

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