

Rollcall No. 378, on the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 1407, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on June 17, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for Rollcall No. 372. Had I been present I would have voted: Rollcall No. 372: "yes"—Cao of Louisiana Amendment.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL CARIBBEAN-AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 22, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Caribbean-American Heritage Month and the contributions of Caribbean-Americans to this Nation. Since 2006, the United States has celebrated the rich and diverse history of Caribbean-American peoples and the many successes of Caribbean-Americans during the month of June.

Parallels have often been drawn between the history of the United States and that of Caribbean nations. Like America, Caribbean nations saw the need to resist tyrannical European leadership and create new democracies.

The first Caribbean immigrants came to America in 1619 as indentured servants in Jamestown, and since then have played an increasingly large role in American society and in the lives of Americans. Since 1820, millions of people have immigrated to the United States from the Caribbean region, and now Americans of Caribbean descent reside in all fifty states of the Union.

Since our Nation's inception, Caribbean-Americans have played important roles in every aspect of American life. Alexander Hamilton, a founding father and the first Secretary of the Treasury, was a Caribbean immigrant. Other notable Caribbean-Americans include Colin Powell, a former four-star general and Secretary of State, Shirley Chisholm, the first black candidate for president and the first woman to run for the Democratic nomination, Eric Holder, the current Attorney General, Sydney Poitier, the first African-American to win the Academy Award for best actor, and Stokely Carmichael, a black power activist.

Throughout the years, Caribbean-American culture has become engrained in American society, but has managed to remain distinct and unique. Caribbean-American music, language, literature, film, food, festivals, and culture are enjoyed by all Americans.

Without a doubt, the influence of Caribbean-Americans on American culture has been great.

I respect and admire all that Caribbean-Americans have done for the United States in the past and in the present, and I look forward

to the continued flourishing of Caribbean-American culture.

IN HONOR OF JEFFREY POTTER

HON. THADDEUS G. MCCOTTER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. MCCOTTER. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the extraordinary life of Jeffrey Potter and to mourn him upon his passing at the age of 58.

Born on June 15, 1952, Jeff Potter dedicated his life to serving his community and his country. A graduate of Eastern Michigan University, Jeff retired from Ford Motor Company after 30 years of employment. Jeff loved his community and his community loved him.

Jeff was elected to the South Lyon City Council in November 1987 serving until November 1989 when he was elected mayor of South Lyon, serving 13 years until being elected to serve on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners. During his tenure on the Oakland County Commission, Mr. Potter chaired the public services committee and served on the general government and finance committees. He hoped to continue to represent the constituents of Oakland County's 8th district by retaining his seat this fall. Jeff also served as a Member/Delegate to SEMCOG and was a member of the Oakland County Library Board.

Jeffrey Potter was an active proponent of community partnerships, hoping to reduce the cost of government while adding to Oakland County's quality of life. He was an organizer and founding community sponsor of the Huron Valley Trail System, which connects many Oakland communities and area parks. Jeff Potter authored a Strategic Land Acquisition project in an effort to preserve land for "green space" and future parks. As then-Mayor Potter, Jeff was honored with the Distinguished Leadership in Joint Public Services Award, 1998, and Outstanding Project Award, 1998, for southeastern Michigan.

Regrettably, on June 21, 2010, Jeffrey Potter passed from this earthly world to his eternal reward. He is survived by his beloved wife, Andra, his sons, Michael and Daniel and his daughter, Jessica. A courageous and honorable man, Jeff will be sorely missed.

Madam Speaker, Jeff will be long remembered as a compassionate father, a dedicated husband, a leader, and a friend. Jeff was a man who deeply treasured his family, friends, community and his country. Today, as we bid Jeff farewell, I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning his passing and honoring his unwavering patriotism and legendary service to our country and our community.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WELLINGTON-NAPOLEON BOYS TRACK AND FIELD TEAM

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to inform the House that on Saturday,

May 22, 2010, the Wellington-Napoleon High School Tigers boys track and field team became the 2010 Missouri Class 1 High School State Champions.

The Tigers competed in a field of more than 120 teams throughout the state of Missouri. The hard work and dedication that these young men displayed throughout the season was rewarded with their high school's first track and field championship in 19 years. This is a truly remarkable achievement, and I am so very proud of these young men and their selfless coaches.

Members of the team include: Ethan Arndt, Nathan Arndt, Cody Banner, Blaine Beissenherz, Christian Bryant, Taylor Bryant, Johnny Good, Brandon Niendick, Dylon Register, Blake Seitz, Dustin Seitz, Michael Strickler, Brian Wallman, Cody Willard, and Michael Woodall. The team was coached by Quenton Bainbridge, Michelle McKown, and Tristan Layman.

Madam Speaker, the members of the Wellington-Napoleon High School Tigers track and field team have distinguished themselves as the 2010 Missouri Class 1 High School Track and Field State Champions. I am sure that my colleagues will join me in wishing Coaches Bainbridge, McKown, and Layman and this remarkable team all the best.

IN HONOR OF CHIEF CLERK JOANN HEDRICK

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor that I take the opportunity today to recognize the career and accomplishments of the retiring Chief Clerk of the Delaware House of Representatives, JoAnn Hedrick. Ms. Hedrick has provided three decades of invaluable service to Delaware's General Assembly and her presence will be greatly missed.

JoAnn has served my home state of Delaware with dedication and grace. Since starting in the House Republican Caucus in 1979, she has shown the utmost devotion to the General Assembly. JoAnn has held the position of Chief Clerk for more than 25 years and has always put the needs of the Legislature first. She is known for going above and beyond the call of duty, willing to work late hours and lend a hand when necessary.

In 2005, in recognition of her commitment to and outstanding efforts in the General Assembly, JoAnn was honored with the National Conference of State Legislatures' prestigious Legislative Staff Achievement Award. She has held positions in various professional organizations including a leadership role in the American Society of Legislative Clerks and Secretary.

It was my great pleasure to have been able to work with JoAnn during my eight years as Governor and I am honored to be able to recognize her today. JoAnn will be remembered for her loyalty and dedication to her profession over the years, which has brought inspiration to the staff and the members of Delaware's Legislature. Her service to the state of Delaware is commendable, and I wish her a safe and happy retirement.