

House Resolution 734 to express support for and honor September 17, 2009, as "Constitution Day."

IN RECOGNITION OF BASS PRO SHOPS FOUNDER JOHNNY L. MORRIS, FOR HIS LIFETIME CONSERVATION ACHIEVEMENT AWARD FROM THE TEDDY ROOSEVELT CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

### HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 2009*

Mr. BLUNT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who has become an icon to fishermen, an innovative retailer and perhaps the humblest guy you might ever meet. You may not immediately recognize the name Johnny Morris, but you probably know the company he started in 1972—Bass Pro Shops. Johnny is also a dedicated conservationist who supports a host of national wildlife and habitat conservation efforts.

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation, the Nature Conservancy, International Game Fish Association, Ducks Unlimited, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Quality Deer Management Association, Trout Unlimited, International Bowhunting Organization, The Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, USDA Forest Service, Quail Unlimited, Federation of Fly Fisherman, and Safari Club International are among the organizations that Bass Pro Shops publicly supports.

Johnny's ideal work is fishing. While fishing the Bassmaster professional circuit, he was always taking notes of what lures were catching fish, who made them and how to find them. Starting with hand-tied lures and bait made from sowbellies and sold in jars, Johnny started his business in his father's store. Within two years he needed more room for his growing enterprise.

In 1972 Bass Pro Shops—or Pro Bass as many of his regulars still call it—began issuing catalogs. Today those books are 700 pages of full color pictures of lures, worms, hooks, sinkers, reels, rods and everything an angler would ever need. There is a line of hunting equipment and clothing too.

Among Johnny's successful ideas was selling fishing boats in packages—boat, motor, trailer and trolling motor. It had never been tried before, but it's an industry standard now. That is just one of several reasons why he was named the National Retail Federation's Retail Innovator of the Year in 2008.

Johnny Morris' vision has expanded from that small space in his dad's store to 56 megastores in the United States and Canada, a 1.7-million-square-foot warehouse and headquarters in Springfield, Missouri, and jobs for 16,000 employees.

If you want to know the real success of Morris' Bass Pro Shops, visit one of their stores. Complete with aquariums full of game fish or rare turtles, a Bass Pro Shops store is a visit that will satisfy your interest in everything outdoors. Equipment for most any sportsman's experience is available along with advice from people who have used it. Bass Pro Shops receives nearly 100 million customers, sight-

seers and visitors a year. The Springfield store is Missouri's number one visitor attraction, welcoming more than 4 million people through its doors last year.

Johnny is a conservationist who enjoys the outdoors and preservation of America's scenic beauty found in its open spaces, wildlife and waters. Earlier this week, the Teddy Roosevelt Conservation Partnership honored Johnny Morris with its Lifetime Conservation Achievement Award for his dedication to conserving our national resources and ensuring the future of America's sporting traditions.

This is an honor Johnny Morris has earned through a lifetime of work as a retailer and sportsman. Foremost, I think Johnny would like to be thought of simply as a pretty good fisherman.

RECOGNIZING TIBOTEC THERAPEUTICS FOR CONDUCTING THE GRACE STUDY, A GROUND BREAKING HIV CLINICAL TRIAL FOCUSED ON WOMEN AND PEOPLE OF COLOR IN THE UNITED STATES

### HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 2009*

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Tibotec Therapeutics, part of the Johnson & Johnson family of companies, for demonstrating continued innovation and corporate responsibility in the fight against HIV/AIDS by conducting the groundbreaking GRACE study. GRACE, which stands for Gender Race And Clinical Experience, is the largest study to date in treatment-experienced women with HIV to examine gender and race differences in response to an HIV therapy. In recent HIV studies of treatment-experienced patients, women accounted for less than 11 percent of the patients being studied, on average. GRACE was able to enroll nearly 70 percent women and 84 percent people of color.

In my home State of Missouri, there are almost 12,000 people living with AIDS, and African Americans represent over a third of these cases. Women account for more than one quarter of all new HIV/AIDS diagnoses in the United States, with African American and Latina women representing 79 percent of women living with the disease. People of color have been historically underrepresented in clinical trials in the United States, and HIV/AIDS disproportionately impacts African Americans. In terms of new HIV infections, African American women are infected at a rate 15 times higher than white women.

The trial was designed to help overcome some of the barriers, identified by the advisors, which have historically deterred women and people of color from participating in clinical studies, including stigma, lack of child care, transportation and personal support systems. Based upon advisor and community input, study participants could obtain assistance to cover costs associated with their participation in the study, including funds for travel and childcare, as well as food vouchers. I am proud to say that one of the study sites in this historic clinical trial is located in my congressional district.

Results of the GRACE study showed that there were no statistical differences in the safety, tolerability or effectiveness of the HIV regimens used in the study between male and female participants, or for people of different ethnicities. Additionally, the GRACE study showed that with the appropriate commitment from the trial sponsor and input from affected communities and providers, clinical trials can enroll meaningful numbers of women and racial and ethnic minorities.

Madam Speaker, I commend Tibotec Therapeutics and Johnson & Johnson for their commitment to addressing the disproportionate impact of this epidemic on women and people of color.

U.S. POLICY TOWARDS BURMA

### HON. MARK E. SOUDER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 2009*

Mr. SOUDER. Madam Speaker, today the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on East Asian and Pacific Affairs held a hearing on U.S. policy towards Burma. I would like to contribute some remarks on this important topic. I represent the Third District of Indiana, which is home to the largest concentration of people from Burma in the U.S. In recent years, resettlement agencies have placed well over 2,000 refugees in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Fort Wayne has also become a "community of choice" amongst the refugee community, and secondary migrants have increased Fort Wayne's population of people from Burma to over 6,000. As a result, the Third District is acutely aware of the atrocities and suffering that the people from Burma have faced at the hands of the State Peace and Development Council (SPDC).

I am disappointed that this hearing, which is intended to evaluate the role the U.S. can play in facilitating democratic reform, did not invite testimony from a single representative of Burma's democracy movement or one individual who has endured the violence of the Tatmadaw. A thorough evaluation is impossible without their perspective.

Over the years, U.N. reports have documented some of the military regime's harrowing crimes, including widespread rape, conscription of child soldiers, torture, and the destruction of thousands of villages. It is clear that the SPDC has in part been conducting a war against its own citizens.

In spite of these realities, the Administration has recently engaged in direct dialogues with the Burmese regime and the Senate Committee's hearings today are in part seeking to reevaluate the role of sanctions in U.S. policy. I support the establishment of a peaceful and democratic Burma. However, it is improbable that this can be achieved through negotiations with the junta—a dictatorship will not act in good faith and broker a deal that will lead to its own demise.

Before such dramatic changes in policy can be made, it is necessary for the military dictatorship to demonstrate a clear movement towards democracy. This must include ending the current violence against its citizens, installing Daw Aung San Suu Kyi to her rightful place as Burma's democratically elected Prime Minister, and drafting a constitution that creates the possibility for true civilian leadership.