

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF UNITED INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT ROBERTO SANTOS

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize United Independence School District Superintendent Roberto Santos for his many contributions to education in the City of Laredo.

Roberto Santos has been a longtime advocate for education in the State of Texas. He received his BA from St. Edward's University in Austin, and completed his Masters in Education at the University of Texas—Pan American campus.

Beginning in 1966 as a teacher at Laredo Independent School District, he worked his way up through successive positions in the educational system. He worked as Director of Human Resources, Assistant Superintendent for Support Services, and finally Superintendent of the entire United Independent School District, serving the students of Laredo.

Roberto Santos has also enriched the community through his work as a businessman. He began as an auto salesman in 1975, and has been owner or part owner of two businesses, Santos Auto Sales and Homeland Mobile Homes.

On top of all this, he has given his time and energy to a multitude of volunteer organizations. He served as President of the Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators and the Kiwanis Club, and served on the boards of the United Way, Laredo Community College, the Laredo South Girls Little League, and the City of Laredo Parks and Recreation. At each step, Roberto Santos has given of himself to make Laredo stronger, and to ensure a quality education for its children.

Mr. Speaker, United Independent School District Superintendent Roberto J. Santos' life is a model of community involvement, and I am pleased to have this opportunity to publicly thank him.

CONGRATULATING BRIGADIER GENERAL WILLIAM TERPELUK

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Brigadier General William Terpeluk who completes his term as Deputy Commander for the 77th Regional Readiness Command this month and thank him for his service to our nation. General Terpeluk served in this position from 31 March 2001–30 March 2005. He was Deputy Commander during 9–11 and through the War on Terror. He moves on in his military career later this month.

The 77th Regional Readiness Command is located in Fort Totten, New York. It is headquartered in Bayside, Queens, New York at historic Fort Totten, where the Reserve Command has been since 1968.

Brigadier General Terpeluk is an Infantry Officer who received his commission as a Second Lieutenant through the Reserve Officer Training Corps Program in 1974 from the Virginia Military Institute. After completing the Infantry Course at Fort Benning, Georgia, he served on Active Duty as the Executive Officer, Company E, 3d Battalion, 3d Basic Combat Training Brigade, Fort Dix, NJ.

His next assignment was as the Assistant Brigade S–1, 3d Basic Combat Training Brigade, Fort Dix, NJ. Brigadier General Terpeluk was then assigned to Korea where he functioned as the Executive Officer, HHC, 1st Battalion (M), 31st Infantry and Rifle Platoon Leader, Company B, 1st Battalion (M), 31st Infantry, Camp Casey, as well as Support Platoon Leader, 1st Battalion (M), 31st Infantry, Camp Howze, Korea.

In October of 1978, Brigadier General Terpeluk transitioned to the United States Army Reserve as the Executive Officer, and later as the Commander, of Company B, 1st Battalion (M), 315th Infantry, 157th Separate Infantry Brigade (M), Bristol, PA. Between February 1982 to May 86 he served as the Aide-de-Camp and Headquarters Commandant, Hqs, 79th United States Army Reserve Command, Willow Grove, PA. From May 86 to January 1993, Brigadier General Terpeluk served as the Executive Officer and Commander, 4074th Reception Battalion, 76th Division (Training), Willow Grove, PA. From January 1993 to July 94, he served as the Chief of Staff, 157th Separate Infantry Brigade (M), Horsham, PA.

After a year on Active Duty to complete the United States Army War College, Brigadier General Terpeluk returned to the Army Reserve as the Commander of the 1079th Garrison Support Unit from 1995 to 1997. Between 1997 to 2001, he performed as the Commander, 2d Brigade, 78th Division and the Assistant Chief of Staff, G3, for the 78th Division. On March 31, 2001, Brigadier General Terpeluk was assigned as the Deputy Commander of the 77th Regional Support Command.

Brigadier General Terpeluk's military awards include the Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with 2 Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal with Silver Oak Leaf Cluster, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Silver Hourglass, the Army Service Ribbon and the Overseas Service Ribbons.

In his civilian capacity, Brigadier General Terpeluk is a Laboratory Manager for Merck Research Laboratories.

