

Our childcare professionals work tirelessly to care for our children and keep them safe. But they desperately need the appropriate resources to protect children from the hidden dangers of lead hazards. Like its companion bill, introduced in the other Chamber by Senator OBAMA, the Lead Poisoning Reduction Act will establish the Select Group on Lead Exposures which will be comprised of experts from the Secretary of Education, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the National Institute of Environmental Health Science, the Administration for Children and Families, and the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

The Select Group will be charged with conducting a study of current State and local programs intended to prevent lead poisoning at childcare facilities. Within 1 year of enactment, the Select Group will establish lead safety standards and abatement procedures for such facilities. The bill provides for lead testing of child care centers, and directs the Select Group to establish and administer a grant program to defray abatement costs to help facilities comply with the new lead-safety standards. Finally, the Lead Poisoning Reduction Act will require that contractors hired for repair, renovation, or reconstruction of childcare facilities are provided with educational materials about lead hazards and the guidance necessary to avoid imposing additional risks of lead exposure. These initiatives will play an integral role in preventing future incidences of lead poisoning.

America's children deserve to be safe at their childcare facilities. I, therefore, urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Lead Poisoning Reduction Act.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF JAMES JOSEPH RUSH OF
BOSTON, MA

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of James Joseph Rush, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Trial Court and to commend him for 43 years of dedicated service.

The son of John and Mary Rush, immigrants from County Mayo, Ireland, James was born on February 9, 1931 in Boston's Mission Hill neighborhood. As a youth, James was very active in the Sacred Heart Church in Roslindale, MA, and served as the first president of the Boston Archdiocesan Chi-Rho Association.

After graduating from Roslindale High School, James enlisted in the United States Navy and served his country honorably from 1951 to 1955. During his tenure James served onboard the USS *John W. Weeks*, DD-701.

Upon completion of his distinguished service to our country James attended Boston College and graduated from the Carroll School of Management with a bachelor of arts degree in 1960. After graduation, James began a career in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Trial Court as a probation officer overseeing juveniles. Following this position James was assigned assistant chief of probation until 2004

when he was named the chief of probation in the West Roxbury Division of the Boston Municipal Court.

Along with providing distinguished service to his country and State, James is also an active member of his community. A faithful parishioner at St. Theresa's in West Roxbury, James has served as a eucharistic minister for many years. James is a past president of the St. Theresa's School Parent-Teacher Association, has served on the parent advisory board of Catholic Memorial and is a member of the Boston College Alumni Association. James is also a member of the John G. Williams Council of the Knights of Columbus in Roslindale, MA.

Mr. Speaker, throughout his career in the Massachusetts Trial Court and his volunteer work in the community, James has served as a mentor and role model for Massachusetts youth. Above all of these accomplishments the title James cherishes most is that of husband and father. James has the enormous pleasure and tremendous good fortune to be married to his wife of 36 years, Virginia; they are the proud parents of six wonderful children and the grandparents of four adoring grandsons.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct honor to take the floor of the House today to join with James Rush's family, friends and contemporaries to thank him for his remarkable service to the Massachusetts Trial Court. I urge my colleagues to join me in celebrating James' distinguished career and wish him a happy and full retirement.

URGING THE PRESIDENT TO APPOINT
A PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL
ENVOY FOR SUDAN

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3127, the Sudan Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006, which passed Congress on September 25, and H. Res. 992, which calls for the appointment of a presidential special envoy for Sudan and passed the House on September 26. H.R. 3127 addresses the ongoing violence and humanitarian disaster in the Darfur region by directing the president to impose sanctions on the Government of Sudan as well as freeze the assets of anyone responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in Sudan.

H.R. 3127 also supports the United Nations and NATO to send a civilian protection force to assist the African Union Mission in Sudan. This is especially important since the Sudanese Government is currently refusing to allow U.N. troops into Sudan, which threatens a recent peace agreement and could lead to further violence. I am disappointed, however, that an earlier provision in H.R. 3127 that would have allowed States to make a decision to divest from Sudan was not included in the final version.

This conflict has resonated with people all over the world who want this travesty to end. It is a shame that we have not learned from our mistakes in the past regarding genocide, but it is not too late to change the situation in

Sudan. We must not stand by as the situation deteriorates in Darfur. It is our duty to end this human suffering, and I will continue to work to stop this conflict and promote peace in Sudan.

