

Poland. In 1980, President Kaczynski and his twin brother, Jaroslaw Kaczynski, who would later become the Prime Minister of Poland, were active participants in a workers' strike at Gdańsk Shipyard. The strike, led by Solidarity leader and future Polish President Lech Walesa, was supported around the world; it sparked the beginning of the Solidarity movement in Poland and marked the beginning of the end of communist rule in Central and Eastern Europe.

Following the workers' strike in Gdańsk, the Kaczynski brothers emerged as leaders in the Solidarity movement and built a strong national following. In 2002, President Kaczynski was elected Mayor of Warsaw by a large margin. In March of 2005, President Kaczynski declared his candidacy for president and won election in December of that year. As President, he worked to end government corruption, strengthen foreign partnerships, and empower the citizens of Poland.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honor and remembrance of Lech Kaczynski, President of the Republic of Poland, his wife, Maria Kaczynski, and all those who perished with them. I offer my deep condolences to their daughter, Marta, their granddaughter, to President Kaczynski's brother, and to the people of Poland. My district in Northeast Ohio is home to several generations of Polish immigrants, and we maintain strong ties to the country of Poland. Those who lost their lives in tragedy on April 10, 2010 shall be remembered in the greater Cleveland area and around the world.

RECOGNIZING THE KENO MICRO-FUND

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Keno Micro-Fund for its role in promoting financial literacy.

IN the State of Georgia 69,980 businesses and non-businesses filed bankruptcy from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. This makes Georgia's bankruptcy rate one of the highest in the country.

The number of 18- to 24-year-olds declaring bankruptcy continues to grow at an alarming rate.

The average debt level for 2008 graduates from Georgia colleges was over \$17,000.

As the Nation recovers from one of the most devastating financial downturns in more than half a century, it is critical that we make a determined effort to promote financial literacy among America's youth. To that end, I offer my formal acknowledgement and deepest appreciation for organizations in the State of Georgia like the Keno Micro-Fund, which are dedicated to fostering a deeper understanding of financial principles and money management among young people.

HONORING THE GAY AND LESBIAN ACTIVISTS ALLIANCE OF WASHINGTON, DC (GLAA) ON ITS 39TH ANNIVERSARY, AND THE RECIPIENTS OF THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring America's oldest, continuously operational gay and lesbian rights organization: the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance of Washington, DC, GLAA, on its 39th anniversary, and the recipients of the Distinguished Service Award.

Since its founding in April 1971, GLAA has long been at the forefront of efforts to strengthen enforcement of the landmark D.C. Human Rights Act of 1977, and at the forefront of advocating for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered, GLBT, community. GLAA played a key role in winning marriage equality in the District, working with coalition partners, DC officials and the wider public to craft and implement a strategy for achieving a strong, sustainable victory.

GLAA has fought to ensure that, GLBT, citizens are treated fairly and respectfully by DC agencies from the Metropolitan Police and Fire/Emergency Medical Services Departments to the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, as well as the DC Public Schools. GLAA has also participated in lobbying efforts against arbitrary federal restrictions on the District's budget aimed at lesbians and gay men.

On April 20, GLAA will hold its 39th anniversary Reception honoring this year's recipients of its Distinguished Service Awards: Joan E. Biren, Sean Bugg, Lou Chibbaro Jr., David Mariner, Michael Crawford, Rev. Monique Ellison, Brian K. Flowers, Mark Levine, Nick McCoy, Brian Moore, Sultan Shakir, and the DC Clergy United for Marriage Equality. The recipients contributed toward GLAA's effervescent fight to receive equality for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community in the District of Columbia.

GLAA's 39 year fight to secure inalienable American rights for the GLBT residents of Washington, DC is similar to the long struggle for full voting representation in Congress for U.S. citizens, living in our Nation's capital, who have served honorably in every American war, including the current conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq, and are taxed without representation.

GLAA's open and forthright advocacy supports GLBT soldiers, who have sworn to protect our country with their lives and must serve in silence, without the open support of their families and communities.

I ask this House to join me in congratulating the Gay and Lesbian Activists Alliance on its 39th Anniversary, and the recipients of the Distinguished Service Award for their commitment to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community in Washington, DC.

TRIBUTE TO CARL D. BOCCHICCHIO

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Carl D. Bocchicchio, who is being recognized on the occasion of his retirement from an accomplished 34-year law enforcement career. It is only fitting that he be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, because he is the embodiment of the patriotism that makes our nation so great.

