

Mr. Chesbro began his long and distinguished public service as a member of the Arcata City Council in 1974, where he fought to protect the environment and to promote social justice. He served as a member of the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors from 1980 to 1990, where he served with distinction as an effective and powerful advocate for local government, protecting California's coastline and northern California's water resources.

He served on many boards and commissions, was a founding member of the North Coast Environmental Center and the Arcata Community Recycling Center. His leadership role in advocating for community recycling led to his being appointed to serve on the State of California Integrated Waste Management Board for 8 years. His service resulted in many projects around the state that bear the imprint of his commitment to recycle, reuse and clean-up.

Senator Chesbro was elected to the State Senate in 1998 as the representative for the Second Senate District of California, which encompasses a portion of the state's North Coast and the North Bay counties of Humboldt, Mendocino, Lake, Napa, Sonoma, and Solano. During his tenure he has become a statewide leader in the area of healthcare, mental health and developmental disabilities; resource, fisheries and coastal protection; school facilities funding; and veterans' affairs.

A California native, Wes attended California State University, Humboldt and received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of San Francisco. He is married to Cindy Chesbro and is the proud father of Alan and Collin.

Senator Chesbro is being honored for his contribution to one of our nation's most precious rights—participation in the political system. He is being recognized for his outstanding contribution to the political process by the Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee as "Democrat of the Year, 2006." His active commitment to the preservation of our political liberty is an example for all of his many admirers.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we thank Senator Wesley Chesbro for his contributions and service to our country.

HONORING 21 YEARS OF HEAT'S ON

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor "Heat's On," a partnership between Union Pipefitters and the Minnesota Mechanical Contractors Association that has been helping those in need for 21 years.

Winters are cold in Minnesota, and home heating is a basic necessity. Over the past two decades, St. Paul Pipefitters Local 455, Minneapolis Pipefitters Local 539 and local contractors come together each fall to volunteer their skills and time to inspect and fix furnaces, flues and smoke alarms for low-income senior citizens and disabled homeowners. Thankfully, most of these visits turn up no serious problems. However, when inspections do not go smoothly, these professionals are able to provide the help needed.

Volunteers sometimes uncover major problems. On average, 10 homes out of the 400 homes inspected each year have furnaces that must be replaced, and many of these homeowners cannot afford the expense. This year, pipefitters and contractors have come together yet again to establish a fund to help these homeowners with the cost of furnace replacement.

Thanks to the outstanding Heat's On partnership, thousands of senior citizens and disabled Minnesotans have been able to remain safe in their homes. Just as important, they have a sense of relief knowing that their homes will be warm and comfortable as cold weather approaches.

I am proud to live in a community that cares—where union workers come together with small businesses for the good of our neighbors. This is a partnership that makes sense, which is why it has served as a model for other communities.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending all of the volunteers from St. Paul Pipefitters Local 455, Minneapolis Pipefitters Local 539 and the Minnesota Mechanical Contractors Association for 21 years of Heat's On.

TRIBUTE TO CLEVELAND-CLIFFS (CCI)

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an important industry in my district that has been responsible for creating thousands of jobs in Michigan and for the settlement of Michigan's Upper Peninsula. On October 2nd, Cleveland-Cliffs, CCI, will celebrate the milestone of 50 years of iron ore pellet production and 500 million tons of iron ore pellets produced.

Even in its earliest days, Cleveland-Cliffs' history was characterized by pioneering risk-taking. Cleveland-Cliffs brought electrical power to Michigan's Upper Peninsula by introducing electric haulage equipment at the Cleveland Lake Mine in 1892. Cleveland-Cliffs created the first geological department for an iron mining company in the Lake Superior region in Ishpeming, Michigan in 1900. In 1910, the company built the region's first hydro-electric plant.

However, it was not until the middle of the 20th century that Cleveland-Cliffs made what is perhaps the company's most valuable contribution, iron ore pellets. In the 1940s, it became apparent that the iron ore of the Marquette area that Cleveland-Cliffs had relied upon were being depleted. While the Marquette Iron Range still had millions of tons of leaner ores, a method had not yet been invented for making this leaner ore usable in blast furnaces. Once more, Cleveland-Cliffs exhibited leadership and innovation. Partnering with the U.S. Bureau of Mines, Cleveland-Cliffs researchers developed a technique for concentrating low-grade iron ore and pelletizing it to provide high-quality iron ore pellets for use in steel production in the company's blast furnaces.

