

HONORING THE LIFE
ACHIEVEMENT OF JO JOHNSON

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Jo Johnson, the Executive Director of the Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging in Fresno, California as she prepares to retire after 18 years of dedicated service to seniors and the community of Fresno.

Jo Johnson is a Valley native, born in Fresno, California. She is a graduate of the Class of 1968 from Roosevelt High School and received her Bachelor's Degree from California State University, Fresno in 1972. Jo is married to Mr. John J. Johnson, Jr.

Jo has spent the majority of her career working as a selfless public servant. In 1973, she was hired by the Fresno County Probation Department as a Research Analyst. Then, in 1974, she moved to the State of Oregon to work as a Social Worker in the Children's Services Division. Jo returned to the Central Valley in 1975 and worked as a Probation Officer for the Tulare County Probation Department in Tulare, California until 1984. After spending time in the public sector, Jo worked as a paralegal in her husband's office in Big Bear Lake, California. In 1991, Jo was hired by the Fresno-Madera Area Agency on Aging (FMAAA).

Serving as Executive Director, Jo has helped direct the Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging to numerous accomplishments. When she was first hired in 1991, Jo created the Valley Coalition of Area Agencies on Aging which brought together the various county agencies to plan and direct legislation which would benefit the elderly. At the National level, Jo has participated in the 1994 Health Care University conference in Washington, D.C. sponsored by the Administration on Aging. Jo also received a Congressional appointment to the California delegation for the 1995 White House Conference on Aging. At the State level, she was appointed by the California Department on Aging to numerous committees helping to create nutrition policy and shape administrative structure.

Under Jo's guidance, the Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging became the first California area agency to own real estate. The Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging is the only statewide Agency to develop a campus of collocated services that facilitates immediate responses to consumer needs. Jo helped create a system that supports a team that investigates elder abuse and was the first to be recognized by the California Attorney General. The Fresno-Madera Agency on Aging has taken their original investment of \$1.5 million in community development block grants provided by the City of Fresno and helped create \$25 million worth of real property on an 8 acre campus. Furthermore, over 17 years ago, Jo was instrumental in the creation of the FMAAA's annual event "Seniors Serving Seniors". This event honoring seniors and those who help seniors is held in May of each year and is overwhelmingly successful because of Jo's love for seniors.

The leadership that Jo has shown for the senior community of Fresno has been steadfast during her time of service. Jo serves as

an outstanding example for those who truly want to make a positive difference. I am honored to not only call Jo a friend but also a champion for seniors. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise with me today to express our appreciation for Jo Johnson's dedicated service to seniors and her community.

HONORING DR. TERRI JULIAN, DIRECTOR FOR THE JACK H. WISBY JR. POST TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER TREATMENT CENTER

HON. ERIC J.J. MASSA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. MASSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Terri Julian, Director for the Jack H. Wisby Jr. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Clinic and newly instituted Women's Residential Program, at the Batavia Campus of the Veterans Administration Western New York Health System VAWNYHS. Dr. Julian is the past recipient of the Federal Woman of the Year Award, 2006, and it is my privilege to recognize her significant contributions to the VA system, made on behalf of our veterans.

Dr. Julian was the major force behind the development of the Women's Residential Program at the Batavia campus of VAWNYHS. This is one of two programs nationwide in the Veterans Health Administration, VHA, that provides female veterans treatment for military sexual and/or combat trauma. The all-female staff includes a psychologist, social worker and social service assistants who collectively work to improve the care provided to afflicted female veterans. Dr. Julian's dedicated efforts to the program enable its practitioners to provide high-quality care to our nation's female veterans, who, it is recognized by the VHA, have a recovery process that is unique from their male counterparts.

In addition to the Women's Residential Program, Dr. Julian has improved the organizational capacity of the Jack H. Wisby Jr. Post Traumatic Stress Disorder Clinic used by the entire Batavia campus of the VAWNYHS so it now provides the highest quality care for stress-related injuries to all veterans, regardless of gender.

One need only look to Dr. Julian's numerous accolades to understand her commitment and passion for comprehensive care to veterans. As a leader in her field, she is often requested by her peers to lead workshop and training programs, author professional articles and give expert advice on PTSD program development and implementation.

Our servicemen and women sacrifice immensely for our great nation and I am honored that they are recipients of the quality care provided by Dr. Julian and those like her in the VHA. On behalf of the United States Congress, it is my privilege to publically and permanently laud Dr. Terri Julian's dedicated efforts to our veterans.

WALL STREET REFORM AND CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4173) to provide for financial regulatory reform, to protect consumers and investors, to enhance Federal understanding of insurance issues, to regulate the over-the-counter derivatives markets, and for other purposes:

Mr. STARK. Madam Chair, I rise to support the Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act because it is time that the Wild West of financial "innovation" had a sheriff.

Just over a year ago, I stood on this floor and twice voted against President Bush's taxpayer-funded bailout of Wall Street. I would cast the same votes again. I hope that this legislation will mean that taxpayers will never again be on the hook for the reckless behavior of financiers.

This legislation will help to end "too big to fail" by providing dissolution authority to regulators. Instead of being bailed out with tax dollars, a company like AIG would be dismantled in an orderly and fair process. Shareholders would be wiped out and executives dismissed. This would be paid for, not with tax dollars, but by an assessment on financial firms. The ideal solution would be the reinstatement of the Glass-Steagall Act, preventing the merger of commercial and investment banks. However, I am glad that this bill at least enables swift intervention and provides a financing mechanism so that bailouts will be a thing of the past.

In addition to being forced to pay for the excesses of Wall Street, consumers have been preyed upon by financial services companies. These companies have profited from unfair and abusive lending practices, including steering families into subprime mortgages. Regulation has been lax or non-existent and there is no single entity charged with looking out for consumers. With the formation of a Consumer Financial Protection Agency an agency will, for the first time, be charged with ensuring that families are not exposed to toxic financial offerings.

Finally, I wholeheartedly support the so-called "cram down" amendment, to allow courts to reset the principal for home mortgages in bankruptcy proceedings. This judicial discretion is allowed for every other type of debt—a reminder of the double standard that has too frequently separated average families from Wall Street.

I urge all of my colleagues to put consumer interests over those of the Big Banks. Let's finally start policing Wall Street. Vote "yes."

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF
LT. FRANK HENTSCHELL

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2009

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Lt. Frank Hentschell of Munising,