for all those fighting for Native Americans today.

Again, Madam Speaker, I am proud to speak today to honor one of the greatest Native American heroes in history. As the San Carols Apache Tribe and others throughout Indian Country gather to honor the life of this great leader, I wish them all the best and hope that this anniversary is a marker of healing for the Apaches and all Native peoples.

202ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE WESTERN STAR

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the oldest weekly newspaper in Ohio. The Western Star, published in Lebanon, Ohio is celebrating its 202nd anniversary today. This newspaper also holds the

proud record of being the second oldest newspaper of any kind to be published in Ohio, and the oldest newspaper bearing its original name west of the Appalachian Mountains.

The Newspaper was first published on February 13, 1807 by John McLean, a former member of this great body. Mr. Mclean also served our nation as United States Postmaster General, and an Associate Justice on the Ohio and United States Supreme Courts.

Currently, the paper is owned and published by Cox Communications, which was founded by James Middleton Cox, who also served as a Member of this House.

Madam Speaker, The Western Star is an award winning weekly newspaper that exemplifies the ideal of a free press, one of this nation's greatest rights. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 202 year tradition of the Western Star and in wishing the newspaper continued success in the future.

TRIBUTE TO THE DAUGHTERS OF
SUNSET

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the Daughters of Sunset, an active group of leaders in Sikeston, Missouri, devoted to the improvement of our community. The Daughters of Sunset were founded in 1984, and this year they celebrate their 25th anniversary.

In southern Missouri, we are very fortunate to have many organizations that serve their neighbors and create opportunities for young Americans. One of the cornerstones of the Daughters of Sunset is a scholarship program that enables young people in Sikeston to achieve the dream of attending college. It's truly a program that opens doors to talented students that would never be available to them otherwise. Even better, the recipients of the Daughters of Sunset scholarship often take the lesson of this local support to heart; they stay in southern Missouri to put their educations to work and give back to the community that sent them to college.

The philosophy of the Daughters of Sunset is grounded in community service. They seek out opportunities to recognize the service of others, and they are recognized throughout the community as a reliable friend to any neighbor in need of a helping hand.

We are fortunate to have the Daughters of Sunset in Sikeston, and I am very proud to congratulate them on 25 years of service to the Eighth Congressional District and to commend them to the U.S. House of Representatives for all of their good works.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. EDITH LOVELL

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, on February 8, 2009, Mrs. Edith Lovell, a resident of Brooklyn, New York, celebrated her 105th birthday.

She was born on February 8, 1904 in Barbados, West Indies. She migrated to the United States in 1924 and resided with family in Harlem. A few years later, she married Samuel Lovell and relocated to Brooklyn, New York.

Mrs. Lovell is the mother of the late Muriel Lovell Sealy and the mother of Dr. Alvin Lovell. She has three grandchildren, Angela Graham and Kelley Sealy and Alison Lovell; two great grandchildren, Philip and Amanda Graham; one great great granddaughter, Angelique; nephews, nieces and cousins, including New York State Supreme Court Justice Valerie Brathwaite Nelson.

She enjoys reading, history, the company of family and friends and participating in lively social and political discussions. She was a strong supporter of Barack Obama during the recent campaign and was proud to witness the historic occasion and celebrated his Inauguration as the 44th President of the United States.

Mrs. Lovell was an avid gardener until recently; she was the recipient of the 2003 Award for the Greenest Block in Brooklyn.

As we celebrate the various events honoring African Americans during the month of February, I truly believe we should include the name of Ms. Edith Lovell. I am proud to join the United States Congress and our nation in honoring this great trailblazer.

TRIBUTE TO LIBBY GREER

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BOYD. Madam Speaker, I rise today with mixed emotions to pay tribute to my departing Chief of Staff, Libby Greer. Libby has spent the last 7½ years with my office, where she has served as my trusted advisor, my right arm, and my friend.

