

HONORING LATINA LEADER
AWARD RECIPIENT DR. JULIET
V. GARCÍA, PRESIDENT OF UTB/
TSC

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 28, 2010

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the work, dedication and leadership of Nueces, UTB/TSC President, Dr. Juliet V. García, who will receive this evening the Latina Leader Award at the Washington Court Hotel.

Dr. García joined The University of Texas System as the president of The University of Texas at Brownsville in January 1992 after having served as president of Texas Southmost College for six years. When she was named as president of TSC in 1986, she became the first Mexican-American woman in the nation to become president of a college or university.

Under Dr. García's leadership, the campus has grown from 49 acres to more than 460 acres; the budget has increased from \$31.4 million to \$150 million, and the total fall enrollment has grown from 7,000 students to more than 15,000 students.

While the university has continued to increase in quantity, it has also grown in quality. The vocational nursing graduates have achieved a pass rate of more than 95 percent for their state licensures, likewise, the teacher education graduates achieved a 94 percent pass rate on their certification exams, with education students specializing in music, school counseling, Spanish, social studies, special education, physical education and mathematics achieving a 100 percent pass rate.

Dr. García has established a campus culture that promotes student success. She was instrumental in the establishment of a Math and Science Academy for high school students, an Early College High School in collaboration with the Brownsville Independent School District.

She has a strong history of public service. She served as chair of the Advisory Committee to Congress on Student Financial Assistance and on the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. Most recently, Dr. García has served on the boards of National Campus Compact, chaired Texas Campus Compact, and was a member of President-Elect Obama's Transition Team.

She currently serves on the boards of Ford Foundation, the Public Welfare Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Humanities Texas, and Raise Your Hand Texas. She is also currently serving as the co-chair of the Notre Dame University Task Force: On the Participation of Latino Children and Families in Catholic Schools in America.

Among the many honors Dr. García has received for her work is induction into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame for Lifetime Achievement in Education and the Hispanic Heritage Award. She has received the Reginald V. Wilson Diversity Award from the Office of Minority Affairs from the American Council on Education. She was named one of the Top 10 College Presidents by Time magazine; Hispanic Business magazine recognized her multiple times in their 100 Most Influential His-

panics annual publication. The Brownsville Independent School District named the Juliet V. García Middle School after her.

She has received honorary degrees from the University of Notre Dame and Brown University. Dr. García earned a Ph.D. in Communications and Linguistics from The University of Texas at Austin and an M.A. and B.A. in Classical Rhetoric and Public Address and English from the University of Houston. For more than a decade, she has been invited annually to lecture at Harvard's Institute for Educational Management on the university presidency. She is often invited to speak at national conferences on the issues of access and innovation in higher education.

She is married to Oscar E. García for 40 years. They are the parents of two grown children, Oscar D. García and Paulita Rico, and are blessed with four grandchildren.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating UTB/TSC President Dr. Juliet V. García for her work and dedication to UTB/TSC and her well deserved award as a Latina Leader.

NATIONALLY ENHANCING THE
WELLBEING OF BABIES
THROUGH OUTREACH AND RE-
SEARCH NOW ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 22, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I wish to take a moment to state my strong support for H.R. 3470, the Nationally Enhancing the Wellbeing of Babies through Outreach and Research Now—or the NEWBORN Act. This bill authorizes grants to create, implement, and oversee infant mortality pilot programs. These grants could support a number of important activities to reduce our national infant mortality rate, including: educational outreach to at-risk mothers; development and implementation of standardized systems for improved access and services; and regional public education campaigns.

In order to fully understand the importance of this act, I believe our country needs to take a moment to reflect upon our infant mortality rate of 6.7 per thousand live births. The United States currently has one of the highest infant mortality rates among industrialized nations—higher than Cuba or Japan. Although the infant mortality rate has declined over time, this rate is unacceptably high and tragic because many of these infant deaths are preventable when mothers receive adequate care and education. Access to quality prenatal healthcare and parenting education greatly reduces many of the risk factors that contribute to infant mortality, such as low birth weight and short gestational age births.

It is of serious concern that great disparity exists in infant mortality rates across our country based on geographic location and racial/ethnic minority status. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the infant mortality rate is much higher in the Southeastern and Midwestern regions of our Nation. In my home State of Illinois in 2006 is 7.29 per thousand live births, well above the national average. For African Americans, the

infant mortality rate is 13.35, almost double the national average and almost triple the national average for Latino and White children. We cannot allow these disparities to continue. We cannot continue to allow particular groups of our citizens to lose their children at higher rates than others. We must work to dramatically reduce these deaths for all Americans.

These numbers reflect the need for federal legislation to increase access to quality prenatal care. I am proud to have played an active role in creating a dedicated funding stream for the home visiting to support families with or expecting young children. Authorized by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Law, the new Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program will provide grants to States to provide evidence-based home visitation services to improve outcomes for children and families who reside in at-risk communities. Research shows that these programs are effective at improving the health and well-being of children and families.

It is federal investments in home visiting and in the NEWBORN Act that will help improve children's well-being and lower the infant mortality rate. I stand in strong support of the NEWBORN Act and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this bill.

SMALL BUSINESS JOBS ACT OF
2010

SPEECH OF

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 23, 2010

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, attached is a Wall Street Journal article noting that the lack of credit was hurting many small businesses in our country.

[From the Wall Street Journal]

LOAN SQUEEZE THWARTS SMALL-BUSINESS
REVIVAL

(By Mark Whitehouse)

YPSILANTI, MI.—Thomas Harrison, chief executive of Michigan Ladder Co., has a plan that would contribute to the U.S. economic recovery: Expand the 108-year-old company, adding at least 20 jobs in the process. His chances of getting the loan of \$300,000 or more he needs to do so, though, depend in part on what happens to folks like home builder James Haeussler.

Both are customers of the same community bank, the Bank of Ann Arbor. Mr. Haeussler is struggling to repay \$8.3 million he and a partner borrowed to build a residential community in nearby Saline, Mich. In this economic environment, the bank doesn't want to take a chance on what it sees as a risky new loan to Mr. Harrison.

"In a world where Jim Haeussler makes it, Tom Harrison will make it," says Timothy Marshall, the bank's president. "But it's not prudent to do both loans at this point in time. We're in a more risk-averse mode."

Mr. Marshall's reluctance sheds light on a problem looming over the economy. A year and a half after the financial crisis hit, the U.S. credit machine is still malfunctioning. During the boom, credit was too abundant. Now the pendulum has swung. With an eye toward limiting such swings, Sen. Christopher Dodd is expected to unveil a bill Monday that would be especially tough on big banks while preserving the Fed's regulatory role, but the bill's prospects remain uncertain.