HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS AND HYPOXIA RESEARCH AND CONTROL AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, keeping our oceans productive and healthy is of vital interest to coastal and inland communities across the world. As a Member who represents one of the biologically richest coastal Congressional Districts in the county, I rise today in support of H.R. 3650, the Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research and Control Amendments Act, which will take necessary steps toward maintaining the oceans' ecological health.

Harmful algal bloom (HAB) produces toxins harmful to shellfish, fish, and biomass, which affect other organisms along the food chain and pose real dangers to the vitality of all coastal areas. HAB can also decrease the sunlight entering the water and use up available oxygen, creating hypoxia or oxygen depletion. In extremely low oxygen environments, sedentary species perish, mobile species migrate, and spawning areas are jeopardized. If these conditions continue, the hypoxia may become permanent as coastal areas become lined with dead zones in which little marine life can exist.

Although algal blooms occur naturally, they are exacerbated by human activities, including the runoff from lawns and livestock feedlots, point-source discharge from sewage plants, and emissions from vehicles. All of these activities lead to elevated levels of nutrients and an increase of algal growth. HAB and hypoxia are growing more severe and more prevalent in our oceans.

The Marin and Sonoma coastline in my District is one of the most biologically productive regions in the world. This coastline includes one of only four coastal upwelling zones on the planet, which make up only 1 percent of the ocean but produce 20 percent of its fish. Unfortunately, even this biological hot spot has been impacted by algal blooms. As recently as last October, northward currents carried a large HAB from Point Reyes up the coast to Bodega Bay, harming marine life and irritating swimmers and divers. Increasing our understanding of these events and undertaking new efforts to monitor, control, prevent, and mitigate them must be a priority.

H.R. 3650 would establish a National Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Program to develop and coordinate a comprehensive strategy to address HABs and hypoxia.

Additionally this legislation will implement regional action plans to reduce HABs and hypoxia.

Madam Speaker, as a cosponsor of H.R. 3650, I commend my colleagues on the Science and Technology Committee for their hard work on this issue, and I look forward to this legislation becoming law. The increasing type, frequency, location, duration, and severity of these dangerous events demonstrate how urgently we need to implement solutions to these problems.

RECOGNIZING THE 189TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, As a lead sponsor of this resolution, I am proud to stand with my colleagues to commemorate the 189th anniversary of Greek independence. We gather here today not only in recognition of Greece's proud history, and in appreciation of the warm friendship our two countries share, but also to thank the Greek people for standing by our side in good times and bad, in peace and in war.

The U.S. connection to Greece reaches back to the days before the United States was even a country. It is well known that the Founding Fathers were well versed in Greek political philosophy and drew on that knowledge in their efforts to lay the political foundation of this Nation. Thomas Jefferson once said of Greece that it was "the first of civilized nations, (and) presented examples of what man should be." Indeed, many of the political ideas attributed to the United States today, such as freedom of speech and the respect for democratic governance can trace their origins back to ancient Greece.

On this 189th anniversary of Greek independence, let us all reflect on what we as Americans owe to Greece for our historical ties, for the role ancient Greece played in the shaping of our democracy and for the enduring friendship between the peoples of the United States and Greece.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CLARENCE FAULK

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Mr. Clarence E. Faulk, Jr., who passed away at his residence on March 5, 2010.

Mr. Faulk was born on January 9, 1909 in West Monroe, La., and recently celebrated the occasion of his 100th birthday.

In 2003, Mr. Faulk lost his beloved wife of 72 years, Louise Benson Page. The couple is survived by their two sons and daughter, as well as their 10 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Having been raised by a family with deep roots in publishing, Mr. Faulk was well suited for a career path loaded with journalism and broadcasting endeavors. Mr. Faulk was the publisher of the Ruston Daily Leader from 1931 to 1962, the owner of radio station KRUS, the first radio station in Ruston, La. from 1947 to 1968. In addition, he served many years as the president of the Louisiana Press Association and the Louisiana Broadcasters Association.

Outside of this field, Mr. Faulk owned numerous rent homes and commercial buildings in Ruston, and even received the Russ Award from the Ruston-Lincoln Parish Chamber of Commerce for his efforts in support of his treasured Ruston community.

Mr. Faulk was a friend to many, and deemed a gracious and hardworking person by all who knew him. It is my privilege to honor Mr. Faulk as a man emblematic of the true spirit of North Louisiana. He will surely be remembered by all as a loving husband and father, a successful businessman and an important part of the Ruston community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the late Clarence Faulk.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010 RIMPACT DAY HELD BY THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHAIN DRUG STORES

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 2010 RIMPACT Day held by the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS).

Founded in 1933, NACDS has worked tirelessly to promote the positive community impact of the chain drug industry. Throughout its history, NACDS and its 150 chains and 39,000 individual pharmacy members have worked to adapt to the changing needs of consumers. RIMPACT Day allows community pharmacies to share the numerous benefits of their industry.

I am delighted to recognize the chain drug stores nationwide that have a significant presence in my district. Not only do they provide thousands of quality jobs, but these pharmacies also provide a vital service as part of the healthcare delivery system of my district.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing The 2010 RIMPACT Day, the National Association of Chain Drug Stores, and the work these tireless professionals are doing to provide high quality health services to the public.

HONORING THE PLUMBERS AND PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 230

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, for more than 120 years the United Association—the union of plumbers, pipefitters, welders and HVAC technicians—has built the infrastructure of cities and towns across the United States.

In the 1930s the UA helped pull the country out of the Great Depression as members built dams, roads, libraries, schools, public buildings and housing projects as part of President Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal.

During World War II, thousands of UA members answered our nation's call and volunteered for the armed forces. Once completing their duty, members returned home and continued to build across the country.

In San Diego, UA Local 230 members have had a hand in building iconic structures such as Petco Park, Sharp Memorial Hospital, Palomar Medical Center and the new Hilton Bayfront.

In addition to being a part of building the San Diego of today, Local 230 has helped to