

on October 17, 1979, along with his twin sister Carla. He is married to his lovely wife Rosemarie and they have two children, Noroby and new born Genesis. Sgt. Evans had served three tours in Iraq, and was on his first tour of duty in Afghanistan in Salam Baezar when an IED went off during a foot patrol on May 16 2010. Losing his legs and part of his arm, he somehow held on to fight his next battle. To walk again, and he will! His courage his faith, and his character is an inspiration to us all. And with his family's help, the key to all great recoveries, this mountain they will climb together! I ask that this poem penned in honor of him and his family by Albert Caswell, be placed in the RECORD.

CARLOS CAN

Carlos Can!
 And Carlos Will!
 All of our hearts, so instill!
 As we watch him climb, each and every mountain . . . and every hill . . .
 Moving onward, moving forward . . . ever onward still!
 All but with his fine heart, as he somehow rebuilds . . .
 Carlos Can, all because . . . lie's A United States Marine . . .
 One of the best things that this country has ever seen!
 Arms and legs, yea we all need!
 But, without a heart . . . one can not so surely breath!
 Carlos Can, and Carlos Will . . . all of his dreams, one day fulfill . . .
 As This Pride of Puerto Rico, so fills...
 So fill's all of our hearts, with all of his courage . . . and so iron will!
 While, against all odds . . . he will not be stilled!
 For he has a life to live, and to our world so much more to give!
 For on that fateful morning, as he awoke . . .
 And so saw, what this dark war had invoked . . .
 As the tears, upon his fine face so gently broke . . .
 As in that moment, his fine heart to him so spoke!
 So spoke to him, about faith and courage . . .
 And how not to somehow be discouraged!
 For only from ones soul, so conies hope . . .
 As it was all in that moment, that he so made that choice . . .
 As through him . . .
 All in his actions, we so heard our Lord's most beautiful voice!
 Calling To Us!
 To Teach Us . . .
 To Beseech Us . . .
 All in Carlos's choice!
 And, if ever I have a son . . .
 I but pray, he could but be like this fine one!
 To have the strength and courage, like Carlos could!
 Carlos Can! And Carlos Will!
 Marine Take That Mountain, Climb That Hill!
 Hoorah Jar Head, for God and Country you so bled!
 Showing us all, That God Is Great! And God Is Good!
 Like Carlos, do you think that you so could?

TRIBUTE TO ELI M. BURGOS

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY
 IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the deeds of a person I am proud to represent and prouder still to call a friend, Eli M. Burgos, who will be recognized tonight on the occasion of his retirement from a 36-year career of service to the city of Paterson, NJ.

Eli M. Burgos was born in Puerto Rico in 1949 to Minister Gregorio Burgos and his wife Lucia. He has three sisters, Sara, Raquel and Irma, and one brother, Fred. In the early 1950s he moved to New York City and one year later to the city of Paterson. Eli attended Paterson Public School No. 3, No. 2, Central High School, and in 1967 graduated from John F. Kennedy High School. Soon after, Eli was called upon to serve in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam Conflict. After reporting to Fort Dix, he was sent to the U.S. Army Medical Training Center in San Antonio, Texas for training as a Medical Corpsman. He graduated with the highest cadre evaluation, and continued his medical training at Madigan General Hospital, Tacoma, Washington. He then was transferred overseas where he completed his active duty with the 42nd Medical Battalion, 8th Medical Company. During this time, Eli served under the command of Captain Jeffery Parks, son of the legendary "Miss America Pageant" MC, Bert Parks. Eli was honorably discharged as a Medical Corpsman Specialist IV, in 1971. Thereafter he served in the United States Army Reserves for four more years.

Upon his discharge, Eli returned home and began a career in public service. Eli Burgos attended Rutgers University where he completed all of the requirements to become a certified public purchasing official and a qualified purchasing agent and also attended Fairleigh Dickinson University, where he received his certificate in public service administration.

Prior to working for the city of Paterson, Eli was the co-founder and executive director for PRVANJ, a statewide service organization, funded by a Federal grant, to identify the needs of and provide services to returning Vietnam-era veterans. In 1974, Eli was hired by Mayor Pat Kramer as a planner for the Manpower Planning Council, later the City's Employment and Training Division, or C.E.T.A. Eli rose through the ranks and in 1981 was appointed by Mayor Frank Graves to become the agency's executive director. With the promotion, Eli became the first Hispanic American division director in Paterson's history. In 1984, Mayor Graves again promoted Eli to the Deputy Directorship of the City Department of Human Resources, and two years later to City Purchasing Agent, where he was responsible for the annual procurement of over 50 million dollars in goods and services. He held this position for 19 years. During my time as mayor, Eli served as a liaison to the growing Hispanic community. On October 21, 1998, Mayor Marty Barnes appointed Eli to the position of deputy mayor, while allowing him to continue directing the purchasing division. On July 1,

2002, Mayor Jose "Joey" Torres named Eli as the business administrator for the city of Paterson, a position of major authority and responsibility and one he will vacate upon his retirement at the end of the current mayor's term.

