

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SUPPORT REUNIFICATION OF CYPRUS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge this Administration to join in the efforts to reach a reunification agreement on the island of Cyprus.

For many years, international organizations have been engaged in the efforts to bring about a negotiated compromise to the dispute in Cyprus and a reunification of the island. These negotiations have been focused around coming to a solution which benefits both Cypriot communities.

On July 7, 2011, the Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders met with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon in Geneva in a new effort to reach a deal on reunification. Secretary Ban Ki-Moon is pushing both sides to come to an agreement before Cyprus takes up a steering role in the European Union. This was the third round of three-way talks that Secretary Ban Ki-Moon has held with Cyprus Leader Demetris Christofias and Turkish Cypriot leader Dervis Eroglu.

I stand today to ask the Administration to take an active role to bring about a solution that would benefit both Cypriot communities. This ongoing disagreement is not helpful and reunification of Cyprus will only benefit the world community.

Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs, Philip Gordon, testified that "resolution of the Cyprus problem will have a tremendous impact on the region by strengthening peace, justice, and prosperity on the island, advancing Turkey's European Union accession, improving NATO-EU cooperation and removing a source of friction between two NATO Allies, Greece and Turkey."

I wholeheartedly agree and urge the Administration to take action to ensure that an accord is achieved that would lead to an independent government with both Greek and Turkish Cypriot governmental engagement.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

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:

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Chair, I would like to address some concerns from my constituents

about the Army Corps of Engineers permitting process.

As I travel around Virginia's First District, I hear from many constituents about their frustration with policies and regulations from Washington, D.C. Unfortunately, large federal government bureaucracies can get out of control and fail to protect the citizens and taxpayers.

The Army Corps of Engineers is an important agency in coastal Virginia. They have many responsibilities to promote navigation, commerce and environmental restoration. However, there are some occasions where I believe the multiple levels of bureaucracy and lack of accountability of decision makers can lead to situations that are unfair to Americans.

I've worked on the behalf of one of my constituents, a small marina owner who believes he was harmed due to a permitting mistake by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In this case a permitting decision ultimately cost this small business a significant amount of money.

I raise these issues to highlight the impact Agency action can have on main street businesses. I raise these issues to suggest the need for additional accountability to ensure that Army Corps permitting decisions are made appropriately and that the Corps works hand in hand with small businesses to mitigate financial harm.

RETIREMENT OF NERISSA BRETANIA-UNDERWOOD, PHD., FROM THE GUAM DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Nerissa Bretania-Underwood, PhD., for her extensive years of educational leadership on Guam. Dr. Bretania-Underwood is retiring from her career as the Superintendent for the Guam Department of Education (GDOE) after over 30 years of service to our island's education system.

Dr. Underwood was raised in the southern villages of Agat and Santa Rita, Guam. She received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Education, with a double major in Elementary and Special Education, from the University of Guam in 1981. After gaining teaching experience as a special education teacher at Harry S. Truman Elementary School, she became a consulting resource teacher for the GDOE's Division of Special Education. In 1985, she earned a Master of Science in Education, from the University of Oregon in Eugene, Oregon, specializing in the implications of special education placement in Guam. Shortly thereafter, in 1989, the University of Oregon conferred a Doctor of Philosophy in Education degree on Dr. Nerissa Underwood.

Dr. Underwood returned to Guam in 1990 to become an assistant professor at the Univer-

sity of Guam and the program evaluator for GDOE's Division of Special Education. In 1993, she was named Administrator for GDOE's Research, Planning and Evaluation Division, which provides data on the condition of Guam's education system to local educators and policy makers. In 2003, Dr. Bretania-Underwood served as Interim Superintendent for GDOE, and in 2007, she was named the Assistant Superintendent of Special Education. In 2008, Dr. Bretania-Underwood assumed the position of Superintendent of Guam's public education system. As the superintendent of Guam's public school system, Dr. Underwood worked to address structural management issues facing GDOE. She made significant progress to improve financial accountability within the school system, and I recognize her efforts to utilize Recovery Act Funds to improve the quality of education and school facilities on Guam.

Dr. Nerissa Underwood is married to Dr. Robert A. Underwood, the President of the University of Guam and former Guam Congressman. She is blessed with three children: Christopher, Gerecka, and Mike; and nine grandchildren. Throughout the years, Dr. Underwood has been active in many community and non-profit organizations, such as the Filipino Community of Guam, Iloilo Association of Guam, the American Red Cross, the Guam Humanities Council, the St. Paul Christian School Board, and the Guam Women's Club. She has contributed and devoted much of her knowledge and talents toward improving the quality of life for everyone who calls Guam home.

Today, I join the people of Guam in extending a sincere Un dangkulo Na Si Yu'os Ma'ase to Dr. Nerissa Bretania-Underwood for her over 30 years of dedicated service to our island's children and public school system.

IN OPPOSITION TO THE PRESIDENT'S NOMINATION OF MATHEW OLSEN TO LEAD THE NATIONAL COUNTERTERRORISM CENTER

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 15, 2011

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit a letter I sent to Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Chairman DIANNE FEINSTEIN opposing the President's nomination of Mr. Matthew Olsen to lead the National Counterterrorism Center.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

July 14, 2011.

Hon. DIANNE FEINSTEIN,
Chairman, Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, Hart Senate Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR FEINSTEIN: I write in opposition to Mr. Matthew Olsen's nomination to serve as director of the National Counterterrorism Center (NCTC), which is located in

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.