

the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the armed services.

I ask all Members to support this resolution supporting Silver Star Service Banner Day.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 855, expressing support for the designation of May 1st as 'Silver Star Service Banner Day'.

Recognizing all of our service members throughout the year is our privilege and designating May 1, 2010 as Silver Star Service Banner Day is an additional way to honor the wounded and ill members of our Armed Forces.

The Silver Star Families of America, a non-profit organization, is dedicated to keeping the memories of these hero's sacrifices in the hearts and minds of all of us through the presence of a Silver Star displayed in a window or the Service Flag flying for all to see.

It is important for us to take a moment to extend our gratitude to their loved ones who have endured the grief of losing a loved one or the difficulty of caring for these brave soldiers as the Silver Star Families do.

Those who have been wounded or have died are members of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard. They deserve our continued gratitude for all that they have given on our behalf. To this end, the Silver Star Service Banner has come to represent their bravery.

We are grateful to the Silver Star Families of America for their devotion and dedication to keeping all of us aware of the sacrifices made by the wounded and ill members of the Armed Forces, therefore, I ask all members to join me in supporting May 1, 2010 as Silver Star Service Banner Day.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I had the privilege, and I call it a privilege, earlier this year to travel to Kuwait, Yemen, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and then to Germany, where I had the privilege of meeting our troops who are committed, passionate, have an incredible love of country, and then to visit those wounded warriors at our facility in Germany. And I must say that there's nothing like having that interpersonal connection, that opportunity to make us realize the extraordinary sacrifices that are being made every single day.

So it is fitting that we have this resolution before us, and I urge all my colleagues to support this measure.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 855.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES FOR VICTIMS OF TESORO REFINERY FIRE IN ANACORTES, WASHINGTON

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1262) expressing condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims of the fire at the Tesoro refinery in Anacortes, Washington.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1262

Whereas the people of the State of Washington experienced a tragedy on April 2, 2010, when a fire occurred at the Tesoro refinery in Anacortes, Washington;

Whereas a team of seven Tesoro employees was working in the refinery's naphtha hydrotreater when the fire occurred;

Whereas three of these individuals died immediately in the fire, three more died of their injuries, and one more remains in intensive care after suffering severe burns;

Whereas the fire was quickly brought under control by Tesoro's fire control team and local first responders;

Whereas Federal, State and local government agencies, including the Chemical Safety Board, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, are conducting investigations to determine the cause of the incident and to ensure that the risk of similar incidents is minimized in the future;

Whereas the Tesoro refinery in Anacortes has temporarily shut down due to the damage sustained; and

Whereas Tesoro and the Skagit Community Foundation have established the Tesoro Anacortes Refinery Survivors Fund, and the United Steelworkers Local 12-591 has established the Tesoro Incident Family Fund to support the victims of the fire and their families: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) expresses condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of the victims of the fire at the Tesoro refinery in Anacortes, Washington;

(2) honors Matthew C. Bowen, Darrin J. Hoines, Daniel J. Aldridge, Kathryn Powell, Lew Janz, and Donna Van Dreumel who died as a result of the fire;

(3) offers best wishes to Matt Gumbel, who suffered severe burns and is recovering at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle; and

(4) expresses sympathies to the people of Anacortes, the entire State of Washington, and the Nation who grieve for the victims.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. FLAKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from California.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in support of H. Res. 1262. This measure expresses condolences to the families, friends and loved ones of the victims of the fire at the Tesoro refinery in Anacortes, Washington.

This resolution was introduced by my colleague, the gentleman from Washington, Representative RICK LARSEN, on April 15, 2010. The measure was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, which worked with leadership to get it to the floor quickly. The measure has the bipartisan support of over 60 Members of the House.

Madam Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the sponsor of this resolution, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. LARSEN).

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Madam Speaker, I want to thank the chairman and ranking member of the House Oversight and Government Reform committee for their assistance in bringing the resolution to the House floor.

