

democracy and freedom and remained relevant to providing guidance for our government despite the passage of more than two centuries.

LEGISLATION TO RESTORE THE  
AUTHORITY FOR HHS TO GRANT  
CHILD WELFARE WAIVER DEMONSTRATION  
PROJECTS TO STATES

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 16, 2010*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, today I introduced legislation with Representative JOHN LINDER (R-GA) that would restore the authority for the Department of Health and Human Services to grant child welfare waiver demonstration projects to States. Child welfare waivers will give some States additional flexibility in designing targeted interventions for at-risk children.

While I support providing opportunities for States to improve the outcomes of children through this authority, waivers are not a substitute for comprehensive child welfare financing reform or for additional investments in improving outcomes for at-risk children.

I will continue to work with all of my colleagues to develop proposals that build on the progress made with the Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act so that we can ensure the best outcomes for every child that comes to the attention of the child welfare system.

PERMITTING MEMBERS OF CONGRESS TO ADMINISTER THE  
OATH OF ALLEGIANCE TO APPLICANTS FOR NATURALIZATION

SPEECH OF

**HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 15, 2010*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4862, which permits Members of Congress to administer the oath of allegiance to applicants for naturalization. I strongly support this bill and am a proud cosponsor of this bill.

Naturalization is the process by which U.S. citizenship is granted to a foreign citizen or national after he or she fulfills the requirements established by Congress in the Immigration and Nationality Act. According to U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, more than 700,000 immigrants become U.S. citizens every year.

America is a diverse nation that was built on immigrants. As we all know, immigrants have made, and continue to make, lasting contributions to our society. In my home state of Georgia, immigrants comprise at least 11.9 percent of the state workforce. Thus, it is important to do all we can to create pathways for immigrants to become U.S. citizens. America is known for its rich diversity which is truly a source of strength and competitiveness.

At naturalization ceremonies, immigrants finally have the chance to become official citi-

zens of the United States. Becoming a naturalized citizen U.S. citizen is a process that can take years to accomplish. Individuals must not only be knowledgeable about U.S. history, but be very patient. Naturalization is a special moment in their lives when all of their hard work, determination, and persistence ultimately pays off and they become U.S. citizens.

I look forward to having the opportunity to administer the oath of allegiance to applicants for naturalization. Immigrants have, and will continue, to make long-lasting contributions to the United States. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H.R. 4862 and urge my colleagues to do the same. I yield back the balance of my time.

HONORING THE CENTENARY OF  
MOTHER TERESA

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 16, 2010*

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, Mother Teresa, born Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhi and of Albanian descent, for over 45 years ministered to the poor, sick, orphaned, and dying, first in India and then to other countries. She died in 1997 and was beatified by Pope John Paul II as Blessed Teresa of Calcutta.

On the centenary of her birth, we celebrate the great work of this wonderful woman, who gave so much as an advocate for the poor and helpless that she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

When she arrived in India, she became increasingly disturbed by the widespread poverty she saw in Calcutta. She began her missionary work in the slums in 1948, wearing a simple white cotton sari with a blue border. She began looking after the needs of the destitute and starving by begging for food and supplies.

In 1950, she received Vatican permission to start the congregation that would become the Missionaries of Charity with a mission to care for, in her words, "the hungry, the naked, the homeless, the crippled, the blind, the lepers, all those people who feel unwanted, unloved, uncared for throughout society, people that have become a burden to the society and are shunned by everyone." It began with 13 members and today has more than 4,000 nuns running orphanages, AIDS hospices and charity centers worldwide, and caring for refugees, the blind, disabled, aged, alcoholics, the poor and homeless, and victims of floods, epidemics, and famine.

She went wherever there was suffering. At the height of the war in Beirut she rescued children and brokered ceasefires; she helped the hungry in Ethiopia; radiation victims of Chernobyl; and earthquake victims in Armenia. She even opened a center in the South Bronx.

Mother Teresa suffered a heart attack in Rome in 1983, while visiting the Pope. After a second attack in 1989, she received an artificial pacemaker. In 1996, she broke her collar bone, suffered a bout of malaria, and her left ventricle failed. In failing health, she stepped down as head of Missionaries of Charity in March, 1997, and died on September 5, 1997.

Mother Teresa showed what can be done through dedication and love. She is a shining example of one who rather than curse the

darkness, lit candles throughout the world to show us the way to help others.

NATIONAL AEROSPACE WEEK

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 16, 2010*

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate National Aerospace Week.

At a time when there is so much discouraging economic news, we can look to the skies for some solace.

Los Angeles County's unemployment rate is hovering around 13 percent, worse than the national average. But my district, the 36th Congressional District, has an unemployment rate of less than half that—largely because of the cushion provided by the aerospace industry. It is our economic engine.

Our aerospace companies employ 819,000 Americans in high-skill, high-wage jobs—nearly 6,500 of them in California—who together contribute 3 to 5 percent of the Gross Domestic Product.

The products produced by aerospace companies are in world-wide demand. Last year the U.S. exported \$81 billion in aerospace technology, responsible for the largest foreign trade surplus in the American economy.

Aerospace is not only vital to the American economy—it is vital to our national security. From the Mexican border to the Pakistan frontier, unmanned aircraft and other platforms provide eyes and ears to our military and law enforcement.

These are American jobs, and they are a cornerstone of our economy. For reasons of national security, nearly two-thirds of these jobs cannot be performed overseas. They are here to stay.

But our aerospace workforce is aging. Some 60 percent of aerospace workers are over age 50, and almost 26 percent are eligible for retirement this year. Not enough young scientists and engineers are signing up to take the place of the "gray wave."

It used to be that being a rocket scientist was synonymous with genius. Now that mantle seems to apply only to the inventors of Facebook, eBay and Google. We are graduating just 70,000 engineers a year. And U.S. students recently ranked 21 out of 30 in science literacy, and performed even worse in math literacy.

The only way we'll maintain our edge in aerospace is by inspiring kids and making it "cool" again to design air and space craft. Dean Kamen—the inventor of the Segway—does this through a nonprofit after-school robotics program. FIRST—For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology—is partnered with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology to supply secondary schools with instructional materials, guidelines for starting robotics teams, and marketing support to interest children in studying the math and science behind construction of these devices.

Schools in my district participate in the robotics competition, and Dean Kamen has personally visited my district to take part in a panel on the need for more young people to pursue aerospace careers. Our economy and national security depend on it.