

remain focused and dedicated to ending the genocide and healing the wounds of a prolonged civil war. Justice must be served on those who perpetrated these heinous immoral crimes and we must help rebuild and restore the lives of the people who, through the grace of God, survive this hellish civil war.

After the systematic genocide of the Holocaust, we said never again. After the horrors of Rwanda and the Kosovo we committed ourselves to preventing genocide before it surfaced elsewhere. Sadly, we are to add Darfur to this list. It is long past time for the United Nations to become involved in Sudan. The U.N. needs to deploy a robust and sizable international mission to end the genocide and then work to bring peace to the Sudan. President Bush was right last week to suggest that it may be time to override the objections of the Sudanese government in order to send international peacekeepers into Darfur. After his speech to the U.N., Bush said, "[T]here's genocide taking place in Sudan. . . . Now is the time for the U.N. to act."

I call on the President to continue to push for action on this issue with world leaders, internationalize the response, and advocate in the United Nations to end the genocide in Darfur. I pray that the suffering will soon end, and that we will not soon forget our brothers and sisters in Africa.

STATEMENT ON H. RES. 759

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 759, a resolution that expresses the sense of Congress that the Government of Japan should formally issue an apology for the sexual enslavement of young women during the imperial occupation of Asia and World War II. I am disappointed that this non-controversial resolution was not on the suspension calendar this week.

The dehumanization suffered by over 200,000 "comfort women" in Asia before and during World War II is one of the greatest and most averted tragedies of the 20th century. These women were ordinary and innocent civilians, ranging from young girls who had barely reached adolescence, to married women with children at home. These women shared in common, coercion into sex slavery by the Japanese Imperial Army.

Equally disturbing is Japan's modern and democratic government's refusal to issue a formal apology for this atrocity. I believe these women deserve a clear and unambiguous apology and reparations from the Japanese government to recognize the fact that their personal dignity was ripped from them.

In 1999, when I served in the California State Assembly, I authored Assembly Joint Resolution 27, which called on Congress to urge the Japanese government to issue an apology for the victims of the Rape of Nanking, comfort women, and POWs who were used as slave laborers. The resolution was ultimately passed, and urged Congress to pass similar legislation.

Now, 7 years after the success of AJR27, I stand united with my colleagues in support of H. Res. 759. I commend my good friend LANE

EVANS for his tireless work on this issue, and I thank him for his courage and leadership. I look forward to carrying on his work and legacy after his retirement this year.

Given the wide bipartisan support for this resolution, as evidenced by its 55 co-sponsors; the endorsement of four major caucuses, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues, the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, and the Congressional Caucus on Korea; and its non-controversial language and recent passage by Unanimous Consent out of the House International Relations Committee, I simply cannot accept that H. Res. 759 is too controversial or lacks the importance to be on the suspension calendar.

It is only right that we provide justice for the victims of the Pacific theater with the same fervor as we did for those in the European theater of WWII. Congress has a moral duty to shed light on this issue and pass H. Res. 759 in order to send a powerful message to the government of Japan, and I am disappointed that this resolution is being ignored.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must not politicize a resolution that will give some peace of mind to the comfort women and those who have worked so hard on their behalf. I sincerely hope that H. Res. 759 will be brought to the House floor under suspension of the rules. In the name of historical reconciliation and human rights, moving this resolution forward is the right thing to do. We must hasten the day when the comfort women achieve the justice they deserve at last.

HONORING GRANDPARENT- AND OTHER RELATIVE-HEADED HOUSEHOLDS

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, today, I am pleased to honor the grandparent- and other relative-headed households who have sacrificed to care for our Nation's children when the parents are unable to.

Across the country there are more than 6 million minors living in grandparent- or other relative-headed households. Regardless of the reason children enter relative care—death of a parent, neglect, abuse, military deployment or poverty—it is never the fault of the child. I commend grandparents and other relatives who step forward to care for these children, keeping the children out of foster care while providing safe and stable homes, often at great personal sacrifice. Supportive programs like subsidized guardianship help children exit foster care into the permanent care of nurturing relatives.

In my state of Florida, 9 percent of the children live with non-parent relatives. Grandparents and other relative caregivers are often the best chance for a loving and stable childhood for the children in their care, but their hard work and dedication often go unnoticed.

Mr. Speaker, today I offer my formal acknowledgment and deepest appreciation for the ongoing service of these caregivers to our country and our Nation's most valuable asset, our children. I ask all Members of the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing these everyday heroes.

