

HONORING RABBI MORRIS SHERER

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to introduce, along with my colleague from New York, Mr. GILMAN, a resolution expressing the sense of the House of Representatives in honor of the extraordinary life and work of Rabbi Morris Sherer. Rabbi Sherer's tremendous contributions to Judaism, and to this nation, really shine as an example which both deserves honor and emulation.

I had the good fortune and privilege to know Rabbi Sherer, and recall his dedication to the preservation of Judaism in years following Holocaust. He fought for religious liberty, he built educational programs, and always provided guidance to the perplexed. *Torat Emet Hayta b'pivh*—The Torah was always in his mouth. His leadership helped bring about a rebirth of Orthodox Jewish life, of charitable giving and of learning as the President of the Agudath Israel of America since 1961.

Mr. Speaker, I think Americans of all faiths can learn a great deal from the life of Rabbi Sherer. His commitment to the preservation of the faith and culture of our people, his devotion to education and to helping those least fortunate, his ability to reach out to others to make this a better nation, his record of accomplishment, all make his life and work an inspiration to all. I urge our colleagues to join in honoring the life of this outstanding American.

H. RES. 229

Whereas Rabbi Morris Sherer was born in New York City on June 18, 1921;

Whereas upon receiving his rabbinic ordination from Ner Israel Rabbinical College in Baltimore, Maryland, Rabbi Sherer joined the Agudath Israel of America in 1943, devoting his energies to rescue and relief activities on behalf of European Jewry during the Second World War;

Whereas through his work with the Agudath Israel of America, Rabbi Sherer played a major role in the post-World War II renaissance of Orthodox Jewish life in the United States, fusing the talents and energies of native-born Americans with the determination and courage of immigrant Holocaust survivors and refugees to help build Orthodox Jewish communities and institutions across the country;

Whereas Rabbi Sherer worked tirelessly and effectively to safeguard religious liberty in America and throughout the world, to safeguard the rights of Sabbath observers, to assist the beleaguered Jewish communities in lands of oppression across the globe, to address the needs of needy persons of all backgrounds, and to apply the moral and ethical teachings of classical Judaism to issues and problems of modern society; and

Whereas Rabbi Sherer died on May 17, 1998, leaving behind a legacy of extraordinary humanitarian accomplishment: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives—

(1) that Rabbi Morris Sherer should be recognized as one of the outstanding American religious leaders of our time, who played a historic role in the growth and development of the Orthodox Jewish community in the United States; and

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

(2) that Rabbi Morris Sherer's life of commitment to education, human dignity, religious liberty, and freedom is one which serves as an inspiration to all people and deserves emulation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID L. HOBSON

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I was not present on June 25, 1999 for rollcall vote 256. Had I had been present, I would have voted "yea."

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID B. BAKER FOR HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS TO HEIDELBERG COLLEGE

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay very special tribute to a truly outstanding individual from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. For more than thirty years, Dr. David B. Baker has made significant contributions to Heidelberg College in Tiffin, Ohio. As he prepares for his retirement from Heidelberg, I felt this was a most appropriate time to recognize him for his efforts.

After graduating from Heidelberg College in 1958, Dr. Baker pursued his master's and doctoral degrees at the University of Michigan. Following a year of post-doctoral study in Germany, Dr. Baker began his distinguished teaching career at Rutgers University. Shortly thereafter, Dr. Baker returned to Heidelberg where, since 1966, he has been a faculty member in the Biology Department.

In a turn that brought international acclaim to him, Heidelberg College, and his research associates, Dr. Baker led the effort that formed the Heidelberg Water Quality Laboratory. Dr. Baker's efforts at the lab have helped with various environmental public policy efforts including evaluating storm run-off, restoration of the once-severely polluted Lake Erie, setting Environmental Protection Agency standards for river compounds, and many more.

As the one and only director of Heidelberg Water Quality Laboratory, Dr. David Baker pushed the lab to its current level of international prominence. Dr. Baker set out to share the lab's work with the public through his numerous speeches, public information programs, and test and research sharing techniques.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. David Baker is a remarkable individual who has given freely of his time and talents to ensure that education and the environment are made better for the future. Through his outstanding service to Heidelberg College, to the Water Quality Laboratory, and to the academia world, Dr. Baker has made a lasting impact that will not soon be forgotten. At this point, I would urge my colleagues of

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the 106th Congress to stand and join me in special tribute to Dr. David Baker. We extend our congratulations on his retirement and best wishes for the future.

SAN ANTONIO SPURS TAKE THE RING

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, in San Antonio this past Sunday, more than 230,000 fans lined the banks of the historic River Walk to honor the World Champion San Antonio Spurs. For a city that is the 8th largest in the nation, San Antonio is proud of its humble warriors. San Antonio can not only boast about its strong economy, thriving culture, and beautiful weather, it can now lay claim to pro basketball's finest team.

From the rich tradition of the San Antonio Missions and the Alamo, to the Tower of the Americas, San Antonio's skyline can now add the true Twin Towers, David Robinson and Tim Duncan. The whole team acted as one cohesive unit, displaying the chemistry that all great champions have, and to that, they all proved worthy. For a team that has one of the highest college graduation rates in all professional sports, they are truly heroes and role models for us all.

This fine athletic achievement is not only for the city of San Antonio, Peter and Julianna Holt, the team owners, or the players, but it is for all the fans of the old American Basketball Association. This is the first time a team from the old ABA has won the NVA Championship. This victory was for all of us who remember the "Iceman" George Gervin, along with countless other great stars who toiled long hours for recognition. It is for those who remember the Hemisphere Arena and the "Baseline Bums". Team basketball shined this day, and for all the fans of the San Antonio Spurs, it shines just a little brighter.

TRIBUTE TO JOAN STEFANSKI

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 29, 1999

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Joan Stefanski who today retires from her position of Director of the Ferndale Chamber of Commerce after twenty-two years of distinguished service to the Ferndale community.

She has been instrumental in coalition-building in the City of Ferndale. A unique contribution has been her efforts in building relationships between business and the homeowners of Ferndale. A familiar scene were the block parties where business men and women would volunteer along with the residents. Joan has that special skill of bringing together people of diverse interests and abilities, and encouraging a partnership between them.

Years ago, the assumption by many was that Ferndale was a city in decline. Many citizens felt otherwise and Joan Stefanski was