

of Madeira, the "Pearl of the Atlantic." For the last 100 years, New Bedford has hosted the Feast of the Blessed Sacrament, featuring authentic Portuguese food, wine, and music, along with lessons on Portuguese history and folklore.

Today, this historic feast continues to maintain its cultural significance to those who wish to honor the Madeira customs. Additionally, it is known to provide endless entertainment to the entire New Bedford community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating the town of New Bedford and the Club Madeirense S.S. Sacramento, Inc., who sponsor the feast, for the celebration of the Feast of the Blessed Sacrament's 100th anniversary. May this magnificent cultural event continue to flourish for many years to come.

COMMEMORATING AVANCE'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF EMPOWERING FAMILIES

HON. LLOYD DOGGETT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. DOGGETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor AVANCE, Inc. and to recognize its 40th anniversary of service to families and children in Texas. This outstanding organization was founded in 1973 to provide family support services and education to parents. AVANCE began in one room of the Mirasol Housing Project on the West Side of San Antonio with a handful of families and has grown into a national organization with sites across the country.

Every day, AVANCE's staff works tirelessly to "Unlock America's Potential" by strengthening families in at-risk communities through effective parent education and support programs. This effort has changed the lives of thousands of Texas families, leading the way for stronger, healthier communities; a sharper workforce; and increased educational attainment.

AVANCE has successfully capitalized on parents' inner strength and innate love for their children to help them become the best teachers and stewards of their children's growth and success. AVANCE works on the principle that parental education alone is sometimes not enough; an effective intervention must build parents' resilience, interpersonal connections, networks, and access to education, jobs and other opportunities. True parental engagement empowers parents to become advocates for their children and families.

Studies have shown the effectiveness of AVANCE's two-generation approach. In an external study designed to assess whether participation led to changes in education and socio-economic status, results showed that the AVANCE program has positive effects on families long after they graduate—especially for the most disadvantaged families. Parents had dramatic increases in educational attainment, better jobs and home ownership.

Congratulations to AVANCE President and CEO Richard J. Noriega and the AVANCE Board of Directors. Today, AVANCE has active sites in the Texas cities of San Antonio, Austin, Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, El Paso, Waco, Del Rio, San Juan and in the Rio

Grande Valley as well as in several other states.

Mr. Speaker, I join with our community in expressing congratulations and deep gratitude to AVANCE for its more than four decades of exemplary service and dedication to the families of Texas. We wish you many more years of success toward fulfilling your mission of Unlocking America's potential.

H.R. 5078 AND H. RES. 644

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose H.R. 5078, the Waters of the United States Regulatory Overreach Protection Act of 2014, and had I been present would have voted against the legislation offered by Mr. SOUTHERLAND.

I am concerned that this legislation would prevent both the current and future Administrations from undergoing a rulemaking process to clarify enforcement of Clean Water Act protections of streams and tributaries around the country. This rulemaking process is necessary to clarify what is now an unclear and confusing set of guidelines as to which waterways fall under jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act.

The small streams, wetlands, headwaters, and tributaries that are affected by this ruling flow into the drinking water of over 117 million Americans, support businesses and recreation, and are crucial habitats for wildlife, including in my home state of Rhode Island. The Administration has undergone an open and transparent process, including a lengthy public commentary period that is still underway, to come up with a rule that more clearly defines which waterways are under jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act, in order to protect our country's drinking water supply and waterways from pollution, actions that benefit every American. Preventing the Executive Branch from clarifying this issue jeopardizes the safety of waterways across the country.

Additionally, I strongly oppose H. Res. 644, condemning the President for the prisoner exchange of five Guantanamo Bay prisoners for Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl, and had I been present I would have voted against it. As Commander in Chief of the U.S. Military, the President has a constitutional responsibility to protect the lives of U.S. servicemembers, as well as the lives of U.S. citizens abroad. While Members of Congress may not agree with the President's decision, a resolution calling his actions illegal is hardly helpful or useful at this time. And the fact remains, an American soldier is home safely because the President took seriously his constitutional responsibilities to protect American lives.

