

uncertainty in wages and work, I rise along with my House colleague ROBERT J. WITTMAN to introduce a bill to clarify certain due process rights of federal employees serving in sensitive positions. Our bill would overturn an unprecedented federal court decision, *Kaplan v. Conyers and MSPB*, which stripped many federal employees of the right to independent review of an agency decision removing them from a job on grounds of ineligibility. The case was brought by two Department of Defense (DOD) employees, Rhonda Conyers, an accounting technician, and Devon Northover, a commissary management specialist, who were permanently demoted and suspended from their jobs after they were found to no longer be eligible to serve in noncritical sensitive positions. In 2014, the Supreme Court declined to hear the case, which allowed the appeals court decision to stand.

Specifically, the decision prevents federal workers who are designated as “noncritical sensitive” from appealing to the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) if they are removed from their jobs. Noncritical sensitive jobs include those that do not have access to classified information. The decision would affect at least 200,000 DOD employees who are designated as noncritical sensitive. Even more seriously, most federal employees could potentially lose the same right to an independent review of an agency’s decision because of a rule by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), which went into effect in July 2015, that permits agency heads to designate most jobs in the federal government as noncritical sensitive.

The Kaplan decision undercuts Title 5, section 7701 of the Civil Service Act, which ensures due process rights for federal workers required by the U.S. Constitution. Stripping employees whose work does not involve classified matters of the right of review of an agency decision that removes them from their jobs opens entirely new avenues for unreviewable, arbitrary action or retaliation by an agency head and, in addition, makes a mockery of whistleblower protections enacted in the 112th Congress. My bill would stop the use of “national security” to repeal a vital component of civil service protection and of due process.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

HONORING CECIL HULSEY

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding achievements and successful career of Cecil Hulsey from Farmington, Missouri. After more than sixty years of helping friends and neighbors find affordable homes and reliable insurance coverage, Cecil Hulsey has decided to retire at the age of ninety.

As a native of the Farmington area, his devotion to his hometown was evident even as a young bombardier on a B-29 during World War II. Showcasing his salesmanship and hometown pride, he convinced his fellow crew members to name their plane the “City of Farmington.” Stationed in Guam during the

war, Mr. Hulsey and the “City of Farmington” would officially fly 27 missions, once flying five missions in nine days.

After the war, Mr. Hulsey began a career selling insurance following a recommendation from his family doctor that prompted him to interview with a local insurance agent. After nine years of exclusive work in the insurance field, he entered the real estate business in 1957.

Over the years, Mr. Hulsey has been an active member of the community not only as a businessman, but as a community leader. He was a member of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce and the Rotary Club, acting as secretary for both organizations. His efforts even helped to begin the construction of a new high school in Farmington.

For his many contributions to the Farmington community and his personal successes, it is my pleasure to recognize Cecil Hulsey before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING JOHN O'BRIEN, PRESIDENT OF THE WEST SIDE IRISH AMERICAN CLUB

HON. JAMES B. RENACCI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. RENACCI. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate John O'Brien, upon the achievement of twenty years as President of one of the premier Irish organizations in America, the West Side Irish American Club.

The West Side Irish American Club exists to preserve and promote the rich Irish cultural heritage in song, dance, literature, sports and traditions. It provides a forum for the enrichment of family and the enhancement of friendships. John O'Brien demonstrates a commitment to the Irish community on a daily basis. Service to the Irish community is the foundation of John O'Brien's endeavors. John O'Brien exemplifies the spirit of the WSIA member—love of culture and celebration of community.

John O'Brien was born in Kiltoun, County Roscommon, Ireland and arrived in North America first in Montreal, Canada where he met his wife, Eileen. The O'Briens settled in Cleveland, Ohio in 1963. They raised four children, Noreen, Catherine, Patricia and John Jr.

John O'Brien was first elected President of the West Side Irish American Club in 1995. Under his leadership many capital improvements to the facility have been achieved, including a new storage building and workshop, a beautiful gazebo, conversion to a city water and sewer system, complete renovation of the Great Hall, addition of the Madison and Abbey Rooms, and the upgrade of the football field. He also oversees the “Tuesday Volunteers,” doing countless maintenance and cleaning projects.

