

COMMENDING MR. IWAO MATSUDA

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend Mr. Iwao Matsuda for his diligence and many years of hard work in bringing about closer United States-Japanese-Korean relations. We can all thank him for the development of very close ties between the legislatures of Japan and the United States.

The legislative exchange program he created evolved into semiannual meetings between Members of the Diet and the U.S. Congress. The personal and professional relationships that have developed are key to the long and solid alliance between our two democratic nations.

He also played a key role in expanding these exchanges to include South Korea once it became a strong and vibrant democracy.

I note Mr. Matsuda was selected by Prime Minister Koizumi to serve in the very prestigious position as Minister of State for Science and Technology Policy, Food Safety and Information Technology.

Madam Speaker, it is therefore appropriate for us to commend and thank Mr. Matsuda for helping to foster peace and democracy in Asia and I wish him well in his future endeavors.

HONORING MR. IWAO MATSUDA

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of my good friend from Japan, Mr. Iwao Matsuda. He is a patriot who has dedicated his life to his country and to the people of Japan. I have worked with Mr. Matsuda for many years and am saddened by his retirement from the United States-Japan Legislative Exchange Program (LEP).

Mr. Iwao Matsuda served Japan for many years in a variety of roles. One such role was as a civil servant in the Ministry of International Trade and Industry. Having served in the Ministry for more than twenty years, he learned the importance of the United States-Japan friendship. Later in his career, as Member of the Japanese Diet, Mr. Matsuda constantly forged new pathways to improve United States-Japan relations and he recognized that at the core of improved relations was a deeper cultural understanding of our two countries. As a Member of the Diet, he was in a unique position to forge a pathway to closer ties. Thus, Mr. Matsuda helped launch the LEP which is now one of the most successful exchange programs in Congress.

As a founding father of the LEP, Mr. Matsuda has been a leader in building a long-lasting friendship between the United States and Japan. His in-depth knowledge of the United States has been a key to building the LEP into the successful program that it is today. Members of Congress, including myself, welcomed the knowledge and wisdom that Matsuda shared at LEP meetings. Under his leadership, Members of Congress and the Diet have been able to break down barriers

and build lasting friendships that we all cherish.

My wife Cheryl and I wish our good friend Mr. Iwao Matsuda all the best. As he makes a change to the private sector, we both know that Matsuda will continue make Japan proud. I look forward to finding new ways to work with my friend and I wish him well with future endeavors.

HONORING MR. IWAO MATSUDA

HON. JEAN SCHMIDT

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Iwao Matsuda and his many contributions toward strengthening the relationship between the U.S., Japan, and South Korea. His efforts in establishing the bilateral Legislative Exchange Program between the United States and Japan and his efforts to expand the program to include South Korea have cultivated the strong bond between our countries and served to reinforce and uphold our common democratic values.

Mr. Matsuda has worked tirelessly toward improving relations between Japan and the United States. In 1989, after becoming a member of the Japanese Diet he helped launch the first Legislative Exchange Program. Troubled by bitter trade disputes between the United States and Japan, his idea was to bring together Members of Congress and members of the Japanese Diet in an informal setting to have a candid exchange of ideas to address these key issues in United States-Japanese relations.

This bi-lateral exchange has continued successfully for the last twenty years and was expanded in 2003 to include South Korea. The semi-annual meeting between Members of Congress, the Japanese Diet, and the South Korean National Assembly continues to foster candid discussions and is an important component in the close alliance between our three countries.

Madam Speaker, after twenty years of working to cultivate the relationship between the United States, Japan, and South Korea, Mr. Iwao Matsuda is retiring from public office. It is only appropriate that we take a moment to honor his service and applaud his commitment to the promotion of open dialogue and democratic ideals.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF PATTI MACLEISH GORDON

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. GRAYSON. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of National Teacher Day. Today, I would like to recognize an extraordinary teacher from Central Florida who is making a significant impact in the field of education in my district and in the State of Florida, Patti MacLeish Gordon. Mrs. Gordon was one of five finalists for the Orange County Public Schools 2011 Teacher of the Year and was

selected earlier this year by Lifestyle Magazine as one of Central Florida's "Top Teachers."

Mrs. Gordon was born in Orlando, Florida where she attended Lake Silver Elementary, Lee Middle School, and graduated from Lake Highland Preparatory School. Being born into a family of teachers (her aunt, mother, and older sister are also teachers), it is no surprise that Patti graduated from Clemson University with honors where she majored in Elementary Education and Graphic Design. Mrs. Gordon received her Master's degree in elementary school counseling from the University of Central Florida. She is a National Board-Certified teacher, who has taught pre-school, 1st grade, 3rd grade, 5th grade, and was the elementary school guidance counselor at Lake Highland Preparatory School for 3 years. For the past seven years, Mrs. Gordon has worked at Princeton Elementary school as a gifted education teacher.

Patti has gone above and beyond a traditional role of a teacher. She believes in teaching through hands-on activities, service learning projects, and uses modern technology whenever she can in her instruction. She not only founded a Science Club in her school, she also coordinates and teaches in the program. Through her leadership and enthusiasm, over 125 students volunteer to participate in the Science Club after school. The environment is a passion for Patti and can be seen through her "Green Team" initiative, which has led to a complete ecological change for her school.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Gordon is a remarkable example to educators all over our country. It is an honor to pay tribute to her accomplishments. I know the crucial impact teachers can and do have on their students. Mrs. Gordon's passion and dedication for teaching is not only seen through her many awards, but through the success of her students. Central Florida is lucky, and grateful, to have an educator like Patti MacLeish Gordon.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH, CALIFORNIA

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the 100th Anniversary of the Town of Hillsborough in my district. In fact, I am a proud resident of this town. My children were raised here and they have benefited from an excellent public education system, particularly in the middle grades where, aside from mastering the basics, they confronted the challenges of malnutrition in Africa, homelessness in our own country and the importance of protecting the environment. The spirit of altruism that was instilled in them is one that permeates the entire community.

We often talk about good citizenship, a sense of neighborhood and civic responsibility as if they were things in our past. I can attest that those values are alive and well in Hillsborough under the able leadership of Mayor Christine Krolik who states that 7,000 of the 11,000 total residents are registered to vote. And that 11,000 number includes children as well as adults, so a truly extraordinary number of voting-age adults are actively participating in our democracy.