

realities and tolerating barbaric atrocities in [the] name of the Beijing Olympics will disgrace the Olympic Charter and shake the foundations of humanity. Human rights improvement requires time, but we should at least stop China's human rights situation from deteriorating. Having the Olympics hosted in a country where human dignity is trampled on will not honor its people or the Olympic Games. We sincerely hope that the Olympic Games will bring the values of peace, equality, freedom and justice to 1.3 billion Chinese citizens. We pray that the Olympics will be held in a free China.

We must push for the 2008 Olympics to live up to the Olympic Charter[,] and we must advocate for the realization of "one world" with "one human rights dream." We believe that only an Olympic Games true to the Olympic Charter can promote China's democratic progress, world peace and development.

We firmly hold to the belief that there can be no true Olympic Games without human rights and dignity. For China and for the Olympics, human rights must be upheld!

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MICHAEL HAMILTON FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION II STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Michael Hamilton showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Michael Hamilton was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Michael Hamilton always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Michael Hamilton on winning the Boys' Division II State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007-2008 basketball season.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF SERGEANT THOMAS C. RAY, III

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1020, which recognizes the service and sacrifices that the members of our Armed Forces and their families have made during this time of war. I rise with a heavy heart, because the citizens of western North Carolina were recently reminded of this sacrifice by the death of my constituent, National Guardsman Sergeant Thomas C. Ray, III from Weaverville, North Carolina.

Sgt. Ray joined the Navy in 1985 as a medical specialist and served 3 years of active

duty. In 2006, Sgt. Ray joined the Army National Guard and shortly thereafter became a military police officer. Sgt. Ray was assigned to the 105th Military Police Battalion in Asheville, but volunteered to serve with 1132nd Military Police Company when it mobilized in June to go to Iraq. In January of this year, Sgt. Ray was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for his service as a gunner. Sgt. Ray was killed in Baghdad, Iraq on March 22, 2008 when a roadside bomb blew up near his vehicle.

Madam Speaker, Sgt. Ray exemplified the bravery and dedication of the men and women of the Armed Forces, and his life of service stands as a tribute to the members of the North Carolina National Guard who have answered the call since before the founding of our Nation. In the words of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Sgt. Ray "stands in the unbroken line of patriots who have dared to die that freedom might live, and grow, and increase its blessings. Freedom lives, and through it, he lives—in a way that humbles the undertakings of most men."

I offer a prayer of comfort for the family of Sgt. Ray, including his wife, Linda, his daughter, Sydney, and his mother, Ozelle.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues today to vote for this important resolution that will give due honor and respect to the service that members of the Armed Services have dedicated to this country. I also ask my colleagues to join me in expressing sympathy for all our fallen soldiers and pray for the swift and safe return of those who continue to serve our Nation in harms way.

RECOGNIZING KARL SCHROEDER OF OSSIAN, IOWA

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Karl Schroeder of Ossian, Iowa as a recipient of the Governor's Meritorious Service Award for saving another's life by risking his own.

The Meritorious Service Award is presented to those individuals who have rendered expeditious service in a time of emergency. The Governor and Public Safety Commissioner paid tribute to Karl and 24 other Iowans during the 2007 Governor's Lifesaving Awards ceremony.

On January 12, 2007, Karl happened upon an accident on Division Street in Decorah, Iowa, and saw that a vehicle was engulfed in flames. He called 911 and then immediately went to the vehicle. He attempted to free passenger, Olive Sims, from the car by cutting the safety belt with a knife. He was unable to remove her because her leg was broken and she was wedged in the car. Karl stayed with Olive until the officers arrived on the scene and pulled her to safety.

Karl's bravery goes above and beyond what we are asked of as citizens of this country. His courage illustrates the compassion of Iowans, willing to risk their own lives for a neighbor in need. For this I offer him my utmost respect, congratulations and thanks.

I commend Karl Schroeder for his bravery. I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING ANTHONY HITCHENS FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION II STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Anthony Hitchens showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Anthony Hitchens was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Anthony Hitchens always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Anthony Hitchens on winning the Boys' Division II State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007-2008 basketball season.

INTRODUCTION OF "THE FEDERAL EMPLOYEES PAID PARENTAL LEAVE ACT OF 2008"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 8, 2008

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, today on behalf of myself, Chairman DANNY DAVIS, Chairman GEORGE MILLER, Mr. HOYER, Ranking Member TOM DAVIS and 17 other members, I introduce a new version of the Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act of 2008.

This new version of the bill will provide 8 weeks of paid parental leave to all employees of the Federal Government. In the legislative branch, this includes employees of the Chief Administrative Officer, the Capitol Guide Service, the Capitol Police, the Congressional Budget Office, the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, the Office of the Attending Physician, Office of Compliance, Office of Technology Assessment, Member and committee offices, and employees of the Government Accountability Office and the Library of Congress.

As our Nation's largest employer, the Federal Government should be a leader in family-friendly workplace policies. Current policy not only does not lead, but in fact lags behind what most private sector employers provide. In a time when the Federal Government is struggling to recruit and retain the most qualified workforce, offering family-friendly workplace policies will not only make the Federal Government a more attractive employer, but will also set a standard for other industries to follow.