John O'Brien's dedication, his steady hand and his quiet, unassuming demeanor and his humility inspire others to participate in club activities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognition of John O'Brien for his constant dedication to preserving Irish culture and to giving future generations of Irish-Americans the gift of knowledge of their traditions.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF LARRY PURDOM IN MISSOURI CATTLE BREEDING

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Larry Purdom, for his legacy of success and innovation in Missouri dairy cattle breeding.

Starting in 1957, Larry and his wife Alice have cultivated one of the most outstanding herds of Holstein dairy cows in Missouri. He had his first Grand Champion cow at the Missouri State Fair in 1964, which he repeated in 1966, 1976, 1977 and 1978. He also had several other championships recognized at the Ozark Empire Fair, the Missouri Dairyman's Institute, and the Southern National show. In the show ring, Larry had 35 cows win All-Missouri honors.

In addition to his prize winning cows, Larry has had an enormous impact on the development of Missouri Holstein cattle as among the best in the nation. His prize winning bull Senator Flame was placed in the Carnation Genetics AI stud in 1972, improving many herds around the country. Larry has also provided bulls for families on farms across Southwest Missouri and Northwest Arkansas, helping to augment herds where artificial insemination was not practicable.

Larry has also personally received the 2011 Missouri Dairy Hall of Honors Distinguished Dairy Cattle Breeder award, in addition to the Missouri Dairy Hall of Honors Dairy Leadership Award in 2002. He served as President of the Missouri Dairy Association from 2003–2014, and also served on the National Dairy Board, as well both the division and corporate boards of the Midwest Dairy Association.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my gratitude and admiration for what Larry Purdom has accomplished in his career. His prize winning cattle have improved the stock of herds throughout the state, as well as helping to establish the Missouri Holstein as a premier breed of dairy cattle. On behalf of the 7th District, I congratulate him on his dedication and his well-earned accomplishments.

CONGRATULATING LESLEY LEON GUERRERO FOR BEING CHOSEN AS THE GUAM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 2015 REINA A. LEDDY GUAM YOUNG PROFESSIONAL OF THE YEAR

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lesley Leon Guerrero on being selected as the Guam Chamber of Commerce 2015 Reina A. Leddy Guam Young Professional of the Year. Lesley was named the Guam Young Professional of the Year on Friday, January 15, 2016. She is the Vice President and Director of Customer Service for the Bank of Guam where she leads a team dedicated to providing exceptional customer service and helping clients achieve financial success.

Prior to joining the Bank of Guam, Lesley spent eight years in public service with the Guam Department of Homeland Security and the Office of Civil Defense. During her time there, she helped lead response and recovery efforts during various natural disasters, including Typhoon Chata'an and Super Typhoon Pongsona.

Lesley is a 1997 graduate of Notre Dame High School in Talofofo, Guam and received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications from Chaminade University of Honolulu. In December of 2015, Lesley graduated from the University of Guam with a Professional Master of Business Administration degree.

Lesley has been a member of the Guam Chamber of Commerce Guam Young Professionals Committee for the last two years. The organization seeks to energize, engage and empower young professionals to be inspired, influential and connected. She has been an active member of the organization, helping young professionals to recognize the economic and social importance of engaging in all aspects of our community and region to encourage them to become future leaders. Lesley was nominated and chosen as the Guam Young Professional of the Year from among five nominees within the local business community.

Additionally to her professional work, Lesley actively supports many local non-profit organizations. Lesley is a member of the Lupus Awareness Group of Guam which seeks to provide advocacy and identify the needs of those with Lupus on Guam. She also serves as the Board Secretary for Junior Achievement Guam which is a local organization that promotes entrepreneurship to Guam's youth. Lesley is a founding member and Vice President of Let's Move, a local non-profit organization dedicated to fighting childhood obesity on Guam.

