

The current compulsory licenses were not designed for this new digital era. This legislation is necessary to avoid immediate disruption in service to satellite consumers, long-term deterioration of service to cable consumers, and to enhance and protect the rights of content-creators.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
INDIAN VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, Indian Valley High School has displayed incredible dedication to creating well-rounded students; and

Whereas, the Indian Valley High School has been supportive of their athletes; and

Whereas, the Indian Valley High School has broadened the abilities and skills of their athletes in the sport of baseball; and

Whereas, the Indian Valley High School has always promoted sportsmanship on and off of the field: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with their friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate the Indian Valley High School on supporting their Boys' Division III State Baseball Championship. We recognize the tremendous amount of support they have given to their athletes.

REMEMBERING SEN. RON RAIKES

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember a friend and a colleague, Nebraska State Senator Ron Raikes. Ron was a dedicated public servant, who will be remembered as an honorable, hardworking senator who took pride in representing his constituency and all of Nebraska.

Raikes was born and raised in Nebraska. He attended Iowa State University and worked there as a professor after receiving a doctorate in agricultural economics from the University of California-Davis.

Raikes was appointed to the Nebraska Legislature in 1997, elected in 1998 and reelected in 2000 and 2004. I will always remember him as a well-liked and deeply respected colleague.

He was a mentor to the younger generation and an avid farmer. He ran a large cattle operation, a soil conservation business, and grew

corn, soybeans and wheat. More than that, he was a tireless advocate for what he believed in and always challenged his colleagues.

He will be missed.

My heart goes out to his wife, his children and his grandchildren.

RECOGNIZING HISTORICALLY
BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the importance of Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the United States. President Barack Obama has issued a proclamation recognizing August 30—September 5, 2009 as National HBCU Week, and I am very proud to honor these institutions today.

Historically Black Colleges and Universities are defined as accredited colleges and universities founded prior to 1964 with the intent of serving the African-American community. These institutions have existed for more than 140 years, and there are more than 100 across the United States. Of the nine HBCUs in my home state of Texas, three are public institutions and six are private.

HBCUs have had a very long history and date back to the period directly following the Civil War. Originally HBCUs were the only institutions of higher education that accepted African-Americans. After the Civil Rights Movement prompted an end to white-only admissions policies, HBCUs continued to act as an important educational resource for African-Americans and other students who chose not to attend predominately white institutions.

There are a number of notable figures who have graduated from HBCUs, and I would like to pay tribute to some of them today. Alice Walker of Spelman University and Langston Hughes of Lincoln University are American literary giants who attended HBCUs. Former U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall went to Howard University and former Congresswoman Barbara Jordan attended Texas Southern University. Additionally, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a graduate of Morehouse University. Truly, our country would be at a great loss without these heroes.

I commend the educators, students, alumni and staff that have worked tirelessly to make Historically Black Colleges and Universities what they are today. I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in recognizing the role these institutions have played in educating generations of Americans of all races and ethnic backgrounds.

RECOGNIZING 15TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE VIOLENCE AGAINST
WOMEN ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. NIKI TSONGAS

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 14, 2009

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the Violence Against Women Act. This law, which was originally signed in 1994, is one of the most significant achievements in our history for advancing the equality and empowerment of women.

Nearly a quarter of women in the United States are victims of domestic violence every year. 1 in 6 women will be a victim of sexual assault in her lifetime. And that number is 4 times higher for women in college.

Domestic violence not only harms the victim, it has a cumulative effect on communities. Children who grow up in households where domestic violence occurs are 60–75 percent more likely to experience child abuse. These children tend to suffer from a variety of psychological problems during their lifetime.

Given these staggering facts, it is our responsibility to make sure that women and children have peace of mind that there is someone on their side if they are faced with such harm. The Violence Against Women Act has given communities the kinds of resources they need to bring this peace of mind closer to a reality.

This Act not only increased the criminal penalty for acts of domestic violence, but strengthened the ability of our communities to respond and even prevent these incidents in the first place. VAWA funds legal assistance for victims of domestic violence, strengthens domestic violence shelters, and helps to enforce restraining orders.

The law also established a national hotline called by over 1.5 million abused women seeking help. As a result, domestic violence is down 50 percent and rape is down 60 percent nationwide.

But we still have a long way to go. 60 percent of sexual assaults are still not reported to the police. Although this number has declined significantly since 1993, we must continue these efforts to end the threat of violence against women and children.

In our society, no woman should ever feel so scared for their lives and their safety that they are unable to fulfill their potential. We must create a culture in which women and girls can thrive, and this Act has taken us one step closer to that goal.

I want to thank the Congresswoman from New York for this important resolution.