

House Fellows Program will impact thousands of high school teachers and their students and will energize thousands of students to become informed and active citizens.

As a former U.S. history teacher, I believe strongly in the importance of civic education. We must continue our efforts to get our youth involved in the political process in districts across the country. Educating teachers about the "People's House" is one of the best ways to do that. I congratulate the following educators who are participating in the 7th session of the House Fellows Program:

Ms. Rachel Snell (CAMP, MI-4); Mr. Ronald Hailey (MCDERMOTT, WA-7); Ms. Rosemary Quirk (NEAL, MA-2); Ms. Jennifer S. Venable (BARTON, TX-6); Ms. Cheryl Anderson and Mr. David Martin (LEWIS, GA-5); Ms. La-Shanda West (ROS-LEHTINEN, FL-18); Ms. Rhonda Rush and Ms. Jessica Newman (BACHUS, AL-6); Mr. Michael Feldman (CASTLE, DE-AL); Mr. Don Woods (HALL, TX-4); Mr. George Blackledge (TAYLOR, MS-4).

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to join me in thanking the Office of the Historian for sponsoring this program. Thanks to Dr. Robert Remini and Dr. Fred Beuttler for their outstanding leadership, and Dr. Thomas Rushford, Dr. Charles Flanagan, Mr. Dave Veenstra, Mr. Anthony Wallis and Mr. Benjamin Hayes for providing the crucial staff support. Thank you also to the Office of the Historian interns: Mr. Maurice Robinson, Mr. Parker Williams, Ms. Kaitlin Utz and Ms. Debbie Kobrin.

HONORING JOHN AND GINNY
MCELENEY

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend John and Ginny McEleney for their dedication to the City of Clinton and the State of Iowa, and for their leadership in the U.S. auto industry.

John and Ginny McEleney are third generation automobile dealers and their children are continuing this tradition. John became a dealer-operator when he was only 24 years old. Today, he is President of McEleney Autocenter Inc., in Clinton, Iowa, and McEleney Autoplex, Inc., in Iowa City, Iowa.

John is a past chairman of the Iowa Automobile Dealers Association and has served on multiple national dealer councils. In 2003, he was elected to the National Automobile Dealers Association (NADA) Board of Directors and he is currently chairman of the NADA. Over the past months the international auto industry has experienced unprecedented change. Throughout this period John McEleney has been a tireless and effective advocate for his colleagues and the thousands of Americans who work in auto dealerships. He has fought to protect jobs and chart a profitable course for the industry in the future.

The McEleney family and their businesses have made Clinton and communities across Iowa better places to live and work. Madam Speaker, I join the Iowa Automobile Dealers Association, the National Automobile Dealers Association, and the entire Clinton community in thanking John and Ginny McEleney for their generosity and leadership.

NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE
PROGRAM EXTENSION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 29, 2009

Ms. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1525, whose language has been incorporated into H.R. 3139.

Agriculture is the lifeblood of the economy in Kansas' 2nd District. Doniphan County, Kansas is home to some of the most fertile farm land in the United States.

The levees along the Missouri River in Doniphan County protect three vital communities, White Cloud, Elwood and Wathena, as well as thousands of acres of farmland.

The 1993 floods devastated these communities and the surrounding farmland. And they should serve as a reminder of the importance of sound floodplain management. H.R. 1525, which I cosponsored with my colleague Representative MATSUI from California, will allow communities, like the ones that I represent in Northeast Kansas, the flexibility to find sources to quickly and efficiently repair levee systems.

I thank my colleague for her leadership on this important legislation. And I encourage the House support its passage.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
CLARENCE "CAL" W. MARSELLA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I am submitting this statement to express congratulations and gratitude to Clarence "Cal" W. Marsella on the occasion of his retirement as General Manager of the Regional Transportation District (RTD).

Under Mr. Marsella's leadership, RTD built partnerships with local, state and federal officials to realize a vision of an innovative public transit system that meets the unique needs of our region.

During his tenure with RTD, Mr. Marsella oversaw the successful completion of three new light rail lines, including the T-REX light rail project that opened November 17, 2006. In 2004 metro area voters overwhelmingly approved the FasTracks transit expansion program for the eight-county metro area. This represents the largest transit-only voter approved program in the United States. With Mr. Marsella's determination, progress on the FasTracks program has moved ahead swiftly, and construction is currently underway on the West Corridor which runs from downtown Denver to Golden, Colorado.

Mr. Marsella began his transportation career in the highway engineering division of the State of Connecticut Department of Transportation in 1974. He now serves on the National Academy of Sciences Transportation Research Board and regularly lectures at the University of Denver and the University of Colorado masters degree programs in Transportation and Public Administration. He also speaks to numerous groups on the benefits

and nuances of public-private partnerships. He was selected by the American Public Transportation Association as the Outstanding Public Transportation Manager in 2006 and, under his leadership, RID was selected as the Outstanding Transportation Agency in North America in 2003 and 2008.

I congratulate and extend my sincere gratitude to Cal Marsella for his service to the Denver region. I wish him continued success and all good fortune in his work ahead.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAIR
HOUSING COMMEMORATION BILL
OF 2009

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 30, 2009

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce The Fair Housing Commemoration Act of 2009 to commemorate The Fair Housing Act (FHA), enacted in April 1968, the last of the three great civil rights acts of the 1960's, with a monument in the Nation's Capitol. The Fair Housing Commemorative Foundation is raising funds and is working with the National Capital Memorial Advisory Commission (NCMAC) to adhere to the requirements and process established by the Commemorative Works Act of 1986. This may be the first time that a sector of our economy has decided to raise a monument commemorating a statute that regulates some of its practices. The Foundation's precedent is commendable.

Fair housing and the movement to bring equal opportunity in the real estate markets are intertwined with our nation's history. The federal government has both been a part of the problem and an integral part of its solution. Every branch of the federal government has played a key role in our national progress towards fair housing. It is fitting that we commemorate not only the passage of the Fair Housing Act, but also the history of our nation's path towards equal opportunity in housing.

THE NATION'S BEGINNING

The Fifth Amendment to the Constitution establishes a right to own private property that the government cannot take without just compensation. Early immigrants sought a place where they could own and transfer real estate without the arbitrary interference of the government. That right was not universal. Slavery denied basic rights to a whole class of Americans based on race, and reduced some of our people to the subhuman status of property. Among the effects of slavery was the denial of the right to own and use real property.

POST CIVIL WAR

The Civil War and the constitutional amendments ending slavery were accompanied by laws that gave all citizens the same rights as white citizens to own and use real property. The Civil Rights Act of 1866 was our nation's first "fair housing" law. Subsequent years saw that law ignored and severely limited by court decisions, culminating with the philosophy of "separate but equal" in the Plessey v Ferguson case. In addition, Congress and some states passed laws that restricted access to private property ownership and use by Latinos and Asian Americans.

In the early 20th century, social scientists and leaders within the real estate community