

1959 and a PhD in Poultry Nutrition and Management in 1972, both as a Florida Gator. Bruce also served his country as a member of the United States Army, both active duty and reserve, where he achieved the rank of Sergeant.

Of the 32 years of Bruce's professional service, 21 were spent conducting Research and Field Demonstration Trials. He began as the Assistant and Associate Extension Agent in Orange County, Florida and became one of the first assistants in Florida to be promoted to associate. Bruce then served as the Supervisor of the Florida Poultry Evaluation, continuing to work part-time even after his retirement.

Over the course of his career, Bruce authored roughly 150 scientific and informational publications on poultry, swine, and beef research studies. He has been a member of the Farm Bureau since 1960 and served on the Washington County Farm Bureau Board for nearly 20 years, 16 of which he served as president. Bruce has also served on the Florida Agriculture and Regional Agriculture Councils, as well as the Florida College of Agricultural and Life Sciences Alumni Board since its initiation. Bruce received the National Volunteer Service Award from the National Agriculture Alumni Association and has been inducted into the 4-H Hall of Fame.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor Bruce Christmas on his success. My wife Vicki and I are proud to congratulate Bruce, his wife of 53 years, Addie Ann; his children, Stuart, Robert, Jonathan, and Scott; and his entire extended family on this truly special occasion.

NATIONAL RIGHT-TO-CARRY
RECIPROCITY ACT OF 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 16, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 822) to amend title 18, United States Code, to provide a national standard in accordance with which nonresidents of a State may carry concealed firearms in the State.

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 822, the proposed National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity Act of 2011. I call on my colleagues to join me in rejecting this ill-considered and unwise legislation which will effectively force all states to accept the lowest-common-standard in concealed carry laws. Passage of this bill is reckless and undeniably a threat to public safety.

This law would add an unnecessary burden on police officers who risk their lives every day in traffic stops and other risky situations. It would make it nearly impossible for them to be able to determine whether the guns they encounter are legal or not.

The very likely and viable threats posed to public safety if this legislation passes are egregious. This legislation will do away with the strict gun laws each state has established according to its constituent composition and needs and empower dangerous individuals to carry concealed, loaded guns in states where they would not qualify for a local permit.

California has one of the most stringent gun laws in the Nation, and there is a reason for that. California had the highest number of gun murders in the Nation last year, 1,257, which is 69 percent of all murders that year and equivalent to 3.37 per 100,000 people in the state.

A very real example of what this legislation will do is a person convicted of domestic violence and not allowed to possess, let alone carry a concealed weapon in California, can cross state lines into a state that does not have the same restrictions, receive a permit for a gun, then cross states lines back into California and exact revenge against his victim.

Proponents against gun laws and restrictions constantly chime, "Guns don't kill people. People kill people." That may be the case, but a person with a gun can kill another much more easily than a person without one. FBI crime statistics based on reports to FBI bureau and local law enforcement show that in 2010, the latest year for which detailed statistics are available, there were 12,996 murders in the U.S.; of those, 8,775 were caused by firearms.

This dangerous bill will allow a resident of a state with strict concealed weapon permitting standards to simply go to and obtain a permit in a state with minimal standards, then head back home and carry a concealed weapon in a state that would have never allowed him to do so in the first place.

If ever you needed a concrete example of why this is such an ill-conceived and dangerous piece of legislation for both the public and law enforcement, consider the recent testimony of Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security. The Police Commissioner testified that in 2005, a man named Marqus Hill had his concealed carry permit revoked by Philadelphia Police after he had been charged with attempted murder. Mr. Hill later traveled to Florida, got a new permit despite his record, used his Florida permit to carry a loaded gun into Philadelphia, and later shot a teenager thirteen times in the chest, killing him in the street.

Mr. Chair, the ramifications of such legislation do not stop there. It would also make it easier for gun traffickers to move loaded guns through urban city streets where police officers are already having a difficult time combating crime and violence. It will be nearly impossible for police to verify the validity of 49 different carry permits.

Policing our streets and confronting the risks inherent in even routine traffic stops is already perilous enough. Ambiguity as to the legality of firearm possession could lead to confusion among police officers that could result in catastrophic incidents. Congress should be working to make the job of law enforcement officers more, not less, safe.

Today, states establish standards for carrying concealed, loaded handguns in public places that include criteria beyond an applicant's ability to pass a federal background check. For example, at least 38 states prevent people convicted of certain violent crimes from obtaining carry permits, 14 states require applicants to demonstrate good character to obtain a carry permit, and about half of states grant law enforcement discretion to deny a permit. The National Right-to-Carry Reciprocity

Act would gut these standards and empower dangerous individuals to carry concealed, loaded guns in states where they would not qualify for a local permit.