As people who know her will tell you, Libby has a knowledge of policy and a political acumen that have made her a compelling force. She has been a steadfast leader in both my office and within the Blue Dogs, while serving as a mentor to countless folks. Her contribution to my public service and commitment to the people of North Florida have made a lasting impression from Washington, D.C. all the way down to Florida.

It is with immense gratitude that I thank Libby for her years of service and friendship. Words simply cannot express how much she has meant to me, to my family, and to my public service efforts for the past 7½ years. Today, I join my wife, Cissy, in wishing her much happiness and the best of luck in this new chapter of her life.

IN CELEBRATION OF THE 50TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF MONROE/
LENAWEE COUNTY AFL-CIO CEN-
TRAL LABOR COUNCIL

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker. I rise today to honor the 50th anniversary of the Monroe/

Lenawee County AFL-CIO Central Labor Council (CLC). On January 28, 1959, nine local unions from the American Federation of Labor, known as the Monroe Central Labor Union, and sixteen local unions from the Congress of Industrial Organizations, known as the Monroe County CIO Industrial Union Council, held a merger convention in the historic Philip Murray Building in downtown Monroe, Michigan.

The purpose of this convention was to dissolve their Charters of the Monroe Central Labor Union and the Monroe County CIO Industrial Union Council and adopt a new constitution under which the two organizations would merge and form one new organization. On February 9, 1959, the National AFL-CIO granted a charter to the Monroe County AFL-CIO Central Labor Council.

The Central Labor Council has worked for 50 years to secure a united action of union locals to protect, maintain and advance the interest of all working people. These efforts include building support and advocacy for worker friendly legislation, furthering the acceptance of collective bargaining in the workplace and educating the general public on the importance of the American Labor Movement. The CLC's commitment to the betterment of their community has never wavered, and their unselfish willingness to lead by example has undoubtedly contributed to a higher standard of living for—not only union members, but for all people in Monroe, Lenawee, and the surrounding communities.

The Monroe County AFL-CIO Central Labor Council mission statement has not strayed from its original purpose and remains committed to education, organizing, mobilizing and creating activities for the common good and welfare of their community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise and join me in commending the Monroe/Lenawee County AFL-CIO Central Labor Council on 50 years of advocacy for workers and tremendous service to the community.

HONORING THE 250TH ANNIVER-
SARY OF AMHERST, MASSACHU-
SETTS

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. OLVER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the founding of Amherst, Massachusetts 250 years ago on February 13, 1759. The following history provided by the Amherst Historical Society paints a fascinating picture of a town I have been honored to represent my entire legislative career.

Two hundred fifty years ago, a section of Hadley, Massachusetts became the district of Amherst when local men petitioned the government of Massachusetts Bay to incorporate Hadley's Second Precinct (as Amherst was officially called) as a district which could hold town meetings and govern itself. On February 13, 1759, a bill was passed and the royal governor, Thomas Pownall, named the new district "Amherst" to honor his friend General Jeffery Amherst, who had recently led a successful military expedition against the French in Canada.

Hadley farmers, who had been grazing their cattle on Amherst lands since the late 1600s,

called this land by many names—Hadley Farms, East Farms, Hadley Outer Commons, East Hadley, New Swamp, and event Foote's Folly Swamp. Hadley farmers didn't think much of Amherst's soil as compared with the richer soils closer to the Connecticut River, but the Amherst land was fertile enough and, during a brief peaceful period in the late 1720s, a few farmers ventured to establish Amherst homesteads.

In the 1750s, more farms sprang up and the population of "East Hadley" topped that of the original settlement, but inhabitants were still required to travel to Hadley to conduct town business and pay taxes, for which they received little in return. This led, naturally, to the locals desire to govern themselves.

But Amherst's history goes back much farther. About 1,000 years ago, native peoples who lived and fanned all over Southern New England, including the area that became Amherst, met regularly at sites along the Connecticut River for fishing, feasting, and socializing. The Norwottucks, one of those groups, traveled through Amherst and probably set up temporary campsites along the Fort and Mill Rivers. They used two major trails, a path that later became Bay Road and one in the area of Pulpit Hill and East Leverett Roads.