Again, I extend my congratulations to Lesley on being named the Guam Chamber of Commerce 2015 Reina A. Leddy Guam Young Professional of the Year and I commend her for her service and dedication to the people of Guam throughout her career. I also extend a sincere congratulation to Lesley's parents, Kenny Leon Guerrero and Gil and Connie Shinohara. I look forward to her continuing to be a role model in our community and work to improve our island.

HONORING MR. GEORGE GRAY

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. George Gray of New Jersey's Third Congressional District, and to express my sincerest gratitude to him for his service to our nation and commend him as to all of his accomplishments, specifically his Congressional Gold Medal.

Mr. Gray has received a Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his status as a Montford Point Marine. This medal is the highest civilian honor bestowed by Congress and recognizes Mr. Gray as one of the first African American Marines to enlist in World War II.

After enlistment, Mr. Gray was sent to the segregated boot camp for African American

Marines, Montford Point. Conditions were severe and required the utmost mental perseverance and will to go on. Mr. Gray was determined to prove himself as a more than competent Marine. After completing basic training at Montford Point, he spent four years at war with the 51st Defense Battalion. He fought valiantly for our ideals and to assist in liberation efforts in the Pacific.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously proud to have Mr. George Gray as an involved member of their community. It is my honor to recognize both his personal military accomplishments, as well as his contributions to ending segregation in the military, and honorably serving and protecting our country in World War II, before the United States House of Representatives.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA JUDICIAL FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY ACT OF 2016

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Judicial Financial Transparency Act of 2016, a bill that would enhance financial disclosure requirements for D.C. Court judges, making them similar to the disclosure requirements already in place for Article III federal judges. Although current federal law does require D.C. Superior Court and D.C. Court of Appeals judges to file annual financial reports, much of the information included in those reports remains confidential. For example, while judges are required to submit information about their income, investments, liabilities, and gifts, current law only makes public judges' connections to charities, private organizations, and businesses, and honorariums that are more than \$300. My bill would bring some much-needed transparency to the D.C. Courts by making all of this information—except for a judge's personally identifiable information—available for public inspection.

This legislation is particularly necessary because open government advocates have found the D.C. Courts to be seriously lacking in transparency. In fact, a 2014 survey by the Center for Public Integrity that took a comprehensive look at each state's judicial financial disclosure rules, gave the District a failing grade. D.C. Court judges already submit enough financial information to improve the District's standing—my bill would make it public.

Only Congress can make these necessary changes. I urge my colleagues to support this good government bill, to improve transparency for judges in the District of Columbia.

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY SAVES LIFE OF MOTORIST

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroic actions of San Bernardino County Sheriff's Deputy Asiah Medawar. In the early morning hours of January 15, 2016, Deputy Medawar was dispatched to a traffic collision in Victorville, California. When she arrived on scene, the vehicle was partially engulfed in flames and an unidentified citizen was attempting to remove the injured driver.

Sensing the severity of the situation, Deputy Medawar immediately sprang into action and was instrumental in dislodging the unconscious driver from underneath the dashboard. Deputy Medawar and the unidentified citizen dragged the driver away from the vehicle, which burst into flames shortly thereafter. The driver incurred severe burns to his hand but did not suffer life-threatening injuries.

Because of Deputy Medawar's selfless actions, the driver's life was spared. I want to thank Deputy Medawar for her bravery and sacrifice on behalf of our High Desert community in San Bernardino County. Her actions reflect great credit upon the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department and other law enforcement personnel throughout our country. I would like to also offer my sincere gratitude to the unidentified citizen who assisted Deputy Medawar during this heroic event.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,989,803,014,663.70. We've added \$8,362,925,965,750.62 to our debt in 7 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING JOHNNY FISHMAN

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 1, 2016

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I along with Representative DEUTCH rise today in honor of Johnny Fishman on the occasion of his Bar Mitzvah. We know that Johnny has been eagerly looking forward to this moment, and we are honored to share this special day with his friends and family.

As a seventh grader at Pine Crest School, Johnny excels in math and science. He is known among his peers and teachers for his outstanding character, friendliness, and care