We see firsthand the tragedies that can unfold when guns end up in the hands of criminals, the seriously mentally ill, domestic violence offenders and other dangerous people. Let us not forget the tragedy earlier this year in Tucson, Arizona. Statistics show that every year, more than 12,000 gun murders are committed in big cities and small towns throughout the United States.

States and localities should have the right to determine who is eligible to carry firearms in their communities. It is essential that state, local and tribal governments maintain the ability to legislate concealed carry laws that best fit the needs of their communities.

H.R. 822 is a dangerous piece of legislation that will create a very real threat to public safety. In opposing this reckless piece of legislation, I stand with the people of my home state of California. I stand with domestic violence prevention advocates. I stand with law enforcement across the Nation and our local police who risk their lives every day to protect the public. I will vote against H.R. 822 and I urge all members of the House to do likewise. For the foregoing reasons I urge my colleagues to reject H.R. 822 and allow states to continue to decide for themselves and set their own standards regarding who can carry hidden, loaded guns in their communities.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3451

HON. DAVID B. MCKINLEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Mr. MCKINLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I was proud to introduce H.R. 3451, a bill that would name the Federal Courthouse in Wheeling, WV after one of our country's leading and most respected jurists, Honorable Frederick P. Stamp, Jr., Federal Judge for the United States District Court for the Northern District of West Virginia.

Judge Stamp has served with distinction and honor since he was nominated by President George H.W. Bush and then confirmed by the U.S. Senate in 1990 and served as the Chief Judge of the Court from 1994 to 2001 before assuming senior status in 2006.

Born in Wheeling, WV, Judge Stamp received a B.A. from Washington and Lee University in 1956, and attended the University of Virginia School of Law before receiving an LL.B. from the University of Richmond, T.C. Williams School of Law in 1959. Upon graduation, Judge Stamp was a private in the United States Army from 1959 to 1960, and a First Lieutenant in the United States Army Reserves from 1960 to 1967. Prior to his nomination to the Federal Court, he was in private practice in Wheeling, West Virginia from 1960 to 1990.

Judge Stamp and his wife Joan are the proud parents of two children, Andy and Elizabeth.

Mr. Speaker, it is truly a privilege for me to introduce this legislation to honor my friend Judge Frederick P. Stamp, Jr., and I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

A TRIBUTE TO THERESA GRAHAM
DEVORE

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Theresa Graham DeVore for her many accomplishments as a constituent in the 10th congressional district of New York.

Ms. DeVore was born on June 7, 1945. From an early age growing up in the Bedford Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn, NY, she developed a strong concern for her community. As a teenager she witnessed children, adults, and seniors who lost many opportunities for advancement because of a lack of information.

Ms. DeVore began her career as a nursing assistant in the Brooklyn Veteran's Administration Hospital, and was later promoted to clerk. It was during this work experience that she developed administrative skills. She was later reassigned and promoted to Supervisor of Medical Records in the Bronx Veteran's Medical Center. She received special recognition and monetary awards for implementing the first rotating file unit in the Bronx.

Ms. DeVore is committed to doing all that she can through mentoring, support, and sharing with children, adults, and especially seniors the importance of education, and how to fulfill their purpose. She provides them with the skills, knowledge, and direction that contribute to their growth and development. In addition to giving support, she respectfully challenges them to be accountable for choices and decisions that affect their lives. She is lovingly known in the community as "Momma Tee."

Ms. DeVore's professional experience includes: CEO and founder of Covenant of Faith Outreach, Inc (faith-based community initiative) which has been in operation for 10 years, issuing referrals and resources to those in need of housing, and information on health issues that affect our community. Covenant of Faith Outreach continues to award scholarships to students who are entering college for the first time and she conducts workshops on topics such as: "The Awareness of Single, Dating, & Marriage", "Mastering the Mysteries of Love", Grieving, Self-Esteem, tutoring and much more.

Ms. DeVore volunteers as a Chaplain with the United Chaplain International Worldwide Outreach, Inc. She is a member of The National Council of Negro Women; The Unity Democratic Club; The Women's Federation for World Peace; American Clergy Leadership Conference; and the Global Peace Foundation. Presently, she is completing her studies, and will graduate with a Master's of Divinity degree in 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Ms. Theresa DeVore for her resounding dedication to faith-based initiatives in the 10th congressional district of New York.

