

your religious beliefs? When did religion become such a bad thing that people want to delete it from our nation's history? I am discouraged when I see anti-religion groups forming throughout the nation, working hard to remove any mention or symbol of God or religion in our public spaces and resources. These groups claim their work is about the separation of church and state, but the government is not forcing anyone into religion or to pay tithes to any particular religious establishment. Religion, specifically the Judeo-Christian religion, is just simply part of our heritage, and the Constitution says this is a nation with freedom of religion, not freedom from religion.

I introduced this resolution because we are a nation of people with the right to freely exercise our religion and many in our nation are religious. A 2007 PEW survey shows that 92 percent of Americans believe in God. I also introduced this resolution because I believe the religious beliefs of Americans inspire them to do good for others, not harm. For instance, in 2010, \$298.42 billion of charitable contributions were made in the United States and 32 percent, or \$95.88 billion, went to religious organizations according to the National Park Service. From September 2010 to September 2011, 64.3 million people in the United States volunteered and 33.2 percent did so for religious organizations, the highest percentage of all volunteer categories according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The freedom to exercise religious beliefs is vital to our nation's citizens and an important part of our heritage. That's why I am honored to introduce the Affirming Religious Heritage and Freedom in the United States Act.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID A. LINN

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Mr. David A. Linn for the time and energy he has dedicated to the Military Academy Nomination process by serving the constituents of the 19th Congressional District as a member of our Academy Selection Board.

David A. Linn was born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania on August 8, 1948. In June of 1970, Mr. Linn was commissioned an Ensign in the United States Naval Reserve through Purdue Universities' NROTC Program. Mr. Linn served his country honorably in Vietnam aboard the USS *Virgo* ammunition ship. Later, while still on active duty, Mr. Linn was trained and certified as a terrier missile systems officer by the Department of Defense. He then served aboard the USS *Dahlgren*, a guided missile frigate, and the USS *Dale* of the standing NATO forces in the Atlantic.

After leaving active duty in 1973, Mr. Linn continued to serve as part of the Naval Reserve. During his reserve years, he served on numerous ships, participated in exercises at the Naval War College in Newport Rhode Island, and served on the staff of Commander and Chief of the Pacific Fleet in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. He retired with the rank of Commander.

As a civilian, Mr. Linn married Betty Linn, Publisher of the Sierra Star Newspaper. He received a Bachelor of Science Degree from Purdue University, a Master's Degree in Business Administration from California State University, Dominguez Hills, and a Juris Doctorate from Pepperdine University.

Mr. Linn has practiced law for the past thirty-seven years and is currently the senior partner at the law firm of Linn Law Offices in Oakhurst, California. He is licensed to practice in California and has also been admitted to the Bar by the United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, the United States Claims Court, and the United States Supreme Court.

A sense of volunteerism has driven much of Mr. Linn's life. He has served as President of the Oakhurst Community Fund and Oakhurst Community Park Association since 1984. He is a former President of the Oakhurst Sierra Rotary Club, the Eastern Madera County Bar Association, and the Eastern Madera County Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Linn has remained politically active throughout his career and in his private life. He has served on many councils, including Congressional Advisory Councils, the Congressional Business Council, and Congressional Service Academy Selection Boards for the past eighteen years. He was the Republican nominee for the 18th Congressional District in 1988; and in 1989, he was the Eastern Madera County Man of the Year. He has been a member of the California Republican State Central Committee for fourteen years and currently is a Madera County Civil Service Commissioner.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring David A. Linn for his outstanding service to his country and community. His expertise as a Naval Officer, strong academic background, and life experiences have made his contributions on the Academy Selection Board for former Representative George Radanovich and myself invaluable. He is a true public servant, and I wish him continued success in his future endeavors.

HONORING COLBY COLLEGE ON ITS BICENTENNIAL

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Colby College as it prepares to celebrate its bicentennial in 2013.

Nearly 200 years ago, residents of Kennebec County raised over \$4,000 to secure land for a locally-based theological institution. The petition establishing what was then the Maine Literary and Theological Institution was formally adopted by the Massachusetts Legislature on February 27, 1813, making it the 33rd chartered college in the country. Today, Colby College enrolls over 1,800 students from 46 states and 76 countries. As one of the finest liberal arts colleges in the country, its graduates have gone on to become international business leaders, critically acclaimed writers, noted statesmen, and even members of my Congressional staff.

Throughout its history, Colby College has fostered a culture of social justice at its very core. In 1833, students launched the first college-based anti-slavery society. In 1871, Colby College became the first all-male college in New England to admit women, the first of whom was Mary Caffrey Low, valedictorian of the Class of 1875 and one of the five founding members of the Sigma Kappa sorority. In 1985, students successfully protested for College divestment in South Africa in protest of apartheid. More recently, Colby has made ever increasing strides to attract students with diverse cultural and economic backgrounds, to reduce the college's carbon footprint, and to develop new partnerships with the community.

The College will kick off its bicentennial celebration this October. Special lectures, panel discussions, and festivities will be held throughout the year both on campus, as well as in downtown Waterville. I am pleased to have the opportunity to join the community's celebration of Colby, and I look forward to watching the College continue its growth during the years to come.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the students, alumni, faculty, staff, and friends of Colby College as they celebrate their bicentennial.

CELEBRATING THE 101ST ANNIVERSARY OF DOUBLE TEN DAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF TAIWAN

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 19, 2012

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Taiwan on the upcoming celebration of the 101st anniversary of "Double Ten Day." Double Ten Day traces its roots to the Wuchang Uprising that occurred on October 10, 1911. The Wuchang Uprising signaled the end of the Qing Dynasty and the start of a democratic movement that we continue to celebrate and recognize. Double Ten Day is a celebration of the birth of democracy and the Republic of China.

I want to especially recognize the people of Taiwan on this important occasion. The strength of the relationship between the people of Taiwan and the people of the United States is strong and this is evidenced by the expansion of the U.S. visa waiver program to include Taiwan. Inclusion of Taiwan in the U.S. visa waiver program is a significant development in the relationship between both countries. This announcement will help to expand business opportunities as well as deepen our mutual appreciation for each other's unique cultures. Exchange of our cultures is clearly evidenced on Guam, which is home to many people of Chinese ancestry. Guam continues to benefit from their cultural contributions to our community and the promotion of trade and economic opportunities. I congratulate the people of Taiwan on the 101st anniversary of Double Ten Day. We celebrate this historic occasion with them and we honor their friendship with the American people.