The decision made by the President was made in close consultation with Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin Dempsey. Sergeant Bergdahl had been held prisoner by Taliban forces since 2009. It was determined that there was a very narrow window of opportunity to ensure his safe return. General Dempsey has said that the opportunity to make a prisoner exchange for Sergeant Bergdahl represented the best and last chance to ensure his freedom. When con-

fronted with the decision to either ensure Sergeant Bergdahl's safety, or allow him to die in enemy captivity, the President decided to act in order to save his life.

When we send our brave men and women in the Armed Services onto the field of battle, we send them with the assurance that we will never forget their sacrifice, and that we will leave no man behind. The President has demonstrated true leadership by honoring this pledge. I do not believe it is appropriate for Congress to undermine that leadership, or that pledge.

TRAFFICKING AWARENESS TRAINING FOR HEALTH CARE ACT OF 2014

HON. RENEE L. ELLMERS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mrs. ELLMERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Trafficking Awareness Training for Health Care Act of 2014. This bill will improve the health care system's ability to recognize and respond to victims of trafficking by providing health care professionals with the knowledge and training they need to deal with this modern day form of slavery.

We know that the victims of sex and labor trafficking in the United States suffer from wide-ranging physical and mental health problems. In one study, over 87% of these victims have sought care from an emergency ward in a hospital, a neighborhood clinic, or a family physician. Because of this, these health care professionals are in a unique position to identify trafficking victims and help them recover.

At the same time, we are also discovering that healthcare providers and professionals remain unaware of sex trafficking and the role that they can play to help them. In fact, even when medical personnel think they have identified a victim, which is only about half the time, they don't know how to help or are not even aware that there are protocols in place to refer them to others for help. This is even more distressing because the medical professional is probably the one expert most likely to encounter a victim at some point during their enslavement.

Although trafficking is demonstrably expensive to our society—and a debilitating public health issue—current federal law does not require medical care professionals to receive training regarding the nature and scope of sex trafficking in this country. Nor does current law require health care professionals to be trained to identify possible trafficking victims, nor how to respond to victims if they are able to identify them. My bill would take the first necessary steps to make this training available.

The Trafficking Awareness Training for Health Care Act mandates that HHS take steps to develop evidence-based protocols to recognize and respond to victims of trafficking. It also sets up a comprehensive pilot program to test these protocols and determine whether or not the protocols will actually result in victim identification and rescue. Those protocols that are shown to be evidence-based can then be taught to health care professionals as part of their medical and nursing school curriculum. They can also be included in continuing-education modules.

The U.S. government estimates that more slaves exist today than ever before. Currently, there are more than 20 million victims of human trafficking worldwide. Yet most Americans don't realize that trafficking is also a huge problem here in the United States. Some estimate that as many as 300,000 U.S. children are at risk of sex trafficking each year.

We must take action to stop this horrendous danger to our people. The bill I am introducing today instructs the Department of Health and Human Services to work with medical and nursing schools to evaluate existing protocols, and develop new ones to identify and respond to victims of trafficking. It is an appropriate concern for healthcare workers and it is my hope that, once health care professionals are convinced that the protocols are tested and evidence-based, they will welcome the opportunity to incorporate them into their medical training so that they can assist the victims and help them heal.

CONSTITUTION WEEK

HON. TOM RICE

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. RICE of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation:

Whereas: It is the privilege and duty of the American people to commemorate the two hundred twenty-sixth anniversary of the drafting of the Constitution of the United States of America with appropriate ceremonies and activities; and

Whereas: Public Law 915 guarantees the issuing of a proclamation each year by the President of the United States of America designating September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week; now, therefore I, TOM RICE by virtue of the authority vested in me as Representative of the 7th Congressional District of the State of South Carolina do hereby recognize the week of September 17 through 23 as Constitution Week and urge all citizens to study the Constitution and reflect on the privilege of being an American with all the rights and responsibilities which that privilege involves.

HONORING A LIFETIME OF PUBLIC SERVICE OF DR. GLENN POSHARD

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the careers of a true champion of Southern Illinois, Dr. Glenn Poshard. I say the "careers" in the plural form because Glenn wore many hats—soldier, educator, legislator, administrator and advocate, in his service to his community, his state and his nation.

