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Jim Vella, President, Ford Motor Company Fund; Graeme W. Bush, Chairman, Zuckerman Spaeder LLP; Robert Waldron, CEO and President, Curriculum Associates; Mark Walker, Managing Director, Global Community Affairs, Applied Materials, Inc.; Jeffrey C. Walker, Chairman, Millennium Promise; Alexander J. Walker Jr., President, Devine Millimet; Hampton Walt, President/CEO, Inland Press; Benjamin Walton, Director, The Walton Family Foundation; Michael J. Ward, Chairman, President and CEO, CSX Corporation; Gail Warden, President Emeritus, Henry Ford Health System; Allen P. Waxman, Partner and Chair of the Life Sciences Group, Kaye Scholer LLP; Bernard White, President, White Construction; Kane Willyerd, CEO, Jambok; Steve Woodsum, Founding Managing Director, Summit Partners; Tae Yoo, Senior Vice President, Corporate Affairs, Cisco; Mary Lou Young, President and CEO, United Way of Greater Milwaukee; Keith Zandler, CEO, Peoplemovers.com; Peter Zeughauser, Chairman, Zeughauser Group.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010–2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—KAI FUJISAKA

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 1, 2011

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council, CYAC, from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service hours, fulfilling and far surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

This year 46 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 10 through 12 made their voices heard by joining CYAC. As the Third District’s young ambassadors to Congress, these bright high school students met with me on a quarterly basis to discuss current events and public policy. These impressive young people recognize an important truth: the heart of public service is found when giving back to the community. CYAC students volunteered their time and talents with over 30 organizations including Adopt-A-Highway,

Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Teen Court, and the USO, to name a few. As one student shared, “CYAC in the Community has allowed me to realize my calling to serve those in the U.S. Armed Forces.” I am beyond thrilled that CYAC has helped students unleash their full potential and chase their dreams.

President George H.W. Bush once said, “A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization.”

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work! I salute you!

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

I am very grateful for the chance to work with the Younger Generation Chorus of Plano over the past few months. I am always amazed at how wonderful they sound, especially given their very young age. They have taught me that age does not always dictate ability. Most of these choristers are not even in high school yet and they have performed all over the country. They have also taught me that once a talent has been discovered, it should be developed, though not at the expense of searching for one’s other talents. I know that many of the choristers have other extra-curricular activities that occupy them and that they excel in those areas as well. The most memorable moment I had with the choir was the Christmas concert that was held on December 10, 2010. The work of these talented youth was technically astounding and spiritually moving. These students would not only sing the music or even perform the music; they would feel the music and give it life so that the audience could feel it as well. As a performer, that is not always easy to do. For these children to be able to do it so beautifully and consistently is astounding. It was an honor to be part of making it happen

—Kai Fujisaka.

RECOGNIZING MALCOLM REBENNACK (DR. JOHN)

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 1, 2011

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a man known to his parents as Malcolm Rebennack, but known to the music lovers throughout the world as Dr. John.

At age of 70, after 43 years of sharing his musical talents, this native New Orleanian is now a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee. In the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame he joins notable New Orleanians such as Fats Domino, Dave Bartholomew, Allen Toussaint, Mahalia Jackson, Louis Armstrong, Professor Longhair, Jelly Roll Morton, Lloyd Price, and Earl Palmer.

Over the years Dr. John has brought us remarkable recordings such as Dr. John’s Gumbo, In the Right Place, Desitively Bonnaroo which inspired Tennessee’s Bonnaroo Music Festival, Goin’ Back to New Orleans, Mercenary, In a Sentimental Mood, N’Awlinz Dis Oat or D’Udda and his Grammy Award winning City That Care Forgot. He was most recently featured on the Disney soundtrack for The Princess and the Frog and can be heard crooning the lyrics of Down in New Orleans.

As a songwriter, musician and singer, Dr. John has played in venues throughout the United States and Europe alongside musical icons like Eric Clapton, Harold Battiste, The Meters, Alice Cooper and many others.

I applaud Dr. John for his induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and wish him well.

