

and his fellow soldiers worked tirelessly to keep critical communications intact for the front-line combat units. During convoy between Nha Trang to Tue Hoa and Da Nag to Tue Hoa, Mr. Lawson found himself under mortar attack and rocket fire. For the outstanding achievement and performance of the 459th, the Secretary of the Army awarded the 459th and its soldiers the Army Meritorious Unit Commendation.

Mr. Lawson completed his combat tour in Vietnam shortly after he was promoted to Specialist-4. He returned to the United States and was honorably discharged. For his service, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Vietnam Service Medal, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with device, the Good Conduct Medal, the Army Meritorious Unit Commendation Ribbon and the Republic of Vietnam Unit Cross of Gallantry with palm and frame.

During his civilian life, Mr. Lawson worked as a truck driver until his retirement. Mr. Lawson is a Life Member of the Chowchilla Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9896. He has two children and two grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate John Lawson upon being named a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Lawson many years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO VICE ADMIRAL SIR
ALAN MASSEY, KCB, CBE, ADC-
ROYAL NAVY

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Vice Admiral Sir Alan Massey, Second Sea Lord of the Royal Navy, on the occasion of his visit to the United States and in anticipation of his impending retirement from active duty following over three decades of service in the Royal Navy.

Throughout a long and distinguished career, Vice Admiral Massey has consistently demonstrated exceptional leadership, stewardship and unwavering commitment to members of the Royal Navy, and for this alone he deserves recognition and admiration. But it is his many years of friendship and cooperation with the Armed Forces of the United States for which I pay tribute to this exceptional naval officer.

Over the course of his career, Vice Admiral Massey has commanded a destroyer, a frigate, and two aircraft carriers. In the wake of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, as a key ally in Operation Enduring Freedom, he led operations against the Taliban in Afghanistan while in command of HMS ILLUSTRIOUS. Additionally, at the onset of Operation Iraqi Freedom, while commanding HMS ARK ROYAL, Vice Admiral Massey led the successful coalition amphibious assault into southern Iraq as part of Operation TELIC. In recognition of his exceptional performance, he was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire on the United Kingdom's Operational Honours List.

Vice Admiral Massey has served in the Ministry of Defence, United Kingdom, on four oc-

casions and has held two appointments on NATO Headquarters staffs. He served as Assistant Chief of the Royal Naval Staff, responsible for representing the maritime case in the Ministry of the Defence, while concurrently planning the Navy's future and coordinating its public communications strategy and outreach activity. In an earlier assignment, Vice Admiral Massey led the Operations division of the United Kingdom's Permanent Joint Headquarters, responsible for the conduct of joint military operations in all current theatres, including Iraq, Afghanistan and the Balkans.

Vice Admiral Massey has a first class Honours degree from the University of Liverpool, and is a graduate of the Royal Naval Staff College and the Royal College of Defence Studies. Selected for promotion to Vice Admiral in July 2008, he was appointed as Second Sea Lord, equivalent to our United States Chief of Naval Personnel, and concurrently serves as Commander-in-Chief, Naval Home Command and Flag Aide-de-Camp to Her Majesty the Queen. During the Queen's Birthday Honours of 2009, Vice Admiral Massey was appointed a Knight Commander of the Order of Bath.

I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to rise with me to thank Vice Admiral Sir Alan Massey for his service to the Royal Navy and for his long and distinguished career in support of the mutual interests of the United Kingdom and the United States. We wish him fair winds and following seas as he closes his military career and assumes his new duties as Chief Executive of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. We also wish Vice Admiral Massey, his wife Julie and their four children, James, Annabel, Tom and Sally, much success, infinite happiness and good health in the days ahead.

SMALL BUSINESS BILL OF RIGHTS

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Small Business Bill of Rights. For the last three years, Congress has hurt small businesses with legislation to increase taxes and government regulation. It is time to show small businesses that we support them by backing one bill that has it all, the Small Business Bill of Rights.

Endorsed by the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), this legislation would:

- Protect secret ballots in union elections
- Lower health costs with lawsuit reforms and interstate competition
- Lower energy costs with credits for efficient equipment and hybrids
- Permit children to continue business with low/no death tax
- Exempt small businesses from capital gains tax for 10 years
- Make immigration laws easy to comply with
- Create a Patent Office fast lane for small business innovation
- Limit federal paperwork through the SBA for small businesses to 200 hours annually
- Prevent AMT from taxing the middle class
- Reduce deficit to encourage jobs and improve credit

Small businesses cannot afford lobbyists or lawyers to grease the wheels to get government assistance. With more than 1.1 million small businesses in Illinois accounting for 98.4 percent of all employers, now is the time to act.

In the teeth of the Great Recession, Congress must work to protect the heart and soul of our economy by lowering taxes and decreasing the regulatory burden so that small business employers will begin hiring, putting Americans back to work.

Small businesses are disproportionately suffering, accounting for nearly 80 percent of job losses and I urge my colleagues to become a cosponsor of this commonsense legislation.

Let us grow this economy and put people back to work.

HONORING THE CAREER AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF DAVID J.
HOLLEY

HON. TIM HOLDEN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 22, 2010

Mr. HOLDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dave Holley, a constituent and friend, who, on April 2, 2010, officially retired as General Manager of the Schuylkill County Municipal Authority. Dave began his public career in 1973, working for the Schuylkill County Municipal Authority as the Assistant Manager. Two years later, he was promoted to General Manager and has served in that position for the past 33 years.

Dave's dedication to bettering the communities of Schuylkill County led him to be active in state and national organizations. He served as Past President and Past Regional Director of the Pennsylvania Municipal Authority Association; Vice Chairman of the Water Utility Council of Pennsylvania; and Past Secretary and Treasurer of the Pennsylvania Section of the American Water Works Association.

Socially, Dave is an active member of the community in Pottsville, Pennsylvania. He is current President of the AAA Schuylkill County Motor Club, the Schuylkill County Motor Club Insurance Agency, and the Schuylkill/Pottsville Chapter of the National Football Foundation and College Hall of Fame. He was the former President of the Pottsville Rotary Club and Pottsville Rotary Little League.

His work in the community and professionally has earned Dave the respect and recognition of his friends, neighbors, and colleagues. Numerous associations have honored Dave with awards for his dedicated service to municipal authorities in Pennsylvania and the water supply field. Athletic organizations have recognized him for his dedication to honoring scholar athletes and his citizenship. Dave was even inducted into the Pottsville Area School District's All Sports Hall of Fame.

I would like to congratulate Dave Holley on his retirement after 33 years as General Manager of the Schuylkill County Municipal Authority and thank him for his outstanding citizenship in the community.