

During such an unstable time in the Middle East, it is more important than ever that the United States and this Congress stand firmly behind Israel. From the recent unrest in Egypt and the collapse of the Lebanese government, to the threat of Iran, Hezbollah, Hamas, and many other anti-Israel terrorist groups, Israel is constantly facing new challenges to maintaining its sovereignty and security. We must show that we are dedicated to our alliance and fulfill the commitments that we have made. In a country where security is an elusive goal, Israel should be secure in knowing that the United States will deliver on its promises.

I believe it is well past time to revisit the Jerusalem Embassy Act and close, once and for all, the loophole that has continued to allow the diplomatic embarrassment of not having our Embassy located in the capital city of Israel to continue for ten years. That is why I, along with a number of bi-partisan co-sponsors, am reintroducing this bill which mandates the relocation of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, and reaffirms U.S. policy that Jerusalem must remain the undivided capital of Israel.

I strongly urge my colleagues to co-sponsor this important bill.

HONORING SARAH HEAD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sarah Head. Sarah is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of the USA and earning the high honor of the Gold Award.

Sarah's outstanding achievement reflects her hard work and dedication. Sarah has exhibited unique and creative examples of service that have made a difference in her community. I am confident that she will continue to hold herself to the highest standards in the future. This is an accomplishment for which Sarah can take pride in for the rest of her life.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sarah Head for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of the USA and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

HONORING LENORE CROUDY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the achievements of Lenore Croudy. A Birthday Tribute will be held on March 30th in Flint Michigan in her honor.

In addition to being a dear friend, Lenore Croudy is a tremendous asset to the Flint community. She was an educator for the Flint Community Schools for over 40 years. During that time she worked as a teacher, instructional specialist, assistant principal, assistant

dean, Director of the Reading, Language Arts and Humanities Department, and Steward for Resource and Information. Prior to her retirement she also served as President of the Congress of Flint School Administrators.

Lenore has also served as a member of the Mott Community College Board of Trustees for over 20 years. Re-elected to her 4th term in 2005, she has been the board chairperson since 1995. Recognized by her peers, Lenore has served on the National Board of Directors and as Central Region Chairperson for the Association of Community College Trustees. She is active with the YWCA of Flint, Center for the Visually Impaired, Salvation Army, Flint Rotary Club, Voluntary Action Center, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Boy Scouts of America Tall Pine Council, Hundred Club of Flint, and Flint Chapter of the NAACP. She is also the founder of the Youth Leadership Institute. In appreciation of her accomplishments, Lenore has received numerous awards including the Governor's Service Award in 2007—the George Romney Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I ask the House of Representatives to join me in applauding Lenore Croudy. I have known Lenore for many years and she is always compassionate, focused, faithful, and dedicated to improving the lives of those around her. Her enthusiasm for serving others is contagious and I am proud to call her my "lifetime" friend. I wish her a happy birthday and many, many more.

STATEMENT APPLAUDING THE
ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY
IN THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the enactment of Illinois Senate Bill 3539, which abolishes the death penalty in Illinois. As a lifelong resident of Illinois, I want to thank Governor Quinn and each and every state legislator who courageously voted for this important bill.

I strongly oppose the death penalty because I have always believed that the government should never take a person's life as punishment for a crime. This is especially true in our judicial system which is wrought with inequity and unfairness that can lead to the conviction of innocent people. In fact, since 1977, 20 people sentenced to death in the state of Illinois were ultimately exonerated. This is a shameful record that troubles me deeply. Imagine if any of these persons were executed before evidence could be presented to prove their innocence.

The enactment of Senate Bill 3539 in Illinois is a tremendous step forward for justice. Already, Illinois had set an important example for the rest of the country, when in 2000, it placed a moratorium on the use of the death penalty. Today, with the stroke of his pen Governor Quinn has helped turn the tide against the use of capital punishment in America and I sincerely hope that other states will soon follow.

Mr. Speaker, the existence of the death penalty is not necessary to ensure that the

most heinous crimes go punished and I will continue to fight for a fair justice system that does not use death as a means of achieving justice.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING THE RIGHTS OF
ALL WORKERS AND CALLING
FOR AN END TO THE RECENT
ATTACKS ON WORKERS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise, in advance of leading a special order this evening, to offer a resolution supporting the rights of all workers, including federal employees and other public employees, and calling for the end to attacks on their ability to organize and to collectively bargain. There are only a few salient rights recognized by every democracy, such as freedom of religion and freedom of speech, and on that list always appears the right for workers to organize in order to bargain collectively with an employer. It has long been recognized that individual workers have little, if any, bargaining power sitting alone with an employer who has hired or could hire her. When unions organize workers, the ground becomes more level and economic conditions decide the outcome.

Mr. Speaker, the American labor movement has been a major catalyst for the formation of a majority middle class in the United States by leading the way for improvements for all workers, which unions have gained through collective bargaining. I ask the House to join me in recognizing the American union movement and those who work in the public and private sectors.

HONORING ADRIEL BENNINGFIELD

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 10, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Adriel Benningfield. Adriel is a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of the USA and earning the high honor of the Gold Award.

Adriel's outstanding achievement reflects her hard work and dedication. Adriel has exhibited unique and creative examples of service that have made a difference in her community. I am confident that she will continue to hold herself to the highest standards in the future. This is an accomplishment for which Adriel can take pride in for the rest of her life.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Adriel Benningfield for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of the USA and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.