

Although veterans could receive compensation for service-connected loss of sight in one eye, they were not eligible for increased assistance if subsequent loss of sight occurred in the second eye until complete blindness set in. A service member himself, Dr. Allen recognized the tremendous sacrifices our veterans make and knew that they should not be forced to struggle with related optical issues without any additional assistance and care. For 7 years, Dr. Allen worked with me and Donald May of Lodi, Wisconsin to craft long overdue legislation that would ensure the correction of this inadequacy.

In 2007, Congress unanimously passed and the President signed H.R. 797, the Dr. James C. Allen Veteran Vision Equity Act, allowing disabled veterans to receive greater compensation if they begin to lose sight in the second eye, regardless of whether or not that loss of sight is service-connected. The Dr. James C. Allen Veteran Vision Equity Act will directly impact the lives of those who sacrificed to defend our freedom. Over 13,000 veterans have been blinded in conflict since World War II, including veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan who are incurring eye wounds at the highest rate of a major conflict since World War I.

Over the years, Dr. Allen has received countless awards and honors, including the 2008 Wisconsin Medical Society Physician Citizen of the Year Award and the Wisconsin Board of Veterans Affairs Veteran Lifetime Achievement Award. However, no amount of accolades could accurately reflect how invaluable his work has been and will continue to be to our most courageous citizens. The American spirit embodies the idea that one thoughtful, committed citizen possesses the ability to create meaningful change and Dr. Allen exemplifies this spirit. I join the greater Madison community and veterans everywhere in honoring Dr. Allen for his unwavering commitment and dedication.

A TRIBUTE TO BOB HOPE AIRPORT
CELEBRATING 80 YEARS OF
SERVICE

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Bob Hope Airport as it celebrates its 80 anniversary of service. Since its opening as United Airport on Memorial Day in 1930, the Bob Hope Airport has grown to accommodate 5 million passengers a year with more than 80 daily non-stop flights, making it a vital member of the Southern California airport system.

Previously known as the Union Air Terminal, the Lockheed Air Terminal, the Hollywood-Burbank Airport and the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport, in 2003, the Burbank Airport changed names once again, now paying homage to the great Bob Hope, one of our country's legendary entertainers and a long time resident of California. In its 80 years, the airport has been a witness to some of our country's greatest triumphs as well as some of our greatest struggles.

Movie and aviation stars alike attended the 1930 opening of the airport amidst a three day celebration in which 200,000 people partici-

pated. Ten years later and with the approach of World War II, it developed a reputation of being the primary airport of Los Angeles. During the war, the airport was the birthplace of many important aircraft, including B-17 Bombers, Hudson Bombers and over 10,000 P-38 Fighters. However, a testament to its vitality, in the middle of the chaos, the airport remained open as a commercial airport, connecting citizens with the rest of the country and showing that although its name has changed through the years, its commitment has not wavered.

Today there are 2.5 million people living within 15 miles of the Bob Hope Airport, and its airline service continues to be a dependable link to the rest of the nation. In 1977, three cities in my congressional district, Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena joined to form a separate government agency, the Burbank-Glendale-Pasadena Airport Authority, and today the airport operates under their control, demonstrating efficiency and safety.

On the occasion of the Bob Hope Airport's 80th anniversary, I would like to recognize the nine authority commissioners, President Joyce Streater, Vice President Frank Quintero, Secretary Don Brown, and Commissioners Bill Wiggins, Charles A. Lombardo, Dave Weaver, Rafi Manoukian, Chris Holden and Francis D. Logan for their commendable work, and thank all those who have served previously in this role.

It is with great pleasure that I congratulate the Bob Hope Airport on this milestone anniversary, and wish the airport continued success in the future!

CONGRATULATING 'IOLANI
SCHOOL'S ECONOMICS TEAM, NA-
TIONAL CHAMPIONS OF THE 2010
NATIONAL ECONOMICS CHAL-
LENGE

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate 'Iolani School's Economics Team for winning the 2010 National Economics Challenge.

More than 1,200 teams from across the country competed in this year's event sponsored by the Council for Economic Education. This year marked Iolani's fourth national championship and 11th state championship. 'Iolani has also won two second place national titles.

I would like to recognize team members Andrew Ellison, Jesse Franklin-Murdock, Sean Cockey, and Mark Grozen-Smith as well as coach Richard Rankin. In the fall, Andrew will be attending the University of Pennsylvania, Jesse will be attending the George Washington University, Sean will be attending the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Mark will be leading next year's team in defending 'Iolani's title.

