

time. Congressman Solarz combined American foreign policy with a Brooklyn twist, being both affable and austere when necessary. His work affected numerous corners of the world from North Korea to Israel to Turkey and beyond.

Furthermore, Congressman Solarz's legendary staff members, including Assemblyman Peter Abbate, have gone on to contribute greatly to New York City. I have had the pleasure of working with his colleagues and have seen the Congressman's great work live on through them.

Today, on the day of his funeral, my thoughts and prayers are with his family and his wife, Nina. It brings me great sadness to say goodbye to an American hero like Congressman Solarz. He will truly be missed across the globe.

ON WORLD DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR ROAD TRAFFIC VICTIMS

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in solemn observance of the World Day of Remembrance for Road Crash Victims and their Families, which was observed on Sunday, November 21, 2010. I offer my heartfelt condolences to all those who have lost loved ones to road crashes. This observance spans the globe, uniting every person regardless of age, class, gender, race, nationality, or geography, as road crashes can devastate any life at any time.

Indeed, road crashes profoundly alter the lives of millions of people. The leading cause of death throughout the world for people ages 5 to 29 is not disease or war but road crashes. A staggering 1.3 million people are killed in road crashes every year, and another 20 to 50 million are injured in traffic accidents. On average, over 1,000 people under the age of 25 die every single day on the world's roads, and the annual monetary cost of motor vehicle crashes worldwide is currently estimated at \$518 billion.

These numbers are increasing dramatically and place particular strain on underdeveloped and developing nations, where crash rates are at their highest. In developing countries, road crashes have a dramatic impact on fragile economies, costing an estimated \$100 billion and often exceeding the total amount received by these countries in development assistance. Furthermore, road crashes affect first responder services, health care services, and health insurance services, as many victims require extensive, and expensive, critical care, as well as follow-up care and rehabilitation.

Road crashes are particularly devastating when examining the effect on young people. Globally, more than 40 percent of all road traffic deaths occur among individuals under 25 years old, and crashes are the leading cause of death for children and young adults aged 10–25 years old. Over the next decade, this is estimated to become the leading cause of death for children 5 and older worldwide. It is

my fervent hope that our observance of the World Day of Remembrance will help to prevent the needless end of so many young lives in the future.

Unlike other epidemics and tragedies which modern science has not yet found ways to eradicate, the cure for road crashes is within our grasp, and the United States has taken a critical, active role domestically and internationally to address this problem. In November 2009, the Moscow Declaration, signed by 150 countries, encouraged the establishment of a Decade of Action for Road Safety from 2011 to 2020, and laid the foundation for United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/255 adopted in March 2010. This U.N. resolution recognizes that the devastation caused by road crashes negatively impacts the social, economic, and health targets of the Millennium Development Goals. The United States now takes the lead in furthering the goals of this initiative and setting an example for the rest of the world by improving transportation management, infrastructure, vehicle safety, education, and post-crash care and rehabilitation here at home. It is of the utmost importance that we continue to support public policies designed to reduce key risk factors like speeding, drunk driving, distracted driving, and the failure of many Americans to use seat belts, child restraints, and other safety devices.

The Decade of Action for Road Safety has not been declared to merely raise awareness, but also to take action. We all use roads, cars, buses, and bicycles every day. It is easy to take our safety for granted. But too many tragedies remind us that road fatalities and injuries have an enormous impact on our lives. This resolution expresses the House of Representatives' support for the Decade of Action and encourages the federal government to support efforts to reduce road fatalities, preventing needless deaths and injuries both here at home and around the world.

Madam Speaker, as Americans travel the world more and more and as our global society grows ever more close-knit, the pressing importance of our observance of the World Day of Remembrance only grows as well.

HONORING TIMOTHY SHRIVER

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 2, 2010

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Timothy Shriver, my cousin, for his stewardship in leading the world's most formative human rights organization. Tim is the Chairman of the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer of the Special Olympics. In this capacity, Tim serves 3.1 million Special Olympics athletes and their families in 175 countries. His work for those with disabilities is simply unmatched.

After taking the helm at Special Olympics in 1996, Cousin Tim launched the organization's most ambitious growth agenda, leading to the recruitment of more than 2 million new athletes around the world. He has worked with the leaders of China to initiate a thriving Special Olympics Program in their country, high-

lighted by their hosting the 2007 Special Olympics World Summer Games in Shanghai. He has also worked with world leaders such as Nelson Mandela, Bill Clinton, George Bush, Bertie Ahern, Rafiq Hariri, Thabo Weld, Julius Nyerere, Hosni Mubarak and Shimon Peres to advance the growth of the Special Olympics mission and vision while challenging nations to adopt more supportive and just policies. He has spearheaded programs in developing or war-torn countries such as Afghanistan, Bosnia, Herzegovina and Iraq.

Tim has also created exciting new Special Olympics initiatives in athlete leadership, cross-cultural research, health, education and family support. Among them, Special Olympics Healthy Athletes has become the world's largest public health screening and education program for people with intellectual disabilities, and Special Olympics Get Into It, together with Unified Sports, promotes inclusion and acceptance around the world.

In addition, he has worked to garner more legislative attention and government support for issues of concern to the Special Olympics community, testifying before the U.S. Congress on numerous occasions.

As part of his passion for promoting the gifts of the forgotten, Tim has harnessed the power of Hollywood to share the stories of inspiration and change, co-producing DreamWorks Studios' 1997 release, "Amistad," and Disney Studios' 2000 release, "The Loretta Claiborne Story." He is Executive Producer of "The Ringer," a Family Brothers' film, and also has produced or co-produced shows for ABC, TNT and NBC networks, and made broadcast appearances on "The Today Show," CNN, MTV and Nickelodeon's "World of Difference."

Before joining Special Olympics, Tim was and remains a leading educator focusing on the social and emotional factors in learning. He has worked in substance abuse prevention, violence, dropout prevention and teen pregnancy prevention. He created the New Haven Public Schools' Social Development Project, now considered the leading school-based prevention effort in the United States, and co-founded the Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL), the leading research organization in the United States in the field of social and emotional learning. Tim currently chairs CASEL.

Tim earned his undergraduate degree from Yale University, a Master's degree in Religion and Religious Education from Catholic University, and a Doctorate in Education from the University of Connecticut. He is the recipient of numerous honors, including honorary degrees from Loyola University, New England College and Albertus Magnus College; the Medal of the City of Athens, Greece; the Order de Manuel Amador Guerrero of the Republic of Panama; the 1995 Connecticut Citizen of the Year; the Surgeon General's Medallion; and the 2007 Lions Humanitarian Award. He has authored articles in many leading publications including "The New York Times," "The Washington Post" and "Commonweal."

Tim has helped transform Special Olympics into a movement that focuses on respect, acceptance and inclusion for individuals with intellectual disabilities in all corners of the globe.