

SALUTING JANA FRY OF WILLIAMS HIGH SCHOOL OF PLANO

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I'd like to recognize Jana Fry for winning the Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award 2008–2009. She teaches at Williams High School in Plano, where she lives. Jana stands head and shoulders above her peers for her role as an outstanding humanities teacher making a difference in the lives of young Texans.

The Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Awards recognize 11 exemplary K–12 humanities teachers. Humanities Texas, formerly the Texas Council for the Humanities, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Humanities Texas conducts and supports public programs in history, literature, philosophy, and other humanities disciplines. These programs strengthen Texas communities and ultimately help sustain representative democracy by cultivating informed, educated citizens.

During her 20 years of teaching, Jana has won many accolades and awards for her service both in and out of the classroom. She has taught sixth through tenth grades with classes ranging from sheltered/at-risk to gifted and talented and anything in between. She summarizes her teaching philosophy as such: Students should always be participants in their learning process, engaged in that process, reflecting and evaluating of that process and emotionally attached to their learning. Teachers are the facilitators of learning who orchestrate varied learning experiences that attempt to meet each student where they are and then challenge them further.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jana for her selfless contributions to make Texas and America a better place by pouring into our young people. Please join me in congratulating Jana on a magnificent achievement and wishing her all the best with her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, due to illness, I was unable to be present in the Capitol for votes on Thursday, November 5, 2009. However, had I been present I would have voted “yea” on:

1. Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 2868—Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2009;

2. H. Res. 885—Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2868—Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2009;

3. H. Res. 868—Honoring and recognizing the service and achievements of current and former female members of the Armed Forces;

4. Senate Amendments to H.R. 3548—Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2009;

5. H. Con. Res. 139—Congratulating the first graduating class of the United States Air

Force Academy on their 50th graduation anniversary and recognizing their contributions to the Nation;

6. H.R. 1849—World War I Memorial and Centennial Act of 2009;

7. H.R. 3276—American Medical Isotopes Production Act of 2009;

8. H. Res. 878—Expressing support for the goals and ideals of National Family Literacy Day;

And I would have voted “aye” on H. Res. 880—Recognizing the efforts of career and technical colleges to educate and train workers for positions in high-demand industries.

HONORING THE MARIN WOMEN'S COMMISSION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the Marin Women's Commission for their tireless efforts to help Marin County's women and girls achieve parity. Congratulations to the Marin Women's Commission as it celebrates this milestone of more than three decades of service to Marin County.

Through its leadership, the Marin Women's Commission has raised awareness of the importance and prominence of issues facing women and girls in Marin County and beyond. As a result of their devoted efforts, the needs of women of all ages are being studied, heard, communicated and addressed.

The Marin Women's Commission was created in April 1974 in response to an investigation under the Kennedy Administration that revealed that a staggering number of laws, regulations and traditions actively discriminated against women. Notably, the Marin Women's Commission is the second County Commission established in the State of California in 1974.

In 2003–2004, the Marin Women's Commission established a strategic vision to address four target categories as they relate to women: equity, policy, leadership and access to resources.

The commission works with local government to develop more effective ways to address salary inequity concerns, supports CEDAW and other international violence against women legislation, facilitates annual “Women Leading Community Change” summits and develops needs assessments for women and girls. The 1983 Women's Needs Assessment helped establish the Family and Children's Law Center.

The 17 Marin Women's Commissioners represent all five Marin County Districts, and the Commission also boasts strong, strategic partnerships. Such partnerships, with Dominican University, the Marin Chapter of National Organization for Women, the YWCA, the American Association of University Women, and Marin General Hospital's Breast Cancer Center, laid the foundation for an abused women's shelter, which later became Marin Abused Women's Services, the creation of the Marin Women's Hall of Fame, and other programs.

In the years since its inception, more than 300 commissioners have been appointed. The enthusiasm and passion exhibited by these

experienced leaders is largely responsible for the Commissions' ability to leverage meaningful change.

Madam Speaker, over the course of 35 years, the Marin Women's Commission, through its strategic partnerships, dedicated advocacy and comprehensive research, has made indelible change. Congratulations on three decades of leadership toward enhancing the quality of life for all Marin County women and girls.