Our Nation's recent economic meltdown has demonstrated how essential economic understanding is for all of us. Continued federal support for the Council for Economic Education is critical as it works to empower students through economic and financial literacy programs to help future generations make in-

formed and responsible choices throughout their lives as consumers, savers, investors, workers, citizens, and participants in our global economy. I joined a number of my colleagues to advocate for continued funding for the Council in fiscal year 2011.

Again, congratulations Andrew, Jesse, Sean, Mark, and Coach Rankin. Best wishes on your continued academic success.

NATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH
MONTH

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. BILBRAY. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the millions of Americans and the researchers that are fighting every day to end cancer. As you know, May is National Cancer Research month and all across our great Nation, men and women are working not only to overcome this devastating disease that claims half a million American lives every year, but also to prevent it.

Unquestionably, the Nation's investment in cancer research is having a remarkable impact.

Thanks to discoveries and developments in prevention, early detection, and more effective treatments, many of the more than 200 diseases called cancer have been cured or converted into manageable chronic conditions while preserving quality of life. The 5-year survival rate for all cancers has improved over the past 30 years to more than 65 percent. Advances in cancer research have had significant implications for the treatment of other costly diseases such as diabetes, heart disease, Alzheimer's, HIV/AIDS and macular degeneration.

However, there is much left to be done, as cancer remains the leading cause of death for Americans under age 85 and the second leading cause of death overall. We must continue to strengthen our Nation's commitment to life-saving research for the health and wellbeing of all Americans.

I want to commend the hard work and dedication of all those who are on the front lines of the quest for the prevention and cure of cancer. Organizations such as the American Association for Cancer Research, AACR, American Cancer Society, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, and the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network are fighting hard every day to eradicate Cancer in partnership with the American taxpayer and NIH.

I was pleased to learn that President Obama nominated Dr. Harold Varmus to head the National Cancer Institute, NCI. As NIH Director under President Clinton, Dr. Varmus was instrumental in the historic growth of this great agency. As NCI tackles the health mysteries surrounding Cancer, it is heartening to know it will be led by such a distinguished and capable scientist.

As we celebrate National Cancer Research Month this May, I hope that this Congress will continue to make cancer research a national priority and ensure continued progress for the hope and benefit of all Americans who have or will be touched by this dreaded disease.

INTRODUCTION OF THE OBSTETRIC FISTULA PREVENTION, TREATMENT, HOPE, AND DIGNITY RESTORATION ACT OF 2010

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing bipartisan legislation along with Representative MIKE CASTLE and Representative LOIS CAPPs to save and reclaim the lives of mothers and their babies. The Obstetric Fistula Prevention, Treatment, Hope and Dignity Restoration Act of 2010 authorizes funding to reduce obstetric fistula, a terrible condition which can be prevented and repaired. More than two million women worldwide have obstetric fistula resulting from prolonged labor without medical attention. The pressure created internally on a woman from this obstructed delivery kills tissue and causes a hole to develop between the woman's vagina and rectum, leaving the woman without control of her bladder and/or bowels for the rest of her life if left without treatment. It often results in the death of the infant. Many women with obstetric fistula are abandoned by their husbands and families because they are considered "unclean". Left without support, the women are often forced to beg or turn to prostitution to survive.

The World Health Organization estimates that 50,000–100,000 new cases of obstetric fistula develop each year, adding to the estimated 2 million current cases, with most cases occurring in poor communities in sub-Saharan Africa and Asia where access to maternal and obstetric care is limited.

Fortunately, there is hope. This condition is almost entirely preventable. Prevention efforts include medical interventions such as skilled attendance present during labor and childbirth, providing access to family planning, and emergency obstetric care for women who develop childbirth complications as well as social interventions such as delaying early marriage and educating and empowering young women.

This condition also is treatable in up to 90 percent of cases, costing an average of \$300 for repair. The treatment requires a specially trained surgeon and support staff, and access to an operating theater and to attentive post-operative care.

This bill supports a comprehensive approach to end obstetric fistula—prevention to eliminate occurrences, treatment to repair those women who already suffer, and rehabilitation to help those recovering fully heal and reenter society. It focuses on efforts to build local capacity and improve national systems to prevent and treat obstetric fistula.

Women are fundamental to ensuring the health of their children and other family members.

