

local and private detention facilities. Explosive growth in the number of non-citizens in immigration detention across the country has resulted in sometimes shameful conditions of confinement and repeated incidents of detainee abuse.

Although federal immigration authorities adopted detention standards in 1998 and 2000, you wouldn't know it today. These non-binding standards, which cover access to medical care, the separation of violent and non-violent suspects, and access to a lawyer, have not been enforced.

It is long past time that Congress make the federal government abide by its own detention standards. That is why today I am introducing the Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act of 2008.

The bill establishes long-overdue legally binding detention standards for all immigration detention facilities.

The Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act also establishes legally binding standards for Customs and Border Patrol stations which, though not technically detention facilities, house immigrants for a few hours or a few days before their transfer to immigration authorities.

Finally, the Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act treats those detainees who a judge determines are not a flight risk or a threat to society in a more humane and rational way. Under this bill, these individuals would be placed in a proven program of supervised release instead of in a detention facility where the federal government must expend enormous resources to feed, house and watch over them.

Madam Speaker, I look forward to the House considering these critical reforms of the immigration detention system in the next Congress.

ATCHISON COUNTY COURTHOUSE

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to the Atchison County Courthouse which will recognize the 125th Anniversary of the Courthouse on October 28th, 2008. A special ceremony will take place to honor the history and tradition of the County Courthouse that has existed since 1863.

The Atchison County Courthouse is located in the county seat Rock Port, Missouri. Atchison County is named after former United States Senator, David Rice Atchison. The Courthouse is home to various county government offices and is the location Atchison County residents venture to conduct county business.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing the Atchison County Courthouse, an architectural blessing to the citizens of Atchison County. It is truly an honor to serve my home county, Atchison County Missouri in the United States Congress.

IN HONOR OF DEDICATED PUBLIC SERVANT ASSEMBLYMAN GENE MULLIN

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, as happens too often in this age of legislative term limits, the state of California is losing a wise, dedicated and accomplished public servant. Assemblyman Gene Mullin, who was first elected on November 5, 2002 to represent the 19th District of California, will retire at the end of this year.

Assemblyman Mullin represents a district that I, too, once served. I know the people there and I know that no one could serve them better than Gene. I cannot overstate my fondness and admiration for this man. He went into public service for the right reason: To serve. Any conversation with Gene is never about Gene. While many are called "selfless", with most it's just a word. Gene truly does put others first—constituents, family, students, even strangers. All who come into contact with him know that when Gene Mullin gives you his word, you can take it to the bank.

Gene served his community long before they chose him to represent them in the legislature. For 32 years, he taught government and coached basketball at South San Francisco High School. In the 1970s, he was tapped by city leadership to serve on the town's Planning Commission, where he was instrumental in attracting Genentech to the city in 1976. This started a bio-tech boom in South San Francisco and is a major reason why the city is on better financial footing than other municipalities. In 1979 the City Council named Gene Mullin "Citizen of the Year."

In 1995, Gene Mullin joined the South San Francisco City Council, where he served for seven years, including two terms as Mayor. Upon his election to the Assembly, Gene quickly made a name for himself as a quick study, hard worker and consensus-builder. He retires as Chairman of the Assembly Committee on Education and previously served as Chair of the Committee on Housing and Community Development.

Assemblyman Mullin has worked to ensure education funding for students and teachers. He authored bills to restore the \$500 million borrowed from the California State Teachers Retirement System and has pushed programs to assure the quality of child care services. He has also been instrumental in efforts to provide affordable housing for all Californians.

Prior to his government service, Gene was a gifted and much-loved educator. Not only do many of his students still mention him as a favorite teacher and role model, but he was honored as San Mateo County's Teacher of the Year in 1991 and the California Teachers Association's 1996 State Teacher of the Year in Politics.

Gene Mullin graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of San Francisco in 1960 and holds a Lifetime Secondary Teaching Credential, also from USF.

Madam Speaker, our state is in serious need of dedicated and intelligent public servants in our legislature. Gene Mullin will be sorely missed in Sacramento, but our loss is his family's gain. A dedicated father, husband and grandfather, Gene can now spend more time with his lovely and vivacious wife, Terri, his two children, Jennifer and Kevin, and three grandsons, Austin, Jonathan and Colton.

Gene has lived his entire life in the Bay Area and we are all richer because of it.

HONORING SISTER JUDY GARSON FOR HER LEADERSHIP OF THE LITTLE SISTERS OF THE ASSUMPTION FAMILY HEALTH SERVICES

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, October 3, 2008*

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Sister Judy Garson for her 24 years of service with the Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services. Sister Judy has been an extraordinary leader, ably directing the expansion of the services provided by the Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service and ensuring that the organization continues to be a vital force in the community. After nearly a quarter of a century in dedicated and effective service to others, Sister Judy Garson is embarking on a well-deserved retirement.

The devotion of the Little Sisters of the Assumption to the well-being of families with children in East Harlem is truly remarkable. Since its founding five decades ago this year, the Sisters' Family Health Service has offered community-based health services to historically underserved local residents of "El Barrio". Through a broad range of services, including parenting classes, summer day-camp trips for children in the community, and day-care services, the Little Sisters of the Assumption have made an enormous and enduring difference in countless lives.

In her nearly quarter century of service at Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services, Sister Garson has seen its full-time staff expand from 30 to more than 60 employees. Under her guidance, the Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Services has evolved into a highly successful, independent organization that will continue to serve the East Harlem community for generations to come. During her distinguished tenure at the Little Sisters of the Assumption Family Health Service, Sister Judy Garson has been at the forefront of the valiant effort to combat HIV and AIDS in a community that has widely been considered an epicenter of this lethal epidemic. With courage and compassion, she reached out to those suffering from HIV and AIDS at a time when misinformation and a lack of public awareness created an impenetrable stigma around those infected with the virus. Her educational outreach offered a shining example of her distinguished and effective service.

Perhaps the most remarkable facet of Sister Garson's 24 years of service with the Little