

Though Ms. Tiernan asked “hard questions, at the same time, I was always impressed that she embraced people of all persuasions because she wanted them to see what she saw,” Froehlich said. “And I mean really embraced them. She would hold somebody’s hand while they were disagreeing with her. She really wanted you to join her in this pursuit of justice for people who have nothing.”

Born in West Haven, Conn., Ms. Tiernan was 6 months old when her father died and 11 when her mother died. Raised by her maternal grandmother, she learned during the Great Depression to help others.

“Her grandmother always had soup or stew on the stove,” Froehlich said, “and when people came to the house who were down on their luck, she always had bowls of soup or stew ready for them.”

By her teens, she was learning to fly a plane and play jazz piano. She also was expelled from a Catholic boarding school, telling the *Globe* she had failed math and asked too many difficult moral questions.

She worked as a newspaper reporter and moved to Boston in 1947 to attend the Boston Conservatory on a scholarship, only to be expelled for drinking. “I was raped once,” she told the *Globe* in 1988. “I was 19. Drunk.”

Speaking of the women she served at Rosie’s Place, she added: “I’ll tell you one thing. It helps me identify with what some of these women have been through.”

Ms. Tiernan joined Alcoholics Anonymous, learned from recovering street drunks how to stay sober, and became a successful advertising copywriter with her own agency. In 1968, she did some free work for priests who had invited activist Daniel Berrigan to speak at a church.

Listening to him, she later recalled, it was as if a voice inside her head said, “I have just passed through a door, and there is no going back.”

Leaving the affluence of her advertising life, she moved into Warwick House, an urban ministry center in Roxbury. Using her copywriter’s facility with language, she became one of Boston’s most quotable advocates for the poor, coining phrases such as “from the Great Society to the Grate Society.”

A service will be announced for Ms. Tiernan, whose longtime companion of decades, Edith Nicholson, died in the 1990s.

Ms. Tiernan helped raise Nicholson’s three children and leaves one of those children, Peg Wright of Saugerties, N.Y.; seven grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren. For the past 15 years, Ms. Tiernan and Donna Pomponio have been a couple. They married in 2004.

“The tragedies in the world continued to propel her to fix things and make them better,” Pomponio said of Ms. Tiernan. “She knew that as human beings, we could do better for each other. There was a support and strength that came from that woman, and having her by your side and in your life, you knew that you could do it, too.”

HONORING THE LIFE AND
MEMORY OF BARBARA DONNELLY

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of my longtime friend and staff member, Barbara Donnelly.

Mr. Speaker, the first person I hired for my office when I was elected back in 1976 was

Barbara, which was one of the best decisions I have made during my 35 years in Congress. From the moment I took the oath of office, Barbara served the people of my district with a level of selflessness, loyalty and dedication to helping others that is unrivaled. You will never meet a more reliable or meticulous staffer, or a more caring person than Barbara Donnelly was. She was a perfectionist with a heart.

Throughout her career, Barbara touched the lives of thousands of residents in my district. From helping constituents with Social Security or veterans benefits, to assisting with immigration difficulties or the adoption of a child, Barbara did it all with compassion, discretion and determination. With Barbara at the helm of my constituent service program, I knew that she would not rest until our office had done everything possible to help people in need.

Barbara was the definition of a public servant, giving everything to her job and never asking for any credit. People like Barbara are the unsung heroes of public service, who work day and night to help others and almost never see their names in the newspapers or on TV. Barbara did not seek glory or recognition for her work, she only sought to improve the lives of others.

Mr. Speaker, there are few people like Barbara in this world. I feel blessed to have had the honor of knowing her and calling her my colleague. Over the years, I learned a lot from Barbara’s example and it is my hope that she will inspire others to lives of public service and good works.

Mr. Speaker, Barbara was an irreplaceable friend, staffer and human being. My condolences go out to her family, friends and all the people who had the privilege of knowing her and working with her. At this time of great sorrow, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring the life and memory of Barbara Donnelly.

A BILL TO AMEND THE AFRICAN
GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY ACT

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 11, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that would update one of our most important preference programs—the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA). This bill addresses two important issues.

First, it extends the “third-country fabric” provision of AGOA for three years, which is due to expire in September 2012. This will align the third-country fabric provision with the rest of the AGOA program which expires in 2015. Of course we are working on an improvement and extension of the AGOA program beyond 2015 right now.

The “third-country fabric” provision is one of AGOA’s most important elements. It allows apparel producers in lesser-developed sub-Saharan African countries to use third-country fabric in making apparel that gets duty-free treatment under AGOA (subject to a quantity limit).

In 2010, textiles and apparel were one of the leading AGOA import categories—\$730 million in trade last year alone. Much of these

imports require fabric that is not commercially available in sub-Saharan Africa. They depend, in other words, on use of the third-country fabric benefits.

Textiles and apparel are key exports for a number of AGOA countries including Lesotho, Kenya, Mauritius, and Swaziland who last year exported \$692 million of goods to us, mostly in apparel.

As U.S. Trade Representative Kirk recognized at last month’s “AGOA Forum” held in Lusaka, Zambia, “AGOA textiles and apparel have created new opportunities for investment and trade that benefit businesses and consumers in both the United States and Africa. This sector remains an important foundation for Africa’s growing industrial base.”

It is critical that the AGOA third-country fabric provision be extended now. It’s critical for businesses here in the U.S. and for jobs.

Buyers and retailers work on substantial lead times and need stable terms and conditions into the future. If there is uncertainty about whether AGOA apparel products will be there next year, they will begin to turn away from Africa. We cannot allow that to happen.

The second part of my bill takes another step in welcoming the new Republic of South Sudan to the community of nations.

On July 9—the South Sudanese took their future into their own hands and created the Republic of South Sudan.

The democratic process that resulted in the birth of this new country is an astonishing achievement—honoring the results of a referendum in which more than 4 million people, or 97 percent of registered voters, participated with 98 percent voting for secession.

The fact that this comes at the end of the longest and bloodiest civil wars in Africa makes it all the more incredible.

President Obama and Secretary Clinton have already signaled U.S. support for the new Republic of South Sudan.

We need to make sure we do all we can to help South Sudan be successful. We should act expeditiously, which is why I am introducing this bill on the first legislative day after the creation of this new nation.

I strongly urge all of my colleagues to support it.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT
AND RELATED AGENCIES
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2354) making appropriations for energy and water development and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Chair, I submit the following letter in support of funding for the Department of Energy’s Office of Science in H.R. 2354, Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 2012.