

the Palestinian Authority \$495 million. In the same timeframe, President Abbas' office budget was \$72 million yet he refuses to tell us or anyone else how he spends it. There are even press reports that his own salary is \$1 million a month. According to their own documents, the Palestinian Authority spent \$194 million last year alone on offices that helped promote the Palestinians' push for recognition at the U.N. The U.S. should immediately cut funding to the PLO by at least \$72 million next year and require President Abbas to open up his budget for all to see. The days of giving money away to other nations with no transparency and no consequences for irresponsible behavior should be over.

The United Nations has no business getting involved in the conflict between the Israelis and the Palestinians. Dore Gold, a former Israeli ambassador to the U.N. said: "If there was a U.N. resolution whose first clause was anti-Israel and whose second clause was the earth is flat, the U.N. would pass it." Peace will not come from decisions made by a corrupt international body. If the Palestinians were committed to peace they would be working with Israel, not hiding behind the U.N. And that's just the way it is.

GREG POULOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Greg Poulos for his service to our community and receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence.

As founder and chairman of the Golden Schools Foundation, Greg continues to drive the organization to excellence through high performance rates and accountability in the Golden articulation area.

Greg portrays his commitment to the people of Golden through his surveys of the residents on their expectations and reviews of Golden schools, then employs these testimonials in strategic goals for the community. Greg aims to have 95% of Golden students enrolled in their neighborhood schools. With Greg's determination and diligence, this goal will undoubtedly be achieved in the near future.

Mr. Poulos is a champion in the community and I am honored to congratulate him on receiving the 2012 Mayor of Golden's Award for Excellence. I am sure he will have the same dedication and commitment in all his future endeavors.

RUSSIA AND MOLDOVA JACKSON-VANIK REPEAL AND SERGEI MAGNITSKY RULE OF LAW ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 16, 2012

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 6156, the Russia and Moldova Jackson-Vanik Repeal Act of

2012. This legislation sends the wrong message, rewarding President Putin with trade privileges at a time when he is crushing pro-democracy voices at home and arming the murderous Assad regime in Syria.

Russia has repeatedly and deliberately blocked international efforts to bring an end to the violence in Syria. The Russian government continues to arm President Bashar al-Assad as he murders his own people. Just last month, the Turkish government seized munitions from a Russian flight intended for the Syrian Army. The violence has had a devastating impact on Syrian civilians, with 2.5 million internally displaced and over 400,000 registered refugees living in neighboring countries. By early next year, 4 million Syrians will need humanitarian assistance. Russia's support of the Syrian Army is extending the conflict, which increases the risks of destabilization within the region. The conflict has already spilled over Syria's borders into Turkey and Lebanon. Before I support any legislation favorable to Russia, that country's leaders must stop arming the Syrian regime and allow the international community to take action to end the violence.

Proponents of this legislation argue it is time for Russia to graduate from Jackson-Vanik. This graduation, however, would take place in the middle of a serious crackdown on human rights in Russia. In the past year, the Russian government has forced international non-governmental organizations out of the country and imposed harsh sentences on individuals for peaceful protest. Just three days ago, President Putin signed a law that expands the definition of treason so broadly that any individual working with an international organization is at risk of being jailed for treason. These repressive tactics signal a serious step backward for Russia's human rights record.

H.R. 6156 contains the Sergei Magnitsky Rule of Law Accountability Act, which would require President Obama to publically name those responsible for Mr. Magnitsky's torture and murder. The President would then be able to address those persons and other human rights abusers with individual sanctions, including prohibitions on travel to the United States and the use of American banking facilities. Those responsible for Mr. Magnitsky's murder should be brought to justice. While I support this provision, it is not enough to justify voting for the bill, which ignores the continued suffering of millions in Russia and Syria.

I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 6156.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF HARLEM'S GENERAL COUNSEL JOSEPH FLEMING, ESQ.

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 29, 2012

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember the life and legacy of Joseph Fleming, fondly known to many as Papa Joe, Joe Cool, The People's Lawyer, The Master Negotiator and Harlem's General Counsel. On Monday, September 10, 2012, Harlem's honorary elite gathered at the Sanctuary of the historic Abyssinian Baptist Church to celebrate the life of our dear beloved attorney and friend, Joseph Fleming, Esq.

It was a special gathering of people that knew Joseph as clients, as activists, as educators, as business partners, as media personalities, as religious leaders, as entertainers and promoters, as elected officials and as family members and friends. In his very short time here on this earth, my dear friend Joe Fleming lived a complete and compact life of excellence and accomplishment, which included being the best husband in the world, a wonderful loving and complete father, a devoted son, a trusted friend and confidant, an author, inventor, entrepreneur, role model, track runner, singer, a man who loved to party and dance with the ladies, but a man who gave all of his unyielding heart to his only true love and partner Temple-Jene.

Great men like Joseph Fleming, Esq. are precious gifts we temporarily have in this world, but their assistance and contributions are far remembered and everlasting. Although Joe will be missed, his legacy now lives through his wife, Temple-Jene, his son, Joseph Harris, his three daughters, Lavon Robin, Lateefah Shariene and Terilyn Marshelle, his grandson, Nathaniel Joseph Williams, his God-daughter, Nyah Cha' Ron Uhuru and through Maschil Entertainment, whose mission is to create, produce, and promote music and artists who "make music with a conscious message". That is indeed a great comfort to all who knew this amazing, articulate, soft spoken, serene and outspoken man, who lived life positive despite pain and discomfort as an example to all of us.

Mr. Speaker, on a very personal note, when I remember Joe Fleming, I think about myself as D'Artagnan who joined Athos (Joe Fleming), Porthos (Leon Ellis) and Aramis (Reggie Williams), the Black Musketeers, inseparable friends who live by the motto "all for one, one for all" ("tous pour un, un pour tous"). The friendship and kinship of these amazing three Amigos, The Black Musketeers is a story that bears and dares to be written in the mortals of Harlem's history, which will tell a story of three very best friends who were always there for me and the community we love so deeply.

I am honored to include the Obituary of our dear beloved Musketeer, Joseph Fleming, Esq.

Joseph Fleming was born January 4, 1951 in Richmond, Virginia to Mary Terry Fleming and the late Rev. Leroy Fleming, Sr. His family moved to Mt. Vernon, New York in 1953, and later to the Bronx in 1957. Joseph is a product of the New York City School System, P.S. 103, Olinville Jr. High School, and Evander Childs High School. He graduated from New York University School of Liberal Arts at its Uptown Bronx Campus in 1973, where he received his B.S. Degree in Economics and Political Science. While attending NYU, Joseph was the Founder and one of the Directors of the Educational Development and Community Enrollment Program, a program designed to enroll and mentor students with promise, but without the grades. He was also President of the Black Students Organization.

Joseph loved the law. At an early age, after watching Perry Mason, he decided he was going to be a lawyer. Upon receiving his Juris Doctor from New York University in 1976, Joseph began working as an Associate in the Law Offices of Reginald F. Lewis. It was an opportunity of a lifetime to be able to gain firsthand experience with one of the top African American attorneys on Wall Street. Within a couple of years, Joseph knew that his passion for the law would only be truly