Eli's volunteer work has been widely recognized and rewarded with over 250 awards, certificates and other honors and recognitions. He has been named "Man of the Year" on seven occasions and has been the Grand Marshall and Deputy Grand Marshall of various parades and festivals held in New Jersey. Eli has devoted over 25,000 hours of time as a volunteer to a multitude of programs and projects in the State, county and his beloved city of Paterson. Eli has worked with public education projects, local anti-poverty programs, daycare centers, senior citizen services, church-related projects, sports leagues, recreation activities, health and safety, political campaigns and many others that include fundraising for the American Red Cross and other non-profits to aid victims of natural disasters such as hurricanes and earthquakes. He has been elected president of many organizations and has been a founder or co-founder of others. He continues his work on the Board of Directors of the North Jersey Federal Credit Union. Eli is very proud of his service with other organizations such as Bamert Hospital, the New Jersey Supreme Court Ethics Committee Fee Arbitration Panel, the Board of Directors of the Local Initiative Support Corporation "LISC," New Jersey Health Professions Education Advisory Council and many other community-related boards and institutions.

Eli has written many articles for periodicals highlighting the struggles and accomplishments of the Puerto Rican and Latino Communities of Paterson and the State of New Jersey. He also worked for seven years as a part time photojournalist for Noticias Del Mundo, a leading daily newspaper in New Jersey and New York. Also active in politics, Eli ran for the Board of Education in 1989, his first attempt at elective office, and won by a wide margin. In 1991, he was selected as my running mate for election to the New Jersey Legislature, to represent the 35th District. Eli fell short of winning the election by the slimmest of margins. He never sought elected office again, instead continuing his administrative and managerial work to better the city of Paterson. Eli is presently serving his 5th term on the Democratic State Committee and previously served 11 years on the Passaic County Democratic Committee. He is a member of the city's Emergency Management Team, the New Jersey Municipal Managers Association, the New Jersey Purchasing Agents Association, and the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing.

Throughout the years, another constant in Eli's life has been his family. His wife, Yolanda, recently retired as the principal of International High School in Paterson. All of their children, Louie, Janel, and Velanae, have obtained college degrees as has their daughter-in-law, Luciana, and son-in-law, Victor. Eli and Yolanda are proud grandparents to Destin Louis and Liana Rose.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to working with and recognizing the

efforts of dedicated public servants like Eli. He will retire as the only person in Paterson's history to have served in the capacity of acting mayor, deputy mayor, department director and division director, responsibilities he has carried out in the most professional and ethical manner possible. He is humbled by the opportunity to have served this great historical city and to have made so many friends and acquaintances along the way, and I am proud to have been able to work with him.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, the residents of the city of Paterson, everyone associated with public service in our great city, Eli's family and friends, and me, in recognizing Eli M. Burgos' outstanding service to his community.

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN LAW
SCHOOLS LETTER REGARDING
NON-DISCRIMINATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 16, 2010

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I recently received a letter from the Association of American Law Schools regarding recent Congressional consideration for expanding non-discrimination policies. I ask unanimous consent to have the attached letter inserted into the Congressional Record on the Association's behalf.

ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN LAW SCHOOLS,
Washington, DC, May 26, 2010.

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,
*Speaker of the House, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.*

DEAR SPEAKER PELOSI: We write today regarding your important efforts to extend anti-discrimination principles to access to military service. We hope that the following comments will be of assistance to you and to the House as it considers this reform.

Non-discrimination principles form a critical foundation for our democracy. The promise of opportunity for all and the aspirations of individuals to achieve underpin the character of American society. Without question, military service has played an important role over several generations in supporting the idea of individual improvement. Through specific training, as well as the development of personal characteristics such as discipline and responsibility, the military has been a path to greater capabilities and a better life for many young Americans. Military service has itself provided knowledge and has often led individuals to higher education. Beginning with the GI Bill of Rights after World War II, educational benefits provided to returning combat veterans created a potentially transformative educational path for individual veterans, and, in the process, strengthened the nation's capacities for innovation and productivity. In our law schools over the last 60 years we have seen the powerful effects of military experience and of this national assistance for veterans. We also understand that for many Americans military service has been a meaningful way to participate in our democracy.