The beginnings of the town we know today were not only built by those original farmers from Hadley and surrounding communities but by Africans who were brought here as slaves, torn from their homelands and families. Up through the 1770s, slaves were bought, sold, leased, and traded in Amherst. They worked on their owners' houses and farms and were always subject to being sold away from their families. During this same period, several free blacks also lived in Amherst.

Today, descendants from every group representing Amherst's "First Comers" can be found living in town and throughout the Connecticut River Valley.

What distinguished Amherst from other Connecticut Valley farming towns was an early interest in education. Between 1814 and 1821, Amherst citizens established both Amherst Academy and Amherst College. As early as 1847, Massachusetts citizens began thinking about the need for agricultural education, which paved the way for the founding of the Massachusetts Agricultural College in Amherst in 1863. In this same period, Amherst boasted small-scale manufacturing (and later large-scale hat factories) but without a large, powerful river, manufacturing never blossomed as it did in other Massachusetts communities. Amherst remained an agricultural and educational community.

It was the establishment of the University of Massachusetts in 1947 and its post-World War II expansion, the opening of Hampshire College in 1970, and the attendant population increase and development boom that threatened Amherst's small town character and natural beauty. Citizens responded with local laws to preserve agricultural land and to limit development. By the late 1960s, the town was noted for being progressive and socially conscious, with outspoken citizens bringing national and international issues to the local level. This independent spirit, combined with good schools, open spaces, and a vibrant intellectual life, has made Amherst a magnet for newcomers.

There are also other Amhersts: a home to immigrants from all over the world; a place

where machinists and shop owners work and goods are made and sold; a place where people struggle to make ends meet amid social services spread then; and a town caught between residents' high expectations for schools and services and a tax base largely funded by property tax on private residences. Slightly more than half of Amherst's land is in use by the colleges and university or remains under conservation or agricultural restriction. Townspeople watch and wait as the resolutions to these economic issues evolve and define Amherst's future.

Once again, I am proud and honored to represent this town rich in history and community. Please join me in congratulating the Town of Amherst as it celebrates its 250th Founders Day.

TRIBUTE TO TRUMAN BENEDICT

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of San Clemente, California are exceptional. San Clemente has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Truman Benedict is one of these individuals. On February 19, 2009, the San Clemente Chamber of Commerce will honor Truman with their "Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award."

Truman Benedict moved to San Clemente in 1949, along with his wife Betty. A credentialed teacher educated at Whittier College in Los Angeles, Truman first began teaching seventh graders at Las Palmas. A Superintendent who had originally come to the "village," as San Clemente was known, in 1944, selected Truman for the job of seventh grade teacher.

While renting a place on Avenida Pelayo, Truman continued for five years to teach at Las Palmas School where he worked for \$180 a month. Truman Benedict became Principal of Las Palmas School, and in 1956 was named Superintendent of the San Clemente Elementary School District, which included Las Palmas and Concordia schools.

In 1965 when the Capistrano Unified School District, encompassing San Juan Capistrano, Capistrano Beach and San Clemente, was formed, Truman was named Assistant Superintendent in charge of curriculum and the certifying of teaching personnel. He eventually became Superintendent, then Deputy Superintendent of the district. From there Truman went on to serve as a San Clemente City Councilman, City Mayor and member of and volunteer for many civic groups.

Teaching came natural to Truman Benedict. As the smallest person in Los Angeles to ever play varsity basketball, Truman expected a lot of himself, and said that he was inspired by teachers who expected a lot out of him in return. Truman became a teacher because he enjoyed school and working with kids. It follows that in his career he was most often called upon to handle the older and brightest children.