Madam Speaker, on April 2, Washington State experienced a tragedy when a fire occurred in the Naphtha Hydrotreater unit at the Tesoro oil refinery in Anacortes, Washington, in my district. Six workers died as a result of the fire. One more was burned and remains in intensive care.

I offer my condolences to the families, the friends and loved ones of the victims of this fire. My thoughts and prayers are with Tesoro's employees and everyone from the city of Anacortes and the State of Washington and our country who grieve for the workers who died and who suffered injury.

I encourage my colleagues to join with me in supporting this resolution to honor the lives of Matthew Bowen, Darrin Hoines, Dan Aldridge, Kathryn Powell, Donna Van Dreumel and Lew Janz.

This resolution also expresses the best wishes of Congress to Matt Gumbel, who was severely burned in the fire and is currently in serious condition at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, Washington. I hope that Matt recovers as quickly as possible from these terrible injuries.

And earlier this week, Madam Speaker, I received a letter from the CEO of Tesoro and the chair of United Steelworkers Local 12-591 expressing support for this resolution. And I'd like to enter this letter in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Multiple Federal, State and local agencies, including the Chemical Safety Board, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, are currently investigating the cause of the fire. I strongly support the work they are doing to help us understand what happened and how to prevent a similar accident in the future.

And although most Americans don't associate northwest Washington with oil and gas, Skagit and Whatcom Counties in my district have been home to major oil refineries for over five decades. The four refineries in northwest Washington process a combined 500,000 barrels of oil a day. These refineries are central to the local economy, employing nearly 2,500 people and supplying over \$200 million in wages to workers and contractors.

The refining industry is inherently hazardous. As one refinery employee in my district put it, "We don't bake cookies; we bake oil."

That being said, preventing accidents that harm workers is vitally important. As the fire at the Tesoro refinery in Anacortes fades from newspaper headlines, we must remain sharply focused on worker safety, at the Tesoro refinery in Anacortes and at refineries and industrial sites around the country.

While it's not possible to prevent all refinery accidents, we need to learn from what happened in Anacortes. We need to make sure that we are doing everything we can to reduce the risk of similar accidents in the future.

So I urge my colleagues to join with me in supporting this resolution expressing the condolences of the House of Representatives to those who lost families, friends and loved ones in this terrible, terrible tragedy.

APRIL 20, 2010.

Hon. RICK LARSEN,
U.S. Congress,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN LARSEN: The Tesoro Corporation, United Steelworkers Local 12-591, and our family of employees wish to express our collective gratitude for your Resolution being considered in the U.S. House of Representatives that expresses condolences for and honors the victims of the recent tragic fire at our Anacortes, Washington facility. We are deeply touched by your concern and that of your colleagues in the House. Please know that we welcome and appreciate the comfort your words provide to all those affected.

BRUCE SMITH,
Chairman & CEO,
Tesoro Corporation.

WALTER CLEVE,
United Steel Workers
Union, Local 12-591
Unit Chair.

Mr. FLAKE. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Washington (Mr. LARSEN) for introducing this resolution. And I urge my colleagues to support it.

We want to express our condolences to the families and the friends and loved ones of those who perished in the fire and wish a speedy recovery to the one who is still injured.

We want to make sure also that this fire is investigated and we, to the extent possible, can make sure that it doesn't happen again.

And so I want to encourage all my colleagues to support this important resolution.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I now yield 2 minutes to the Representative from Wisconsin, Representative TAMMY BALDWIN.

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) for recognizing me out of order to speak to a previous resolution.

Many years ago Gaylord Nelson, from my home State of Wisconsin, had a vision. He envisioned a world where our pristine oceans and lakes are protected, our air clean to breathe, and our planet preserved for future generations.

Being the wise man that Senator Nelson was, he recognized the environmental degradation that everyone around him was acknowledging, everyone, that is, but the political establishment, which wasn't interested in action.

He knew that if the environment was to have its place on the political agenda, it had to be brought there by the people. So he announced that there would be a nationwide grassroots demonstration on behalf of the environment. He called it Earth Day. At the time it was a gamble, but worth the try.