Carl was born in Brooklyn, NY, and was active in the NYPD Police Athletic League. In 1972, while attending Midwood High School, he began his journey in law enforcement as an NYPD Auxiliary Police Officer in the 63rd Precinct. While in college, he became a seasonal U.S. park ranger at the Gateway National Recreation Area. Later he served as a park ranger at the Blue Ridge Parkway in North Carolina and subsequently as a supervisory law enforcement park ranger at the Boston National Historical Park.

Along Carl's law enforcement journey he joined the U.S. Customs Service as a customs inspector on the Canadian border along New York State. Carl was later assigned as a customs patrol officer to the Office of Investigations, Special Agent in Charge office located in Newark, NJ. In 1984 he was selected and promoted as a customs special agent assigned to the Resident Agent in Charge, Fort Myers, FL, then became a customs agent in Miami, FL. During his tenure in Miami, he was assigned to open a U.S. Customs Service, Office of Internal Affairs, Resident Agent in Charge (RAC) office in Northern Virginia. The office was opened as a RAC Field Office servicing Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, DC. In 1989 he was selected to establish a U.S. Customs Service, Office of Internal Affairs (IA), Training Division at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), Brunswick, GA. From Miami he would regularly travel to FLETC to develop curriculum and instruct and deploy Police Ethics and Integrity Training programs to all U.S. customs special agents and customs personnel stationed worldwide.

Always seeking to learn and grow, Carl attended St. John's University and College of Staten Island earning a BS in Administration of Criminal Justice. Carl served as a captain with the Georgia Department of Defense, National Guard Bureau, Georgia State Defense Force. He attended the U.S. Army War College, Strategic Studies Institute, focusing on National Security Policy and Strategy, and earned a Graduate Certificate at the Institute of World Politics focusing on Intelligence and National Security Policy.

He is married to his wife Judy for 28 years and they have two sons, Matthew, 21 years old, and Christopher, 15 years old, and they reside in Peachtree City, GA.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to being able to acknowledge great Americans like Carl.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Carl's family and friends, all those whose lives have been touched by him, and

me in recognizing the outstanding contributions of Carl D. Bocchicchio to his profession and to this great nation.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. —, THE
“FAIR PAYMENT OF COURT FEES
ACT OF 2010”

HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. —, the Fair Payment of Court Fees Act of 2010. This legislation is vital to preserve democracy and fair access to the courts.

It has come to my attention that provisions in the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure, while well intentioned to discourage abuses to the appeal process and encourage settlement, have been shown in practice to unfairly and indiscriminately punish parties for declining an offer for settlement made before trial or seeking appellate review.

That policy quite simply goes too far, creating perverse results, and inevitably will prevent litigants from pursuing legitimate cases or appeals for fear of excessive penalties.

Recently, there was a national outcry when a Federal court ordered the family of a fallen soldier, Marine Lance Cpl. Matthew Synder of Westminster, Maryland, to pay \$16,000 to the people who picketed the funeral of this hero who died in service to his country in Iraq.

You heard me correctly, the dead soldier's family was ordered to pay thousands of dollars to the people who picketed their son's funeral and who shouted “You're going to Hell” and “Thank God for dead soldiers.”

This is not adding insult to injury; this is outrageous and cannot be allowed to stand.

The family of Matthew Synder's supposed “fault” was to defend the decision of the lower court when the picketers appealed.

Preposterous and outrageous. As Chairman of the Judiciary Committee Subcommittee on Courts and Competition policy, I cannot wait for the multi-year process of the Rules Enabling Act to correct this injustice. This problem must be corrected now.

The rules, as they stand, are a blanket policy to discourage pursuit of justice through the appeals process. That policy quite simply goes too far, creating perverse results, and inevitably will prevent litigants from pursuing legitimate appeals or encourage the parties to settle when they want a court to hear the case for fear of excessive penalties.

The bill I have introduced today will stop this travesty and open the court house doors to parties who are acting in the interest of justice.

Specifically, the “Fair Payment of Court Fees Act of 2010” would amend two procedural rules to ensure access to the Federal courts. My bill would amend Rule 39 of the Federal Rules of Appellate Procedure and Rule 68 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, to give a court discretion to evaluate whether the payment should be waived in the interest of justice including instances where constitutional or other important precedent are at issue.