INTRODUCTION OF THE “HONEST OPPORTUNITY PROBATION WITH ENFORCEMENT (HOPE) INITIATIVE ACT OF 2009”

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the “Honest Opportunity Probation with Enforcement (HOPE) Initiative Act of 2009” with my colleague Representative TED POE of Texas. This bipartisan legislation would build upon an innovative and promising approach to reduce drug use and crime.

Offenders convicted of many drug, low-level property, and public-order offenses are rarely given straight jail time; in most jurisdictions they are placed on probation. Rather than consistently sanctioning probation violations—illegal drug use, missing probation appointments, treatment and drug tests—too often these actions are ignored. When punishment for repeated violations is finally meted out, it tends to come in the form of lengthy and costly terms of incarceration.

In 2004, Judge Steven Alm of Hawaii launched a pilot program to reduce probation violations by offenders at high risk of recidivism. This intensified supervision program, called Hawaii's Opportunity Probation with Enforcement, HOPE, uses the threat of short jail stays as an incentive for compliance. Defendants are clearly warned that if they violate the rules, they go to jail. Participants receive swift and immediate sanctions for each violation, such as testing dirty for drugs or missing appointments with a probation officer.

For example, under the Hawaii program, random drug testing occurs at least once a week for the first 2 months of supervision. If probationers test positive, they are arrested immediately. If they fail to appear for the test or violate other terms of probation, warrants for their arrest are issued immediately. Once arrested or apprehended, a probation modification hearing is held 2 days later, and violators typically receive a short jail term. Sanctions typically start at a few days of jail time, served on weekends for employed probationers, for the first violation and increased thereafter, eventually escalating to periods of months. Offenders who cannot comply are required to attend high-quality, out-patient or residential treatment. Those who can comply are rewarded with less frequent testing and monitoring.

Preliminary evaluations show that HOPE probationers have significantly improved outcomes compared with probationers assigned to probation-as-usual in terms of drug use, missed probation appointments, new arrests, and probation revocations. The HOPE program has been cited by figures across the political spectrum and has been featured in

scholarly articles as well as the Wall Street Journal, Forbes, the Los Angeles Times, and other periodicals.

The "Honest Opportunity Probation with Enforcement, HOPE, Initiative Act of 2009" would create a competitive grant demonstration program to award grants to state and local courts to establish probation programs to reduce drug use, crime, and recidivism by requiring swift, predictable, and graduated sanctions for noncompliance with the conditions of probation; \$25 million is authorized for up to 20 pilot sites. Stringent grantee requirements will ensure that the pilots are designed and evaluated in an appropriate manner. The key facets of each pilot program include the following:

Monitoring selected probationers for rules violations, particularly using regular and rapid-result drug tests.

Responding to violations of such rules with immediate arrest and swift and certain modification of the conditions of probation, including imposition of short jail stays, which may gradually become longer with each additional violation.

Partnering with an independent program advisor and evaluator and conduct a comparison of the outcomes between program participants and similarly-situated probationers not in the program, e.g. positive drug test rates, probation and substance abuse treatment appearance rates, probation term modifications, revocations, arrests, etc.

Calculating the amount of cost savings resulting from the reduced incarceration rates achieved through the program and determining how much can be reinvested for expansion of the program.

I urge my colleagues to support this innovative effort to address drug use and crime by cosponsoring this important legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF RONALD ALIANO

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the extraordinary life of Ronald Aliano of Norwich, Connecticut, who passed away on October 31, 2009.

Ron was an optimist who saw no barriers to achievement and believed that with hard work, anything was possible. He loved the city of Norwich, and pursued his vision to revitalize the city by insisting on quality development and improvements. When Ron became a Norwich resident in 1972, he founded Professional Ambulance Service of Norwich, Inc., now known as American Ambulance Service, Inc., which provided excellent patient care for the residents of eastern Connecticut.

Fourteen years later, Ron formed the American Wharf Development Corporation. This organization was responsible for the development of Hollyhock Island, a parcel of land at the head of the Thames River, which is now a world-class boating facility. In 1996, he formed the American Professional Education Services, which has become the largest American Heart Association training center in New England and a well-respected medical training center.

