

the Georgia Municipal Government Hall of Fame, which “recognizes current and former city officials who have made extraordinary contributions to their communities and actively participated in the Association.” In 2012, he was one of four city officials to receive the prestigious Certificate of Distinction from the Georgia Municipal Training Institute at the Georgia Municipal Association’s (GMA) Annual Mayors’ Day Conference. He has actively served on GMA committees that oversee employee retirement benefits and training courses for leaders of cities across Georgia.

Mr. Conyers is heavily involved in the community and is a member of the Rotary Club, American Legion Post No. 502, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Bainbridge-Decatur County Chamber of Commerce. He is also the City Council’s liaison to the city’s Planning Commission and teaches about planning and zoning issues during Bainbridge’s annual Student Government Days.

Dr. Benjamin E. Mays often said: “You make your living by what you get, you make your life by what you give.” Throughout his life, Mr. Conyers has done so much for so many for so long. He is an example of public service at its finest and his advocacy on behalf of students of all ages has been invaluable throughout the state of Georgia. His service to his country and his community are but a small testimony to the high caliber of character that he embodies.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me and my wife Vivian, and the more than 730,000 people of Georgia’s Second Congressional District, in recognizing and commending Mr. Luther Conyers for his leadership in education and service to his community.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION HONORING BERRY GORDY

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution honoring the achievements of Berry Gordy, Jr. and his musical legacy, Motown Records. By establishing the Motown record label in 1959 in Detroit, MI, Mr. Gordy cultivated the careers of musical legends such as Smokey Robinson, Michael Jackson, Diana Ross, Stevie Wonder, and many, many more. Not only did the music of Motown advance its way to the top of the charts and the front of the music scene with timeless hits such as “Please Mr. Postman” and “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough,” but it also communicated across race barriers and touched people regardless of the color of their skin. In a racially divided and politically charged time, Motown Records, under the leadership of Mr. Gordy, was the first to integrate an all-white sales department and produce music beloved by all.

Mr. Gordy’s accomplishments are reflected in his numerous awards and recognitions including his induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, his autobiography “To Be Loved: The Music, the Magic, the Memories of Motown,” and the Broadway success of “Motown The Musical.”

Decades after its inception, Motown is remembered as one of the most significant creative outlets of the 20th century, and the music it fostered continues to entertain and inspire us all. Thanks to Mr. Gordy, Motown created a uniquely American sound and defined the American experience for generations. Through this resolution, we recognize and thank Mr. Gordy for creating a timeless musical sound, for being a force of positive social change, and for his countless contributions to American culture.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I was not present in the House chamber for the following roll call votes. Had I been present on November 16th, 17th, 19th and 30th, I would have voted “yea” on roll calls 627, 628, 632, 640, 642, 644 and 645 and “nay” on roll calls 626, 629, 630, 631, 633, 638, 639, 641 and 643.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JERRY McNERNEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. McNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, on December 2, 2015, the House took roll call vote 644. I am recorded as voting “aye” on this amendment, but I want to reflect that I intended to vote “no” and oppose the Barton of Texas Amendment No. 25 to H.R. 8.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF MAGGIE LOUISE KNIGHT KNOX

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a terrific educator and beloved mother, grandmother and cousin, Mrs. Maggie Louise Knight Knox of Martin County, North Carolina. Sadly, Mrs. Knox passed away on Saturday, November 28, 2015. A Homegoing Celebration will be held on Friday, December 4, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at the Michigan Park Christian Church in Washington, D.C.

Born on February 3, 1928 to the late Annie Slade Knight and Eddie Knight, Maggie Louise Knight Knox, known as Louise or Lou to family and friends, grew up on the family farm in Martin County, North Carolina. She developed a passion for education early on and immediately upon graduation from Winston Salem State University, she began her teaching career within the Charles County Public School System.

Her abiding commitment to education was reflected in her personal academic achievements, as she pursued a higher level of edu-

cation with her enrollment at the D.C. Teachers’ College. She participated in the Teachers’ Program at Columbia University, culminating in her receipt of a Master’s Degree in Education at Trinity College. Ultimately, Maggie Louise accepted a tenured position as a third grade teacher at J.C. Nalle Elementary School in Southeast Washington, D.C.

After nurturing and educating three generations of students, Maggie Louise retired with more than thirty years of service as an educator. She was considered to be one of the most respected Reading Specialists in District of Columbia Public Schools. Even after her retirement and to this day, she is fondly remembered by many of her students.

Her passion for education mirrored her everlasting faith as a woman of God. Accepting Christ as her Savior at an early age, Maggie Louise began her Christian life in Martin County, North Carolina and continued her Christian journey in Washington, D.C. where she became an active member in Michigan Park Christian Church in 1960. She brought her God-given teaching talents into the church, teaching Vacation Bible School and Sunday school. She was a chairperson of the Diaconate and a member the Christian Women’s Fellowship. As is the church’s tradition, in her eightieth year of life, Maggie Louise Knight Knox was humbly inducted into the Diamond Club.

To Maggie Louise, family was everything. It was on May 5, 1950, in Washington, D.C., that Maggie Louise married her loving husband, Mr. Reese Conway Knox. Devoted and committed to each other, the union of Maggie Louise and Reese produced three beautiful daughters: Regina Louise, Denise Yvette and Edna Teresa.

On a more personal note, Maggie Louise and I are born of the same lineage—the Slades of North Carolina. The union of Simon and Anna Slade produced thirteen children. Of those children, Walter Columbus Slade (grandfather of Maggie Louise) and Robert Slade (my grandfather), were born. Maggie retained many valuable lessons from her youth, but the most important one came from her grandfather, Walter Columbus Slade: “Always stick together.” Maggie fervently adopted this as a guiding force throughout her life and passed that same value to her daughters and grandchildren. The concept of “staying together” is extremely important in our family. We annually gather for reunions throughout the nation and remain close with one another throughout our lives.

George Washington Carver once said, “How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these.” Maggie Louise was a gentle and loving woman who treated all people with respect. She loved her God. Her wisdom and kindness goes unmatched, and her gentle soul served humanity in a special way. Each day she graced the people around her with an enthusiastic sincerity of presence. The impression she leaves on earth extends beyond herself to those whom she inspired and supported, and for it she will be remembered for time to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me and my wife, Vivian, in paying tribute to Mrs. Maggie