HONORING CHIEF RONALD
HADDAD

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Ronald Haddad, Chief of Police in Dearborn, Michigan, for being named a Public Official of the Year by *Governing Magazine*. As a resident of Dearborn, I can say that Chief Haddad is very deserving of this honor. His commitment to the safety of the residents of Dearborn and his emphasis on community policing is admirable and worthy of all of our praise.

Chief Haddad is the first Arab-American police chief in the State of Michigan, and he is an excellent liaison with Dearborn's large Arab-American community. The reforms he recently spearheaded have turned the Dearborn Police Department into a model law enforcement agency which other cities have sought to replicate. Specifically, the BRIDGES program, which entails regular meetings between leaders of the Arab-American community and government officials, has done much to promote trust and understanding in Dearborn, as well as Southeastern Michigan as a whole. Due to the good efforts and hard work of Chief Haddad and the entire Dearborn Police Department, Michigan's 15th Congressional District is a better place to live and work.

We all owe Chief Haddad an enormous debt of gratitude for his leadership and contributions to our society. *Governing Magazine* was very wise in choosing Chief Haddad as one of their honorees. I wish him all the best of luck in the future, and I am proud to represent Chief Ronald Haddad in the House of Representatives.

IN HONOR OF ARMY SPECIALIST
SARINA BUTCHER

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Mr. ROSS of Arkansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an exceptional soldier and a true American hero who died in service to this great country. On November 1, 2011, U.S. Army Specialist Sarina N. Butcher was killed at the age of 19 years old in Paktia Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. According to initial reports, Specialist Butcher died of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near her military vehicle.

Specialist Butcher was born in Crossett, Arkansas, and spent many of her childhood years in southern Arkansas, where much of her family still lives today. Specialist Butcher eventually moved to Oklahoma, where she graduated high school and eventually joined the Oklahoma National Guard. At the time of her death, she was assigned to F Company, 700th Brigade Support Battalion, 45th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Army National Guard, based in Tulsa, Okla.

We now know that Specialist Butcher was the first female and youngest Oklahoma National Guard soldier killed since the wars in

Iraq & Afghanistan began, but she will be remembered for much more than that. She will be remembered as an outstanding soldier. In fact, soon after her death, Private First Class Butcher was posthumously promoted to Specialist Butcher. She also earned a National Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Oklahoma Good Conduct Medal, Bronze Star and Purple Heart all at the age of 19.

Specialist Butcher will also be remembered as a loving daughter, a loving mother to her beautiful 2-year-old daughter, Zoey, and a good friend to all who knew her. She leaves behind an incredible void that will be impossible to fill. My thoughts and prayers are with her daughter; her mother, Dana; her father, James; and, with all of her friends and family during this very difficult time.

Last Sunday would have been Specialist Butcher's 20th birthday. It's hard when we lose any soldier in war, but it's especially hard when we lose such a young soldier. However, Specialist Butcher's too short of a life leaves behind a legacy longer than she could have ever lived. Her legacy of valor, distinction, patriotism and bravery will be remembered for years to come and will be told to her daughter as she grows up.

Specialist Butcher was honored and laid to rest on Veterans Day and I had the privilege to speak at her funeral service. Her story and her sacrifice are startling reminders of what our men and women in uniform risk when they serve this country.

Today, I ask all Members of Congress to join me as we honor the life and legacy of Army Specialist Sarina Butcher, as well as each man and woman in our Armed Forces, and all of those in harm's way supporting their efforts, who give the ultimate sacrifice in service to this great country. We owe them our eternal gratitude.

A TRIBUTE TO BERNICE BROWN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 17, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Bernice A. Brown, a native New Yorker with a passion for helping others through community building.

Ms. Brown was born on October 22, 1921 in Brooklyn, NY to Alice and George Wyche, and was the second to eleven other siblings. She was a 1940 graduate of Girls High School and soon went on to marry her husband of 49 years Charles Brown.

For 20 years Ms. Brown served as an accountant in payroll and retired in 1984. Her true passion and efforts were geared towards the community and her church, joining many organizations and church affiliated clubs. Ms. Brown was a member of Berean Church for 30 years, serving as Treasurer of Berean Federal Union for 18 years, Trustee for 15 years, and being part of Usher Boards.

Ms. Brown's community involvement has been the focus of her career, being affiliated with the Decatur Street Block Association and the Unity Democratic Club. At the Decatur Street Block Association Ms. Brown served as the President for four years, Financial Secretary for eight years, and Treasurer for 10 years. Ms. Brown has also been a member of