PUBLIC EXPRESSION OF RELIGION ACT OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 26, 2006

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I oppose the so-called "Public Expression of Religion Act of 2006," H.R. 2679. This bill would send a chilling message to those who seek to uphold the Constitution and protect the religious liberty granted by the Constitution. Further, by denying aggrieved parties the existing remedies, this bill would embolden those who try to impose their religious beliefs on others to take additional risk and further violate the Constitution.

H.R. 2679 seeks to amend, for the first time, the Civil Rights Act of 1871, which is our Nation's oldest civil rights law. This bill would fundamentally alter the way individuals seek redress from violations of the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment. Worse, this bill is a solution in search of a problem.

What we are discussing goes to the very heart of one of the essential principles enshrined in the Constitution and documents of the founding of America principles: the separation between church and state. Two of our Founding Fathers, James Madison and Thomas Jefferson, spent almost 10 years debating this central issue in the Virginia State Legislature. Yet, today, the Republican Majority has allowed it to be debated only for a single hour on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives. Such an important change to the constitutional rights of Americans should receive thorough review by the House.

This legislation would bar parties who successfully assert their constitutional right to bring a case under the Establishment Clause from receiving attorney's fees. Under the Civil Rights Attorney's Fees Award Act of 1976, successful plaintiffs are awarded attorneys fees if their civil rights have been denied by government officials. This remedy was intended to make the government think twice about acting in manner that would infringe upon constitutionally protected rights.

However, we are considering legislation that would strip a remedy for plaintiffs who assert that the government infringed upon their religious freedoms.

This legislation is opposed by the Interfaith Alliance, American Civil Liberties Union, Americans United for the Separation of Church and State, Association of Trial Lawyers of America, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights, National Council of Jewish Women, American Jewish Committee, Jewish Council for Public Affairs, Union for Reform Judaism, National Partnership for Women and Families, National Woman's Law Center, Secular Coalition for America, People for the American Way, Friends Committee on National Legislation and Baptist Joint Committee on Religious Liberty.

The Establishment Clause of the First Amendment protects all Americans from government endorsement of, or favoritism toward, specific religion, or any religion. Its protection extends only as far as it can be enforced, however. We limit the ability of citizens, churches, and other organizations to challenge the government at our own peril. The Establishment Clause was written not only to ensure

that people could practice religion as they saw fit, but also to prevent government from meddling in organized religion. Those who seek to expand religious expression by allowing the government to participating in it do great harm to the religious and non-religious.

IN RECOGNITION OF ARMANDO
PEREZ

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to recognize the life and contributions of a tremendous community advocate, Armando Perez.

For over 30 years, Armando Perez was an outspoken advocate who championed the rights of the Lower East Side's poor and working class. Armando was the co-founder, and Artistic Director of CHARAS/El Bohio Cultural and Community Center—a building in our community which recently received landmark status as it embodied the spirit of the neighborhood's history of organizing and grassroots activism—largely due to the work and dedication of Mr. Perez.

Armando was a true champion and leader within our community. Not only was he a Democratic district leader for his neighborhood, but he was also a tireless community activist on multiple fronts. Armando can be credited with helping to lead the fight to preserve the character and history of the Lower East Side—and succeeding.

Those that had the honor of working alongside Armando, and knowing him on a personal level, remember him for both his strong sense of honesty and for his humor. Many were inspired by the feelings of trust he instilled in others, the passion he had for the pursuit of justice, and the encouragement he offered to all in fighting for the betterment of our community.

Mr. Perez spent his lifetime helping others, especially the poor and working class. His commitment, contributions and leadership are now engrained in the Lower East Side. In honor of Armando's work and dedication to our community, a local street, E. Ninth, was renamed for him. This is a small token of appreciation for all that Mr. Perez gave to our community—but one that will be recognized for generations to come, keeping his memory alive and vibrant throughout our neighborhood.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues in the House of Representatives to honor the life and contributions of Armando Perez—a true, champion.

CONGRATULATING JAMES T.
CASSIDY, MD, ON HIS MEDICAL
CAREER AND OUTSTANDING
SERVICE

HON. KENNY C. HULSHOF

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Mr. HULSHOF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the career of a great Missou-

rian, a physician who has practiced for years in my home town of Columbia, MO. He literally wrote the book on pediatric rheumatology, and has provided outstanding health care over a distinguished medical career. He is being honored at the Cassidy Symposium at the University of Missouri School of Medicine on October 7, 2006.

Dr. Cassidy is an outstanding pediatric rheumatologist, well-known nationally and internationally. He has been a leader in the field of rheumatology for over 40 years and a founding member of many of the subspecialty organizations.

