

DECEMBER 21, 2010.

I hereby appoint the Honorable DONNA F. EDWARDS or, if she is not available to perform this duty, the Honorable GERALD E. CONNOLLY to act as Speaker pro tempore to sign enrolled bills and joint resolutions through the remainder of the second session of the One Hundred Eleventh Congress.

NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker of the
House of Representatives.*

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Without objection, the appointment is approved.

There was no objection.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable JOHN A. BOEHNER, Republican Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, December 21, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to Sec. 5605 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148), I am pleased to appoint Mr. Marcus Peacock of Washington, DC and Mr. Tomas J. Philipson of Chicago, IL to the Commission on Key National Indicators.

Both Mr. Peacock and Mr. Philipson have expressed interest in serving in this capacity and I am pleased to fulfill their requests.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Republican Leader.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
December 21, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker, U.S. Capitol,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to Section 235 of the Tribal Law and Order Act (P.L. 111-211), I am pleased to appoint Mr. Thomas Gede of San Francisco, California to the Indian Law and Order Commission.

Mr. Gede has expressed interest in serving in this capacity and I am pleased to fulfill his request.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Republican Leader.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE REPUBLICAN LEADER

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
December 21, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
Speaker, U.S. Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: Pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2001, (22 U.S.C. 7002) as amended, I am pleased to re-appoint Mr. Larry Wortzel to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission, effective January 1, 2011.

Mr. Wortzel has expressed interest in serving in this capacity and I am pleased to fulfill his request.

Sincerely,

JOHN A. BOEHNER,
Republican Leader.

HONORING DOROTHY HARRY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an incredible public servant who is retiring from my district congressional office in a few short weeks.

Mrs. Dorothy Harry has served the citizens of the Pennsylvania Fifth Congressional District for 14 years. Dorothy has been in the Titusville district office for more than a decade. The constituent calls have been greeted by her with a professional, courteous, and caring attitude.

Dorothy has never been late by even a minute, is thorough in her service, and leaves nothing undone. She joined the congressional staff with a lifetime of experience working in her family's insurance agency. Constituents of my congressional district that contact our office with insurance-related issues have had her voice of experience to guide them through many concerns.

Dorothy is the mother of two daughters, whom she is very proud of. Dorothy has always been quick to share that one of her daughters created a Christmas ornament that hung on the White House Christmas tree.

On December 31, Dorothy Harry will retire from public service as a member of the Pennsylvania Fifth Congressional District congressional staff at the age of a young 81 years old. The citizens have been well served by her and, I am sure, join me in saying, "Job well done and thank you, Dorothy. You will be missed."

□ 1950

CONGRATULATING THE PEARLAND OILERS FOR WINNING THE CLASS 5A DIVISION ONE FOOT- BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

(Mr. OLSON asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. OLSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Pearland

Oilers for winning the Texas Class 5A Division One Football Championship last weekend. In front of 43,321 fans, the third largest in Texas history, the Oilers achieved a heart-stopping 28-24 victory, defeating the number one ranked team in the entire Nation, Eulless Trinity.

The Oilers were referred to as the underdog, but an underdog doesn't use a play called "the dead man" to score a 54-yard touchdown. They demonstrated their tenacity in the final seconds, when Dustin Garrison, who scored three touchdowns, broke up a fourth quarter pass, sealing the win for the Oilers.

Pearland has lived by a "plus one" outlook, always striving to make one more play and give one more degree of effort for the benefit of the team.

The Oilers finished the season with a perfect 16-0 record and brought home to the "rig" Pearland's first 5A championship. I congratulate them on their historic victory and well-deserved honor.

PASSING THE DOMESTIC TRAFFICKING VICTIMS ACT

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, when a young girl is kidnapped in a foreign country and brought into the United States and used as a sex slave and law enforcement gets involved, she is treated as a victim of crime.

If a young girl who is an American citizen is forced into sex slavery as an 11- or 12-year-old and she is trafficked across the United States and law enforcement gets involved, unfortunately that girl is not treated as a victim, but a criminal, and criminal charges are filed on her for prostitution and she goes through the system. Many times, law enforcement does that just to protect that young child.

We need to change that, and today this House of Representatives passed legislation, the Domestic Trafficking Victims Act, which will treat those victims as victims and give resources to put them in places throughout the United States where we can protect them, rescue them, prosecute the trafficker, and prosecute the customer who buys that sex from that poor girl for money.

We need to treat these victims with the dignity that they deserve. This legislation is important. I am glad it passed the House.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE HONORABLE JOHN B. SHADEGG

(Mr. FLAKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a valued member of the Arizona delegation, JOHN SHADEGG.

JOHN SHADEGG is ending his service to this institution after 16 years. JOHN came here in 1994 and has served the State of Arizona extremely well during that time. He has promoted the principles of limited government, economic freedom and individual responsibility, and has stayed true to his principles and been a valued member of the Arizona delegation.

Arizona has a habit of producing great legislators, including Barry Goldwater, Mo Udall, Carl Hayden, and others; and JOHN now adds his name to that list of great Arizona legislators.

I just want to pay tribute to him and tell him how much the Arizona delegation and all of us will miss his steady, constant, principled leadership here in the House of Representatives.