Again, Mr. Speaker, I want to thank General Terpeluk for his dedication and service to the United States Army and this great Nation. For over thirty-years, General Terpeluk has worn the uniform and sworn to protect the United States from all threats. His service can never fully be repaid, so I offer him my thanks, and the thanks of all my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives and wish him well and Godspeed in his future.

HONORING GEORGE ASTE FOR HIS MANY YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE AVIATION INDUSTRY

**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to George Aste, and to commend him for his dedication to the U.S. and international aviation industry. George Aste has been a leading figure in aviation for more than 40 years. He has held senior positions at United Airlines and Trans World Airlines, has advised American Airlines, and has participated in many U.S. international aviation matters for the last three decades.

The Air Transport Association recently acknowledged Mr. Aste for his exemplary service to the U.S. aviation industry. I would like to include ATA's resolution honoring Mr. Aste for his many years of dedication and leadership for the RECORD.

Be it hereby Resolved that the Air Transport Association Board of Directors commend George Aste for a lifetime commitment to the goals of commercial aviation both domestically and internationally.

For over forty years George Aste has been a leading figure in U.S. Aviation, holding executive positions at United Airlines and Trans World Airlines, continuing as a senior advisor to American Airlines.

He has participated in virtually all major U.S. international aviation matters for the last three decades.

Over the years, Mr. Aste has worked closely with U.S. Government agencies, as well as the U.S. Congress and State, City and local government officials throughout the country. He also dealt directly with many foreign government officials on international aviation matters.

Mr. Aste has dedicated much of his long illustrious career to the expansion and liberalization of international operations for U.S. air carriers.

Throughout, Mr. Aste has earned the respect of his colleagues for his extraordinary knowledge, unswerving honesty and boundless good cheer.

Therefore, the Air Transport Association wishes to commend and congratulate George Aste for his dedication to furthering U.S. Commercial aviation.

TRIBUTE TO THE GOLD FAMILY

**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 9, 2005

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Melinda and Merrill Gold on the birth of their twin daughters, Eliana Paige and Molly Gabrielle. Born February 12, 2005, Eliana and Molly are named in loving memory of their great grandmothers Ita Akerman and Mollie Freedman. Mr. Speaker, I hope you will join me in wishing the Gold family great happiness and joy in the coming years.

HONORING THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
OF LAREDO INDEPENDENT  
SCHOOL DISTRICT PARLIAMEN-  
TARIAN JESUS GUERRA

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2005*

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Laredo Independent School District Parliamentarian Jesus J. Guerra for his honorable service to his country, his state, and his home town of Laredo, Texas.

Jesus Guerra attended Laredo Junior College, Mount View College in Dallas, and the University of Texas at Arlington. He is a lifelong civil servant: he was an employee of the U.S. Postal Service, and rose to the rank of Assistant Superintendent of Operations and Postmaster for Zapata, Texas before his retirement.

He is also a military veteran; he served in the United States Air Force from 1961 through 1970, and received an honorable discharge.

Jesus Guerra has continued to enrich his community in a variety of ways: he is a member of the City of Laredo Cable commission, a softball coach, and a catechist at St. Vincent and Santo Nino churches. He received the Community Service award from the Federal Bureau of Investigations, and was one of the first Hispanics to receive this high honor.

Jesus Guerra continues to reside in Laredo with his wife, Estella, with whom he has six children. He has been a member of the Laredo ISD Board of Trustees since 2001. Jesus Guerra has led a life of exemplary service as a postal worker, a soldier, a volunteer, and an education advocate.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to congratulate him on his accomplishments, and to thank him formally for all he has done.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION  
TO BENEFIT THE U.S. AUTO-  
MOTIVE INDUSTRY AND PRO-  
VIDE JOBS FOR WISCONSIN'S  
MANUFACTURING SECTOR

**HON. PAUL RYAN**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2005*

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will benefit the U.S. automotive industry and help provide jobs for Wisconsin's manufacturing sector. Wisconsin has seen a net loss of more than 71,000 manufacturing jobs over the last five years, which is very troubling for a state with the second highest number of manufacturing employees per capita in the nation. Although the economy has improved significantly since mid-2003, many of our lost manufacturing jobs have not been recovered. Congress must continue to work to help our manufacturers remain competitive in the global marketplace.