Obstetric fistula is devastating; but doesn't have to be life-shattering. With our bill, we can provide hope and a healthy future. I urge my colleagues to support the Obstetric Fistula Prevention, Treatment, Hope, and Dignity Restoration Act of 2010.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LAWRENCE A. RUBIN—FATHER OF THE MACKINAC BRIDGE

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor a true Michigan legend, Lawrence A. Rubin, the father of the Mackinac Bridge. Through his hard work and unbridled passion, Larry was at the heart of funding and building the Mackinac Bridge. It was with a heavy heart that I learned of his passing on May 11 at the age of 97, but I know that Larry's spirit will live on each time someone makes their first trip across that five mile expanse of concrete and steel suspended over the sparkling blue waters of the straits separating Lake Michigan and Lake Huron.

Although he was born December 7, 1912 in the suburbs of Boston, Massachusetts, we Michiganders count Larry as one of our own. He graduated from the University of Michigan in 1934 with a degree in business. In addition to his studies, Larry played on Michigan's football team serving as a backup to future President Gerald Ford. After graduating, Larry opened an advertising agency and held several transportation focused positions before being appointed as Executive Secretary of the Mackinac Bridge Authority in 1950.

The building of the Mackinac Bridge was by no means non-controversial, and Larry was a key player in negotiating both the funding and construction phases of this expensive and expansive project. He not only attracted investors to purchase the bonds needed to fund construction of the bridge, but he also worked to make sure those bonds were repaid.

Larry's vision for the Mackinac Bridge extended beyond simply making transportation between Michigan's Upper and Lower Peninsulas more convenient. From the beginning he recognized its potential to draw vacationers and tourists to the area. At five miles from shore to shore, it was the longest suspension bridge in the world in 1955 with 46-story tall towers stretching to the sky. Whether driving in daylight over the churning waters of the Straits of Mackinac or under the illumination of its thousands of lights at night, the trip across the Mackinac Bridge is a captivating experience.

One of the best known traditions of the Mackinac Bridge is the Labor Day Bridge Walk. This too can be traced to Larry, who organized the first Bridge Walk in June, 1958. The following year the Mackinac Bridge Walk was moved to Labor Day weekend. Larry's talent for accomplishing big things was again recognized—the Bridge Walk has grown from 68 participants its first year to an average of 50,000–65,000 participants.

Larry may have officially retired from the Bridge Authority in 1983, but even in retirement he continued his involvement with the bridge, writing two books about the Mighty Mac, participating each year in the Labor Day Bridge Walk and even building his home overlooking the straits to allow him to see his beloved bridge each and every day.

It was Larry's unflinching energy that ensured the success not only of the Mackinac Bridge, but in each endeavor he set out to do. He was active in the St. Ignace community, serving as

director of the Upper Peninsula Travel and Recreation Association, chairman of the Mackinac Straits Hospital board and as a founder and board member of the local library. He was an avid downhill skier, and could be found hitting the slopes until he was 90.

Madam Speaker, it is difficult to envision how the Mackinac Bridge would exist today without the drive and the vision of Larry Rubin. The bridge is a lasting symbol of a unified Michigan and for this we owe our heartfelt thanks and Michigan pride to Larry. With his passing, Michigan has lost an icon and our thoughts and prayers go out to his wife Elma and their family. Therefore Madam Speaker, I ask that you, and all of my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives, join me in honoring the life and accomplishments of Lawrence A. Rubin—the great champion and father of the Mackinac Bridge.

DEKALB COUNTY VETERANS

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker: Whereas, DeKalb County serves as home for many of our Veterans that have served in the United States Military; and

Whereas, the day-to-day operations of our government on a local, state and federal level impact the lives of our Veterans either directly or indirectly; and

Whereas, our beloved county continues to rely on the wisdom and suggestions from the DeKalb County Veterans Affairs Advisory Board members to address concerns and issues of our military community; and

Whereas, this unique board has given of themselves tirelessly and unconditionally to preserve integrity, advocate for our enlisted service personnel and veterans; and

Whereas, the DeKalb County Veterans Affairs Advisory Board continues to serve our county by being involved in the planning, organizing and conducting of ceremonies that commemorate and recognize those who served our country in the United States military; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize the DeKalb County Veterans Affairs Advisory Board for their outstanding service to our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR., do hereby proclaim May 24, 2010, as DeKalb County Veterans Affairs Advisory Board Day in the Fourth Congressional District.

TRIBUTE TO THE BAKERSFIELD NATIONAL CEMETERY

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. MCCARTHY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Bakersfield National Cemetery located in Kern County, California. The Bakersfield National Cemetery opened in July of last year and we will all be honoring veterans at the cemetery's first Memorial Day