

time to congratulate the individuals who will take their oath of citizenship on July 4, 2012. In true patriotic fashion, on the day of our great nation's celebration of independence, a naturalization ceremony will take place, welcoming new citizens of the United States of America. This memorable occasion, coordinated by the Hammond Public Library and presided over by Magistrate Judge Andrew Rodovich, will be held at The Pavilion at Wolf Lake in Hammond, Indiana.

America is a country founded by immigrants. From its beginning, settlers have come from countries around the globe to the United States in search of better lives for their families. The upcoming oath ceremony will be a shining example of what is so great about the United States of America—that people from all over the world can come together and unite as members of a free, democratic nation. These individuals realize that nowhere else in the world offers a better opportunity for success than here in America.

On July 4, 2012, the following people, representing many nations throughout the world, will take their oath of citizenship in Hammond, Indiana: Edina Anita Szabo, Jonathan Carmona Garcia, Alaa Alzayed, Oliva Chavez, Guolan Lu, Jaime Oseguera Cardenas, Dejan Kitevan, Jelica Dobrijevic, Karla Elizabeth Arreguin Farias, Ahmad Abdelrahim Almaaya, Huda Dali, Ljubica Vignjevic, Kefaa Nahed Omar Shuaibi, Rea Agulto Clarito, Senka Pamucar, Tanja Vignjevic, Liljana Josevski, Omiyosoye Adebowale Ololade, Mopelola Eniola Ololade, Blessing Obong Dennis, An Boo Min, Amanjot Kaur, Jingli Crain, Caroline Elizabeth Nyamweru Kamau, Halrun Luppes, Senija Crnkic, Siraneth Sem, Lenna Sabina Wade, Sanel Puzic, Jose Alberto Galicia Talabera, Tobias Florian Boes, Faneromeni Talia, James Murei Mumbura Karanja, Stella Gathoni Waitbaka, Bacilia Avila, Mireya Jaquelin Aguilar, Gifty Debo Barlue, Esther Joo Young Chun, Patricia Contreras, Salvador Cruz, Nathaniel Tuason David, Luis Alberto Garcia, Njeri Mary Karumbo, Juliana Santos Kladis, Lenka Mitic, Innocent Ngenga, Elizabeth Procyk, Jose Gustavo Suarez, Nour Alghnimi Ulayyay, and Jovita Zurita.

Though each individual has sought to become a citizen of the United States for his or her own reasons, be it for education, occupation, or to offer their loved ones better lives, each is inspired by the fact that the United States of America is, as Abraham Lincoln described it, a country “. . . of the people, by the people, and for the people.” They realize that the United States is truly a free nation. By seeking American citizenship, they have made the decision to live in a place where, as guaranteed by the First Amendment of the Bill of Rights, they can practice religion as they choose, speak their minds without fear of punishment, and assemble in peaceful protest should they choose to do so.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating these individuals, who will become citizens of the United States of America on July 4, 2012, the day of our nation's independence. They, too, will be American citizens, and they, too, will be guaranteed the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. We, as a free and democratic nation, congratulate and welcome them.

IN HONOR OF CLEVELAND CITY  
COUNCILWOMAN DONA BRADY

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Cleveland City Councilwoman Dona Brady, who has admirably served the residents of Ward 17 since 1997.

Born and raised in Cleveland, Councilwoman Brady has been a leader in the Greater Cleveland community for years. She attended Cleveland State University Levin College of Urban Affairs where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree, Cum Laude, in Urban Studies with a major in neighborhood revitalization. She is also a graduate of CSU's Leadership Academy.

Before she was elected to Cleveland City Council, Brady worked for the Office of Cuyahoga County Prosecutor William D. Mason, Judge Raymond L. Pianka and for the Cleveland Board of Zoning Appeals.

Throughout the past 15 years, Councilwoman Brady has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life in Ward 17 of Cleveland, which includes the West Boulevard and Clifton historic districts. She has worked toward promoting economic development, improving public safety, maintaining the ward's housing stock and developing additional recreational opportunities for families. Brady serves as the Chair of the Public Service Committee, Vice-Chair of Public Safety, and as a member of the Council's Finance and Community and Economic Development Committees.

Councilwoman Brady is also involved in Cleveland's Albanian-American community and has been named Cleveland's Ambassador to Albania. She has been a constant in revitalizing the Albanian Cultural Garden in Rockefeller Park and instrumental in building an international trade relationship with Fier, Albania.

Throughout the years and her career, Councilwomen Brady has been honored by numerous organizations. She is the recipient of the 2005 Outstanding Elected Official's Award from CSU Leadership Academy's David C. Sweet Alumni Society. Additionally, she has been inducted into the Golden Key National Honor Society, and recognized by Jobs with Justice, the International Services Center and American Nationalities Movement.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honoring Councilwoman Dona Brady for her years of service and commitment to the Greater Cleveland area.

TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION PROCESS REFORM ACT

SPEECH OF

### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 26, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3173, which directs the Secretary of Homeland Security to reform the process for the enrollment, activation, issuance of renewal of a Transportation Work-

er Identification Credential, TWIC, to require, in total, not more than one in-person visit to a designated enrollment center.

The TWIC program was established to ensure all individuals who require admittance into secure areas of regulated maritime facilities and vessels are properly vetted and do not pose a threat to maritime and supply chain security. Current TWIC requirements require that applicants go to an enrollment center twice to complete the application and confirm the biometric information embedded into the card.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that this is an onerous burden for workers in the maritime industry, such as merchant vessel operators and truck drivers, who must obtain the credential for employment. Individuals in need of a TWIC card often work long hours with little down time. Many cannot afford to take extended periods of time off to go to an enrollment center, in some cases located hundreds of miles away, on two different occasions.

I believe that the Secretary of Homeland Security should reform the TWIC process before the end of 2012, when the TWICs first issued in 2007 will need to be renewed allowing applicants to complete the process with only one in-person visit. I urge Members of Congress to support H.R. 3173, to direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to reform the process for the enrollment, activation, issuance, and renewal of the TWIC program.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2012*

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows: June 26, 2012—rollcall vote 416, On agreeing to the Connolly Amendment—I would have voted “nay”, rollcall vote 417, On agreeing to the McClintock Amendment—I would have voted “aye”, rollcall vote 418, On agreeing to the Garrett Amendment—I would have voted “aye”, rollcall vote 419, On agreeing to the Capps Amendment—I would have voted “nay”, rollcall vote 420, On agreeing to the Gosar Amendment—I would have voted “aye”, rollcall vote 421, On agreeing to the Broun Amendment—I would have voted “aye”, rollcall vote 422, On agreeing to the Broun Amendment—I would have voted “aye”, rollcall vote 423, On agreeing to the Broun Amendment—I would have voted “aye”.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF LA RAZA DURING ITS 2012 ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

### HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 28, 2012*

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the National Council of La Raza (NCLR) during its 2012 annual conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.