Today, however, military service is not open to all who wish to serve our country. We hope that this year the Congress will act to provide equal access to military service,

by extending non-discrimination principles to the many who are now discouraged or prevented from serving because of the current "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

BRIEF BACKGROUND OF THE AALS

Formed in 1900 for the purpose of improving the legal profession through legal education, the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) is a voluntary membership organization of 171 law schools. AALS membership has been regarded as an important indicator of the quality of a law school. The AALS pursues our purpose of strengthening legal education through two principal vehicles (1) a membership process which periodically evaluates law schools, and (2) programs for law teachers and administrators, designed to encourage innovation, further strong teaching and excellent curricula and foster a climate of inquiry through teaching and research that will strengthen the law and the legal profession.

Only rarely does the AALS speak in the legislative process or seek to address a court in the context of a case before it. We consider doing so only in circumstances where our core educational values or the educational programs and related judgments of member schools are strongly implicated. We regard the issue before you now as one of those moments.

A HISTORICAL LOOK AT NON-DISCRIMINATION
PRINCIPLES

A neutral look at our national history on issues of discrimination since the end of World War II makes clear that each of the watersheds in 20th century non-discrimination law were not the obvious decisions that one could assume in retrospect, but rather were hotly contested. The House that passed the Civil Rights Act of 1964 had only twelve female members. At the time of the vote on the historic legislation, there were nine minority members in the House, all of them male. One was an Asian American from the young state of Hawaii (World War II veteran Spark Matsunaga, who was twice wounded in battle while serving with Japanese-American segregated units sent to war while many family members of his fellow soldiers had been assigned to relocation centers on the West coast). Three were Latinos, representing districts in Texas, New Mexico, and California. The remaining five were all African-Americans from northern states. And the House and history would have to wait for nine more years before the first post-Reconstruction African American from the South was seated in the House of Representatives.

Ending racial segregation in the military took Presidential action. It was President Eisenhower's view that federal institutions should be at the forefront of upholding the ideal of racial equality. Then as now, discrimination on the part of the federal government is fundamentally and deeply troubling. As a revered military leader, Eisenhower as President was able to bring about implementation of President Truman's 1948 Executive Order to desegregate the military. The Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948 gave women permanent status in the Army, Navy, Marines (and later Air Force and Coast Guard) and from the 1960's through the present women have been granted further access to opportunity in the military.

AALS NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICIES

The AALS acted to require its members to avoid discrimination based on race or color in 1951. Nineteen years later, in 1970, a requirement of non-discrimination covering

women was added to the AALS By-Laws. Two decades ago the AALS membership acted to include discrimination based on sexual orientation in the list of prohibited categories of discrimination for AALS member schools. AALS Bylaw § Section 6-3 states that each member school undertakes to "provide equality of opportunity in legal education for all . . . enrolled students . . . without discrimination or segregation on the ground of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age disability or sexual orientation." The concept of non-discrimination is critical to our democracy and crucial to the training of lawyers who, among others, act as stewards of democratic ideals. The role of law and lawyers in our society is to further the orderly conduct of the society, including the resolution of disputes, and to construct respect for the law and to establish and ensure the qualities that will engender that respect, such as fairness, level playing fields, and equality of opportunity. Inherently then, law schools place a high priority on trying to instill in lawyers their civic responsibilities and their role in furthering democratic values.

The application of non-discrimination principles to career opportunities for law students became and remains a particularly troublesome issue in the wake of passage of the Solomon Amendment in 1996. In light of that federal law, the AALS fashioned a compromise in the application of its own non-discrimination principles. That compromise allows military recruiters on law school campuses but requires member schools to "ameliorate" that presence and make clear the inconsistency between the schools' non-discrimination policies and the military's exclusion of openly gay and lesbian individuals. The purpose was to ensure that each law school community would communicate its inclusive and non-discriminatory values to all members of the community. This compromise, while deemed the best solution within the legal context in which the AALS found itself, is inherently and deeply troublesome for two reasons. University-based law schools implicitly sanction discrimination based on sexual orientation when they include military recruiters rather than reject the federal funds so important to their academic programs. At the same time, attempts made by individual law schools and the AALS to ensure that the full law school community understands why a discriminatory employer has been permitted access to the schools' career services have understandably (but wrongly) been interpreted as indicative of the "anti-military" attitudes of law schools, their leaders, and the AALS. We emphasize that the AALS is supportive of our military and recognizes that as the military has become more inclusive it has become stronger both internally and in the public's perception. We depend on the many young Americans whose courage and commitment enables them to join the armed services in order to actively participate in the defense of the nation. It is the nobility of that service and the inability of American citizens who are openly gay or lesbian to serve that has prompted the AALS to argue consistently for inclusion of these citizens in military service. The AALS is committed to both non-discrimination and a strong military, with access to opportunities in the military for all students at our member schools, regardless of their sexual orientation.

The current law places the democratic ideal that individuals should be judged as individuals and not based upon group-based characteristics in a secondary status to