No one expected the turnout: 20 million people came out to participate. The sheer numbers gathered the attention of the Congress, and it was those voices that led to congressional action on some of our most treasured environmental laws: the Clean Air Act, the Clean Water Act, and the Safe Drinking Water Act.

I commend my colleague from Wisconsin, Mr. OBEY, for bringing the resolution to honor the late Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin to the floor. And the resolution also commemorates the 40th anniversary of Earth Day.

In the words of Senator Nelson: "Our goal is an environment of decency, quality, and mutual respect for all human beings and all other living creatures."

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair would remind people in the Chamber, people in the gallery, that little whispers turn into loud roars. Business is being conducted on the floor.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I yield to my good friend, the gentleman from Washington (Mr. INSLEE), as much time as he may consume.

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I would like to speak in favor of this resolution that commemorates and honors those who were lost in the Tesoro explosion in Washington State. And this is something that is felt, I think, nationwide. And I appreciate RICK LARSEN and his leadership bringing this for the Congress to consider this tragedy.

And the reason is maybe twofold. One, we really look forward to a day in this country that our loved ones can go to work without the fear of them not coming home in these jobs, and we hope that this will help focus Congress and our continuing efforts to improve safety in the workplace for our loved ones.

My son worked on a pipeline project that terminated at the Tesoro facility and got to know some of these hard-working people, and they were aware of the dangers associated with the product they work with. And he was impressed, and I think we're all impressed, with their dedication to their jobs.

And I just want to express from the folks I represent our empathy for the families.

I also want to express my admiration for a fellow named Matt Gumbel who today is recovering at Harborview Hospital from his burns and doing well and is very impressed, as I just read some comments on his Web site of people saying, if Matt could get 100 feet following his injuries to the control room to help get help for the people who were injured, he'll be able to get through this. So we're thinking of him. And we commend this resolution to the Chamber.

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Mr. FLAKE. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 1262, which honors the victims of the fire at the Tesoro Refinery in Anacortes, Washington and expresses condolences to their families, friends, and loved ones in the wake of this tragic incident.

On April 2, 2010, as a team of seven employees worked in the refinery's naphtha hydro-treater, a devastating fire broke out. While the fire was quickly brought under control by Tesoro's fire control team and local first responders, three of the employees died immediately in the fire, three more died of their injuries, and another remains in intensive care after suffering severe burns.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to the community of Anacortes and the entire state of Washington, including to Representative RICK LARSEN who represents the affected community. Our district has five refineries that employ many of our constituents and we share in their unfortunate loss.

As we continue to deal with the devastating consequences of this episode, we must also direct our attention to preventing losses of life like this in the future. Ensuring the safety of our refineries must be a top priority to protect the security and wellbeing of our workers, their families, and communities.

Again, I would like to express my condolences to the families, friends, and loved ones of those killed in the fire and also offer my support and hope for a full recovery to the Anacortes community.

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to join me in

supporting this measure, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. SPEIER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1262.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1182) congratulating Radford University on the 100th anniversary of the university.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1182

Whereas Radford University was chartered on March 10, 1910, by the Commonwealth of Virginia as the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Radford;

Whereas Radford University was chartered to prepare teachers to educate the people of the United States;

Whereas Radford University has grown substantially in scope and quality since the day on which the university was chartered;

Whereas Radford University was renamed the Radford State Teachers College in 1924 and the Women's Division of Virginia Polytechnic Institute in 1944, respectively;

Whereas Radford University was renamed Radford College in 1964 when the relationship between the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and Radford University ended;

Whereas Radford College was renamed Radford University in 1979;

Whereas, since the founding of the university, Radford University has provided thousands of students with the benefits of a Radford education;

Whereas Radford University graduates have made meaningful and lasting contributions to society through service, including service in—

- (1) education;
- (2) the sciences;
- (3) business;
- (4) health and human services;
- (5) government;
- (6) the arts and humanities; and
- (7) other endeavors;

