

A. Doherty, Security Officers, were among the finest members of our diplomatic corps. They dedicated their lives to promote peace, support prosperity, and protect American citizens while advancing the interests of the United States abroad.

Ambassador Stevens was a champion of the Libyan people's efforts to remove Muammar Qaddafi from power and served as Special Envoy to the Libyan Transitional National Council in Benghazi during the 2011 Libyan revolution.

Foreign Service Information Management Officer Sean Smith, and security officers Tyrone S. Woods and Glen A. Doherty as well as the United States' citizens that were injured in these attacks made professional and personal sacrifices to faithfully serve the United States and its people to advance the ideals of freedom, democracy, and human dignity around the globe.

They are heroes and their contributions and sacrifices in service to America and the cause of freedom will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I strongly support this resolution in its condemnation of the terrorists who planned and conducted the attack on the United States consulate in Benghazi, Libya, and those who vandalized the United States embassies in Cairo, Egypt, and Sana'a, Yemen. The resolution also reaffirms that nothing can justify terrorism or attacks on innocent civilians and diplomatic personnel.

Most importantly, the bill calls upon the Governments of Libya, Egypt, and Yemen, in full cooperation with the United States Government, to investigate and bring to justice the perpetrators of these attacks.

Finally, the resolution reiterates the United States' commitment to promoting its core values, including support for democracy, universal human rights, individual and religious freedom, and respect for human dignity.

Mr. Speaker, we are fortunate indeed to live in a country that produces exceptional men like Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty. Their selfless devotion to our nation's ideals and values will forever mark them as American heroes. I hope their families can take consolation in the fact that they will live on in the memories of the grateful nation they gave their lives to serve.

It is for these reasons that I support H. Res. 786 and ask for a moment of silence in memory of Chris Stevens, Sean Smith, Tyrone Woods, and Glen Doherty.

CONGRATULATING ROCIO DE
MATEO SMITH

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues Congresswoman BARBARA LEE and Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI; to recognize and congratulate Rocio de Mateo Smith upon her retirement as Executive Director from the Developmental Disabilities Area Board 5.

Born and raised in Mexico City, Rocio de Mateo Smith attended Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico, where she received a B.A. in Mathematics. In the United States, she received a B.A. in Psychology from California

State University, Hayward and an M.S.W. from the University of California, Berkeley.

For the past 30 years, Rocio de Mateo Smith has worked in the field of developmental disabilities with a special emphasis in services to immigrant communities. In her role as Executive Director of Area Board 5 on Developmental Disabilities, Rocio advocated for the service rights of people with developmental disabilities of all ages, both at the individual and systemic levels. Prior to this position, she was the Developmental Disabilities Coordinator for Alameda County Health Care Services Agency and, before that, was the Executive Director of Agency for Infant Development, a Fremont-based program for infants with disabilities and their families.

Rocio is a true champion when it comes to advocating for people with developmental disabilities and her knowledge with regard to resources in the community is unmatched. She has served and impacted countless individuals and families in the Bay Area, representing them and guiding them toward appropriate services. For all her efforts, Rocio is not only highly regarded, but has been recognized and honored extensively as an outstanding woman and as a true advocate for persons with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in commending Rocio de Mateo Smith for her committed and diligent service to the community. I am pleased to join her family, friends, and colleagues in congratulating Rocio on an outstanding career and wish her the very best as she begins a well-deserved retirement.

HONORING THE VETERANS AND
GOLD STAR FAMILIES OF THE
SEPTEMBER 20, 2012 QUAD CITIES
HONOR FLIGHT

HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. LOESACK. Mr. Speaker, today I have the great honor of welcoming to our nation's capital ninety-two Iowa veterans of the Greatest Generation and forty-three Gold Star family members who will be escorting them on their visit. This is truly a special Honor Flight because it is bringing together World War II and Korean War veterans with families who have made the ultimate sacrifice in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The 43 Gold Star family members travelling to our capital today represent 24 fallen servicemembers. I can think of no greater honor than to join them and our World War II and Korean War veterans at the National World War II Memorial during their visit and to personally thank Iowa's, and our nation's, heroes—our veterans and the families who have sacrificed so greatly on behalf of our country.

When our country was threatened, our World War II and Korean War Veterans rose to defend not just our nation but the freedoms, democracy, and values that we hold dear. The Greatest Generation did not seek to be tested both abroad by a war that fundamentally challenged our way of life and at home by the Great Depression and the rebuilding of our economy that followed. But, when called upon to do so, they defended and then rebuilt our nation.

This generation of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans is no less humbling in their service and sacrifice. They have fought overseas for over a decade so that we may live in peace here at home. While our country may never be able to repay the debt we owe our Gold Star families, we must uphold the promise that we will never forget the ultimate sacrifice made by their loved ones.

I am tremendously proud and humbled to welcome the Quad Cities Honor Flight, our World War II and Korean War veterans, and our Gold Star families to our nation's capital today. On behalf of every Iowan I represent, I thank them for their service and sacrifice.

HONORING TREVOR GREENE

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2013 National Principal of the Year, Principal Trevor Greene, from Toppenish High School in my Congressional District. Principal Greene is an outstanding school administrator and I am grateful for his leadership and dedication to the students and faculty at Toppenish High School.

Four years ago, Principal Greene returned to the Yakima Indian Reservation, where he grew up, to serve as principal at Toppenish High. Once an underperforming school, Toppenish High has become a top performing institution whose successful model is followed by other schools in the region, thanks to the hard work of the staff under his leadership.

Principal Greene energized Toppenish students and helped them gain the confidence needed to work harder and dream bigger. By implementing a rigorous science, technology, engineering and mathematics, STEM, education program and expanding academic opportunities to his students, test scores have improved by 67 percent and graduation rates are over 90 percent.

At a time when the United States is falling behind in science and math, the Toppenish High STEM program continues to increase in popularity among students, with enrollment jumping by more than 100 students in just one school year. Students are receiving a high quality education and graduating with the resources and tools they need to succeed in college and beyond.

Each year, MetLife Resources along with the National Association of Secondary School Principals Association, NASSP, selects one highly deserving principal from a pool of more than 100 middle and high school principals nationwide. These individuals, who have been nominated by their state, are highly successful at providing top-quality learning opportunities for students and have demonstrated commendable contributions to the profession.

I am pleased that as a result of Principal Greene's selection as National Principal of the Year, Toppenish High School will receive a \$5,000 school improvement grant from the MetLife Resources/NASSP National Principal of the Year program.

We need more people like Principal Greene working to make a difference in our schools. I applaud his dedication to the students and faculty at Toppenish High School.