Ron could have chosen to live comfortably with the revenue he generated from those endeavors. Instead, he committed his life to charitable contributions and civic involvement. Ron served in various capacities on the Norwich Community Development Corporation, Norwich Harbor Management Commission, Integrated Day Charter School Foundation, State of CT Harbor Management Association, Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce, and Eastern CT Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Ron has been the recipient of numerous awards over the years including the 1988 Norwich Citizen of the Year, 1988 UCONN Alumni Distinguished Citizen, 2000 Connecticut Business Ethics Awards, and the 2001 Merit Award for Public Education Eastern Connecticut EMS Council. I am honored to pay tribute to Ronald Aliano, whose presence will always be felt in Norwich. His dedication to the community continues to be an inspiration to myself and the residents of eastern Connecticut. I offer my sympathy to his friends and family, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of Ronald Aliano.

ON THE OCCASION OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER PIA S. WOODLEY'S RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize LCDR Pia Sermonia Woodley for her 20 years of service as a Medical Services Corps Officer as she retires on December 4. She has had a long and admirable career, worthy of distinction and worthy of our gratitude.

In the 20 years that Lieutenant Commander Woodley served as a Medical Services Officer, she deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, has been awarded numerous awards and citations, and served as the Special Assistant to the Director of Administration at the Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth.

LCDR Pia Sermonia Woodley is a native Floridian born in Miami to Otis L. (deceased) and Beatrice S. Boston. A product of the inner city of Miami, she graduated from Miami Central Senior High School in 1984. She then attended Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida where she obtained her bachelors of science degree in Healthcare Management which in time led her to seek commissioning in the U.S. Navy. She earned her direct commission as a Medical Services Corps Officer in 1989.

She was first assigned to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. As a Division Officer in the Staff Education and Training Department, she worked as an Instructor, a job she thoroughly enjoyed. Her next tour of duty took her to the Far East at the Naval Hospital in Okinawa, Japan. There she performed duties as a Division Officer in Materiel Management and then in Manpower. Selected to attend graduate school, she earned a Masters of Science degree in Management from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. She applied her graduate level skills to the Chief, Imaging and

Medical Support Equipment Branch at the Department of Defense Medical Standardization Board in Frederick, Maryland. Following these tours she returned to Florida and served as the Head of the Materials Management Department at Naval Hospital Jacksonville in Jacksonville, Florida. Afterwards, she completed a third tour of duty in Maryland as the Program Manager of the Medical Support Directorate at the Naval Medical Logistics Command in Frederick, Maryland.

While serving as the Special Assistant to the Director of Administration, she earned a mid-tour assignment as the Logistics Officer for the Surgeon General of the Multi-National Forces-Iraq in Baghdad, Iraq. She culminated her last year of service as the Assistant Department Head of the Human Resources Management Department.

Her personal decorations include the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal with two gold stars, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Medal with Bronze Star, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Overseas Service Ribbon.

Lieutenant Commander Woodley is honored to be the wife of Anthony Ray Woodley and the mother of Xavier Alan Woodley. She is the sister of Otis Alan Boston and Brandy Othea Sermon Boston and childhood friend of Sara Bellamy. And we thank her family for the strength and support they have provided here as she has provided the same for this Nation.

SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING GREATER SUPPORT FOR VET- ERANS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 89, a resolution encouraging greater support for Veterans Day each year.

Today, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to the millions of veterans living throughout the United States. Since before the founding of this nation, our veterans have been on the front lines defending our safety and our liberty. Their commitment to duty, honor, integrity, and self-sacrifice has not gone unnoticed, and I commend them for a lifetime of exemplary leadership on and off the battlefield.

Veterans' organizations are one great example of the commitment to service all of our men and women in uniform possess. These organizations help create volunteer opportunities for our nation's troops when they retire from the armed services. Some of these include donating millions of man hours to the medical facilities of the Veterans Administration, sponsoring Boy Scouts of America troops all around the country, and awarding millions of dollars for college scholarships. These incredible volunteers give back to the very communities that they have already sacrificed so much for throughout their careers.

Mr. Speaker, the veterans who have passed away before this Veterans Day must also be