

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2015*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for roll call votes 71–76 due to a family emergency.

Had I been present, I would have voted no on #71, no on #72, no on #73, yes on #74, no on #75, and yes on #76.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN R. CARTER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2015*

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, due to illness, I was unable to attend votes the week of January 5, 2015. I would have supported final passage of the following bills:

Roll Call #7 (H.R. 22: Hire More Heroes Act of 2015—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass)

Roll Call #8 (H.R. 26: Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass)

Roll Call #9 (H.R. 37: Promoting Job Creation and Reducing Small Business Burdens Act—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass)

Roll Call #10 (H.R. 23: National Windstorm Impact Reduction Act Reauthorization—On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass)

Roll Call #14 (H.R. 30: Save American Workers Act of 2015—On Passage)

Roll Call #16 (H.R. 3: Keystone XL Pipeline Act—On Passage)

Due to illness, I was also unable to attend votes the week of January 19, 2015. I would have supported final passage of the following bills:

Roll Call #41 (H.R. 161: Natural Gas Pipeline Permitting Reform Act—On Passage)

Roll Call #45 (H.R. 7: No Taxpayer Funding for Abortion and Abortion Insurance Full Disclosure Act of 2015—On Passage)

## RECOGNIZING COMMISSIONER OF CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION, THOMAS S. WINKOWSKI

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2015*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the retiring acting Commissioner of Customs and Border Protection, Thomas S. Winkowski. He has served with distinction, and is now ending his tenure after a 39-year career with CBP and other border security agencies. His tireless efforts have helped keep our borders secure and improved the efficiency and effectiveness of our border operations.

Thomas Winkowski joined the U.S. Customs Service in 1975 as a cooperative education student. Upon graduating from Boston's Northeastern University in 1978, he was assigned to Los Angeles where he became a Customs

inspector. He has subsequently served as Miami's port director, director at Los Angeles International Airport as well as Director of field operations in Miami from 2002 to 2007.

Mr. Winkowski assumed the role of acting commissioner on March 30th, 2013, taking the lead role of the 60,000-employee Customs and Border Protection agency. He has been a consistent advocate for innovation and efficiency, and since serving as assistant commissioner in CBP's Office of Field Operations in 2007, he has developed CBP into a world-class law enforcement organization through a stringent process of modernization and expansion of global operations. Mr. Winkowski also served as the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement where he led 20,000 employees in more than 400 offices in the United States and 48 foreign countries.

In recognition of his excellent and distinguished service, Mr. Winkowski was awarded the Meritorious Presidential Rank Award by President Bush in 2004. In 2009, his service was also recognized by President (Obama), who awarded him the Distinguished Executive Presidential Rank Award.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Thomas S. Winkowski, retiring acting commissioner of Customs and Border Protection. His years of dedication and commitment to our country have truly made this nation safer today. Thank you for this time.

## HONORING THE 2014 FELLOWS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS (NAI)

**HON. DENNIS A. ROSS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 13, 2015*

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 170 inventors who will soon be recognized at the California Institute of Technology and inducted as the 2014 Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors (NAI). In order to be named as a Fellow, these men and women were nominated by their peers and have undergone the scrutiny of the NAI Selection Committee, having had their innovations deemed as making significant impact on quality of life, economic development, and welfare of society. Collectively, among this elite group holds nearly 5,000 patents.

The individuals making up this year's class of Fellows include individuals from 114 research universities and non-profit research institutes spanning not just the United States but also the world. The now 414 member group of Fellows is comprised of 61 presidents and senior leadership of research universities and non-profit research institutes, 208 members of the other National Academies, 21 inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, 16 recipients of the U.S. National Medal of Technology and Innovation, 10 recipients of the U.S. National Medal of Science, 21 Nobel Laureates, 11 Lemelson-MIT prize recipients, 112 AAAS Fellows, among other awards and distinctions.

The National Academy of Inventors was founded in 2010 by Paul R. Sanberg at the University of South Florida. Its mission is to recognize and encourage inventors with patents issued from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, enhance the visibility of academic

technology and innovation, encourage the disclosure of intellectual property, educate and mentor innovative students, and translate the inventions of its members to benefit society.

The contributions made to society through innovation are immeasurable. I commend these individuals, and the organizations that support them, for the work that they do to revolutionize the world we live in. As the following inventors are inducted, may it encourage future innovators to strive to meet this high honor and continue the spirit of innovation.

The 2014 NAI Fellows include:

Ilhan A. Aksay, Princeton University; Nancy L. Allbritton, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Jan P. Allebach, Purdue University; Daniel W. Armstrong, The University of Texas at Arlington; Frances H. Arnold, California Institute of Technology; Kyriacos A. Athanasiou, University of California, Davis; Nadine N. Aubry, Northeastern University; David Baltimore, California Institute of Technology; Amit Bandyopadhyay, Washington State University; Joseph J. Beaman, Jr., The University of Texas at Austin; James A. Birchler, University of Missouri-Columbia; Donald R. Bobbitt, University of Arkansas; Jeffrey T. Borenstein, The Charles Stark Draper Laboratory; H. Kim Bottomly, Wellesley College; Scott A. Brandt, University of California, Santa Cruz; Steven P. Briggs, University of California, San Diego; Robert A. Brown, Boston University; Karen J.L. Burg, Kansas State University; Robert H. Byrne, University of South Florida; A. Robert Calderbank, Duke University; Emily A. Carter, Princeton University; Alexander N. Cartwright, The State University of New York; H. Jonathan Chao, New York University; Ching-Shih Chen, The Ohio State University; Ashutosh Chilkoti, Duke University; Arul M. Chinnaiyan, University of Michigan; Steven Chu, Stanford University; James J. Coleman, The University of Texas at Dallas; J. Edward Colgate, Northwestern University; Barry S. Collier, The Rockefeller University; R. Graham Cooks, Purdue University; Rory A. Cooper, University of Pittsburgh; Harold G. Craighead, Cornell University; Charles S. Craik, University of California, San Francisco; Alfred J. Crosby, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Marcos Dantus, Michigan State University; Huw M.L. Davies, Emory University; Mark R.D. Davies, University of Limerick; Mark E. Dean, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville; Richard D. DiMarchi, Indiana University; Michael A. Dirr, The University of Georgia; Richard A. Dixon, University of North Texas; John P. Donoghue, Brown University; Jonathan S. Dordich, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Jennifer A. Doudna, University of California, Berkeley; Anatoly Dritschilo, Georgetown University; Robert V. Duncan, Texas Tech University; Russell D. Dupuis, Georgia Institute of Technology; Victor J. Dzau, Duke University; James H. Eberwine, University of Pennsylvania; Elazer R. Edelman, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; J. Gary Eden, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Jennifer H. Elisseeff, Johns Hopkins University; Sir Martin J. Evans, Cardiff University; David A. Evans, Harvard University; Gregg B. Fields, Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies; Stephen R. Forrest, University of Michigan; Michael W. Fountain, University of South Florida; Ingrid Fritsch, University of Arkansas; Cynthia M. Furse, The University of Utah; Elsa M. Garmire, Dartmouth College; Samuel H. Gellman, University