

after his third year on the job. He was only twenty-four years old.

Mr. Sawyer embodies the term ambitious. He has owned three taverns in Brooklyn, and managed five taverns in Manhattan include the "Spotlight Bar" next to the Apollo Theater. He's owned four Laundromats, liquor stores, an office supply store, and scores of houses in Brooklyn.

Mr. Sawyer is also very active in the community; he came out of retirement, and presently serves as my community liaison for the 10th Congressional District. He has been a member of the Board of Managers at the North Brooklyn YMCA for over twenty years, serving as chairman for ten of those. In addition, he is a Founding member of the Board of Directors of the Boys and Girls Club of Eufaula, Alabama and a lifetime member of the NAACP.

Mr. Sawyer is married to Rosa Beatrice and together they have two children, Lisa and William, and four grandchildren, Tyra, Tammara, Leasia and Karima.

Mr. Sawyer believes that we all have an opportunity to succeed in life. He believes we should not be afraid to follow our dreams. He certainly followed his own advice and is now enjoying the sweet fruits of his labor. Mr. Sawyer and his wife currently split their time between homes in Brooklyn, New York and Eufaula, Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Leroy Sawyer for his unceasing ambition in life, as well as his commitment and leadership in his community.

HONORING STEVEN ANDREW  
MULLINS

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 20, 2012*

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks in honor of Steven Andrew Mullins, a devoted businessman and member of the Salem and greater Roanoke Valley communities, who passed away Saturday, June 9th at the age of 62.

Born on November 8, 1949, Steven was an athlete, student, and great friend to those around him. Everyone seemed to know Steve or know of him. In 1968, he graduated from Andrew Lewis High School, and then went on to obtain a Business Degree from the University of Georgia in 1973.

His first attempt at running a small business came in 1973 in Salem, VA when he and his father, Harold, opened Steve's Famous Hot Dogs with only \$500 in initial capital. Doing what he loved most, serving his community, Steve's business exploded with success and spread throughout the region to 17 different locations.

Later, Steve helped open Famous Anthony's in 1986. These business ventures helped Steve discover his interest in real estate, and he eventually became known as one of the best commercial realtors in the Roanoke Valley.

Despite all of Steve's business success, his brother Brad found only one accolade in his brother's lock box. It was a printout of the motion Steve made to form Salem City Schools. At the time, the schools were part of Roanoke

County schools, so—as a member of the Salem City School Board—Steve made the motion to form Salem's independent school district. Described by many as a man with a passion that is hard to understand, this is just another example of Steve wanting to do well for his community.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Steve's family and loved ones. His love for his family, neighbors, community, and contributions will always be remembered and cherished in Salem and throughout the Roanoke Valley.

IN SUPPORT OF WORLD, REFUGEE  
DAY

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 20, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of World Refugee Day. Across the globe approximately 43.7 million people have been displaced after being forced to flee their homes due to the threat of persecution, violence and conflict. The majority of these people are forced to live in extreme poverty and endure unspeakable conditions.

This is a day where we can honor the courage and strength of those that have lost everything, through no fault of their own. Many have had to make the terrifying decision of risking their lives, and their families lives by staying in a conflict stricken area, or leaving their home, families and possessions behind in an attempt to find safer conditions.

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees provides lifesaving assistance and protection to 33.7 million of those displaced, but even this is not enough. Women and children in camps experience high levels of rape and assault, and there is rarely enough food to go around. Health conditions in these camps are often extremely poor and disease runs rampant.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has taken in countless numbers of refugees in our history. They have become an essential part of the fabric of our society, but we can still do more. This is why I am a co-sponsor of H.R. 690, a resolution that recognizes America's positive impact on the international refugee community, but calls for important changes to be made to H.R. 2185, the Refugee Protection Act of 2011.

These changes would eliminate the 1-year filing deadline for asylum applications that puts at risk thousands of people each year, create a path to legal citizenship and ensure that victims of persecution are not inadvertently forced back to the countries they fled to begin with.

Mr. Speaker, this is a day to remember that we are the lucky ones. We live in the greatest country in the world where freedom of belief, speech, and press amongst others are God given rights, not privileges. As a member of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus I fully support the efforts of the UNHCR and H.R. 690 to try and make that a reality for all, regardless of nationality.

Today I rise to recognize all those living in poverty stricken refugee camps because it is safer than going home, and those all those who dream of returning to the land of their fathers, but are unable to do so. I ask my col-

leagues to support H.R. 690, and I support the honorable efforts of World Refugee Day.

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO AMEND TITLE IV OF THE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974 TO PROVIDE FOR A GUARANTEE BY THE PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION FOR QUALIFIED PRERETIREMENT SURVIVOR ANNUITIES UNDER INSOLVENT OR TERMINATED MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION PLANS

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 20, 2012*

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to rectify an inequity regarding the benefits provided to surviving spouses through the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). I am pleased to be joined by Rep. ROB ANDREWS in this effort.

PBGC provides pre-retirement survivor coverage, which provides a benefit to the surviving spouse of a pension participant who dies before retirement. However, in the case of a multiemployer pension plan turned over to PBGC, this benefit is guaranteed only if the plan participant dies before the plan is turned over. For single-employer plans the benefit is guaranteed regardless of when the participant dies.

The PBGC web site acknowledges this discrepancy, stating ". . . For the most part, the PBGC guarantees the same type of benefits for multiemployer pension plans as for benefits in the single-employer program, with the exception that preretirement survivor annuities are forfeitable in multiemployer plans if the participant has not died as of the termination date."

The debate over how to best provide income security for older Americans will continue for some time. However, in the meantime, it is unconscionable that a widow or widower would be denied the modest benefits provided under the PBGC multiemployer plan simply because his or her spouse did not die before the plan was turned over to the PBGC.

This discrepancy appears inadvertent and deserves to be corrected by Congress. I ask my colleagues for their support of this legislation so we can address this issue quickly.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION TO COMMEMORATE THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF TITLE IX

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 20, 2012*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on the 40th Anniversary of Title IX, I can clearly recall my youth when I and my female classmates didn't participate in sports simply because there weren't any sports for girls to play.

Many believe that Title IX applies only to athletics. While it's true that Title IX has literally changed the playing field for women in sports, this landmark legislation has also created opportunities for women in math, law,