

way. All across America, nursing homes provide fulfilling places to work, employing millions of Americans even in these tough economic times. In West Virginia alone, nursing homes and other long term care facilities make up one of the state's largest industries and employers. These jobs make nursing homes a critical component of local and state economies. In West Virginia, they support an estimated \$1.7 billion of the state's economic activity and \$38.6 million in tax revenue.

As this year marks the first year that baby boomers will reach the age of 65, the critical role that long term care facilities play will only become more important. These facilities will be even more critical in states like West Virginia where we have the second highest percentage of citizens who are over the age of 65.

Let us all celebrate the critical work of nursing homes in caring for our nation's seniors, employing Americans and strengthening the economy. I ask all Americans to join me in celebrating National Nursing Home Week by taking part in local activities and ceremonies around the country.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JOE SANCHEZ, SUCCESSFUL LOS ANGELES BUSINESSMAN AND DEDICATED COMMUNITY ACTIVIST

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the late Joe Sanchez, a dedicated community activist, successful Los Angeles businessman and a dear friend of the Roybal family who passed away May 10 at the age of 77.

Born on June 2, 1933 in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Joe's family moved to Los Angeles when he was eight years old following the outbreak of World War II.

As a teenager, he worked at Weber and Sons, a local discount grocery store in the Wall Street/Olympic area of Los Angeles. That job would be the start of his career in the wholesale grocery business. The discount retail grocery outlets he owned and operated included: La Quebradita grocery stores in East Los Angeles and Pico Rivera, which he co-owned with his sister and brother-in-law Dolores and Cal Soto; La Marketa in Stanton; and Civic Center Sales, originally located in Chinatown and later moved to Lincoln Heights. In addition, Joe served on numerous civic and industry boards. He founded the Mexican American Grocers Association in 1977 and was an active member of the Southern California Grocers Association.

But while Joe was an astute and successful businessman, his true passion was the pursuit of social justice for Mexican Americans, as well as other disenfranchised groups. For more than five decades, he used his businesses as a catalyst for social change and to help fund the social justice and political causes he cared most about. Joe advocated on behalf of the anti-war movement. He worked to end discrimination in hiring and job promotion, advance educational opportunities for Latinos, and increase the number of Mexican American elected officials and business owners.

During the United Farm Workers prolonged grape and lettuce boycotts, Joe collected truckloads of food for the striking farm workers.

Upon learning of Joe's passing, Arturo S. Rodriguez, president of the United Farm Workers of America, recalled, "During the most challenging and turbulent times of the farm worker movement, beginning in the 1960s and '70s, no one in the Latino community did more and could be counted on with greater consistency than Joe Sanchez. He was often the first person in the Chicano community to whom Cesar would turn when the farm workers needed help." A close friend, Cesar Chavez and his family often stayed in the Sanchez home when he was in Los Angeles.

In 1973, Mayor Tom Bradley appointed him to serve as a member of the Board of Fire Commissioners—the first Latino to hold such a position. He was elected to serve as President Pro Tem of the commission from 1973–76, and as Vice President from 1977–78. During his tenure, Joe pushed the LA Fire Department to stop discriminatory hiring practices against Mexican Americans, African Americans and Asians.

Under his leadership, Joe brought about a dramatic increase in the hiring of Latino firefighters, paramedics and civilian employees in the fire department from 67 to 300. Bilingual positions at the department increased markedly from 12 to 119. The department implemented a bilingual Emergency Training Program to teach firefighters emergency phrases in Spanish. A citywide study was conducted to assure equal services to all areas of Los Angeles and, for the first time, the department published fire prevention brochures in Spanish.

Genethia Hudley-Hayes, president of the Los Angeles Board of Fire Commissioners, said of Joe's contribution to the commission, "His was the first voice on the Fire Commission that spoke boldly, no matter the consequences, for access, equity and fair treatment for all of the men and women in the Los Angeles Fire Service."

In August 2010, Councilman Ed Reyes paid tribute to Joe with a bronze plaque at Fire Station No.1 in Lincoln Heights.

The plaque states that as a commissioner, Joe distinguished himself through his commitment to the goals of the Consent Decree, a 1974 court-ordered mandate that required the department to hire minorities, "thus reinforcing the principles of social and equal justice through the employment of all people regardless of race, color, creed or national origin."

In the decade following his service on the commission, Joe continued his quest for justice in the workplace. During the 1980s, Joe was the first person to publicly and financially support a discrimination lawsuit brought by a group of FBI officers who claimed they had been denied promotions because they were Hispanic. He was able to gather support in a community long wary of the agency for the controversial lawsuit, which the agents eventually won.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to all of Joe's contributions to the Los Angeles community, he was also a devoted husband, father, grandfather and even great grandfather. I ask my colleagues to please join me in extending our condolences to his wife, Laura Balverde Sanchez, and his entire family. Joe was an in-

spiration to all who knew him, and he will be greatly missed.

SUPPORT OF TAIWAN'S FULL MEMBERSHIP IN THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, as a Member of Congress and a friend of Taiwan, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me in supporting Taiwan's full membership in the World Health Organization, WHO.

Since 2009, China has permitted Taiwan to participate in the annual summit of the WHO in Geneva on a restricted basis. This year's meeting will be held from May 16th to the 24th. While I certainly welcome Taiwan's participation in this important international body, I am also concerned about the restrictions that China has placed upon Taiwan's involvement.

First, Taiwan's role in the WHO has been restricted to that of "observer status." This means that Taiwan does not have the ability to vote, speak, or participate in deliberations—they can only sit and listen. I believe that as a sovereign state, with a population of 23 million people, Taiwan deserves full representation in the United Nations and its affiliated organizations. As such, Taiwan should be recognized as a full voting member of the WHO.

As we all know, infectious disease knows no borders. Taiwan was affected in 2003 by an outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and the 2009 outbreak of the H1N1 virus. These events demonstrate the important role Taiwan plays in global health and the Nation should be recognized as such.

Second, Taiwan is participating again this year as "Chinese-Taipei." I would prefer to see Taiwan recognized under its name "Taiwan" rather than as a subsidiary of China.

Lastly, I have grave concern with China's veto power over Taiwan's role on the international stage. Chinese approval should not be a prerequisite for Taiwanese participation in United Nations organizations, or any other international organization. Taiwan should not have to rely upon the goodwill of China to voice beyond its borders. Allowing this to become the international norm will undermine its current status as an independent, sovereign state.

To close, I believe the United States should amend its current policy of supporting "meaningful participation." I therefore urge my colleagues to join me in supporting Taiwan's full and equal membership in the WHO as well as other international organizations.

RECOGNIZING FAITH ANDRULOT—NATIONAL RECIPIENT OF EXCELLENCE IN NURSING AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 13, 2011

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Faith Andrulot, a national recipient of the Excellence in Nursing Award