

to the U.S. Constitution, positive political action, and election reform.

Into the twentieth century and the present day, the legacy of the Union League includes an outstanding record of 150 years of civic, philanthropic, and cultural activities. Today, its 3,300 members continue to sustain the Union League and its ethos of patriotism and service.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me in honoring the Union League of Philadelphia for its 150 years of service to the city of Philadelphia and the Union.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT
COLONEL MAREN CALVERT

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel Maren Calvert, who has worked in my office for the past year as a Defense Fellow. Lt. Col. Calvert started in my office last January and she has truly been a pleasure to have on the staff. Her law background coupled with her military experience has benefited the office tremendously. She offers a unique perspective, is always prepared, takes on any task and does it with a smile.

Lt. Col. Calvert is a Category A reservist and came to my office from the 701st Combat Operations Squadron (COS) detachment 1 at Hickam Air Force Base in Hawai'i where she served as the Deputy Commander. The 701 COS operates out of March Air Reserve Base, California which is located in my congressional district. The 701 COS provides trained, experienced Air Operations Center (AOC) warfighters primarily in support of 7th Air Force, the Combined AOC, and Commander of Air Force Forces at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. In her capacity as Deputy Commander, Lt. Col. Calvert provided expertise within the Operations, Plans and Strategy Divisions on the Law of Armed Conflict and Rules of Engagement. She advised the Commander on all legal issues, including military justice and civil law.

Lt. Col. Calvert was commissioned in 1993 from the Air Force Academy where she graduated with a Bachelors of Science degree in Humanities. She served on active duty through August 1998 and then obtained her law degree from the University of California, Los Angeles before joining the Air Force Reserve. In addition to her 701 COS assignment, Lt. Col. Calvert has served as the Chief of Health Services, 701 COS; Commander, Business Operations & Beneficiary Services, TRICARE, and Resource Management Flights; and as Squadron Section Commander. Lt. Col. Calvert has furthered her Air Force education, having completed the Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, and the Judge Advocate General Staff Office Course at Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama.

As a civilian, Lt. Col. Calvert is a commercial litigation attorney at Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing in Honolulu, HI. Her practice is diversified, with experience in condominium law, real estate development, foreclosures, adversary proceedings in bankruptcy, and an emphasis in health law and health care compliance. She is

admitted to both the California and Hawai'i Bar.

During her time in the office she has focused her efforts on defense acquisition, TRICARE, basing issues, wildfire resource issues, Medicaid portability for military members with autistic children, and many other policy areas. She has been an invaluable resource to all my staff and I would also like to take this opportunity to thank her and her family—I know it was not easy to move across an ocean and a country to start a new life. To Jason, Braedon, and Teryn, thank you for supporting your wife and mom, she is an impressive lady. On behalf of everyone in the office, I would like to extend a heartfelt "Mahalo" to Lt. Col. Calvert for all her hard work and let her know that my office door is always open for Pau Hana!

COLONEL PETER J. BROOKS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2012

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, November 20, 2012, Colonel Peter J. Brooks wore the United States Army uniform for the very last time. After over 32 years of dedicated service to our nation, Pete has retired from our Armed Forces and will serve his last day with the South Carolina National Guard on December 31, 2012.

Colonel Brooks began his military service in September 1979, when he entered the Army ROTC/SMP at Valley Forge Military College in Wayne, Pennsylvania. Following graduation, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Armor branch in June 1981. Pete studied at the University of South Carolina for several years before attending officer basic course. In 1986, Colonel Brooks graduated from the University of New York where he studied political science and received a Bachelor's Degree in Liberal Arts.

Since 1995, Colonel Brooks has worked in the public affairs department of the South Carolina National Guard and the Military Department of South Carolina. Due to his superb knowledge, he has more recently served as a senior advisor to the director of public affairs and strategic communications. Pete always worked extremely hard on behalf of the SCNG and has developed great working relationships with Congressional leaders and staffers, resulting in tremendous legislative support for the Soldiers and Airmen serving in the South Carolina National Guard. He also has served as a former president to the National Guard Association of South Carolina. Additionally, under Colonel Brooks' mentorship, the SCNG public affairs professionals earned awards from many different organizations including the National Guard Bureau, Air Force, Army, and Department of Defense. In 2009, due to Colonel Brooks' expertise, NORTHCOM/ARNOTH requested him by-name to support their communications programs.

Colonel Brooks also has worked with the University of South Carolina to develop a Media & the Military course in the university's School of Journalism and Mass Communications. This graduate-level course has helped approximately 100 recent graduates enter the public relations and journalism career fields

with a level of understanding of military operations that very few students ever achieve. Additionally, Colonel Brooks and his team of public affairs professionals, all of who have been deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan in recent years, served as guest lecturers and mentors for the students.

As a 31 year veteran of the South Carolina Army National Guard and with three sons currently serving in the Army National Guard, I am truly grateful of Colonel Pete Brooks and his selfless service to the United States Army. I wish him and his wife Laurie the best in the future and look forward to working with him throughout the Midlands community.

IMPORTANCE OF FEDERAL
INVESTMENT IN RESEARCH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 30, 2012

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, the importance of federal investment in research cannot be overemphasized. Our investment in research, including through the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the National Science Foundation, saves lives, improves health, and increases our understanding of the world that we live in. Grants to research institutions, including Northwestern University, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Loyola University in the Chicago metropolitan area, not only help to make medical progress but train our next generation of scientists.

Biomedical research funded by the National Institutes of Health has made a real difference in the health and lives of millions of Americans. The outcomes of those research efforts speak volumes. Anti-viral therapies for HIV have been developed that make it possible for HIV-infected individuals to live into their 70s and beyond as compared to a life expectancy of just months when the disease first appeared in the 1980s. New treatments and procedures have been developed for Age-Related Macular Degeneration that will allow hundreds of thousands of Americans to continue to have useful vision over the next five years. Researchers have identified a treatment that could reduce premature birth by 45 percent among at-risk women.

Public health research sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention helps us prevent and contain disease outbreaks. As we transition from a health care system focused on the treatment of disease to a system based on disease prevention, we will increasingly rely on public health research to identify new prevention techniques and interventions that help keep people healthy. For example, the CDC has established a research grant program to help develop and test new ways to combat healthcare-associated infections—infections that harm patients and increase health care costs. Through this initiative, the CDC awarded a grant to the Chicago Antimicrobial Resistance and Infection Prevention Epicenter, a collaboration between the Cook County Health and Hospitals System and Rush University Medical Center, to research strategies for antimicrobial resistance and infection prevention.

The funding of basic research in fields such as chemistry, engineering, physics, and computers by the National Science Foundation