

(ATAP); Association of State Independent Living Councils (ASILC); Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD); Brain Injury Association of America; Campaign for America's Future; Center for an Accessible Society; Center for Disability Issues and the Health Professions (CDIHP); Center on Disability and Health; Central Conference of American Rabbis; Chemical Sensitivity Disorders Association; Child Care Law Center; Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation; Coalition of Religious Communities; Common Cause; Consumers Union; Council of Citizens with Low Vision International (CCLVI); Disability Rights Education and Defense Fund (DREDF); Disability Service Providers of America (DSPA); Easter Seals; EIN SOF Communications; Enable America; Epilepsy Foundation of America; Ethel Louise Armstrong Foundation, Inc. (ELA); Exceptional Parent Magazine; Exploding Myths, Inc.; Family Voices; Fannie Lou Hamer Project; Federally Employed Women; Federation of Families for Children's Mental Health; Friends Committee on National Legislation; General Federation of Women's Clubs; Gerontological Society of America; Hadassah, The Women's Zionist Organization of America; International Association of Business, Industry and Rehabilitation (I-NABIR); Judge David L.; Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law; Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law; Leadership Conference on Civil Rights (LCCR); League for the Hard of Hearing; League of Women Voters of the United States; Legal Momentum; Lift, Inc.; Little People of America; Medicare Rights Center; MindFreedom Support Coalition International; Mobility Golf; Mobility International USA (MIUSA); NAACP Legal Defense & Educational Fund, Inc.; National Asian Pacific American Legal Consortium (NAPALC); National Association for Visually Handicapped; National Association of Councils on Developmental Disabilities; National Association of Social Workers; National Association of State Head Injury Administrators; National Association of the Deaf (NAD); National Business & Disability Council (NBDC); National Center for Environmental Health Strategies; National Center on Domestic and Sexual Violence; National Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Syndrome Foundation (CFIDS), Inc.; National Coalition Against Domestic Violence; National Congress of American Indians; National Consumers League (NCL); National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW); National Council of La Raza; National Council on Independent Living (NCIL); National Council on Rehabilitation Education; National Council on the Aging; National Disability Rights Network; National Down Syndrome Congress; National Down Syndrome Society; National Employment Lawyers Association; National Empowerment Center (NEC); National Federation of Temple Youth; National Federation of the Blind; National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; National Health Law Program, Inc.; (NHeLP); National Home Visitation Organization; National Indian Telecommunication Institute; National Industries for the Blind (NIB); National Multiple Sclerosis Society; National Organization For Women; National Or-

ganization of Nurses with Disabilities (NOND); National Organization on Disability; National Recreation and Park Association; National Rehabilitation Association; National Research Center for Women & Families.

National Spinal Cord Injury Association; National Women's Law Center; National Women's Health Network; 9to5, National Association of Working Women; NISH; Not Dead Yet; On a Roll Communications, LLC; Paralyzed Veterans of America; Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy; People for the American Way; People Who; People with Disabilities Broadcasting Corporation; Physically Challenged Bowhunters of America (PCBA); Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Washington Office; Progressive Coalition; Research and Training Center on Independent Living at the University of Kansas; RESNA (Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America); Rock the Vote; Screen Actors Guild—Performers With Disabilities Committee.

Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH); Sikh American Legal Defense and Education Fund (SALDEF); Spina Bifida Association of America; Stop Family Violence; TASH; TDI (Telecommunications for the Deaf, Inc.); Telecommunication Services for the Deaf; The Arc of the United States; The Mitsubishi Electric America Foundation; The National Coalition on Self Determination, Inc.; The National Coalition to Amend the Medicare Homebound Restriction; The National Women's Conference; The Rolling Rains Report; The Silent Witness Project; Tourette Syndrome Association, Inc.; Union for Reform Judaism; Unitarian Universalist Association of Congregations; United Cerebral Palsy; United Food and Commercial Workers International Union (UFCW); United Spinal Association; USAction; Vocational Evaluation and Career Assessment Professionals (VECAP); WGBH National Center for Accessible Media; Women In Media & News (WIMN); Women of Reform Judaism; Women's Committee of 100; Workplace Fairness; World Institute on Disability.

To see a listing of state and local organizations, please visit www.aapd.com.

INDEPENDENCE DAY OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, August 31st marks the 43rd anniversary of the independence of Trinidad and Tobago. The Caribbean nation gained independence from Great Britain in 1962, and has since gone on to become prosperous and influential member of our hemisphere, and a loyal ally to the United States.

Trinidad is a country of immense ethnic diversity. People of African, East Indian, European, Chinese, and even Middle Eastern descent coexist peacefully on this island of over 1.3 million. Many of Trinidad's citizens have migrated to the United States over the years, and have established sizable communities in many cities around the country, especially in

the New York City area. This community has given much to our Nation by their presence.

Trinidad has also given much to the United States in other ways. The country hosted thousands of U.S. servicemen during World War II, and the immediate post-war years. Several U.S. bases were stationed on the island, and the U.S. presence left a deep imprint on the culture and character of Trinidad, which is still evident today. The era also exposed a generation of Americans to the beautiful island nation and its wonderful Calypso music. This exposure spurred an influx of American tourists to the island over the next half century. Today, Trinidad is major U.S. tourist destination, as are many other locales in the Caribbean.

In addition, Trinidad and Tobago has positioned itself as a significant component of America's energy supply over the last few years. Already an important regional exporter of crude oil, Trinidad is now the leading exporter of Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) in the Western Hemisphere. After 9–11, the U.S. sought to find energy sources beyond the Middle East and Persian Gulf. Additionally, rising gas prices, and increasing domestic shortages increased U.S. demand for LNG.

Trinidad has impressively stepped in to fill that demand. In 1999, Trinidad exported about 50 billion cubic feet of LNG to the U.S., accounting for only 31 percent of total U.S. LNG imports.

By 2003, Trinidad was the leading exporter of Liquid Natural Gas to the United States, totaling nearly 400 billion cubic feet, or 75 percent of all U.S. LNG imports. These numbers are projected to further increase over the next decade.

More than anything, however, the most important factor in the U.S./Trinidad relationship will be the genuine respect and admiration we hold for one another. As for Trinidad itself, the future looks bright. During his 1962 Independence Day Speech to the nation, Dr. Eric Williams, the first Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, asserted that the "strength of the Nation depends on the strength of its citizens". Based on that criteria Trinidad is a strong nation indeed, and I wish a Happy Independence Day to her and her citizens.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SIGNING OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, 15 years ago, the United States Congress passed, and President George H.W. Bush signed into law, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)—landmark civil rights legislation for people with disabilities. On this important anniversary, we must take the opportunity to reflect on the Act's successes and discuss the work left to be done.

The ADA declared that 54 million Americans with disabilities, including myself, had the right to reasonable accommodations in the workplace and access to public buildings. In doing so, society acknowledged for the first time the civil rights of these Americans to live independently and to fully participate in all aspects