Whereas Radford University is a productive and vital academic community with thousands of students;

Whereas the students of Radford University approach university life with an enthusiasm for learning and personal development;

Whereas the brilliant faculty of Radford University is committed to the highest ideals of academic scholarship and the advancement of society;

Whereas the devoted administrators and staff members of Radford University strive to foster an environment that supports the noble work of the university;

Whereas the centennial of Radford University is an appropriate time for faculty, staff, students, alumni, and friends—

(1) to unite in recognition of the past achievements of Radford University with pride; and

(2) to consider ways to create an even more successful university during the century ahead;

Whereas Radford University celebrates the culture of service of the university through a program entitled "Centennial Service Challenge" that invites every member of the campus and extended university community to engage in, and document community service in honor of, the centennial; and

Whereas Radford University will observe a Centennial Charter Day Celebration on March 24, 2010, and host numerous other academic programs and arts and cultural events throughout 2010 to commemorate the event: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives commends Radford University on the 100th anniversary of the university.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. CUELLAR). Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SABLAN. I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1182 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands?

There was no objection.

Mr. SABLAN. I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1182, which celebrates Radford University for 100 years of leadership and service in higher education. Radford was originally founded in 1910 as the State Normal and Industrial School for Women, tracing its roots back to the expansion of the Virginia public higher education system. While its name and composition has evolved over the years, Radford's commitment to academic excellence has never wavered.

Radford's beautiful 177-acre campus is located in the New River Valley between the Blue Ridge and Allegheny mountains. The university is home to nearly 8,000 undergraduates and over 1,000 graduate students, and these students have access to a diversity of academic and extracurricular programs.

The university is comprised of six undergraduate and one graduate college which offer 153 degree options. Additionally, Radford also has 19 NCAA Division I teams, 400 intramural sports teams, and over 200 clubs and organizations.

Recently, Radford was named one of the Top Up-and-Coming Schools in the Nation by U.S. News & World Report due to its promising and innovative changes it has made over the past few years. Under the leadership of

Radford's sixth president, Ms. Penelope Kyle, the university has consistently ranked among the best colleges and universities in the Southeast region. Such recognition shows that the school is continually innovating and striving for success.

For its 100th anniversary, Radford honored its culture of service with a "Centennial Service Challenge," which encouraged students, faculty, and staff to participate in community service in local and regional areas. This event is indicative of Radford's tradition of cultivating graduates who will become meaningful contributors to society and mark a significant milestone in the university's history.

Once again, I congratulate Radford University on its 100-year anniversary and thank Representative BOUCHER for bringing this bill forward.

Ms. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 1182, congratulating Radford University on its 100th anniversary.

Radford University was founded in 1910 as the State Normal and Industrial School for Women at Radford. Classes began in September of 1913, and in 1979, the school became Radford University. During 2010, Radford is celebrating its centennial anniversary with numerous programs and events. On March 24, the university observed the Centennial Charter Day Celebration.

Located in Radford, Virginia, Radford University is organized into six undergraduate colleges and one college of graduate and extended education. Radford University aims to create a challenging, supportive, and engaging educational culture that is anchored in the liberal arts tradition and is ethically responsible to the needs of the 21st century global society. The university has more than 200 clubs and student organizations and competes in 19 NCAA athletics.

In addition, Radford has a national reputation for excellent academics. In 2007, Radford unveiled "7-17, Forging a Bold New Future," with a goal of establishing Radford as one of the top 50 master degree-granting universities in the Nation by 2017. In 2009, the university was ranked in the South's top 25 master's level public universities and named one of the Top Up-and-Coming Schools by U.S. News & World Report.

I am honored to congratulate Radford University on the occasion of its 100th anniversary and to recognize the university for 100 years of excellence in higher education. And I extend my congratulations to the university, the faculty, the staff, the students, and the alumni.

I urge my colleagues to support the resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I'm pleased to recognize the gentleman