

her autistic son and his needs. Debra recognized long ago that every child deserves an education that will help him or her progress in life. She continues to work tirelessly to improve Giant Steps of Illinois and expand its programs. In so doing, she has made a world of difference in the lives of so many autistic children and their families in Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to Debra Nauman and congratulate her on Giant Steps of Illinois' tenth anniversary.

A TRIBUTE TO ANNA M.
CABALLERO

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements of Anna Caballero. Anna first moved to Salinas in 1982 and started a law office specifically to provide excellent legal representation for working people. She promptly became active in town, and due to her immense enthusiasm she was quickly recognized as a community leader. She served on the city council for seven years, including four years as Vice Mayor. In 1998 Anna was elected as the first female Mayor in the 126 year history of the city of Salinas, and has hence served four terms.

During her tenure as city Mayor, Anna was a driving force in improving life for the people of Salinas. Some of her most successful projects were the diversification of Salinas's economic base, improving the affordability of local housing, the redevelopment of historic downtown Salinas, and ensuring the permanent funding of the Salinas library. The key to her success was her innate ability to sit people down, get straight to the issue and have them reach a consensus. Furthermore, Anna used her talents to streamline the Mayor's office and develop partnerships with neighborhoods, parent groups, labor groups, school districts, local businesses and the greater Salinas community.

Anna's accomplishments in the community have not gone unnoticed. In 1996, Anna was honored with the "Athena" award for "entrepreneurial excellence" by the Salinas Area Chamber of Commerce, the most prestigious honor the Chamber can bestow upon a fellow businessperson. In 2000, the Monterey County Lawyers Association granted Anna the Justice Ribbon Award, the Association's highest award for members who bring distinction to the legal profession through commitment to public service.

Anna has continued to reach out to the community. She is an avid volunteer coach for local baseball and soccer teams. She works with the Mexican-American Women's National Association, "MANA", to raise scholarship money for young women continuing to higher education. Anna is also an Executive Director of the non-profit Partners for Peace, dedicated to developing multi-disciplinary partnerships, which share community resources to bring about community change.

Mr. Speaker, I rise once more to applaud Anna Caballero's many accomplishments. On behalf of the United States Congress, I would like to congratulate her on her successful ca-

reer, and express my sincere gratitude for her commitment to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARTIN T. MEEHAN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, this week, due to a death in the family, I have requested and received a leave of absence. Since Monday, September 25, I have missed the following rollcall votes. I have noted how I would have voted had I been present:

Roll No. 471, September 25, H.R. 5059, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, "nay"; 472, September 25, H.R. 5062, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, "nay"; 473, September 25, H.R. 6102, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, "yea"; 474, September 26, H. Res. 1038, on agreeing to the resolution, "nay"; 475, September 26, H. Res. 1039, on agreeing to the resolution, "nay"; 476, September 26, H.R. 5092, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, "nay"; 477, September 26, H.R. 4772, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, "nay"; 478, September 26, motion, motion to resolve into secret session, "yea"; 479, September 26, S. 403, on passage, "nay"; 480, September 26, H.R. 2679, on passage, "nay"; 481, September 26, H. Res. 723, on motion to suspend the rules and agree, as amended, "yea"; 482, September 26, H. Res. 992, on motion to suspend the rules and agree, as amended, "yea"; 483, September 26, H. Res. 989, on motion to suspend the rules and agree, as amended, "yea"; 484, September 26, H. Res. 1017, on motion to suspend the rules and agree, "yea"; 485, September 26, H.R. 6164, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, "yea"; 486, September 26, H.R. 5631, on agreeing to the conference report, "yea"; 487, September 27, H. Con. Res. 483, on agreeing to the resolution, "nay"; 488, September 27, H. Res. 1042, on ordering the previous question, "nay"; 489, September 27, H. Res. 1042, on agreeing to the resolution, "nay"; 490, September 27, H.R. 6166, on motion to recommit with instructions, "yea"; 491, September 27, H.R. 6166, on passage, "nay"; 492, September 27, H.R. 5637, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, "yea"; 493, September 27, H.R. 6115, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, "yea"; 494, September 27, S. 2856, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, "yea"; 495, September 28, H. Res. 1045, on ordering the previous question, "nay"; 496, September 28, H. Res. 1046, on ordering the previous question, "nay"; 497, September 28, H. Res. 1046, on agreeing to the resolution, "nay"; 498, September 28, H. Res. 1052, on ordering the previous question, "nay"; 499, September 28, H. Res. 1052, on agreeing to the resolution, "nay"; 500, September 28, H.R. 4954, on motion to instruct conferees, "yea"; 501, September 28, H.R. 5825, on motion to recommit with instructions, "yea"; 502, September 28, H.R. 5825, on passage, "nay"; 503, September 28, H.R. 6143, on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, "yea"; 504, September 29, H. Res. 1054, on ordering the previous question, "nay"; 505, September 29, H. Res. 1054, on agreeing to

the resolution, "nay"; 506, September 29, H. Res. 1053, on ordering the previous question, "nay"; 507, September 29, H. Res. 1053, on agreeing to the resolution, "nay"; 508, September 29, S. 8930, on passage, "nay."

URGING THE PRESIDENT TO APPOINT A PRESIDENTIAL SPECIAL ENVOY FOR SUDAN

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 25, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the decisive actions taken this week by the U.S. Congress to address the ongoing genocide and worsening humanitarian crisis in Darfur.

I am pleased that the House of Representatives has again passed H.R. 3127, The Darfur Peace and Accountability Act of 2006. The House originally considered this bill on April 5, 2006, but it took the Senate more than five months to pass it, finally doing so on September 21st. This important bill would block the assets and deny visas and entry to any individual (or family member) responsible for acts of genocide, war crimes, or crimes against humanity in Sudan. H.R. 3127 authorizes support for the African Union peacekeeping mission in Darfur. It prohibits U.S. assistance to a country in violation of U.N. Security Council embargo on military assistance to Sudan. It also urges a Security Council resolution supporting expanding the African Union peacekeeping mission. I look forward to the President signing this important measure into law.

The House has also considered and agreed to H. Res. 723 and H. Res. 992, both of which I am proud to cosponsor. These resolutions call on President Bush to take decisive action to respond to the ongoing crisis in the Sudan. In June, I joined with many of my colleagues to call on President Bush to appoint a Presidential Special Envoy for Sudan. Appointing a Special Envoy would demonstrate to the international community that the United States remains engaged and committed at the highest level to bring peace to Darfur. In his address to the United Nations last week, President Bush announced his appointment of former United States Agency for International Development Administrator Andrew Natsios as Special Envoy. I welcome and applaud this move and remain hopeful that this high-level official will be able to bring the resources and focus of the U.S. Government to bear on this crisis.

As I have said before, for too long the world community turned its back to the ongoing genocide in the Sudan. But the actions of students, religious leaders, and concerned citizens in the United States and around the globe raised awareness about the horrors occurring in Darfur. I want to thank all who shared with me their concern about Darfur in town hall meetings, letters, phone calls, and e-mails over the last three years.

Today, the Congress is answering their calls for action. Passing these bills is an important step to ending the genocide and beginning to hold those who are guilty accountable—but it cannot be our only step. Our commitment to end this conflict and to the people of the region must not begin and end today. We must