In addition to his distinguished career as an educator and public servant, Truman is also a

patriot; he served four years in the U.S. Armed Forces as P38 pilot. He was married to his wife Betty for 45 years until she passed away. Truman and Betty have two daughters, Sally and Nancy, and four grandchildren. The Truman Benedict School is named after him and Truman was named the 1990 San Clemente Citizen of the Year.

Truman's tireless passion for community service and education has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of San Clemente, California. I am proud to call Truman a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he receives the "Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award."

IN REMEMBRANCE OF TOM CLIFFORD, PRESIDENT EMERITUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH DAKOTA

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, Tom Clifford was the most influential leader of the University of North Dakota in its entire history. I feel fortunate that he was president during my years there. I had the opportunity to work with him as a student senator, state legislator and member of the U.S. Congress. He was one of the finest people I've ever known.

Tom Clifford was a giant in every aspect of his life, from his service as a decorated Marine Corps veteran during World War II to his lasting legacy at the University of North Dakota.

During his 21-year tenure at the helm of UND, President Clifford oversaw a period of tremendous growth, in everything from enrollment—from 8,400 to more than 12,000 students—to research grants and contracts—from \$6.4 million to \$40 million—to evolving the university through the amazing growth of the aerospace program and the Center for Innovation.

Tom Clifford's influence extended far beyond education. When it came to diversifying the region's economy and creating new high paying jobs and rewarding careers, Tom Clifford was viewed by all parties as North Dakota's "wise man." His counsel was often sought and freely given. His creative contribution will live on in our region through the new opportunities he helped grow.

Tom Clifford never stopped being an excellent athlete and the number one fan of the Fighting Sioux. When I was a student he was the best handball player at the university—turning back challengers decades younger than he was.

One particularly fond memory I cherish came from a trip I took with Tom to the NCAA Division H national championship in Alabama in 2001. The Fighting Sioux slugged it out for 4 quarters but trailed by 4 points with time almost done. The Sioux connected on a short pass, but suddenly the runner broke free and scampered nearly 80 yards for the winning touchdown. Although Tom was seated in the president's box along side the president and a few boisterous alumni from the other team, Tom didn't shout or say much, but his deep

grin and twinkling eyes revealed the thorough happiness and pride he felt.

With Tom Clifford it was never about the talking. It was all about getting the job done successfully. He lived long. He lived well, and his own success created in turn generations of success in the lives of his students and the ongoing economic activity he helped create in our region.

President Tom Clifford was one of the greatest North Dakotans we have ever known. I am proud to have been his friend, and I will never forget his sterling example of integrity and strong leadership.

RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF CLAUDIA S. KNOTT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of Ms. Claudia "Scottie" Knott, who will retire from the Defense Logistics Agency, Fort Belvoir, Virginia, on March 1, 2009. Ms. Knott's distinguished government career spans 31 years, and her record of achievement during this period reflects greatly upon herself and upon the organizations with which she has served.

Ms. Knott has served as DLA's Senior Procurement Executive/Component Acquisition Executive (SPE/CAE) since 2001. Under this position Ms. Knott was responsible for the development, application, and oversight of DLA acquisition, policy, plans, programs, functional systems and operations. She has overall acquisition management responsibilities for the Agency including an annual Agency acquisition program exceeding \$38 billion.

Born in Petersburg, Virginia, Ms. Knott has followed a wide-ranging career of increasing responsibility culminating in her appointment as Director of Acquisition Management. In 1978, she entered the Federal service as a program assistant for the Department of Agriculture and in 1981 was selected into the Defense Logistics Agency Intern Program. In 1993 she was accepted into the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF), Defense Acquisition University. After ICAF Ms. Knott went to work for the Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition Reform/Electronic Commerce). In 1997, Ms. Knott became the Assistant Executive Director, Procurement at the Defense Logistics Agency.

In 2003, Ms. Knott was selected by the Director, Defense Logistics Agency, to be the Deputy Director, Logistics Operations. As the deputy, she was responsible for DLA's supply, distribution and reutilization and marketing business areas which resulted in over \$30 billion in sales and services to the United States military and federal customers. Ms. Knott served as the Deputy Director, Logistics Operations until her appointment to Director, Acquisition Management in 2007, a principal staff code in DLA, as part of a reorganization to elevate contracting and contract management.

