

gang violence. They have done this with the support of Chief of Police Richard Zavinsky and D.A.R.E. Officer Douglas Arendacs.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education, or D.A.R.E., began as a small program in Los Angeles in 1983. Today, it is implemented in more than 75 percent of our Nation's school districts and in more than 43 other nations. This program allows children to defeat negative cultural influences by opening the lines of communication between law enforcement and youth, empowering students with confidence and courage to say no to drugs.

I am proud of the young men and women who participated in this program in Rochelle Park, and I would like to recognize them all for taking this step toward positive citizenship:

Jenna Alessi, Amna Bajwa, John Califano, Selena Cangialosi, Brittney Cappobianco, Britney Fischbach, John Gerber, Kevin Grieco, Karim Jassim, George Latko, Camron Mickens, Michael Palamara, Nire Rollins, Anthony Sorrentino, Gianni Veloz, Vraj Vyas, Lauren Abrams, Joshua Afocx, Yuna Chung, Jennifer Cichino, Lewyn Concepcion, Drew Every, Suraj Ghumwala, Matthew Kowalski, Alexandra Lehmbeck, Krishalei Locquiao, Samantha McElroy, Joseph Neu, Serena Nguyen, Kyle Ray, Ryan Lewis-Riley, Thadeja Richetts, Bruce Amundson, Kaitlyn Boylan, Heather Buse, Yusef Froogh, Cierra Gamble, T'Shawn Jennings, Owen Lapira, Lindsay Pacheco, Alyssa Poidomani, Steven Riley, Matthew Santana, Jesse Marie Sanzari, Christine Sawruk, Prince Seabrooks, Maicel Shenouda, Jason van der Wilt, Raymond Vasquez.

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SUPPORTING THE PEOPLE OF  
PUERTO RICO AND THE U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS

**HON. DAN BURTON**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 25, 2010*

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise tonight to encourage my colleagues to support H.R. 2122, a bill introduced by our colleague Delegate PIERLUISI to ensure that the cover-over tax levied on the rum exports from Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands are used for their original intended purpose; namely to promote the general welfare of the territories' citizens in addition to promoting overall economic development. Currently, the funds are being used, in my opinion, to unfairly support blatant corporate welfare for a foreign-owned company. We do not need to be sending our tax dollars to foreign corporations when we have record unemployment in this country.

Rum that is produced in either Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands, and that is sold in the continental United States, is subject to the same Federal tax as rum produced in the States—roughly \$13.50 for each proof-gallon. However, in the case of the territories, the majority of the revenue is returned by the Federal government to the respective territory, and then the remainder is retained by the Federal government. This so-called "cover-over" tax provision—which has enjoyed strong bipartisan support for many years—allows the territories to pay for important local programs.

Unfortunately, this provision is now being abused to award a sweetheart deal to the Brit-

ish alcohol distiller and importer Diageo. Under the terms of this sweetheart deal, London-based Diageo will receive 46 percent of the U.S. Virgin Islands' cover-over to pay for a new distillery. Madam Speaker, Diageo is worth roughly \$35 billion according to the latest figures. To give Diageo 46 percent of the funds intended for the general welfare of the people of the Virgin Islands, in my opinion, violates the spirit if not the letter of the law. If this type of manipulation is allowed, many experts believe, a race to the bottom will result, with the territories attempting to poach businesses from each other with larger and larger sweetheart deals paid for by the cover-over funds.

For example, Puerto Rico currently receives about \$400 million in carry-over funds per year. From that pool of money, Puerto Rico pays about six percent to the company, Rums of Puerto Rico, and Puerto Rican law states that no more than 10 percent of the funds it receives from the rum cover-over program can be used to subsidize rum producers on the island. This is a reasonable approach. It ensures that Puerto Rico can attract businesses to the island while still having the resources to carry out public works projects.

H.R. 2122 carries forward this common-sense approach. Under the terms of the bill, either Puerto Rico or the U.S. Virgin Islands may use its cover-over funds to provide unfair subsidies to rum producers. Further, if it is determined by the Secretary of the Treasury that a territory has unfairly subsidized a rum producer, the Secretary can transfer some of the cover-over funds intended for that territory that provided the unfair subsidy to the territory that has been disadvantaged. The legislation defines "unfair" or "per se unreasonable" if the subsidy exceeds ten percent of the covered-over amount returned to the territory's treasury.

Madam Speaker, let us remember the original intent of the cover-over funds, which was to help the territories fund important civil programs for the benefit of the people of Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. The purpose was most certainly not to provide corporate welfare to large foreign-owned conglomerates. H.R. 2122 will ensure that the original purpose of the cover-over tax—to advance the general welfare of the citizens—is being carried out. I urge my colleagues to support this common-sense bill.

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50TH ANNIVERSARY OF CITY OF  
DAYTONA BEACH SHORES

**HON. SUZANNE M. KOSMAS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 25, 2010*

Ms. KOSMAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the City of Daytona Beach Shores on its 50th Anniversary. Since its founding on April 22, 1960, the City of Daytona Beach Shores has been a resort and retirement community located on the barrier island bordered on the east side by the Atlantic Ocean and on the west side by the Intercoastal Waterway (Halifax River).

The City of Daytona Beach Shores has a storied history, featuring a pristine beach where famed race car drivers once vied to set world speed records. The Legends Walk of

Fame tribute features bricks dedicated to these famous drivers and the Otto Schultze Memorial is a tribute to the late City Councilman that includes the seven flags used in automobile racing. The City is also home to The Court of Flags, a rotating display of 12 flags representing the national originals of its residents and highlighting the cultural diversity that unifies our nation.

The citizens of Daytona Beach Shores also have a strong history of responsible governance and stewardship as evidenced most recently by the approval of a local tax to fund underground placement of all utility lines, thus mitigating damages from dangerous tropical storms.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary, the City will place items in a time capsule to be opened at the 75th anniversary of the City in 2035.

Living up to the City's motto of "a better life," the residents of Daytona Beach Shores truly have enjoyed "50 years of a better life" since its founding on April 22, 1960.

On April 22, 2010, the 50th Anniversary of the City of Daytona Beach Shores, I encourage all residents to recognize and show their appreciation for the many memories and contributions of the community over the years.

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HONORING THE WORK OF BARRY  
LUBOVISKI

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 25, 2010*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, I wanted to take this opportunity to honor the great work of Barry Luboviski. After serving for fifteen years as Secretary-Treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Alameda Council, Barry is stepping down for some much deserved rest and relaxation.

Barry's commitment to the working men and women of this country began when he joined the Iron Workers Union, Local 378 as an Apprentice in 1965. He became an active participant in union activities, and in 1981, he started teaching evening classes for the Iron Workers Apprenticeship Program.

In 1979, Barry was elected as a Delegate to the Building and Construction Trades Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO, and he was later appointed to Chair the Political Action Committee of the Building Trades Council. There, he helped organize voter registration drives and membership education.

Soon he was elected to serve as an Executive Boardmember of the Iron Workers Union, Local 378 and continued to help lead his local union until being hired in 1991 by the California State Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO as an Organizer. After four years of effective service, he was elected in 1995 to the position of Secretary-Treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Council of Alameda County, AFL-CIO.

It has been an honor to work with Barry these many decades, strengthening worker protections and forging a more just and equitable California. Let the record show that the working people of California are better off because of Barry's leadership.