

HONORING THE SERVICE AND
DEDICATION OF RUSSELL T.
VOUGHT

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Russell T. Vought's service to the United States Congress, our nation and the cause of individual liberty.

Russ began his service to the Congress immediately following his graduation from Wheaton College (Illinois) in 1998. After working briefly for retiring Senator Dan Coats, Russ joined the staff of Texas' senior senator and my political mentor, Senator Phil Gramm. During the four years Russ served on Senator Gramm's policy staff, he became a student of legislative procedure and mastered federal budget policy.

Russ joined my staff as Policy Director shortly after I was sworn-into office in 2003. He served as my top advisor on budget issues and worked tirelessly to help me develop the Family Budget Protection Act, which was heralded by pro-taxpayer organizations as the "Gold Standard" of budget enforcement legislation. For several years, Russ provided invaluable counsel to me on tax, entitlement and spending policy and worked with me to author three federal fiscal year budgets.

When I was elected Chairman of the Republican Study Committee for the 110th Congress, I asked Russ to become the committee's Executive Director. Russ worked with me and the 100-plus members of the committee with integrity and an unwavering devotion to the conservative principles that we share.

At the beginning of the 111th Congress, my friend Chairman MIKE PENCE asked Russ to serve the House Republican Conference as his Policy Director. In addition to managing the Conference's policy staff, which is the main hub of information and analysis for all Republican House Members and their staff, he serves as its principal advisor on a broad range of issues, specializing in budget, appropriations, Social Security, legislative procedure, and entitlements.

As Russ' work with me and my colleagues comes to a close, I reflect most fondly upon the unpopular and lonely legislative battles that we faced together. As a wise person once said, "True friendship isn't about being there when it's convenient; it's about being there when it's not."

I take heart knowing that Russ's service to the cause of liberty will continue in whichever path he chooses for his life. He personifies the conservative movement and his devotion to the constitutional, limited government principles is second-to-none.

Madam Speaker, I wish my conservative brother and, most importantly, my friend Russ Vought, best wishes for the future.

HONORING THE COMMISSIONING
OF THE USS *MISSOURI*

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the commissioning of the USS

Missouri to take place tomorrow, the 31st of July, and to congratulate the crew of the newest addition to the United States naval fleet.

USS *Missouri* is the nation's newest and most advanced nuclear-powered attack submarine. This vessel was designed to not require refueling during the life of the ship—a feature that will reduce lifecycle costs while increasing underway time.

The *Missouri* is 377 feet long and 34 feet wide, and is capable of traveling in both shallow and deep waters. Specially designed for undersea warfare, she can dive deeper than 800 feet and is capable of operating speeds exceeding 25 knots while submerged.

Weighing 7,800 tons, *Missouri* is a *Virginia*-class submarine engineered to excel in anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare, special operations missions, strike, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance, carrier and expeditionary strike group support, and mine warfare missions.

The soon-to-be-commissioned submarine embodies five of the six Navy maritime strategy core capabilities including sea control, power projection, forward presence, maritime security, and deterrence.

The seventh of the *Virginia*-class of submarines to join the U.S. Navy, the *Missouri* was built under a teaming arrangement by General Dynamics Electric Boat and Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding-Newport News.

She is scheduled to be commissioned on July 31st at Naval Submarine Base Groton, CT, and will join Submarine Squadron 4 under the leadership of Commander Timothy Rexrode with a crew totalling 134 officers and enlisted personnel.

Following the commissioning of the *Missouri* on Saturday, she will be the fifth Navy ship to bear the name honoring the "Show Me State." The fourth such ship was the famous battleship which served in World War II, the Korean War, and the Persian Gulf War. It was aboard this predecessor of the *Missouri* that the United States and Allied officers, among them Fleet Adm. Chester Nimitz and Gen. Douglas MacArthur, accepted the unconditional surrender of Japanese forces marking the end of World War II on September 2, 1945.

The people of the great state of Missouri are proud to have a fantastic new ship bearing our state's name. It honors our state and the many men and women from Missouri who proudly serve in the United States Armed Forces.

We expect great accomplishments and a life of unwavering loyalty and service from the newest USS *Missouri*. It is with great honor that I welcome the USS *Missouri* to our nation's fleet, the best submarine in the strongest navy in the world.

INTRODUCTION OF A CONCURRENT
RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE
SENSE OF THE CONGRESS ON
THE CLOSURE OF THE MAIN EN-
TRANCE OF THE SUPREME
COURT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a Resolution expressing the

sense of Congress, and, I believe, of the American people, that every American have the opportunity to enter the Supreme Court through its main entrance, as they have been permitted to do since the building first opened.

Our founders vested the Supreme Court with the judicial power of our nation, and gave it the charge to dispense justice. Since 1935, visitors have climbed the marble steps of the Supreme Court and entered the nation's temple of justice through its main entrance, under the words "Equal Justice Under Law." Chief Justice John Roberts, during his confirmation hearing, described the "lump in his throat" that formed every time he walked up those marble steps and through that main entrance.

Millions of Americans and visitors from around the world have stepped through those doors to watch the Court work in openness, and to pay tribute to a nation not of men, but of laws.

On May 3, 2010, Chief Justice Roberts announced that the Supreme Court would no longer allow visitors to enter through the main doors of the Supreme Court, closing the main entrance for the first time in nearly 75 years.

Justice Stephen Breyer, joined by Justice Ginsberg, expressed his concern about the closure, stating, "To many members of the public, this Court's main entrance and front steps are not only a means to, but also a metaphor for, access to the Court itself."

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in sending a clear message that access to this most vital symbol of transparency and openness should not be restricted.

RECOGNIZING THE BICENTENNIAL
OF SOUTH MIDDLETON TOWN-
SHIP, PENNSYLVANIA

HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 30, 2010

Mr. PLATTS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize South Middleton Township, Pennsylvania on its 200th Birthday.

Established in 1810, South Middleton Township is comprised of approximately 52 square miles and has a population of almost 14,500. A wonderful community in which to live, work, and play, the Township is bordered on the north by Carlisle Borough, North Middleton Township, and Middlesex Township. To the east is Monroe Township and to the south are York and Adams Counties. Dickinson Township borders South Middleton to the west. The Township is predominantly a rural farming community and forested area. Approximately 75 percent of the land is used for farming, forest, or woodland. South Middleton Township was created when the area known as Middleton was divided into North Middleton and South Middleton. The governing body consists of five elected supervisors and an appointed township manager.

Madam Speaker, the observance of the 200th Birthday of South Middleton Township provides a special opportunity to pay tribute to the citizens of the township, past and present, who have contributed immeasurably to the township's wonderful quality of life. South Middleton Township will be celebrating the Bicentennial all summer long with parades, picnics, and events at local venues. Over Memorial