

the same means as other victims who suddenly lost their homes and livelihood through no fault of their own. Therefore, we are introducing this bill today and urge our colleagues to quickly enact it into law to assist families who are otherwise hopelessly destitute because of the disasters and the impact of a drug conviction.

HONORING DOROTHY MARION
PETE

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Dorothy Marion Pete of Oakland, California. Dorothy was a beloved mother, wife, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, friend, and leader in our community. She passed away on October 10, 2005 at her home in Oakland at the age of 91.

A longtime East Bay Area resident, Dorothy was known throughout her life for her devotion to her family, her church, and her community. She was born in Berkeley, California on February 28, 1914 as the ninth of thirteen children to Virginia (Jennie) Parker and Thomas Reid, Sr. After graduating from Berkeley High School, she worked as the office secretary at the then segregated West Oakland Linden Street Branch of the YWCA. She later integrated the downtown Oakland YWCA, serving first as a stenographer before becoming the administrative assistant to Executive Director Helen Grant.

In addition to the changes she affected at the local YWCA, Dorothy had an immense impact on the local faith community by integrating the staff of the Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church in Oakland. An active member, Dorothy also taught Sunday school and served as president of the American Baptist Women's Group.

Dorothy's bright and giving spirit shaped her actions not only in the context of these institutions, but in every aspect of her life. She was known by all for her boundless generosity toward those who were close to her and also toward those she was meeting for the first time. Dorothy was especially committed to providing aid and comfort to those in need, initiating many food drives at her church and giving away blankets, quilts and dolls that she created by hand or with her sewing machine.

A bright light to many, Dorothy's role was especially profound in the lives of her loved ones. She was happily married for many years to her husband Herman Rideau Pete, who hailed originally from Crowley, Louisiana but spent most of his life in the Bay Area. Though sadly Herman preceded her in death, he and Dorothy spent many happy years together and raised three sons, Gregory, Dennis, and Geoffrey, who is a business owner and community activist in Oakland. Her guidance and unconditional support has given them the strength they have needed to confront and conquer life's challenges, and will continue to sustain them as they, along with their families, continue to celebrate her life in the years to come.

Dorothy's family and friends have come together during this time to honor, remember and cherish not only her life, but the way that she touched the lives of so many others. On

behalf of the California's 9th U.S. Congressional District, I am proud to add my voice to the countless others who have united in thanks, appreciation, and joy to remember this very special woman and wonderful friend, Mrs. Dorothy Marion Pete.

CONDEMNING COMMENTS BY
IRAN'S PRESIDENT

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the new president of Iran, Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, told 4,000 headline students in Tehran that "Israel must be wiped off the map." Mr. Ahmadinejad's address was the highlight, if you want to call it that, of a forum called "The World Without Zionism," that also saw chants of "Death to America" and "Death to Israel." The Iranian President also attacked other Muslim nations for making peace with Israel and claimed that terrorist attacks by Palestinians could destroy the Jewish state.

I completely and utterly condemn the comments by Iran's president. Peace will only come to the Middle East when all parties recognize Israel's right to exist and completely renounce support for terrorism. Unfortunately, Iran's new government is turning its back on peaceful coexistence and appears bent on confrontation with Israel, the United States, and the world community. Iran also continues to bankroll terrorists, like those who killed five innocent Israelis on Wednesday. Mr. Speaker, the world must unite to denounce the hate speech of Iran's president in the strongest terms possible.

Tomorrow, Catholics, Jews, Muslims, and people of other faiths will come together to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Nostra Aetate, the Catholic Church's landmark document that called for respect for other faiths, particularly Islam and Judaism. And four months ago, the three great Abrahamic religions came together to mourn the death of the great spiritual leader, Pope John Paul II. Because of their nations' alphabetical proximity, the then-presidents of Israel and Iran sat next to each other and even shook hands. But it seems the spirit of interfaith harmony, sadly, lasted little longer than the services for the Pope.

Mr. Speaker, as long as Iran's president continues to rage hatefully against Israel and the West, there will be no peace in the Middle East. The world community will not tolerate these comments by Iran's president, and I condemn them as strongly as I can.

NEW URGENCY REQUIRED TO
STOP VIOLENCE IN SUDAN

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I am alarmed and worried about recent reports coming out of Sudan describing deteriorating political conditions and an increase of violence. The world's governments, including the

United States have moved too slowly to resolve the conflict in Sudan. And now, despite a negotiated ceasefire, we have received numerous reports of renewed killings and abductions, including attacks on aid workers and African Union peacekeepers.