Ms. Knott attended Florida Institute of Technology, Chapman College and the National Defense University and is the recipient of numerous special achievement and performance awards including the Distinguished Civilian

Service Award in September 2008. Ms. Knott was selected as one of the Federal Computer Week Top 100 IT Professionals in 1999 and 2001. She is an honorary lifetime faculty member of the Army Logistics Management College. Ms. Knott has also received the Vice President's "Hammer Award" for business re-engineering in 1996 and has been confirmed into the Distinguished Order of Saint Martin, the patron saint of Logistics.

Madam Speaker, I wish to commend Ms. Claudia S. Knott on her retirement from Federal civil service. She epitomizes the dedication and professionalism that make our Federal government a model all over the world.

A TRIBUTE TO A.V. JONES, JR.

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this time to recognize A.V. Jones, Jr. for his dedication to the West Central Texas Municipal Water District. A.V. retired last year after 46 years of continuous service to the District, which includes the cities of Abilene, Albany, Anton, and Breckenridge.

A.V. Jones, Jr. was born in Wichita Falls, Texas in 1932 and moved shortly after to Albany, Texas, where he has lived ever since. After graduating from Oklahoma University with a Bachelors of Science in Petroleum Geology, A.V. settled in Albany with his wife, Pat. They have two children, Patti Holloway of Abilene, Texas and K.C. Jones of Albany, Texas.

A.V. joined the West Central Texas Municipal Water District in 1962. During his nearly half-century of service, A.V. served twice as President of the District. Under his leadership, the District oversaw and completed the construction of the Hubbard Creek Reservoir and its pumping system and pipeline that provides water to the District's four member cities. A.V. worked to maintain and preserve the Hubbard Creek Reservoir as a secure long-term water source for the District by exploring and pursuing alternate sources for the cities.

A successful entrepreneur in the oil and gas industry, A.V. and his family founded several oil and gas exploration companies. He is a Vice President of the Texas Oil and Gas Association, is on the Board of Directors of the American Petroleum Institute, and is a past President of the Independent Petroleum Association of America. Moreover, A.V. is a former President of the Board of Trustees of the Albany Independent School District.

A.V. brought his spirit of leadership and his knack for success from the oil and gas industry to the Water District. As a Director and Officer, A.V. had a profound impact on reaching the District's goal of providing a safe and reliable source of water through the management of existing resources and the pursuit of additional sources of water.

Many people in West Texas can attribute the running water in their homes to the hard work and commitment of A.V. Jones. Those in District 19, including myself, would like to thank him for a job well-done and extend to him our best wishes for his future endeavors.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF DON ALEXANDER

HON. EARL POMEROY

OF NORTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. POMEROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember a good man and a great American, the Honorable Donald C. Alexander. Don's recent passing was a great loss to those who loved him and to our Nation as a whole. He was a man of dignity and integrity whose brilliance was exceeded only by his kindness and generosity of spirit.

Don is perhaps best remembered for his distinguished tenure as head of the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in the 1970s. Don always stood firmly on the side of right, and famously resisted President Nixon's attempts to use the IRS to persecute his political enemies. This was utterly in character for Don—he hated injustice in any form, and fought against it his entire adult life. He was a dedicated public servant, and served on numerous Federal commissions, including the Martin Luther King, Jr., Federal Holiday Commission.

Don never bragged about his distinguished military service, but he was a true American patriot who loved his country deeply. He was a twice-decorated veteran of World War II who served in Europe as a forward artillery observer and received the Silver Star and the Bronze Star.

Don was an honors graduate of Yale and Harvard Law School and one of the smartest tax lawyers our country has ever seen. His wise counsel on tax policy was sought by Members of Congress across the political spectrum, including myself. Don believed that the tax code could be an instrument of justice, and worked his entire adult life to make it more simple and more fair for every American.

