

who give their time and their services deserve special recognition for all they do to ensure any member of our community can receive proper dental care.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Dr. Dan Henry as a Northwest Florida leader and international inspiration. My wife Vicki and I wish Dan, his wife Melinda, and his children Matthew and Kelly, all the best for continued success.

CELEBRATING THE 49TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SENATOR HARRIS WOFFORD

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, March 1 to 7 is Peace Corps Week, a time to officially celebrate one of the greatest ideas and most beloved international initiatives in our nation's history—49 years of hands-on good will by nearly 200,000 volunteers dispatched to 139 countries.

It is also an opportunity to pay tribute to my fellow Philadelphian Harris Wofford, the Father of National Service, who developed, nurtured and led the Peace Corps as it grew to reality from then-Senator John F. Kennedy's challenge to college students to serve in the cause of peace.

Harris Wofford has devoted his life and his creative energies to the civil society, civil rights and service to humanity. In addition to his seminal work in founding the Peace Corps, he served as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service—our domestic Peace Corps—which followed an all-too-brief and highly principled four years as United States Senator. He has continued his bipartisan advocacy for responsible and caring citizenship on behalf of America's Promise, Youth Service America, the Points of Light Foundation, and Experience Wave.

The 49th anniversary of the founding of the Peace Corps by President Kennedy on March 1, 1961, is a great cause for celebration. But it's also a time to recognize that the reason we are celebrating is that, for the past 49 years, every week has been Peace Corps Week—over 2,500 Peace Corps Weeks.

Today, more than 7,600 volunteers in 76 nations are carrying out the vision of President Kennedy, Senator Wofford and so many other great and little known Americans who have made the Peace Corps synonymous with American service and sharing, American teaching and know-how, American compassion and peace work. I congratulate all these fine young—and not so young—men and women for their selfless efforts.

The Peace Corps has been the experience building and jumping off point for many prominent Philadelphians—including one notable alumnus from my hometown, "Hardball's" Chris Matthews. Today, I want to commend a dazzling dozen current Peace Corps volunteers who have traveled from their homes in the Second Congressional District of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia and Montgomery County, for two years of service abroad.

They are Kaye Bullemeier, Darline Dameus and Noel C. Kuck, now in Malawi; Lauren J.

McIlhenny and Benjamin J. Stollenberg, in Albania; Emily F. Haimowitz and Daniel R. Merin, Costa Rica; Cara A. George, Guatemala; Imani D. Hully, Mozambique; Nancy Morisseau, Turkmenistan; Joo Weon J. Park, China; and Danielle Porreca, Jamaica.

I salute these men and women and join with all Americans in extending thanks to entire Peace Corps family, past, present and future. You do us proud.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent on the afternoon of Thursday, February 25, 2010, and all day on Friday, February 26, 2010 due to a death in my family. Had I been present I would have voted accordingly: Rollcall No. 67, Concurring in Senate Amendments to H.R. 3961—I would have voted "aye." Rollcall No. 68, H. Con. Res. 227, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Urban Crimes Awareness Week—I would have voted "aye." Rollcall No. 69, H. Amdt. 573 (REYES of Texas) to H.R. 2701—I would have voted "no." Rollcall No. 70, H. Amdt. 575 (HASTINGS of Florida) to H.R. 2701—I would have voted "aye." Rollcall No. 71, H. Amdt. 584 (SCHAUER of Michigan) to H.R. 2701—I would have voted "aye." Rollcall No. 72, Motion to Recommit with Instructions, H.R. 2701—I would have voted "aye." Rollcall No. 73, H.R. 2701, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010—I would have voted "no." Rollcall No. 74, H. Con. Res. 238, Recognizing the difficult challenges Black veterans faced when returning home after serving in the Armed Forces, their heroic military sacrifices, and their patriotism in fighting for equal rights and for the dignity of a people and a Nation—I would have voted "aye."

NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2009

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide additional remarks on H.R. 2314, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2009, a bill the House passed with a clear majority vote of 245–164 on February 23, 2010.

At the end of the 18th century, King Kamehameha I united the separate island chiefdoms under one Hawaiian monarchy, which was recognized by the United States. This unified Native Hawaiian self-rule continued through most of the 19th century, with Native Hawaiians "constitut[ing] the overwhelming majority of the political community that participated in decisionmaking in the Kingdom," (Jon M. Van Dyke, *Population, Voting, and Citizenship in the Kingdom of Hawai'i*, 28 U. Haw. L. Rev. 81, 81 (2005)), and came to an end only when, in 1893, commercial interests overthrew the Hawaiian monarchy with the support of the U.S. government.

Even after the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy, Native Hawaiians have continued to maintain their separate identity as a single distinctly political community through cultural, social, and political institutions, and through efforts to develop programs to provide governmental services to native Hawaiians. For example, the Hawaiian Protective Association—a political organization with by-laws and a constitution that sought to maintain unity among Native Hawaiians, protect Native Hawaiian interests (including by lobbying the legislature), and promote the education, health, and economic development of Native Hawaiians—was "organized [in 1914] . . . for the sole purpose of protecting the Hawaiian people and of conserving and promoting the best things of their tradition" (Hearing on H.R. 13500 Before the Committee on Territories, 66th Cong., 3d Sess. 44 (Dec. 14, 1920) (Rev. Akaiko Akana)).

To this end, the Association established twelve standing committees, published a newspaper, and also developed the framework that became the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA) in 1921. In 1918, Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole, a U.S. delegate to Congress, founded the Hawaiian Civic Clubs, the goal of which was to perpetuate the language, history, traditions, music, dances and other cultural traditions of Hawaii. The clubs' first project was to secure enactment of HHCA and the clubs remain in existence today.

Efforts to maintain a distinct political community have continued into the present day. Examples include the 1988 Native Hawaiian Sovereignty Conference; the Kau Inoa organization, which registers Native Hawaiians for a movement toward a Native Hawaiian governing entity; the efforts to protect the North Western Hawaiian Islands because of their cultural and traditional significance; the creation in the Hawaii State Constitution of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, which serves as an entity to protect Native Hawaiian interests; and the development of traditional justice programs, including a traditional method of alternative dispute resolution, "ho'oponopono," which has been endorsed by the Native Hawaiian Bar Association.

Moreover, as the findings of H.R. 2314 explain, the Native Hawaiian people have actively maintained native traditions and customary usages throughout the Native Hawaiian community and the Federal and State courts have continuously recognized the right of the Native Hawaiian people to engage in certain customary practices and usages on public lands.

For example, traditional Native Hawaiian fishing and water rights are protected by state law (Haw. Rev. Stat. §174C–101(c) & (d) (2008) (stating that certain traditional and customary water rights "shall not be abridged or denied," or "diminished or extinguished," by provision of the State Water Code)); id. §187A–23 (1985) (providing for recognition of certain "vested fishing rights" linked to "ancient regulations").

Hawaii courts have also recognized and upheld traditional gathering and access rights, (See, e.g., *Public Access Shoreline Hawaii v. Hawaii County Planning Comm'n*, 903 P.2d 1246 (Haw. 1995); *State v. Hanapi*, 970 P.2d 485 (Haw. 1998); *Kalipi v. Hawaiian Trust Co.*, 656 P.2d 745 (Haw. 1982)). Further, Native Hawaiian traditional practices are often permitted on federal parks land (See, e.g., 16