

Coach Moore also oversaw the expansion of Bryant-Denny Stadium in 2006 and 2009, pushing the venue's capacity to 101,821, which ranks fifth nationally.

Mal Moore will be officially honored at the 55th NNF awards dinner at Waldorf-Astoria in New York City on December 4, 2012. He was elected to the State of Alabama Sports Hall of Fame in 2011.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of Alabama and the entire Alabama Congressional Delegation, I would like to commend Coach Mal Moore for his exemplary leadership and congratulate him for receiving the John L. Toner Award. I know Coach Moore's daughter, Heather, his granddaughter, Anna Lee and grandson, Charles, as well as his many, many friends and associates around the country share in this proud and well-deserved honor.

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE AND HOUSE VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE JOINT HEARING

**HON. RICK LARSEN**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 26, 2012*

Mr. LARSEN of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and welcome to Secretary Panetta and Secretary Shinseki.

More than 2 million American women and men are returning home from more than a decade of war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Many are returning scarred, with lost limbs, brain injuries or mental illness. Too many are coming back to unemployment lines. And too many are struggling to keep their homes.

To address these problems, Congress and the administration have worked together to support veterans' needs through efforts like building more Department of Veterans Affairs community based outpatient clinics, like the one in Mount Vernon, Washington state. The VA, the Department of Defense, and National Institutes of Health are conducting state-of-the-art brain research to understand and find better treatments for traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder. And the VA and DoD are working together to provide more timely disability claims processing.

The passage of the Vow To Hire Heroes Act and the 21st Century GI Bill were important steps to help veterans translate their skills to civilian jobs. These programs provide career advice for transitioning servicemembers through the Transition Assistance Program and help veterans go back to school.

And we are supporting veterans housing through the Department of Housing and Urban Development Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH) program, which provides affordable housing vouchers and social services like case management. 100 homeless veterans in Skagit and Snohomish Counties have received HUD-VASH vouchers so far this year. Part of ending homelessness among veterans is prevention, and for that, VA and DOD recently began legal assistance programs to provide relief for veterans and servicemembers who were hurt by mortgage abuses and assist those seeking to refinance.

Still, there is more that we have to do, and I encourage all of us in this room to think of what we can do to help these veterans.

For example, in my district, we are reaching out to veterans, employers and educators to help veterans translate the skills they developed in the military to meet private sector needs, and help employers and educators understand the value of veterans' military training.

I look forward to hearing more about what the DoD and VA are doing to support veterans transitioning back to civilian life. With hard work and support from the government and local communities, these veterans coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan can have a smooth transition back to civilian life, and our older veterans can get the support they deserve.

IN CELEBRATION OF MRS. BUENA WOOTEN LONG'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 26, 2012*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my sincerest congratulations and Happy Birthday wishes to Mrs. Buena Wooten Long, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on Wednesday, July 25, 2012. On this day, Mrs. Long will be honored with a birthday celebration and dinner at the James H. Gray Senior Citizen's Center in Albany, Georgia.

Born in Whigham, Georgia on July 25, 1912 to Archie and Ada Wooten, Mrs. Long is the youngest of six children: Malachi, Charlie, Wadis, Leah, and Ruth. Although all her siblings preceded her in death, she is the second member of her family to become a centenarian; her paternal grandfather lived to be 106 years old.

Mrs. Long fondly remembers plowing a mule on the family farm as a child. As an adult, she worked as a seamstress in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania and Detroit, Michigan. She is now an active participant at the Golden Retreat Senior Citizen's Center. Although she enjoys all the activities at the Center, bingo is her favorite.

Mrs. Long is the mother of Mrs. Helen Murphy-Prince; grandmother of Mr. Craig Wendell Prince; great-grandmother of Mr. Randall Murphy and Mr. Brian Murphy and great-great-grandmother of Miss London Taylor Murphy.

Mrs. Long credits her longevity to her faith in God, a strong work ethic instilled in her by her parents and good genes. She is an active member of the Institutional First Baptist Church under the pastorate of Dr. Eugene G. Sherman.

George Washington Carver once said, "How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving and tolerant of the weak and strong because someday in your life you will have been all of these." Mrs. Long has advanced far in life because she never forgot these lessons and always kept God first.

The race of life isn't given to the swift or to the strong, but to those who endure until the end. Mrs. Long has run the race of life with grace and dignity and God has blessed her over her lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to an outstanding cit-

izen and woman of faith, Mrs. Buena Wooten Long, as she, her family, and the seniors and volunteers of the Golden Retreat at the James H. Gray Senior Citizen's Center prepare to celebrate her 100th birthday.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 26, 2012*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, July 25, 2012, I was called away from the votes here on the House Floor in order to address an important announcement regarding the Bay Delta Conservation Plan in California. The joint announcement from California Governor, Jerry Brown, and United States Secretary of Interior, Ken Salazar, will have huge implications for my constituents and all Californians. Therefore, I felt it was absolutely necessary to address my concerns regarding the new plan. Nevertheless, I realize the importance of the votes I missed. Therefore, I would like to state for the record how I would have voted on the bills that were before the House of Representatives, yesterday.

First, I would have supported H.R. 459, the Federal Reserve Transparency Act of 2012. I would have opposed H.R. 6082, the Congressional Replacement of President Obama's Energy-Restricting and Job-Limiting Offshore Drilling Plan. Lastly, I would have supported H.R. 6168, President Obama's Proposed 2012–2017 Offshore Drilling Lease Sale Plan Act.

RED TAPE REDUCTION AND SMALL BUSINESS JOB CREATION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 25, 2012*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4078) to provide that no agency may take any significant regulatory action until the unemployment rate is equal to or less than 6.0 percent:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Chair, I rise in reluctant opposition to the amendment offered by the gentleman from Illinois, Mr. MANZULLO. I say reluctant, because although I am opposed to this particular amendment, I very much support the idea of ensuring that our agencies in the Federal government utilize the best available science when engaged in their activities. On its face, that would appear to be the subject of this amendment. However, the language in this amendment goes further than that, and its broad reach troubles me for several reasons.

Under this amendment, all Federal agencies would have to adopt guidelines on scientific integrity and have those guidelines approved by the Director of the Office of Science and Technology Policy, "OSTP". Agencies could not make policy decisions unless the OSTP Director has approved their guidelines. In addition, subsection (d) of the amendment states that