The escalating violence is threatening humanitarian support for millions of people as international aid workers, increasingly find themselves the target of violence. Last month, a squad supported by Sudanese government helicopters attacked a camp for displaced civilians in Darfur, killing 35. Days later, in West Darfur, an Arab rebel group abducted 18 African peacekeepers. Last week, two African Union peacekeeping soldiers were killed in an ambush along with two civilian contractors. Three other African peacekeepers were wounded during the same raid.

The Bush Administration's slow response offers little hope for success and sets no deadline for resolution. We must adopt a new approach that recognizes the urgency of the situation on the ground.

If the ceasefire is to successfully progress toward a fully implemented peace agreement, the U.S. will need to play a more active role in increasing the influence and capabilities of the African Union troops. Currently there are 6,000 peacekeepers working to secure an area the size of Texas and containing a population approaching two million. By honoring its pledge to provide \$50 million as part of the FY06 Foreign Operations bill for equipment and supplies, the Administration would do much to assist the efforts of the African Union.

The U.S. should also work aggressively with the AU on expanding the mandate of the African Union peacekeepers. After more than a year, peacekeeping troops are still confused about their role in the region and about their enforcement powers. While AU troops have been able to protect civilians in some instances, their mandate does not expressly include this important responsibility. As a result, their ability to protect civilians from violence has been extremely limited and varies from one contingent to the next.

Finally, the Bush Administration should pressure the Sudanese government to fully implement the Comprehensive Peace Agreement. That means the commissions and boards mandated by the peace agreement to oversee such contentious, but essential issues as petroleum production and military operations must be established.

Sudan has been the focus of organized armed conflict for 20 of the last 21 years. Given that the Administration in Khartoum has demonstrated only token commitment to the goal of establishing a lasting peace, only the active, aggressive engagement of the United States will make it possible for the Sudanese people to one day be able to return safely to their homes.

REGARDING DR. C. DELORES
TUCKER

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, it is never easy to lose an esteemed friend and colleague such as Dr. C. Delores Tucker. A valiant warrior in the fight for freedom and equality, she

selfishly committed herself to the work of serving others.

Dr. C. Delores Tucker was the first African American woman in the nation to serve as the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Secretary of State. During this time, she instituted the first Commission on the Status of Women in Pennsylvania. In her term, Dr. Tucker was responsible for the governor's appointment of more women and African Americans to judgeships and commissions in the history of the Commonwealth. She also led the effort to make Pennsylvania one of the first states to pass the Equal Rights Amendment. As Chief of Elections of Pennsylvania, she was a leader in instituting a voter registration by mail and reducing the voting age from 21 to 18 years of age.

Dr. Tucker was founder and president of the Bethune-DuBois Institute, Inc., which she established in 1991 to aid African American youth through scholarships and educational programs. Dr. Tucker launched and served as the publisher of the renowned publication, *Vital Issues: The Journal of African American Speeches*. This endeavor caught the attention of then Congressman William H. Gray and was submitted into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Dr. Tucker has received awards from numerous organizations and institutions including the NAACP, the Philadelphia Urban League, the Salvation Army, Lincoln University, the National Association for Equal Opportunity, Higher Education, Women for Good Government, the Alliance of Black Women Attorneys, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, the Opportunities Industrialization Center, B'nai B'rith, the National Newspaper Publishers Association, the Feminist Majority Foundation, Berean Institute, and the National Association for Sickle Cell Disease. Dr. Tucker was also selected as a *People* magazine 1996 Yearbook Honoree and was featured in the inaugural issue of John F. Kennedy, Jr.'s *George* magazine for her crusade against gangster/porno rap. In addition, she has been acknowledged for her deep concern for children by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton in the book "It Takes a Village." The National Women's Political Caucus and *Redbook* Magazine also named Dr. Tucker as the woman best qualified to be ambassador to the United Nations.

Her tireless and passionate pursuits have generated many discussions over the concerns of equality and justice. Her efforts will never be lost in the hearts of those she touched and the world she labored to change. Our hearts are bowed in reverence of her memory. Please join me in honoring the legacy that is C. Delores Tucker.

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the millions of Americans whose lives have been touched by domestic violence. October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and we must continue to raise awareness and address the

problem of violence that still affects so many American families. One out of every four American women will experience violence by an intimate partner at some point in her life, and one out of every six women will be raped during her lifetime. Domestic violence crosses ethnic, racial, age, national origin, sexual orientation, religious, and socio-economic lines. Although great strides have been made toward breaking the cycle of violence, much work remains to be done.