Don never quit trying to make this country better. He came to work every day well into his eighties. His thorough knowledge of the tax code on a technical level, the legislature process on a practical level, and the context of the times on a historic level made his counsel and guidance second to none.

In addition to his many professional accomplishments, Don was a loyal and loving friend. He was the consummate gentleman, and his unstinting generosity and courtesy were widely admired. Don had a sharp wit, a ready charm, and a perpetual twinkle in his eye. He was always humble, kind, and loving to those around him. He will be dearly missed, but never forgotten.

BIPARTISAN RESOLUTION CONDEMNING IRAN'S PERSECUTION OF BAHA'IS

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

"In Germany, they first came for the gypsies, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a gypsy. Then they came for the Bolsheviks, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Bolshevik. Then they came for the Jews, and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a Jew. Then they came for the trade unionists and I didn't speak up because I wasn't a trade

unionist. Then they came for the Catholics. I didn't speak up then because I was a Protestant. Then they came for me, and there was no one left to speak up."

—Martin Niemöller, a Lutheran pastor arrested by the Gestapo in 1937.

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, then they came for the Baha'is.

The Baha'i Faith is the youngest of the world's independent monotheistic religions. Founded in Iran in 1844, it now claims more than 5 million adherents in 236 countries and territories. Gathering worshipers from nearly every national, ethnic and religious background, the Baha'is preach tolerance, diversity and equality.

To an Islamic dictatorship that denies its people basic political and human rights, this religion founded in Iran on the tenets of religious tolerance remains an anathema to the Supreme Leader. And the world is standing by as Iran's state-sponsored persecution of its Baha'i minority nears its final stages.

In 2006, Iran's Armed Forces Command Headquarters ordered the Ministry of Information, the Revolutionary Guard, and the Police Force to identify members of the Baha'i Faith in Iran and monitor their activities.

In that same year, we saw the largest roundup of Baha'is since the 1980s. The Iranian Interior Ministry ordered provincial officials to "cautiously and carefully monitor and manage" all Baha'i social activities. The Central Security Office of Iran's Ministry of Science, Research and Technology ordered 81 Iranian universities to expel any student discovered to be a Baha'i.

In 2007, the situation worsened. More than two-thirds of the Baha'is enrolled in universities were expelled once identified as Baha'is. Police entered Baha'i homes and businesses to collect details on family members.

Twenty-five industries were ordered to deny licenses to Baha'is. Employers were pressured to fire Baha'i employees and banks were instructed to refuse loans to Baha'i-owned businesses. Baha'i cemeteries were destroyed.

In November 2007, three Baha'i youths were detained for educating underprivileged children.

The following month, the Iranian Parliament published a draft Islamic penal code, requiring the death penalty for all "apostates"—a term applied to Baha'is and any convert away from Islam.

On May 14, 2008, seven members of Iran's national Baha'i coordinating group were arrested. This is reminiscent of the mass disappearance and assumed murder of all the members of the National Spiritual Assembly of the Baha'is of Iran in August, 1980.

On August 1, 2008, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H. Res. 1008, condemning the persecution of Baha'is in Iran and calling for the immediate release of all Baha'is imprisoned solely on the basis of their religion.

Our bipartisan voice bought the Baha'i leadership some time—but it appears only 6 months.

This week, the Government of Iran charged the seven Baha'i leaders with "espionage for Israel, insulting religious sanctities and propaganda against the Islamic republic." Deputy Tehran Prosecutor Hassan Haddad declared, "The charges against seven defendants in the case of the illegal Baha'i group were exam-

ined . . . and the case will be sent to the revolutionary court next week."

It is time for the international community to act.

Today, along with my colleagues JIM MCGOVERN and BRAD SHERMAN, I am introducing a bipartisan resolution calling on the Government of Iran to immediately release the seven Baha'i leaders and all others imprisoned solely the basis of their religion.

