

and voting upon a variety of rules changes. With so much at stake in the ethics rules for both individual Members and the House as an institution, such open, careful consideration of rules changes is absolutely necessary.

John Barry, the author of "The Ambition and Power," about ethics investigation of Representative Wright, described our Capital as the grandest building in this Nation. I believe our grandest building should also be a cathedral. A cathedral of integrity. Senator Douglas urged each member of Congress to consider the need for a deeper set of moral values. I ask each of my colleagues and the incoming Members of the House to consider the same.

HONORING THE SERVICE AND
RETIREMENT OF MIKE LYNCH

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2006

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valued staff member—Mike Lynch—who retired this month from the House Science Committee. As one of our Committee Counsels, Mike's legal and parliamentary expertise touched many offices and issue areas during his tenure.

He was a dedicated and long-serving House staffer. Prior to joining the Committee, Mike served in the U. S. House of Representatives from 1977–1994 in several counsel positions. Most notably, he was the Staff Director and Chief Counsel to the Subcommittee on Accounts of the Committee on House Administration from 1985–1993. In each position, Mike honed his legislative skills to become a respected and much sought after Committee Counsel.

As the Science Committee Democrats' principal liaison with the Parliamentarian, Rules Committee and Leadership on parliamentary and legislative process issues, Mike's role was an important one. His mastery of the rules and procedures of the House and his advice to Members and staff on legal and legislative issues before the Committee were vital. No one worked harder than Mike did to protect the prerogatives of Members, the Committee and the Congress.

He loved this institution and that love was evident in his work each and every day. Without fail, his careful analysis of legal issues and sound judgment in rendering opinions and advice resulted in astute answers for the Committee. He also took great pride in mentoring junior Committee counsels and in explaining the intricacies of Committee procedure.

Mike will be missed by many, but we all understand that his retirement now clears his calendar for his other great passions in life—travel and sports, particularly rooting for Notre Dame and the New York Yankees.

The Science Committee's Members and staff wish him well as he moves on to new endeavors and a relaxing retirement. Thank you, Mike, for your many years of dedicated and loyal service.

19TH ANNUAL WORLD AIDS DAY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2006

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, on December 1, communities around the world came together to remember AIDS' more than 25 million victims and to renew our commitment to the 40 million people currently living with HIV/AIDS.

The 19th annual World AIDS Day was both an opportunity to reflect on the progress we've made combating this illness and a reminder of all of the obstacles we must still overcome. Since 1981, our battle to combat the myths associated with AIDS, the discrimination against people infected with HIV, and the virus and disease themselves have all improved. However, AIDS continues to devastate every region of the world as 6,000 people, half of which are between 15 and 24 years old, become infected with HIV every day.

This year alone, almost 3 million people have died from AIDS, while more than 4 million more were infected with HIV. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 12 million children have been orphaned as a result of AIDS. In California, 56,000 people are currently living with AIDS, making up 14% of our nation's total AIDS population. The AIDS pandemic has become so widespread in our country that it is thought to have killed more than ten times the number of American soldiers killed in Vietnam. We cannot afford to turn a blind eye as this disease takes its toll on the American public.

We must do more to address this global health crisis. Congress must increase its aid for treatment and educational programs to countries burdened by catastrophically high infection rates. The U.S. must support and implement programs that increase the public's knowledge about proper ways to protect against HIV transmission. More people must get tested and more people must receive treatment. Each year World AIDS Day is a wake-up call to the reality that we cannot be complacent with our accomplishments combating AIDS because so much more needs to be done.

That's why I have consistently supported measures to help poor nations get the medicines they need to fight AIDS, and have also joined efforts to fight for more funding for the Global Fund. We work to improve the care available to HIV/AIDS patients while ensuring that socioeconomic status does not limit a person's access to life-saving treatments. Additionally, it is essential that we continue to adequately fund the Ryan White CARE Act, which helps cities, states, and local community-based organizations provide services to HIV-positive individuals who otherwise couldn't afford medication, transportation, food or housing. The time and effort Congress spends on implementing programs that deal with HIV prevention, treatment, education, and support must be in line with the true priorities of the American people. In that respect, we still have a lot of work to do.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate World AIDS Day because I believe we must take this opportunity to honor our commitment to those who have struggled with and continue to fight against this destructive disease. As we work to improve HIV/AIDS prevention and

treatment, let us do so with the dedication and the drive that the American public demands of us. As we look forward to the new Congress, let us confront this disease head on, finally putting forward the resources we need to conquer AIDS.

H.R. 1176, NONPROFIT ATHLETIC
ORGANIZATION PROTECTION ACT
OF 2006

SPEECH OF

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 5, 2006

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, today H.R. 1176, the Nonprofit Athletic Organization Protection Act of 2006, was brought to the floor on the suspension calendar. The suspension process should only be used for bills that are non-controversial. The Republican leadership has once again abused the suspension calendar in order to limit debate on divisive issues. Accordingly, I will not vote to suspend the rules.

DOWNINGTOWN WEST HIGH
SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM
2006 PIAA CHAMPIONS

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2006

Mr. GERLACH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Downingtown West High School Girls Soccer Team for their recent 2–0 victory over the Moon Township High School to win their second Girls Soccer PIAA Class AAA Championship in three years. In fact, this was the same score that Downingtown beat Moon Township in 2004 to become Pennsylvania State Champions.

The Downingtown West Whippets were led by five seniors: Colleen Flanagan, Katelyn Capps, Amber Werner, Christine Thurwanger and Sarah Halpin. This group of seniors boasts three District 1 titles and one Ches-Mont League title in four years.

The Whippets played the championship game against Moon Township in Hershey, Pennsylvania, and managed to shut out the opposition with their determined and aggressive play.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in honoring all of the players, coaches, and supporting staff of the 2006 Downingtown West Girls Soccer Team. The skill, hard work, and commitment to excellence by the entire team led to this spectacular athletic achievement. Their display of character and sportsmanship brings honor to Downingtown West High School and the entire community.

The team is comprised of: Katie Bauer, Hallie Berger, Jessica Bourroughs, Rae Bradley, Laura Call, Katelyn Capps, Sarah Cardamone, Bridget Coleman, Christie Coper, Nicole Dankanich, Madison Davenport, Brynn Evans, Emily Fenimore, Colleen Flanagan, Laura Flanagan, Kelsea Fortino, Sarah Halpin, Brittney Hamil, Ashley Harrington, Devan Hibbs, Alyssa Johnson, Michelle LaBricciosa,