

Mrs. Graves died at Howard University Hospital in Washington, DC after a three-year battle with gall bladder cancer at the age of 75.

As Black Enterprise itself acknowledges, "she played a vital role in the growth and development of the publication and media company, and its mission of economic empowerment and wealth building for African Americans."

"Since the launching of the Black Enterprise Magazine in 1970, Barbara Graves, an alumna of Brooklyn College and a former elementary school teacher, held every major position, including editorial director, circulation director and chief financial officer, during the 40-plus-year history of this company. Along the way, she is credited with grooming and developing several generations of executive leadership, including sons Earl Jr., Johnny and Michael, all of whom have worked as executives at Black Enterprise. Mrs. Graves also co-founded and guided the Black Enterprise Women of Power Summit, the premier networking event and conference for women executives of color."

Her son, Earl Graves, Jr., president and CEO of Black Enterprise, testified to how special his mother was: "My mother was a steadfast and loving partner and counselor to my father; his quiet source of strength and inspiration. She served as mentor and guide to several generations of employees, managers and professionals. Above all, she genuinely cared for every member of the Black Enterprise family, and held a special passion for children and young people in particular."

Mrs. Graves' funeral services will be held at 11 a.m., to be preceded by a public viewing from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., on Saturday, June 2, at Grace Missionary Baptist Church in Mount Vernon, NY.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF PARKER MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. MIKE ROGERS**

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize the 125th anniversary of Parker Memorial Baptist Church in Anniston, Alabama.

Parker Memorial Baptist Church was founded on July 3, 1887, in Anniston, Alabama, and has faithfully shared the love of God with the city of Anniston and Calhoun County.

The beautiful Worship Center that was constructed in 1891 is one of the best known landmarks in downtown Anniston. It stands majestically along one of the busiest streets in the city, proclaiming to both residents and visitors that faith in God is a hallmark of the city.

The beauty of the physical structure serves as a testimony to the love and ministry of the people of Parker Memorial who have given, and continue to give, of their time, talents and resources to touch lives in the Anniston area and across the world.

In three different centuries, the congregation at Parker allowed the teachings and love of their Lord to transform lives and give a message of hope to a needy world.

On July 1, the Parker Memorial Family will gather to commemorate their 125th year of

ministry. Former pastors, leaders and members will join the present Parker Family to express appreciation for the past and to affirm a new vision for the future.

Mr. Speaker, I offer my congratulations to Parker Memorial Baptist Church on this milestone and encourage them to continue their outstanding service to Anniston.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, on May 30, 2012, I was unavoidably delayed due to a mechanical problem during travel causing me to miss rollcall vote 294 on H.R. 5651, the Prescription Drug User Fee Amendments of 2012. Had I been present for this vote, I would have voted "aye."

PRENATAL NONDISCRIMINATION ACT (PRENDA) OF 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, May 30, 2012*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 3541, the Prenatal Non-Discrimination Act. Had I been present, I want to state for the record that my vote on this bill would have been a resounding no.

This bill is nothing more than a further attack on women and women's health from a majority party that claims to be focusing on job creation and economic growth. Yet, today they present us with the ninth opportunity in this Congress to restrict women's access to reproductive health care.

Passing this bill would mean someone would have to stand in the operating room and judge the motives of a woman seeking a Constitutionally protected medical procedure. A doctor could be sent to prison for five years if it can be shown that sex-selection was a factor in the decision to have an abortion. Of course, the doctor would have to either be a mind reader to know the reasons behind a woman's decision, or subject her to unreasonable scrutiny. If the doctor even suspects that sex-selection was involved, but does not report, she or he can be sent to prison for a year. The idea that threatening to incarcerate an obstetrician is somehow protecting women is ludicrous. It only serves to intimidate doctors and keep them from providing medically necessary and often life-saving services for their patients.

Furthermore, this bill allows for an injunction preventing an abortion to be granted by a court if a woman's husband or her parents allege that sex-selection was a factor in the decision to have an abortion. A simple allegation from a third party can therefore prevent a woman from making a private and legal decision in consultation with her doctor. That is absolutely unacceptable.

Sex-selective abortions are a legitimate concern. But this bill is a false solution to a very

real problem. If the supporters of this bill truly wanted to end gender discrimination, they would be working on policies that address the root causes of inequality that plague women in America. They would be working to truly empower women to make decisions about their health and reproductive care. They would be working with us across the aisle to support federal programs that benefit women and their families, such as the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid, and the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. Instead they are on record voting to defund domestic and international family planning programs, dismantle health care reform, and in favor of proposals like the Ryan Budget that slash support for the most vulnerable women and families in this country.

I would welcome the opportunity to work with my colleagues across the aisle on actual solutions to the problems of gender discrimination and inequality in this country. The Prenatal Non-Discrimination Act simply does not address the real issues facing America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT L. TURNER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. TURNER of New York. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 296 I was away from the floor due to a memorial service for first responders at the World Trade Center Memorial in New York. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

THE LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 31, 2012*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to officially congratulate and formally recognize the future leaders of our armed forces—the graduates of the Class of 2016 at the nation's prestigious service academies. Each young adult listed will become a highly trained and exceptionally skilled commissioned officer in the most elite military in the world. As you know, each year I have the privilege of nominating a limited number of people to four of the five service academies. The honor of attending a service academy comes with an obligation and commitment to serve in the military for a minimum of five years upon graduation.

As a 29-year Air Force veteran and a former Prisoner of War in Vietnam for nearly seven years, more than half of that time in solitary confinement, it gives me great joy to help you serve our blessed nation. Best wishes to you as you pursue your goal of attending one of the U.S. Service Academies and serving our country. It is because of selfless people like you that we humbly remain "the land of the free and the home of the brave." The names of the appointees, their hometowns and high schools follow.

UNITED STATES MILITARY ACADEMY

Cody Christopher Guerry—Garland, Texas—Naaman Forest High School