I urge President Obama and Secretary Clinton, in concert with the international community, to publicly condemn Iran's persecution of its religious minorities and demand the release of these seven community leaders.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN LEE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, I regret that I do not have the opportunity to participate in today's debate due to the need to be back in my district. I sincerely appreciate the Members of the House engaging in a moment of silence to honor the memory of those who lost their lives in last night's tragic accident in Clarence, NY.

America's current economic crisis has hit western New York hard, and from the outset of this debate, I have expressed the need for a timely, fiscally responsible recovery plan that provides the economy with the jumpstart it needs to create jobs.

This new Washington spending plan simply fails to meet this common-sense standard of economic growth. It is far more focused on growing Washington than it is on stimulating job creation and had I been present I would have voted no.

In many ways, this spending bill is inferior to its predecessor. It creates nearly just as many and expands more government programs while severely limiting tax relief for small businesses, which create most of our economy's new jobs. In fact, for every one dollar this spending bill devotes to small-business tax relief, Washington gets to keep more than 32 dollars for itself to create new government programs.

Creating jobs in western New York has been at the top of my "to-do" list since before I ran for Congress, when I was helping run a family manufacturing business.

That's why I helped craft a timely, fiscally responsible economic recovery plan that creates twice the jobs at half the cost of this Washington spending bill. Additionally, my recovery plan creates 184,000 more jobs for New Yorkers than this spending bill.

The plan I helped put together spurs job creation right now by providing relief for 100 percent of income taxpayers, preserving "net operating loss carryback" reforms that help small business weather tough economic times, and implementing a tax deduction equal to 20 percent of income for those small businesses with 500 or fewer employees.

Washington's refusal to reform its spending habits and focus its efforts on job creation puts significant taxpayer dollars at risk. In fact,

the massive spending in this plan is enough to create budget deficits 2.5 times the size of President George W. Bush's deficits over the same 8-year period.

EXPRESSING GROWING CONCERN WITH THE RECENT RISE IN ANTI-SEMITISM IN SOUTH AMERICA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution expressing growing concerns about the recent rise of anti-Semitism in South America, and the accompanying acts of violence and hatred against members of the Jewish community there.

Throughout my life, and throughout my tenure in Congress, I have always condemned the unconscionable spread of anti-Semitism wherever it has raised its ugly head. There is never an excuse to single out members of the Jewish community for attack, to destroy their sacred property, to boycott their businesses, or to perpetuate physical harm.

From Asia to Africa to Europe to the Middle East, too many leaders have too often used anti-Semitism to deflect attention from their own failings, or to stir up their domestic populations for political gain.

We see the pernicious tidings of anti-Semitism, this time in South America. In Venezuela, Bolivia and Argentina, Jewish communities in recent weeks and months have been the subject of vicious attacks, verbal abuse, and government-supported expressions of extreme intolerance and intimidation. My resolution highlights some of these recent attacks, including the January 30th assault on the Tiferet Israel synagogue in Caracas, Venezuela, in which armed men using tear gas violently ransacked this house of worship.

While I am pleased that eleven suspects have been arrested, I am disturbed to learn that a majority of these men are police officers. Indeed, the Venezuelan government of late has fostered a climate of hatred, openly questioning the loyalties of Venezuela's Jewish community, and using recent events in Israel to score cheap political points by assailing members of the Jewish community.

Madam Speaker, I could tell a similar story about events in Bolivia and Argentina, where Jewish children have arrived at their schools to find swastikas painted on walls and graffiti admonishing Jews to leave the country.

