

"Yea" on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Res 230, a bill Recognizing the historical significance of the Mexican holiday of Cinco de Mayo (Rollcall No. 229); and

"Yea" on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H. Con. Res 111, a bill Recognizing the 61st anniversary of the Independence of the State of Israel (Rollcall No. 230).

ON THE ENDORSEMENT OF "ONE SECOND AFTER" BY WILLIAM R. FORSTCHEN

HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. BARTLETT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to bring up the book *One Second After*, which was written by historian and novelist William R. Forstchen. It lays out a fact-based scenario of what life would be like after an EMP attack. I think that the American people should read this book. It tells the story of a ballistic missile EMP attack on our country. The weapon was launched from a ship off our shore, and then the ship was sunk so that there were no fingerprints. It was launched about 300 miles high over Nebraska, and it shut down our infrastructure country-wide. This book is a realistic assessment of what a really robust EMP lay-down could do to our country.

As a scientist and engineer now serving my 17th year on the House Armed Services Committee, I have studied the threat of EMP with the world's experts and it is real. I find it very disturbing that EMP is well understood and its capability is actively pursued by America's potential foes, but it is virtually unknown to the American public. Imagine a world where the only person you could talk to is the person next to you, the only way you could go anywhere is to walk and the electronic grid is destroyed. This is only the beginning of the impact from an EMP attack.

Glen Reynolds, who is a law professor at the University of Tennessee, a contributing editor at *Popular Mechanics*, and the author of various law review articles, writes as the editor of *Instapundit.com* how much he enjoyed the book and how he hopes that this book will draw attention to the threat of an EMP. I want to take this opportunity to share it with all of my colleagues.

"So I finished William Forstchen *One Second After*, and it's pretty good—sort of an *Alas, Babylon* for the 21st Century. Forstchen hopes to attract attention to the danger of an EMP attack, and I hope he does. I'm somewhat less positive about whether that will produce any actual, useful preparation."

HONORING DETECTIVE JEFFREY K. SWINDOL

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to rise today to honor Detective Jeffrey Swindol for being selected as the Bartlett Police Department's 2008 Officer of the Year.

Since joining the Bartlett Police Department in 1998, Detective Swindol has made an immediate impact in a police force through his professionalism and loyalty to the Bartlett community. It is through Detective Swindol's chosen career path that is a testament of the values that were instilled in him by his parents and family members. Detective Swindol displays his leadership that is expected during investigations for illegal sales, distribution of narcotics as well as other substances.

On April 1, 2007, Detective Swindol was promoted and began utilizing his talents on the Bartlett Police Department's Narcotic Unit. Detective Swindol has displayed his ability to adapt, overcome obstacles, and thrive under pressure. His dedication and diligent work with the unit even led to the seizure of \$62,000.00 cash as well as the suspect. Detective Swindol was an integral part in this investigation, which deserves the credit for one of the largest cash seizures in the department's history. I can proudly say that all of this hard work paid off. I commend Detective Swindol for his exemplary example of dedication and service. I have no doubt that Detective Swindol's hard work has improved the lives of everyone that calls the City of Bartlett their home.

Please join me in honoring Jeffrey Swindol and wishing him and his family the best on this well-deserved award.

IN MEMORIAM: CORRINE CONTE

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 7, 2009

Mr. OLVER. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Corrine Louise Conte, a beloved neighbor and community member in western Massachusetts and Washington, DC.

Corrine was a woman of many talents. A native of Pittsfield, she was a star swimmer at Pittsfield High School, and she later became an accomplished pilot. Once, while flying near her home, her plane's engine failed, but she steered the descending plane into an open field and escaped with only a fractured rib, an injury she dismissed as trifling.

During World War II, Corrine served as a nurse in the Navy, where she met her future husband, the late, great Congressman Silvio O. Conte. The couple married after the war, and Corrine continued to serve as a nurse while raising their four children. When Silvio was elected to the House of Representatives, she moved their family to Bethesda, Maryland, where she became a successful real estate agent.

Ever-welcoming, Corrine opened her family's home in Bethesda to ambassadors and politicians, regardless of political party. Her gatherings were known for being intimate and down-to-earth. When a Russian delegation once came to dinner, they were surprised to find that Corrine had done all the cooking herself.

She was a friend to several Presidents, meeting each Chief Executive from Dwight Eisenhower to George H.W. Bush, and even dancing with Lyndon Johnson at his inaugural ball. True to form, she made all of her White House gowns herself, working from a sewing table in her basement. In the late 1980s, she

served on President Bush's Special Committee on Mental Health.

Despite remarkable talents and powerful friends, Corrine never lost touch with her community or shrank from the rigors of public service. The phone number to her family's Pittsfield home was listed publicly, and, during the three decades her husband served in Congress, she fielded calls from constituents and often followed up on requests herself. She was an active campaigner, regularly putting in long days on the campaign trail, and a favorite with voters, who appreciated her practicality and command of the issues. After her husband's death in 1991, she dedicated herself to preserving his extensive and important legacy.

Away from the public eye, Corrine was known to be a loving mother and a woman of great faith. She was also a life-long Boston Red Sox fan and reportedly was elated to see her team finally reverse the "Curse of Bambino" by sweeping the World Series in 2004.

Corrine Conte's strength, warmth and charm were legendary. The friends she made and the people she touched throughout her remarkable life will miss her dearly.

CREDIT CARDHOLDERS' BILL OF RIGHTS ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 627) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to establish fair and transparent practices relating to the extension of credit under an open end consumer credit plan, and for other purposes:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 627, the Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights. I am very pleased that leadership has brought this important consumer protection legislation to the floor today.

As we all know, having a credit card account is essential to building the credit history needed to buy a home or obtain a loan. Given the necessity of having good credit, I am very concerned that in recent years, credit card companies have established policies which result in limiting the control that individuals have over their financial decisions. This inappropriate level of control has serious implications for people's lives and their financial security.

One common practice is that a credit card company will raise interest rates without warning. When a credit card holder tries to opt out, they realize they are locked into a plan that differs vastly from what they originally signed up for. These types of abuses against consumers have even more serious implications in these trying economic times, in that families may not be able to meet credit obligations that were not expected or planned.

The Credit Cardholders' Bill of Rights ensures that credit cardholders are protected from unfair and confusing credit card gimmicks that result in their being required to pay more than what they should owe to the credit card companies.

The bill protects cardholders against arbitrary interest rate increases, empowers them to set limits on their credit and requires card companies to fairly credit and allocate payments. It also prohibits charging fees just to