In 1956, CCI put this innovative technique into practice, producing its first iron ore pellets at the Eagle Mills pellet plant near Negaunee,

Michigan, just west of Marquette. While these first pellets were crude by today's standards, the pellets could be used in the blast furnaces to make a high grade steel and they opened the way for the development of the pellet making operations of today.

The process of pelletizing low-grade iron ore revolutionized the iron ore business. Without this process, thousands of jobs in Michigan might never have been created and Marquette County would have missed out on billions of direct economic impact from these mines. Today, Cleveland-Cliffs is the largest producer of iron ore pellets in North America.

This year, Cleveland-Cliffs reached another historic milestone. Celebrating the 500 millionth ton total is an important tribute to not only the Cleveland-Cliffs company, but also to the working men and women who have kept the pelletizing and mining operations running smoothly and productively over the past 50 years.

Mr. Speaker, from the beginning of its operations in Michigan's Upper Peninsula to its innovation of the iron ore pelletizing process to the present day, Cleveland-Cliffs has demonstrated leadership and a forward thinking trailblazing spirit. As this great company marks this important occasion, I would ask that you and the U.S. House of Representatives join me in saluting the past and present employees of Cleveland-Cliffs, CCI's entrepreneurial spirit, their steady growth, their innovations, and their contributions to the economy of the Great Lakes region.

ELECTRONIC SURVEILLANCE MODERNIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2006

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 5825, the "Electronic Surveillance Modernization Act."

Yet again, the Republican Majority has brought legislation to the Floor that disregards the rights of American citizens. H.R. 5825 would give the executive branch broad discretion to eavesdrop on Americans without judicial review or sufficient oversight from Congress.

Since the terrorist attacks of 9/11, we have learned more and more about the secret programs run by this Administration that violated long-standing U.S. laws and policies. I know that we all agree that obtaining intelligence to prevent terrorist attacks is a high priority. However, innocent Americans should not have to worry that their phones have been tapped or their emails are being read.

It is a shame that the bill before us today leaves out the sensible provisions of the bipartisan Schiff-Flake-Harman-Ingalls substitute which would require congressional oversight of surveillance programs, extends from 72 hours to seven days the amount of time allowed to initiate surveillance in an urgent situation before going to the FISA court for a warrant, and increase the speed of the FISA process.

We should be standing up for the Constitution today and not passing legislation that tramples all over it.

I urge my colleagues to vote no.

HONORING JUSTIN-SIENA HIGH
SCHOOL OF NAPA**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the 40th anniversary of the establishment of Justin-Siena High School in Napa, California. Thousands of young men and women from Napa, Sonoma and Solano counties have benefited from the school's rigorous curriculum and commitment to developing outstanding citizenship in its students.

Justin-Siena High School was created in 1972 from the merger of Justin High School and Siena High School. Both schools were founded in 1966, Justin High School by the Christian Brothers and Siena High School by the Dominican Sisters. Justin-Siena has benefited from the spirit and guidance of both orders in the decades since it was created, and the ideals under which each school was founded have guided its faculty and students.

A strong tradition of academic excellence has been the foundation of Justin-Siena's status as a preeminent high school in Northern California. This has translated into success for the remarkable numbers of Justin-Siena's graduates who continue their educations at colleges all over the United States. Additionally, the school has made a notable effort to ensure that its students learn the value of service to others as part of their education, and this has been of great benefit to the Napa Valley. The back-to-back section football championships Justin-Siena High School won in 2004 and 2005 remind us that athletics are not being neglected either.

Justin-Siena High School has made an important commitment to opening the opportunities afforded by the school to students of all backgrounds. This determination to ensure an accessible and affordable education is an important indicator of the role this school plays in our community.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize the 40th anniversary of Justin-Siena Catholic High School in Napa, California, and I congratulate the staff and students there. Justin-Siena has been a great asset to the Napa Valley and surrounding areas, and I expect it will continue educating fine young women and men for many generations to come.