These attacks are not isolated incidents of a few bad apples, but rather reflect the systematic use of violence and intimidation in the place of dialogue and debate. Anti-Semitism is not a legitimate form of public protest. It never has been and it never will be. We cannot, in good conscience, allow these acts of hatred to go unnoticed and unreported. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution to condemn these acts of violence and to encourage the Venezuelan, Bolivian, and Argentinean governments to take all necessary steps to ensure that anti-Semitism is not tolerated in South America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 54, 55, 56, 58, and 59, I was absent from the House. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING JOHN D. DINGELL FOR
HOLDING THE RECORD AS THE
LONGEST SERVING MEMBER OF
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTA-
TIVES

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 11, 2009

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in honor of JOHN D. DINGELL's distinguished service in the House of Representatives, and in support of H. Res. 154. As many of the other speakers have noted, we do not just honor him for this longevity in this institution, but for what he has done while he has served here. For more than 50 years, he has represented the interests of working Americans from across this country, and particularly from his home district in Michigan. He has been a strong defender of rights: a strong voice for civil rights and civil liberties, and a leader in environmental protection. He has brought his intellect and passion to bear to address the challenge of health care access, helping establish Medicare in 1965, the Children's Health Insurance Program in 1997, and many other health initiatives since and between. He understands the urgency that remains on this issue, and I can think of no person better positioned to make expanding health coverage for all Americans a reality.

One of the things I really respect about JOHN, beyond his commitment and dedication

to this country, is his honesty. When he says something, his word is his bond. It says a lot about this institution when the Dean of the House is reliable like that, and whether he is with you or against you know where you stand. I have appreciated working alongside him throughout my own service in this distinguished House.

I salute Congressman DINGELL's long commitment to public service, his impressive record of accomplishment, and his defense of working Americans. I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring his service by voting for H. Res. 154.

HONORING THE NAACP ON ITS
100TH ANNIVERSARY

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 10, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as we recognize February as Black History Month, I wish to take a moment to celebrate the NAACP on the occasion of its 100th anniversary. Over the past century, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, or NAACP, has played a vital role in the progress of the African American community. This organization has advocated faithfully for decreasing racial disparities in the areas of healthcare, education, employment, criminal justice, and poverty.

The NAACP is the Nation's largest and oldest civil rights organization. Through grass root efforts, the organization has influenced policy from the homes and communities of citizens to the voting booths and the classrooms around America. The NAACP has involved many, from children and ordinary citizens, to our Nation's elected officials and Presidents. The dedication of the NAACP and its fight for social justice has involved great leadership.

The NAACP has played a significant role in many civil rights victories. Its persistent protests and steadfast support for anti-lynching legislation was critical to making this horrible

practice illegal. Similarly, its members championed the Voting Rights Act of 1965 that guaranteed that no person could be denied the right to vote because of his or her race. It also has served as a strong watchdog to uphold the spirit and letter of these laws at the State and local levels. Clearly, the NAACP's involvement politically has contributed to the progress of America by saving lives and empowering minority communities.

Ida B. Wells, a prominent civil rights activist and resident of Illinois, was the co-founder of the NAACP. Wells is most known for her journalism. Her writing received the interest of both blacks and whites. After being banned from the South for speaking out about lynching and the government's refusal to stop the violence, Ms. Wells moved to Chicago. While in Chicago, she married Ferdinand Barnett and together they had four children. Her nickname, "the Constant Star" provides a testament to her relentless fight for social justice and equality. The NAACP has embodied her nickname by remaining constant in its efforts in promoting equality for all.

The NAACP has grown considerably since its inception. Today, the NAACP has over 500,000 members with more than 1,300 national and international branches, and over 45 branches in the State of Illinois.

Recently, three students from the Chicago Westside Branch, located in the Seventh Congressional District, won at the 2008 National ACT-SO competition. The ACT-SO program, founded by the NAACP, is a year-long program that is used to enrich African American high school students' lives by encouraging high academic and cultural achievement. This program allows students to compete in various areas ranging from the sciences to visual and performing arts. Thus, I would like to recognize Terrence George, Eric Clark, and Aerial Robinson for their brilliance and hard work.

I commend the NAACP on its commitment to the African American community and its political, economic, social, and educational efforts in promoting social change. I tip my hat to the first centennial anniversary and look forward to its second.