Johnson Controls, Inc. (JCI), a Fortune 500 company headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, employs 2,500 workers in the state

and thousands more throughout the country. As the world's largest producer of automotive interiors, JCI works to develop and produce seating systems, instrument panels, door systems, overhead systems, and automotive electronics. They are a leader in the production of electronic telecommunications systems for vehicles and have developed innovative voice recognition systems that are used by the major manufacturers in the U.S. automotive industry.

The microphones covered in this legislation are a key component of JCI's electronic telecommunications systems. However, they are not produced domestically and JCI must import them subject to a 4.9 percent tariff rate. By temporarily eliminating this tariff, this bill will reduce JCI's production costs and help them remain competitive against international competition. In addition, this bill will benefit U.S. automotive manufacturers who rely on JCI for their telecommunications systems, consumers who will pay reduced prices for these products, and hard-working Americans who are employed in the manufacturing industry.

I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress to pass this legislation and help U.S. manufacturing.

RECOGNIZING 225TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CON-  
GREGATION IN GEORGETOWN

**HON. ROY BLUNT**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2005*

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Presbyterian Congregation in Georgetown, which is celebrating 225 years of distinguished history on March 16, 2005. On the Sundays when I'm in Washington, I often attend this church and I'm always reminded of its unique heritage.

The church's history is deeply connected with the history of the Nation. It started with a small group of worshippers in 1760 who were organized into a church in 1780 under the eminent Stephen Bloomer Balch, pupil of religious leader John Witherspoon and soldier of the Revolution. It is the first Presbyterian Church in what is now modern-day Washington, DC, and remains the oldest church in the city of any denomination with an unbroken ministry. Men and women of every denomination worshiped there, including many leaders of the young republic.

The first, and for many years the only, Protestant church building in Georgetown was erected by its congregation in 1782. Additions were made in 1794 with Thomas Jefferson listed among the contributors. A rare charter, still in effect, was granted in 1806 to "the Presbyterian Congregation in George Town" by an act of Congress signed by President Jefferson. In 1810, the church's seal, with its seven stars and Bible, was given to the church by the superintendent of the United States Mint. In 1821, President Monroe laid the cornerstone for the beautiful Bridge Street building which was moved fifty years later to its present site, with President Grant laying the cornerstone at that location. This is the same

building in which the congregation now worships.

The Presbyterian Congregation in Georgetown has always been a pioneer in the religious and cultural life of the community. In 1781, Dr. Balch became headmaster of the Columbian Academy to which George Washington sent his nephews and wards. Later, a school for girls was founded. The first book published in the District of Columbia was written by Dr. Balch, and he helped to found the first public library. As an outgrowth of the church's ministry, Episcopal, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches were established in Washington and Maryland.

The church's bell tolled all day when President Washington died. George Washington Parke Custis, the grandson of Martha Washington and father-in-law of Robert E. Lee, delivered an oration on the defeat of Napoleon from the church's pulpit. Memorial services for President William Henry Harrison were conducted there. During the Civil War, its building was used as a hospital for both Union and Confederate soldiers, including casualties after the Second Battle of Manassas and the Battle of Fredericksburg. In these and many ways, the church has been identified with the history of the nation it has sought to serve.

The church's ministry remains vibrant today. The congregation is thankful for the recent arrival of its new pastor, the Reverend Doctor Richard L. Sheffield. Under his dynamic leadership and with God's grace, I'm certain that the church will continue to play an important role in the Washington community.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in honoring the Presbyterian Congregation in Georgetown on its 225th anniversary. It is both an honor and a pleasure to salute such a long-standing institution that has played such an important role in the history of our Nation.

NATIONAL MANUFACTURING WEEK

**HON. TODD TIAHRT**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 9, 2005*

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of our nation's great manufacturing base. My colleague Rep. GILLMOR introduced important legislation, H. Res. 16, to support National Manufacturing Week, congratulate manufacturers and their employees for their contributions growth and innovation, and recognize the challenges facing the manufacturing sector. I join him in applauding America's manufacturers.

I especially want to highlight aviation manufacturing, the manufacturing sector predominant in my district, where Wichita is known as the Air Capital of the World. Wichita is home to 4 major aircraft manufacturers, numerous suppliers and other support industries. I am very proud of all the men and women today and in years past who have brought that distinction to our great city.

According to the General Aviation Manufacturers Association, General Aviation manufacturing contributed over \$6 billion to the U.S.