Strict application of the Rules has been detrimental to the public interest. So we would

allow our Judges to use their discretion to determine when these fees should be waived. Our courthouse doors must remain open to pursue legitimate claims.

I hope that my colleagues will support this legislation.

IN HONOR OF HARRIET BEEKMAN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Harriet Beekman, a dedicated advocate on behalf of veterans and the founder of We Do Care.

In 1968, Ms. Beekman received a letter from U.S. Marine Pfc. Steve Sarossy who had expressed his concern that “no one seemed to care” about service personnel overseas. Ms. Beekman was so disturbed by the sentiment that she wrote back in bold letters: STEVE, WE DO CARE. Tragically, Pfc. Sarossy was killed in the Quang Tri Republic of Vietnam later that year, but his words were not forgotten. Harriet Beekman took it upon herself to set up We Do Care, a support organization for our troops worldwide. Since the Vietnam conflict, We Do Care has sent more than 60,000 letters and 21,000 packages to service personnel. For more than four decades Ms. Beekman has led the charge in collecting, organizing and shipping several hundred tons of donated items to service personnel all over the world. We Do Care has sent goods to service members in places such as Vietnam, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Haiti, Somalia, Afghanistan and Iraq.

We Do Care has brought communities together in support of the men and women who risk their lives everyday. People of all ages and backgrounds gather together at dances, talent shows, community collection drives, recycling projects, rummage sales and dinners in order to raise funds and collect item donations to send our troops. In response to her efforts, Ms. Beekman has received more than 5,000 letters of appreciation from service personnel around the world.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Harriet Beekman, often referred to as the “Florence Nightingale of Fairview Park.” She continues to show our troops that, indeed, we do care. Even as she approaches her ninetieth birthday this July, Ms. Beekman continues to show the indomitable spirit of youth in continuing her work. Her volunteer spirit and dedication to those who serve our country uplifts and inspires resolve to live a more peaceful life.

HONORING RUTH ARDEN

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Ruth Arden, a Toledoan, a pioneer, and tireless advocate for our most vulnerable people. Ruth passed away unexpectedly in December and her passing was noted by the well known and the unknown.

Today those she served with and among gather to honor her efforts, pay special tribute, and remember a very fine lady.

Ruth Arden was the executive director of St. Paul's Community Center for many years. St. Paul's serves people who are homeless and mentally ill, and under Ruth's extraordinary vision and leadership the shelter served hundreds of people with respect. She and her team gave people dignity and the tools to navigate a difficult life. Ruth was an advocate for people who are homeless and mentally ill, and challenged leaders at the local, State and National levels to see their need. Jesus Christ reminded all that “whatever you do to the least among you, that you do unto me.” Few people follow His words as did Ruth, and her work inspired all around her.

Ruth Arden was an ardent advocate for the poor and downtrodden, but she was also an advocate of the arts. She enjoyed music—especially jazz—and supported local artists. Her support, advice and wise counsel were most appreciated, and in her quiet way Ruth moved mountains. Her life leaves an imprimatur on our community which stands well past her leave-taking, and her voice still echoes among those with whom she worked. She had an unforgettable spirit of caring and drive that we are guided by her spirit to carry forth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I missed roll call Vote Nos. 204–211 on April 15, 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call Vote No. 204, Providing for consideration of the bill H.R. 4715, “nay.”

Roll Call Vote No. 205, Recognizing the Coast Guard Group Astoria's more than 60 years of service to the Pacific Northwest, “aye.”

Roll Call Vote No. 206, On Motion to Refer the Resolution, “aye.”

Roll Call Vote No. 207, On Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 4715, “nay.”

Roll Call Vote No. 208, On Motion to Recommit H.R. 4715 with Instructions, “aye.”

Roll Call Vote No. 209, Final passage of H.R. 4715, the Clean Estuaries Act of 2010, “nay.”

Roll Call Vote No. 210, Congratulating the Duke University men's basketball team for winning the 2010 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball National Championship, “aye.”

Roll Call Vote No. 211, On Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 4851, “nay.”

A TRIBUTE TO JIM SEELEY IN
RECOGNITION OF HIS RETIREMENT
AFTER 34 YEARS OF
SERVICE TO THE CITY OF LOS
ANGELES

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, on behalf of those of us who represent the great