During the past decade, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) of 1994 and 2000 have provided tremendous protections and support for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. VAWA funding has provided law enforcement agencies, the judicial system, rape crisis centers, and domestic violence shelters with the expertise and services they need to do the work of prevention and protection of those affected by violence. Both the House and the Senate have passed bills reauthorizing VAWA, which will provide important prevention initiatives that have the potential to keep millions of women and children safe.

As both chambers meet to work out differences in the respective pieces of legislation, I encourage the Committee to retain the Senate provision that addresses the needs of girls in the juvenile justice system and correct flaws in the bills, such as improving the immigrant provisions and restoring the funding stream for communities of color, including key health, housing, and economic security provisions.

I am particularly concerned about violence against women of color. In Santa Clara County, of the women killed in domestic-violence related homicides between 1993 and 1997, 7 percent were African Americans, 31 percent were Asian Americans/Pacific Islanders, 22 percent were Hispanic/Latino, and 35 percent were White. Asian American and Pacific Islander women had the highest rates of domestic-violence related homicides when compared to their proportion of the population. The Congressional Hispanic, Black and Asian Pacific American Caucuses ("Congressional Tri-Caucus") continue to work together to address issues that disproportionately affect people of color. Last month, the National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault, in collaboration with the Congressional Tri-Caucus, held an educational briefing about the needs of victims of color and the importance of culturally-specific messaging that ultimately provides a more comprehensive response to addressing domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence in racial and ethnic communities.

The needs of immigrant women are also important to consider. Although VAWA 1994 and 2000 made significant progress in reducing violence against immigrant women, many women and children who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, or trafficking are still being deported. Others remain economically trapped by abusers or traffickers in life-threatening environments. I am a co-sponsor of H.R. 3188, the Immigration Victims of Violence Protection Act, which would stop the deportation of immigrant victims of violence, extend immigration relief to all victims of family violence, and guarantee economic security for immigrant victims and their children.

Domestic violence is not solely a woman's issue—it is also a health, social, economic,

and criminal justice issue, and must be addressed on multiple levels. We must all do our part to prevent and address violence in our homes, in our communities, and in our society in order to build a safe and healthy nation.

TRIBUTE TO ROSA PARKS

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2005

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address this chamber in honor of a civil rights hero, Rosa Parks. Mrs. Parks passed away on Monday evening but her legacy will continue to inspire us all. Her story is not just a civil rights story it is an American story. I am pleased to honor her here today and as a co-sponsor of legislation that recognizes her courageous contributions to our nation.

On December 1, 1955 in Montgomery, Alabama, Mrs. Parks was riding the bus home from work. On that December evening Rosa Parks was asked, along with other African-Americans, to give up her seat to a white passenger. Mrs. Parks was the only one that refused to do so and she was subsequently arrested and fined. Her actions that day put the civil rights movement into motion and changed the direction of our nation. Her arrest inspired a young minister named Martin Luther King, Jr. to organize a boycott of the city's buses. The 381 day boycott eventually led to a Supreme Court ruling that struck down the Montgomery ordinance and outlawed racial segregation on public transportation.

Rosa Parks was a humble woman who never wanted recognition, only equality. She continued to fight for equality through her local NAACP chapter. Her mother always told her to take advantage of opportunities no matter how few they are. She heeded that advice and seized opportunities and also provided a multitude of opportunities for others. Mrs. Parks will be remembered not only for her actions but for her courage. She did what so many others yearned to do. Her story catapulted the civil rights movement to the national stage and inspired many others to join the fight to end segregation.

Later in her life, Rosa Parks co-founded an organization for young people, the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute, which enables youth to pursue educational opportunities, registers them to vote, and works toward racial peace. Mrs. Parks also hosted a special program organized through the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute called Pathways to Freedom. This student program gives tours across the country that follows the Underground Railroad and highlights the events that spearheaded the civil rights movement. In 1996, President Clinton honored Rosa Parks with the presidential Medal of Freedom and in 1999, she received the Congressional Gold Medal.

Although parts of our history are marred with inequality, discrimination, and hate, it is also filled with individual courage, perseverance, and hope. We must learn from it so that we can continue to progress as a nation. We must never forget our history and we must never forget Rosa Parks.