Well done, JOHN. Well done, JOHN SHADEGG.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE REPRESENTATIVE STEPHEN SOLARZ

(Mr. ENGEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to speak in honor of my friend and colleague, Stephen Solarz, who passed away last month.

When I first came to Congress in 1989, Congressman Solarz was already a respected Member of this body. He was a senior member of the Foreign Affairs Committee and an inspiration to me as I joined that committee. I enjoyed his advice and counsel. I remember he sat on the top rung of the committee, and that is where I am sitting today.

His speeches on the floor were the kind that made his colleagues stop what they were doing and listen. He was a foreign affairs guru to many of us, and the world will miss his knowledge and expertise.

I remember the dinners he and his wife, Nina, hosted at their home. Among the luminaries I met at these dinners was Abba Eban, the former foreign minister and U.N. ambassador of Israel.

Together, we shared the determination to protect America's relationship with Israel. We both understood that the U.S. must continue to engage on issues of importance around the world.

Like me, Congressman Solarz was a product of New York City's public schools. He emerged from humble beginnings to earn his law degree from Columbia, and later became one of the most influential Members of Congress. We each shared the passion for public service, and I know that I will truly miss his advice and his friendship. I consider myself lucky to have known him all these years.

My heart goes out to his wife, Nina, their children Randy and Lisa, and his mother, Ruth. The rest of the country, and certainly the U.S. House of Representatives, mourns with them.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

FLAWED ELECTIONS AND POLITICAL IMPRISONMENT IN BELARUS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. SHIMKUS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I come down tonight to put into the RECORD the names of some freedom fighters who have been jailed, not only politicians, but also members of the news media, after the stolen elections in Minsk, Belarus, of two nights ago.

The opponents of Dictator Lukashenko were as follows. Their locations are unknown. Some have been jailed: Andrey Sannikaw, Yaraslaw Ramanchuk, Ryhor Kastusyow, Uladzimir Nyaklyayew, Ales Mikhalevich, Vital Rymashewski, Viktor Tsyareshchanka, Mikalay Statkevich and Dzmitry Uss.

Tens of thousands of Belarusians converged on Independence Square in the capital, heeding opposition leaders who called Sunday's election a farce and accused Lukashenko of keeping the post-Soviet country locked in a dictatorship. They gathered on the evening of the 19th and the morning of the 20th.

Also arrested were prominent journalists and civil society activists, folks who are friends of individuals I know: Anatol Lyabedzka, leader of the United Civic Party; Mr. Sannikaw's wife, Iryna Khalip; Dzmitry Bandarenka, coordinator of an opposition group called Khartyya97; and Natallya Radzina, the editor of www.charter97.org.

The Organization For Security and Cooperation in Europe called the election "flawed," and the United States of America and the European Union condemned the crackdown.

With me I have some photos of the evening of December 19 showing protestors. Of course, we see members of the Belarusian security forces, and in this photo here you actually see them wielding their clubs and beating one of the opposition members of the party. This is what we have in Europe. The last dictatorship in Europe is in a country called Belarus.

□ 2000

The United States has already—and I would lend to the demand of the release of all political prisoners, presidential candidates, and their official representatives who are being held in KGB detention centers in Minsk. Yes, in Belarus, they still call the secret police the KGB. The United States and this Member stand in solidarity with all opposition activists with those cur-

rently being held and those who are still in hospitals and those already who are in jail.

The new media ability of democratic movements in this country are great at especially being able to use the Twitter accounts, using Facebook, using photos. A lot of these were conducted through new media. It underscores the brutality of the Belarusian leadership and the dictator, Lukashenko. I would hope that the international community, especially the European Union and the United States, would place the Belarusian Government on record that they should not hope to be able to join in the opportunities afforded to free and democratic countries when they treat their citizens who are only asking for the right to have their voice heard and the right to choose the representatives of the people.

END HUNGER NOW

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Massachusetts (Mr. MCGOVERN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, as we near the end of 2010 and the 111th Congress, I want to take a few minutes to talk about an issue that is critically important to the health and the well-being of our country. It's also an issue that I care deeply about and it's an issue that's rarely discussed. And that issue, Madam Speaker, is hunger. I've said it over and over again, but it bears repeating. Hunger is a political condition. We know how to end hunger in America. We have the resources to do it. What we need is the political will to make it happen.

We've made some important progress over the last few years. We enacted historic improvements in the food stamp program, now called SNAP. WIC, the program that ensures that pregnant mothers and their newborns and infant children have access to nutritious food, has been fully funded. Food banks received the assistance they need to fill their shelves as they worked to put food in the hands of hungry families. We passed the Hunger-Free Communities Act, a law that provides localized grants to combat hunger around the country. The farm bill included historic improvements to antihunger programs—most importantly, indexing SNAP to inflation. The Recovery Act did even more by increasing emergency funds to SNAP beneficiaries, allowing them to buy more food at a time when their incomes were falling because of the economy. Finally, on December 13, President Obama signed the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act into law. This will improve the quality of food served at schools to our Nation's children.

Madam Speaker, I have been honored to serve as the cochair of the House Hunger Caucus, and I want to thank