CALLING ON THE SPEAKER TO
BRING H. RES. 759 TO THE FLOOR
FOR IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATION**HON. LANE EVANS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, the sexual enslavement of more than 200,000 young women and girls by the Japanese Imperial Army before and during World War II is one of the most ignored and overlooked violations of human rights and international law in the 20th Century. These women, euphemistically known as "Comfort Women," are now elderly and living their last years without a formal apology from the government that enslaved

them. We cannot allow these survivors to fade into history without the closure that would come from official recognition, which is why my colleague, the Honorable CHRISTOPHER SMITH, and I introduced H. Res. 759, calling on the Japanese government to formally acknowledge and take responsibility for its involvement in this unspeakable atrocity.

Our resolution has broad Congressional support with 55 bipartisan cosponsors, including a substantial number of Members from the International Relations Committee, and the Congressional Human Rights, Women's Rights, Asian Pacific American, and Korea Caucuses. Additionally, on September 13, 2006, the resolution was marked up in the International Relations committee by unanimous consent, and subsequently sent to the Speaker with an official request that it be considered on the floor under suspension of the rules. We have also seen an overwhelming response from the Korean American, Chinese American, Filipino American and Vietnamese American communities to the Speaker asking for the resolution to come before the entire House of Representatives. Amnesty International, as well as prominent Japanese-American Congressman and my close friend, MIKE HONDA, also strongly and vocally support H. Res. 759.

Mr. Speaker, it is beyond my understanding why H. Res. 759 has not been scheduled for floor consideration. There has been no visible controversy about the bill from Members of Congress.

Moreover, many of the bills also marked up in the September 13 International Relations Committee hearing have made it to floor and passed by voice vote. It is deeply disturbing that the leadership of this House is not interested in supporting human rights or reiterating the role of the Congress to oppose human trafficking and other similar atrocities that have occurred throughout the world. This is not a Japanese issue, this is not a Korean issue, this is not an American issue; this is an issue about human dignity. And it is a slap in the face to those who have worked so hard to bring the Comfort Women issue to light on the international stage and especially to those who have been directly or indirectly affected by sexual slavery for this resolution to die at the hands of the Speaker after it successfully completed all the necessary procedural steps and demonstrated broad bipartisan support.

I urge the Speaker in the strongest terms possible to allow H. Res. 759 to come before the full House under suspension of the rules before the end of the 109th Congress, so that we may once and for all put this issue to rest, and leave this Congress having made a strong statement in support of human dignity.

RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS TREATMENT
MODERNIZATION ACT OF
2006

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 2006

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in reluctant opposition to the Ryan White Treatment Modernization Act.

Like many of my colleagues in the New York delegation, I strongly support the Ryan

White CARE Act and have supported its reauthorization in the past. These programs provide lifesaving medical care, drug treatment, and support services to over 535,000 low-income people living with HIV/AIDS throughout the nation.

Westchester County, in my congressional district has the highest number of persons living with HIV or AIDS of any New York State county outside of New York City. The services provided under the Ryan White CARE Act literally mean the difference between life and death for my constituents living with this devastating disease.

Unfortunately, the bill before us today will jeopardize these services for my constituents and countless other Americans in states that are at the epicenter of this crisis.

Under this bill, New York State stands to lose more than \$78 million over four years.

Despite what some say, the AIDS epidemic has not shifted—it has expanded. It simply makes no sense to pit regions of the country against each other by providing vitally needed services to one region at the expense of another.

My colleagues, rushing a bill through the House that will negatively impact the lives of so many individuals living with HIV and AIDS makes no sense. I am a cosponsor of legislation, H.R. 6191, that would temporarily reauthorize the program for one year to allow Congress to continue to negotiate a compromise that would not unfairly result in drastically reduced funds for any state.

I urge the House leadership to immediately consider H.R. 6191 and urge my colleagues to vote against the bill before us.

S. 2562, THE VETERANS' COMPENSATION
COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 2006**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 2562, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2006.

S. 2562 would raise the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and would increase dependency and indemnity compensation for survivors of certain disabled veterans. Surviving spouses and children aged under 18 would be among those who would benefit from the compensation rate increase that would become effective on December 1, 2006. The increase in rates would be equal to the increase provided to Social Security recipients and is projected to be approximately 2.9 percent.

As a co-sponsor of H.R. 4843, the Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2006, which passed the House of Representatives on June 27, 2006, I also strongly support the Senate version of the bill.

In recognizing the contributions that veterans have made to our country, it is vital that we provide compensation that reflects today's rising cost-of-living. Many of the approximately 60,000 veterans who reside in El Paso, Texas depend largely on government compensation for supporting their families. Increasing the compensation rates for veterans and their