

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.