Born and raised in Southern Illinois, Glenn Poshard served in the U.S. Army, deployed to Korea. On returning home, Glenn used the GI Bill to begin a relationship with Southern Illinois University that would span over 40 years and include roles as a student (Glenn earned bachelors, masters and doctoral degrees from SIU Carbondale), adjunct professor, administrator and University President.

Glenn began a career in education as a high school teacher and coach, and served as the director of the Southern Illinois Educational Service Center. He began his legislative career when he was appointed to fill a seat in the Illinois Senate in 1984. He would represent Southern Illinois in that body until 1988 when he was elected to the U.S. Congress. Glenn would serve in Congress until 1999 and there are still a number of members who served with Glenn in this chamber who continue to count on him as a trusted friend and colleague.

Throughout his tenure in Congress, Glenn was well known as a champion of working men and women who stood up for the needs of his constituents in Southern Illinois. Glenn worked tirelessly to secure job creation, educational opportunities, health care facilities and fair wages. He also led by example on campaign finance reform and worked to limit the influence of money in politics. Throughout his political career, Glenn was known as a fiery orator who brought crowds to their feet. By word and deed, Glenn always inspired his constituents and instilled optimism and hope.

After retiring from Congress, Glenn returned to education and his beloved Southern Illinois University where he was named vice chancellor of administration at SIU Carbondale. He served on the Board of Trustees until 2005, when he resigned to seek the position of University President, a post he held until retiring from that position this past Spring. Glenn Poshard's tenure as SIU President was the second longest in the university's history.

Fifteen years ago, Glenn and his wife, Jo (also an educator), cofounded the Poshard Foundation for Abused Children. This charitable organization has provided invaluable assistance to children who have suffered abuse and also serves as an advocacy tool in the fight to permanently eradicate the scourge of abuse that impacts far too many children and families in Southern Illinois and throughout our nation.

Throughout many roles, Glenn Poshard has always worked for the betterment of Southern Illinois and its people. He has done so as a model of integrity and inspiration. I am proud to call him my friend.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Dr. Glenn Poshard and expressing our appreciation for his lifetime of public service.

IN RECOGNITION OF LOREN AND ELOUISE SUTTON

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Loren Sutton who have been married 58 years and serve as clergy in Lee County, Alabama.

Loren and Eloise met at Southeastern Bible College in 1953. They were married in Birmingham, Alabama, on June 8, 1957.

Loren and Eloise accepted their call to ministry on April 6, 1958 and served as pastors in Townley and Jasper, both in Alabama, before they arrived in Opelika, Alabama, to start a new church in March of 1965.

The Suttons have four children and three grandchildren including: Loren Sutton Roberts, wife of Dr. Don Roberts; Elizabeth Sutton; Timothy Sutton; Dr. John Sutton.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Loren and Eloise Sutton for their tireless service in the Lee County community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF COLONEL BEN P. BINGCANG

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this moment to celebrate the life and share the passing of a dear friend of mine and a devoted servicemember, physician, husband and father, U.S. Army Colonel Ben P. Bingcang.

Colonel Bingcang passed away at his home in Nicholasville, Kentucky on July 31, 2014 at the age of 67 and is survived by his wife, Cornelia C. Bingcang of Nicholasville, Kentucky; his three sons, Oliver, Alexander, Christopher; and a host of family and friends.

We grieve the loss of this great American, but we also celebrate and honor his life and his service to our country. Since receiving his commission in the U.S. Army Reserves with a rank of Captain on January 3, 1983, Colonel Bingcang spent the rest of his career providing medical care and comfort to service members and civilians alike. When Colonel Bingcang was not treating patients at St. Joseph Hospital in Lexington, Kentucky, he was tending to the wounded on the battlefields and commanding hospitals during Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm and, in more recent years, Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

Colonel Bingcang embodied the best of America's ideals, values, and commitment to service, constantly living by the motto of his home reserve unit in Kentucky in both his civilian and military life: "Say it, Mean it, Do it!"

Due to Colonel Bingcang answering the call to serve his country, many lives were saved and comforted by his medical care and countless staff and patients' spirits have been raised by his loving personality. I am forever grateful for his friendship and service to our local community and our country. He was truly an outstanding American and an inspiration to us all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, September 8, 2014 I was not present for 3 votes. I wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been present to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 481, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 482, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 483, I would have voted "yea."