AMENDING THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986 TO TREAT INCOME EARNED BY MUTUAL FUNDS FROM EXCHANGE-TRADED FUNDS HOLDING PRECIOUS METAL BULLION AS QUALIFYING INCOME

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced legislation to update the Internal Revenue Code mutual fund rules to clarify that a mutual fund is permitted by the tax rules, as they are by the securities law, to invest in publicly traded securities representing interests in trusts holding precious metal bullion, such as gold.

Beginning in November 2004, the Securities and Exchange Commission has permitted the registration of securities representing equity interests in trusts holding precious metal (gold and silver). These securities now trade on the New York Stock Exchange and the American Stock Exchange. They did not exist at the time the mutual fund tax rules were most recently amended by Congress.

These investments share the same essential characteristics as other securities that give rise to good income for mutual funds under the Internal Revenue Code. In particular, they are clearly "securities" for purposes of the Investment Company Act of 1940, and under the mutual fund tax rules, gain on sale of "securities" is clearly good income for the mutual fund.

However, because the bullion funds are treated as "grantor trusts" for income tax purposes, it is not clear whether the income from these securities would be considered qualifying income under the Internal Revenue Code Section 851(b) mutual fund rule that requires that 90 percent of the income of the mutual fund must be from securities and other specified passive investments. The Tax Code provisions applicable to grantor trusts generally treat the shareholder, "grantor," as owning directly the underlying assets of that trust, rather than owning merely its equity interest in the trust, even when the shares in the trust are traded as securities on the major exchanges. As a result, a mutual fund's income from such an investment, including gain on sale, could be considered nonqualifying income. Excessive nonqualifying income would destroy the mutual fund's qualification as a mutual fund and subject the fund income to a layer of tax at the fund on the same income that is also taxed to the shareholders.

The bill updates the Internal Revenue Code to correct that problem for securities holding precious metal bullion. It provides that the income derived from any interest in such a trust, including gain on the sale of such an interest, is considered qualifying income for purposes of the 90 percent rule. To qualify under this amendment, at least 95 percent of the holdings of the trust must be in the form of precious metal bullion.

As a result, individuals and pension plans that invest through mutual funds will have access to these types of investments in bullion when the mutual fund manager wants to make those investments.

The amendment would be effective for tax years beginning after date of enactment.

CONGRATULATIONS TO WESTGATE
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Westgate Elementary School in Arlington Heights, Illinois, for being named a 2006 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School.

Nearly 600 students, kindergarten through 5th grade, attend Westgate Elementary. The teachers and faculty at Westgate are focused on providing hands-on instruction that motivates and excites children about learning. As a result, these students consistently score above state and national averages on standardized tests in all subject areas.

Westgate Elementary is among 250 schools from across the nation chosen by the Secretary of Education to receive this acknowledgement. These schools have distinguished themselves by embodying the goals of reaching high standards and closing the achievement gap. Schools selected for this honor either have students from all subgroups that have demonstrated significant improvement or have students that achieve in the top 10 percent of their state on statewide tests.

This is a great honor for the 10th district, and I congratulate the principal, Dr. Kevin Dwyer, the students, and teachers at Westgate Elementary for this achievement.

HONORING MINNIE VAUTRIN

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Minnie Vautrin, an American woman and missionary whose heroism changed the course of history during World War II.

Our country has seen countless acts of heroism in the face of war atrocities both in our country and abroad, Japan's violent occupation of then-capital Nanking, China, historically known as the Rape of Nanking, claimed the lives of hundreds of thousands of innocent Chinese men, women and children and left its mark on history as one of the most brutal massacres and crimes against humanity of the 20th Century. An estimated 300,000 Chinese civilians were killed, and an estimated 20,000 women were raped, with some estimates as high as 80,000.

Minnie Vautrin, a missionary who worked at a women's college in Nanking, courageously stood against the Japanese imperial army. A native of Illinois, she was one of the few Americans in the region when the Japanese army invaded Nanking.

By using the American flag and proclamations issued by the American Embassy in

China maintaining the college a sanctuary, Minnie helped repel incursions into the college, where thousands of women and children sought protection from the Japanese army. She often risked her own life to defend the lives of thousands of Chinese civilians.

