

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

REAUTHORIZING CERTAIN VISA PROGRAMS

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 11, 2012

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 3245, which reauthorizes the E-Verify Program for three years. E-Verify is an important tool for employers who want to help ensure they are employing legal workers. I believe that there are a few changes that would make E-Verify even more effective and user friendly than it already is, that U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) can make without being required to do so statutorily.

Prevention of identity theft in E-Verify is important and USCIS has been taking steps aimed at doing so. For instance, they have created an E-Verify photo match tool for certain individuals so that an employer can match a DHS database photo to the employee standing in front of them. I applaud the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for taking this step and others, and also urge USCIS to fully explore other available identity authentication approaches through pilot programs.

I also support DHS providing employers with a seamless integration of an official, electronic I-9 into E-Verify. The goal of an all-electronic system, instead of a paper-based I-9, was included in E-Verify legislation authored by Chairman SMITH. Combining E-Verify and the I-9 together will be a strong inducement for employers to join E-Verify.

I have discussed these changes by DHS with the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee, LAMAR SMITH, who has expressed his support.

CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL DOT DAY

HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend International Dot Day. This September 15th marks the annual celebration of International Dot Day, which encourages students' creativity by asking them to make their own unique mark on the world. This year's celebration will involve more than half of a million children in all fifty states and on six continents.

International Dot Day was inspired by the children's book "The Dot" by Peter H. Reynolds. The book tells the story of a student named Vashti who doubts her own abilities as an artist until her teacher encourages her to make a single mark on the page. The single dot she creates in art class and her teacher's encouragement starts a journey of creativity and discovery for Vashti who goes on to in-

spire other students to be creative in their own ways.

Mr. Speaker, creativity and genius are important attributes for students of all ages to pursue, and I applaud my constituent Terry Shay, an educator from Waterloo, IA, who founded Dot Day in 2009, to inspire his students to make their own mark. Mr. Shay has helped inspire other educators around the world to encourage their own students by sharing the message in Peter Reynolds' inspirational book.

I would like to take this opportunity to officially recognize September 15th as International Dot Day, and I wish Mr. Shay and other educators well as they continue encouraging creativity in their students.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL JANET L. COBB, USAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend congratulations to a distinguished South Alabamian who was recently promoted to the rank of major general in the United States Army Reserve. Maj. Gen. Janet Cobb's service to her country is a credit to the professionalism and dedication of our military and we are proud to have her call South Alabama home.

Maj. Gen. Cobb is a graduate of Foley High School and the University of Alabama. After enlisting in the Army Reserve in 1974, she was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in May 1978 from the University of Alabama ROTC program. Maj. Gen. Cobb is a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the U.S. Army War College.

Maj. Gen. Cobb has commanded at the Detachment, Battalion, Brigade, General Officer and Directorate command levels. Her deployments include 1184th Transportation Terminal Unit, Saudi Arabia (July–November 1991), 1184th Transportation Terminal Battalion, Port of Ash Shuaybah, Kuwait (November 2002–May 2003), 598th Transportation Group (Terminal) Rotterdam, The Netherlands (2007), and the Central Command Deployment & Distribution Operations Center, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait (2011). In July 2012, Maj. Gen. Cobb completed a six-month mobilization at the Pentagon where she served as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff (Operations), Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics (G-4). She is currently assigned to the Pentagon as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff, Mobilization and Training (Reserve Component Integration), Department of the Army (G-4).

While still a colonel, Janet commanded the 1184th Transportation Terminal Battalion from Mobile during the second Gulf War. Of her service, the Mobile Press Register observed, "Under Cobb's command, the 1184th became well-known among coalition forces in Kuwait

not only for unloading a record amount of U.S. military cargo through a Kuwaiti port in 2003, but also for staging a Mobile-style Mardi Gras parade over there, in which Moon Pies, beads and cups were thrown."

Her awards include the Bronze Star, the Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf clusters, and the Joint Achievement Medal.

In civilian life, Maj. Gen. Cobb is employed with Kaiser Realty, Inc. in Gulf Shores. She is a resident of the Barnwell community in south Baldwin County.

Mr. Speaker, I join my fellow Alabamians in not only expressing deep pride in Maj. Gen. Cobb's contributions to her country, but also in offering our heartfelt congratulations for her recent promotion and wish her all the best in the future.

RECOGNIZING PACIFIC METALLURGICAL AS A FINALIST FOR THE 2012 KING COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Pacific Metallurgical in Kent, Washington for being named a finalist for the 2012 King County Executive's Small Business Awards, in the Exporting Small Business of the Year category. The Exporting Small Business award is given to small businesses that have increased international sales in new and existing markets.

Pacific Metallurgical is an innovative heat treating business that was founded in 1967. The family-owned company was one of the first commercial heat-treat suppliers in the King County region. The company has since grown and the company is today offering new equipment and technology worldwide.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I congratulate Pacific Metallurgical. Advanced companies like Pacific Metallurgical help to stimulate our local and national economies through trade and growth.

TRIBUTE TO ALABAMA BUSINESSMAN, LARRY DRUMMOND

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 13, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Elbert Allen "Larry" Drummond, Vice Chairman of Drummond Company, Inc., who passed away on July 30, 2012, at the age 68. Larry Drummond was a leader among the Alabama business community and a devotee to preserving Alabama's abundance of natural resources.

Larry Drummond was born August 3, 1943, in Birmingham. His early life was spent with

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