

Assistance and Cooperation Enhancement (PEACE) Act; and providing for consideration of H.R. 2410, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, FYs 2010 and 2011.

INTRODUCTION OF THE
BREASTFEEDING PROMOTION ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I am reintroducing an important piece of legislation, the Breastfeeding Promotion Act with my colleagues Mrs. CAPPs, Mr. OLVER, Mr. FRANK, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SNYDER, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. MORAN.

Statistical surveys of families show that over 50 percent of mothers with children less than one year of age are in the labor force. Whereas women with infants and toddlers are a rapidly growing segment of the labor force today, arrangements must be made to allow a mother's expressing of milk if mother and child must separate.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that mothers breastfeed exclusively for six months but continuing for at least the first year of a child's life. Research studies show that children who are not breastfed have higher rates of mortality, meningitis, some types of cancers, asthma and other respiratory illnesses, bacterial and viral infections, diarrhoeal diseases, ear infections, allergies, and obesity. There have also been numerous benefits to mothers shown, including improved bone mineralization, an earlier return to pre-pregnancy weight, and decreased risk of certain cancers.

Our bill will encourage and promote breastfeeding by removing common obstacles to breastfeeding and expressing milk in the workplace that many women face by: (1) amending the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to protect breastfeeding in the workplace, (2) providing tax incentives for businesses that establish private lactation areas in the workplace, (3) providing for a performance standard for breast pumps, (4) allowing breastfeeding equipment to be tax deductible for families, and (5) protecting the privacy of breastfeeding mothers.

We urge all of our colleagues to support this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WATKINS BROTHERS MEMORIAL CHAPEL

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel, the oldest African-American owned business of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, which I am honored to represent. The Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel will celebrate its centennial milestone beginning this weekend on Saturday, June 13th, when they will have the first

series of events dedicated to the great service this business has bestowed upon Missouri's Fifth Congressional District. I am privileged to have been asked to partake in these celebrations.

The Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel has been an influential and unwavering force since founders John "J.T." and Theron "T.B." Watkins first opened the chapel's doors in spring of 1909. After John's premature death, Theron remained determined to carry on the business and the vision that he and his brother had worked so hard to make a reality. The Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel has now seen five generations of Watkins run the family business. The chapel is known throughout the greater Kansas City metropolitan area for its excellent service and the high level of care and concern it affords both the families and the individuals involved.

The Watkins family has been highly influential in the arena of Kansas City politics. Since the beginning, Theron was very involved in neighborhood development; so much so that there is now an important housing project in Kansas City named in his honor. From 1941 to 1948, Theron sat on the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. The story of Theron filling up one of his funeral cars with coal and delivering the coal to families in desperate need during the peak of the Great Depression signifies his deep commitment to those around him. His heightened awareness of the needs of others led him to encourage his son, Bruce Watkins, Sr., to pursue a career in service and politics.

Bruce Watkins, Sr. spent most of his adult life relentlessly pursuing the greater good through political service. He was one of the co-founders of Freedom Incorporated, an African-American political organization that worked to increase their community's influence by generating votes for candidates they felt would best empower African-Americans. Bruce Watkins, Sr. was also one of the first two African-Americans elected in 1963 to serve on Kansas City's City Council. In 1979, he became the first African-American councilperson to run for mayor of Kansas City. Though he lost, his progressive views of African-American leadership and political influence endured. His legacy lives on in the form of Bruce Watkins Drive, a 10.2 mile long stretch of highway that connects the southern, suburban part of Kansas City to its northern, urban counterpart.

Throughout the years, the Watkins family has remained active in the Kansas City community. Working alongside the CODA Jazz Fund, the Watkins family provides financial assistance for dignified funeral services to jazz musicians who have passed. Individual members of the family are involved in organizations ranging from the Mutual Musicians Fund to the Boys and Girls Club.

The Watkins family has remained true to their philosophy and goal "to serve humanity, persons of all faiths, under all circumstances, with dignity, respect, and understanding, with attention to he needs and desires of each family."

Considering their tremendous contribution to Missouri's Fifth Congressional District and surrounding areas, it is an honor and a privilege to recognize the Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel and the Watkins family for their one hundred years of excellent service to the Kansas City area. Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating and expressing our gratitude

to this family and their incredible dedication to both their business and their community. The African-American community has long benefited from figures such as Theron Watkins, Bruce Watkins, Sr., and the many other members of the Watkins family. Due to their unyielding persistence, they helped change the reality of African-Americans' political power and influence. The Watkins family is one to revere and respect, and they truly are role models that the Missouri Fifth Congressional District is proud to call our own.

HONORING RICHARD E. MURRAY, FACHE, FOR HIS SERVICE AS THE PRESIDENT/CEO OF KENNEDY MEMORIAL HEALTH SYSTEM

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Richard E. Murray, FACHE. He has played an integral role in New Jersey's First District through his administration of multiple health care systems. Mr. Murray has demonstrated a history of compassion throughout the community and for this he deserves great praise.

Mr. Murray has served as the President/Chief Executive Officer of Kennedy Memorial Health System since 1980. Kennedy Memorial Health System consists of three acute-care hospitals, multiple outpatient clinics and various wellness programs.

Mr. Murray's leadership has led to many advances within the Kennedy Memorial Health System. Since 1998, Kennedy Memorial Hospital has opened a free-standing outpatient Dialysis Center, a Sleep Center, a 10-bed Ronald McDonald House Pediatric Unit, a Cancer Center and Outpatient Medical Imaging Center, an Emergency Department, a Center for Wound Healing, a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, a 40-bed Progressive Care Unit, a 12-bed Innovative Hospice Care Center, a Stroke Program, a Maternity Center, a PET/CT Center, a Family Health Services Center, a Maternal-Fetal Medicine Unit, a Surgical Unit, and an Intensive Care Unit.

Aside from the structural upgrades, Mr. Murray has overseen multiple projects that have improved the quality of care within the Kennedy Memorial Health System. These projects include the creation of an "Invensivist Program" to ensure the oversight of health care providers and patient safety, the purchase of the high-tech DaVinci Robot for use in minimally invasive surgical procedures, and the creation of programs for diabetes control and a smoke free environment at all facilities. Without the hard work and exceptional guidance provided by Mr. Murray, none of these things would have been possible.

Mr. Murray has received multiple awards commemorating his service to the South Jersey community. In 2005, he received the New Jersey Hospital Association's Distinguished Service Award, presented annually to an individual with more than 15 years of service in health care who "consistently demonstrates strength, integrity, professionalism and a relentless commitment to a hospital or health care system." In 2006, he was honored by