RECOGNIZING WILMA BUFFINGTON BEDELL BALL

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 1, 2011

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding citizen of my district. Wilma Buffington Bedell Ball is a cherished resident of Van Buren, Missouri and the State of Missouri. She was born in Great Falls, Montana, on January 5, 1917, and moved to Missouri where she grew up on a farm between Van Buren and Doniphan, Missouri along the Current River.

After her education in a one-room schoolhouse in the Ozarks and graduation from Southwest Missouri State University in Springfield, she returned and taught students in that same one-room schoolhouse for three years. After some time away from Missouri, Wilma and her husband, Kelly Ball, returned to Southeast Missouri where she served in the Poplar Bluff School System from 1962 to 1969. There, she discovered her true calling of caring for Missouri’s senior citizens. She became a licensed nursing home administrator in 1969 and served as administrator for the Clarks Mountain Nursing Home in Piedmont until 1985. Then, she began working at the Riverways Manor in Van Buren where she still works full-time today. At 94 she is the oldest active nursing home administrator in the United States.

Wilma serves our community not only at work, she goes above and beyond through her affiliations with the Methodist Church, Women’s Society of Christian Service, Business and Professional Women’s Club, Missouri State Teachers Association, and the Missouri Healthcare Association. Even with all of these activities in her life, her number one priority is her family. She has four sons and daughters-in-law, ten grandchildren, and fourteen great-grandchildren. Wilma Buffington Bedell Ball embodies what it means to be a great south-east Missourian. Today we recognize her for her service to our community.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION AND
REFORM ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 31, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 658) to amend title 49, United States Code, to authorize appropriations for the Federal Aviation Administration for fiscal years 2011 through 2014, to streamline programs, create efficiencies, reduce waste, and improve aviation safety and capacity, to provide stable funding for the national aviation system, and for other purposes:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today to reluctantly oppose the passage of the legislation before us: H.R. 658, the FAA Reauthorization and Reform Act of 2011. I say reluctantly because the FAA is in urgent need of a long-term authorization to guide it in this critical period of air traffic control modernization. As most folks know, FAA has been operating under a series of short-term extensions, the last of which passed the House on Tuesday. While these short-term extension have been necessary, they have made it difficult for the agency to engage in long-term planning.

However, while H.R. 658 reauthorizes the agency for four years, I must oppose this bill. There are several reasons for this opposition.

First, H.R. 658 imposes arbitrary and poorly considered spending reductions on the FAA. This bill imposes over 1 billion dollars of annual cuts from FY 2010 spending levels. These cuts will lead to costly job losses. This is not a "job-creating" bill—far from it! As Marion Blakey, the FAA Administrator under the Bush Administration, said at a hearing earlier this year about this bill, "the prospect is really devastating to jobs and to our future, if we really have to roll back [to 2008 levels] and stop NextGen in its tracks." As we begin to climb out of a deep recession, I question the wisdom of cutting air travel infrastructure spending which is critical to the continued growth to the industry. And this is an industry, I might add, that contributes approximately 1.3 trillion dollars and nearly 11 million jobs to our economy.

These funding cuts occur at a time when air traffic is increasing. It defies logic that we can cut funding for air traffic infrastructure and safety while at the same time experiencing a growth in civil air traffic without leading to reduced levels of safety. You cannot. Let's be clear: this bill will reduce the safety of the American flying public. Period.

In the Science, Space, and Technology Committee, where I serve as Ranking Member, the Majority pushed through a 23% cut to FAA's research account. What got cut? Fire safety research, icing research, and research into reducing pilot and ground crew errors—and many other important initiatives. My Democratic colleagues on the Committee tried to restore funding to the safety programs I just mentioned, at a modest cost to the overall bill. However, we were rebuffed in our efforts in party line votes. I find it unfortunate that the flying public will have to sacrifice their safety so that our Republican colleagues can hew to an arbitrary budget cutting number.

I would also like to express my strong opposition to the provision of this bill which repeals the National Mediation Board's Fair Elections Rule. The notion that your vote only counts if it is actually cast is a fundamental principle of democracy. I am particularly disappointed that the Republican Majority has decided to go about attacking worker rights in a bill that should be about creating jobs for American workers.