Dr. Cassidy was born in 1920 in Oil City, PA, and received both his undergraduate and medical education at the University of Michigan. He completed 2 years of active duty in the U.S. Navy and 7 years in the Naval Reserve. He returned to the University of Michigan to complete his residency in Intellectual Medicine and a rheumatology fellowship in the Rackham Arthritis Research Unit under the mentorship of Drs. Roseman and Johnson. He went on to the faculty in 1963 and worked his way up the ranks, becoming Professor of Intellectual Medicine and Pediatrics in 1974. In 1984 he was recruited as Professor and Chair of Pediatrics at Creighton University School of Medicine in Omaha, NE, and then 4 years later as professor in the Department of Child Health and Internal Medicine and Chief of Pediatric Rheumatology at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He became emeritus in 1996 and continued to staff his arthritis clinics until this year.

He is a Diplomate of both the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Pediatrics and their respective rheumatology sub-boards.

He has received many honors and awards including Phi Beta Kappa, Alpha Omega Alpha, Excellence in Education Award from the University of Missouri SOM, National Service Citation from the Arthritis Foundation, and Master of the American College of Rheumatology (ACR). He is a member of a number of prestigious organizations including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Physicians, the American College of Rheumatology, the British Society of Rheumatology, the American Pediatric Society and the Society of Pediatric Research.

He has served the academic and the rheumatology community admirably with service on numerous committees including as a Founding Member of the Council on Pediatric Rheumatology of the ACR and Chair of the Academic Pediatric Rheumatology Blue Ribbon Committee, the BOD of the Arthritis Foundation and the first Executive Committee of the American Juvenile Arthritis Organization, and Chair of the Executive Committee for the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Through Dr. Cassidy's efforts, the Missouri Department of Health established the Juvenile Arthritis Care Coordination Program in 1993 to help families obtain family-centered, community based, coordinated care for children diagnosed with juvenile arthritis.

Along with Drs. Brewer and Kredich, he was instrumental in the development of the Subboard of Pediatric Rheumatology and the acceptance of educational training programs in Pediatric Rheumatology by the American Council of Graduate Medical Education.

He has published over 150 manuscripts and book chapters and is the founding author of

the "Textbook of Pediatric Rheumatology" now in its fifth Edition and the leading textbook in the field. He is a frequent invited speaker, having addressed audiences all over the world.

In summary, he is the consummate academician and a founding member of pediatric rheumatology as a recognized subspecialty. He is a great American, he has treated my constituents and their children with dedication and sympathy, and I am grateful they have brought his distinguished career to my attention. I congratulate Dr. Cassidy on his many successes, and wish him well in his future endeavors.

HONORING CAROLYN TATE

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 29, 2006

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, Carolyn Tate, UAW Retired Workers International Representative, was born in Freeport, Illinois, on June 23, 1945. Only daughter of James and Vinnie Arnold she also has three brothers, James Arnold, Jr., Columbus, Ohio, David Arnold, Cincinnati, Ohio and Eddie Arnold, Oakland, California. Carolyn moved to Oakland, California in 1958. She met and married Bennie Tate, Jr. in December 1964, and had three children, Steven, Karen, and Tracy Tate. She has one grandson Steven M. Tate and a second grandson on the way.

Carolyn attended Berkeley High School, Berkeley California, and graduated in June of 1963. Continued her education by attending Merritt College, Oakland, California, and received her Associate in Arts Degree, Liberal Arts Studies in June 1980. Being aware of the importance of continuing her learning experience in 2001 Carolyn was accorded senior status at Cal State University, Long Beach, where she intends to pursue a B.A. Degree in her new role as a retiree.

Carolyn's work and professional experiences are quite interesting to follow. In her search for short term employment she interviewed with General Motors Part Depot in September 1973. Interesting to note, that job led to 33 years of service with the UAW and General Motors. Her plant closed and she relocated to Sparks, Nevada in 1980. She immediately became involved with UAW Local 1262 and became the Financial Secretary of the Local and held that elected position for 12 years. In 1988, she implemented the first V-CAP check-off drive in the GM facility which Tripled Local 2162's contributions to the UAW's V-CAP regional program.

Remembering having heard UAW President Walter Reuther's old saying that there was a definite connection between the ballot box and collective bargaining, she decided to become very active in the Democratic party of Nevada. During the party activities led her to hold various positions which included Washoe County Registrar from 1986 to 1992. It was in Nevada that Carolyn, not only became an extremely active UAW Local Union officer, but she also began to be more deeply involved in community activities making her a committed activist for social change. In 1989, UAW leadership noticed this active Local union official and was appointed by Vice-President Stephen P.