Her devotion during this horrific event earned her the nickname "American Goddess of Mercy" among the people of Nanking, where she is fondly remembered. Her heroic actions and unparalleled efforts to save lives deserve to be recognized. Sadly, her story is relatively unknown.

That is why I, along with 14 of my colleagues, am introducing a resolution honoring her sacrifice, courage, humanity, and commitment to peace and justice during the violent Rape of Nanking. Minnie Vautrin's story defines patriotism and heroism in the midst of war, and the introduction of this resolution honors her achievements today, the 120th anniversary of her birth.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleagues for joining me in honor of this phenomenal yet unsung heroine. To the thousands of innocent men, women and children whose lives were spared because of Minnie Vautrin's bold courage, she will never be forgotten.

RESOLUTION OF INQUIRY REQUESTING THE RELEASE OF UNCLASSIFIED VERSIONS OF THE APRIL 2006 NIE AND OTHER IRAQ INTELLIGENCE REPORTS

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, over the weekend, the media reported that American intelligence agencies completed a National Intelligence Estimate, NIE, finding that the Iraq war has increased the danger of terrorism against the United States. This is significant because the NIE represents the consensus judgment of the entire United States intelligence community and is approved by John D. Negroponte, the Director of National Intelligence. According to portions of the NIE declassified by the President, the intelligence agencies conclude that Islamic radicalism "has metastasized and spread across the globe." This conclusion raises considerable questions about President Bush's public statements that the war in Iraq has made us safer. Even though President Bush declassified about four pages of the 30-page NIE, the American people are entitled to the full story, not just pieces the President may selectively reveal.

Media accounts further indicate that the Administration has an additional classified intelligence community report that gives a grim assessment of the situation in Iraq. Some have expressed concern that release of this second NIE is being slowed by the Administration to avoid discussion before the November elections. If the intelligence estimate is finished, it should not be hidden from the American people.

In order to inform the public more fully regarding the impact of the occupation in Iraq on terrorism, I along with 45 of my colleagues am introducing a Resolution of Inquiry that would call for the immediate release of the full unclassified versions of both the April NIE as

well as any other pending report on Iraq. While President Bush has released a small part of the April 2006 NIE, it is important that all unclassified materials on these matters be released.

The American people deserve to know the whole truth about the impact of the war in Iraq on the global war on terrorism. If what has been reported is correct, these Intelligence Estimates indicate that the Iraq war is part and parcel of this administration's failed national security record, and has made us less safe from terrorist attacks.

REV. WILLIAM SCHULTZ REMARKS AT CEREMONY TO HONOR WAITSTILL SHARP AND MARTHA SHARP, AMERICAN HEROES OF THE HOLOCAUST

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 2006

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago a very moving ceremony was held at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum and a plaque was placed to honor the Reverend Waitstill Sharp and his wife, Martha, true heroes of the Holocaust who risked their lives to save Jews from the atrocities of the Nazi regime.

On June 13, 2006, the Yad Vashem Holocaust Remembrance Authority in Israel honored the Sharps posthumously as "Righteous Among the Nations" for risking their lives to save Jews during the Holocaust. They are only the second and third Americans to be so honored. Varian Fry, with whom the Sharps worked, was the first American.

The Sharps' incredible story is a powerful reminder that all of us have the moral obligation to do all we can to end violence and genocide where ever and when ever such atrocities occur. They, along with those who helped to make their work possible, deserve our gratitude and admiration. Each of us should make every effort to learn more about the atrocities and genocidal actions occurring around the globe today, strive to have the foresight and courage shown by the Sharps, and act with resolve to do everything we can to stop these horrors.

Our colleagues in the Senate passed a resolution on September 8 of this year honoring the courageous service of the Sharps. Representative JAMES MCGOVERN, my colleague from Massachusetts, where the Sharps once lived, and I are introducing similar legislation in the House remembering the Sharps and their heroism.

Mr. Speaker, the Reverend William Schultz made particularly outstanding remarks at this ceremony honoring the Sharps at the U.S. Holocaust Museum. I urge my colleagues to ponder his comments and learn more about this brave, selfless couple and their amazing deeds.

REMARKS DELIVERED BY REV. WILLIAM SCHULTZ U.S. HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM SEPTEMBER 14, 2006

I think continually of those who were truly great.

Who, from the womb, remembered the soul's history

Through corridors of light where the hours are suns