In addition, I want to comment about an omission in this bill. This bill does not address the issue of flight attendant occupational hazards. According to 2009 Bureau of Labor Statistics data, air transportation workers are exposed to more workplace injuries and illnesses than construction workers and workers on factory floors. Despite this, flight attendants are not protected by occupational safety and health standards. Moreover, flight attendant fatigue has been identified by the Civil Aerospace Medical Institute as a safety problem, and one that needs to be addressed. Unfortunately, H.R. 658 addresses neither of these important issues related to flight attendant safety.

There are several provisions in this bill that I do support. Namely, I am glad to see that the Airport Access Flexibility Program is included in the bill we are considering today. The Airport Access Flexibility Program was created through my leadership in 2009 and directs the Secretary to establish a pilot program at five airports where passenger facility charges may be used to finance the eligible cost of an intermodal ground access project. This program is of critical importance to Dallas Love Field Airport for a project that would link the airport to the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) System. Congressional intent is quite clear that Dallas Love Field Airport should receive priority consideration to be included in this program. I look forward to working with colleagues in the Senate to ensure that this program is retained in the final legislation.

Finally, in the Manager's amendment there is a provision to prohibit any new safety regulations affecting crew or passenger spaceflight safety until 2020 or even later. That is bad policy that will have adverse consequences for safety if enacted. FAA has notified us that they are strongly opposed to the provision, as am I.

Mr. Chair, I would have liked to support a bipartisan FAA reauthorization today. Unfortunately, Majority has decided to bring a bill to the floor today that costs American jobs, attacks American worker rights, and sacrifices the safety of the American flying public. Therefore, I will oppose the bill today, and hope that we can work together to fix the problems I have identified in this legislation as we move forward.

HONORING THE LIFE OF DR. MARK
COLOMB HIV/AIDS ACTIVIST

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 1, 2011

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life of a true champion and humanitarian, Dr. Mark Colomb. Dr. Colomb's life mission addressed the health needs and concerns of blacks within the State

of Mississippi and other southern communities. A community activist, public health educator and public policy advocate, Colomb founded My Brother's Keeper, MBK, a national organization dedicated to reducing health disparities in African American communities. A principal architect of the Minority AIDS Initiative and founding member of the National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, Dr. Colomb is credited with garnering more \$9 million dollars, the largest of 12 five year national grants awarded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in 2000, to train African American community-based organizations throughout the U.S. and its territories on HIV/AIDS prevention and education. He played a central role in shaping both state and national HIV/AIDS policy legislation with particular focus on African American men and women.

His academic appointments included assistant professor of sociology, adjunct professor and statistical laboratory coordinator at Jackson State University and instructor at Tougaloo College.

Dr. Colomb was a member of St. Francis of Assisi Catholic Church, Madison, MS.; a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.; and numerous social, professional and academic honor organizations, including, Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society and Pi Lambda Theta International Honor Society and Professional Association in Education.

Again, I ask that my colleagues please join me in saluting the life and legacy of Dr. Mark Colomb.

THANKING MS. MARIE COLARUSSO
HIGGS FOR HER SERVICE TO
THE HOUSE

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 1, 2011

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, on the occasion of her retirement on April 4, 2011, I rise to thank Ms. Marie Colarusso Higgs for over 38 years of outstanding service to the United States House of Representatives.

Marie began her career here in 1971, while a student at Potomac Senior High School in Maryland. She first worked as a clerk in the office of The Honorable Frank M. Clark of Pennsylvania. She went on to work for The Honorable Stephen L. Neal of North Carolina, The Honorable Martin Frost of Texas, the Office of the Clerk, and the Office of the Chief Administrative Officer. Marie has worked in every House office building from the basement of the Ford building to the fourth floor of the Capitol.

Marie's commitment to public service was best demonstrated following the events of September 11, 2001. During that time, she worked tirelessly to assist in setting up temporary offices for Members displaced by the anthrax evacuation. Marie's enthusiasm, professionalism, and attention to detail have made her an invaluable team member on many special projects. Her generosity and support of others have endeared her to her many colleagues and friends in the House community.

More recently, Marie demonstrated her commitment and dedication to serving others when