

He also was the Business Representative of Millwright Local 2734 for 32 years, Secretary for the Carpenters, Millwright and Pile Drivers Mobile District Council for 29 years, and President of the Alabama State Council of Carpenters for 18 years.

Given all these accomplishments, it is remarkable that Mayor Daugherty also found time to lead the Town of McIntosh for all 42 years since its incorporation in 1970. Yet, he has done just that with an equal dedication to public service and integrity.

On behalf of the people of South Alabama, I wish Mayor Daugherty the very best as he leaves public service and embarks on a well-deserved retirement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SOCIAL SECURITY IDENTITY DEFENSE ACT OF 2013

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Social Security Identity Defense Act of 2013, legislation to enhance the ability of the Internal Revenue Service to fight identity theft when that agency becomes aware of the fraudulent use of a taxpayer's personal information.

This legislation is a direct response to the experience of constituents of mine in Princeton, Wisconsin. During a routine review of his credit report, my constituent found accounts opened by another person using his Social Security number. This discovery raised many concerns, not the least of which was that this person's income might be reported to the IRS under his Social Security number. Upon contacting the IRS, he was told that the IRS knew of the situation and that they had known about it for some time.

Not surprisingly, this answer was not altogether comforting. The IRS knew that someone else had been using his Social Security number, but kept that information under lock and key. While the IRS remained silent, additional frauds were committed, resulting in the further misuse of my constituent's personal information by another person to establish a fraudulent credit history. When he raised this issue with the IRS, he was astounded by the agency's answer. Privacy statutes prevent the IRS from discussing the return information of one taxpayer with anyone else. In the view of the IRS, the fraudulent use of my constituent's Social Security number was the personal return information of another taxpayer, and this fraud could not be disclosed to the rightful owner of that personal identifier, even if this disclosure would help prevent additional frauds.

This policy makes no sense and actually puts the IRS on the wrong side in the fight against identity theft. My legislation aims to correct this problem by changing the privacy statutes to direct the IRS to inform a taxpayer when the agency learns through its normal course of business that a Social Security number assigned to that taxpayer has been used fraudulently by another worker.

Both Congress and our administrative departments and agencies, including the IRS, have made progress in combating identity theft, but more needs to be done. For this reason, the Social Security Identity Defense Act would provide an additional vital tool for our government to deploy.

Under this legislation, the IRS would be required to share any information in its possession about the fraudulent use of a taxpayer's personal information with that information's rightful owner. The agency also would be directed to transmit information that may be evidence of an identity theft to the FBI so that the Bureau can make this material available to state and local law enforcement agencies upon their request. Finally, the Social Security Identity Defense Act calls for the IRS to direct employers not to include a Social Security number on a W-2 form when that agency is aware that the employee is making fraudulent use of that number.

These are important steps forward. They will empower both citizens and law enforcement agencies in their efforts to combat identity theft, and they will limit the use of personal identifiers in the commission of future crimes. I urge my colleagues to join me in this effort by cosponsoring the Social Security Defense Act.

HONORING BRENDA LOVE

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a minority businesswoman and entrepreneur, Mrs. Brenda Love.

Mrs. Brenda Love is a woman on the move and with many talents. She was born to Martha Lewis and the late Grant Jones, Sr. Until the age of 14, she was raised in New Orleans, Louisiana. Later, her mother relocated the family to Vicksburg, Mississippi to be closer to her grandmother, Mrs. Ola Mae Williams.

Mrs. Love credits her ambition to her mother, whom she learned from an early age to work hard, keep good credit, pay your bills, and take care of your kids.

Mrs. Love worked for the Federal Government for 20 years until she decided to step out on faith and follow her heart to being an entrepreneur. She is the owner of Love Income Tax Service, which has been in business for 17 years, with 6 full-time employees. She and her husband, Jacob, own Unique Banquet Hall, which is a thriving gathering place serving the Vicksburg area. She also is a Realtor-associate with Coldwell-Banker All Stars. Brenda, who has been married for 23 years to Jacob, has also owned and operated Unique Impressions Restaurant and Lounge. In her spare time, she loves to decorate and coordinate weddings. Mrs. Love is a member of the Warren County Board of Realtors and also serves on the board for the Vicksburg Convention Center and City Auditorium.

Mr. and Mrs. Love have three children, Jakayla, Jacob, and Manekia Love-Jackson and two grandchildren, Mikayla and Madison.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a minority businesswoman and entrepreneur, Mrs. Brenda Love.

ANNIVERSARY OF THE SUMGAIT POGROMS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, again this year I stand to recognize an important period that remains a strong reminder that we must continue to address violent human tragedies whenever they occurred. The American and Armenian people use this time of year to recommit themselves to preventing any further violence. We do this because we mark the anniversary of the Sumgait pogroms where hundreds of Armenians were murdered as a result of long-running hostilities directed towards the Armenian people.

I ask that my colleagues join me in solemnly commemorating the death of these innocent lives. It was on the evening of February 27, 1988 that hundreds of Armenians were brutally murdered, some burned alive and others thrown from windows. Included in the violence was the rape of women and the maiming of children. Armenians saw their belongings stolen, their shops destroyed and thousands were displaced from their homes. To add to the human tragedy, police turned a blind eye thus allowing the pogroms to go on for three days.

Unfortunately, the underlying hostility that led to the outbreak and continued violence of the Sumgait pogroms continues to survive today. For more than two decades, authorities in Azerbaijan have attempted to ignore and cover up these crimes and have instead fostered hatred toward the Armenian people. In an affront to basic senses of justice, the Azerbaijani government recently pardoned Azerbaijani military officer, Ramil Safarov who was sentenced to life in prison in Hungary for murdering an Armenian military officer during a NATO-sponsored training program in 2004. I continue to be outraged by this promotion of violence against innocent Armenians.

I ask that my colleagues join me in calling on Azerbaijan to fully recognize the Sumgait pogroms and to give an accurate historical account of the events. I also ask my colleagues to join me in calling upon the Azerbaijani government to acknowledge Ramil Safarov as a convicted murderer and immediately take action commensurate with a democratic nation that supports justice under the rule of law. Azerbaijan must break from its current course and take action to create a peaceful future.

As co-chair and founder of the Congressional Armenian Issues Caucus, I know that the caucus will continue its work to ensure that the basic rights of life, liberty and security are promoted throughout the Caucasus region. We will continue to advocate for a peaceful resolution to conflict in the region. We will continue to call on Azerbaijan to cease its hostilities toward the Armenian people and stand for justice whenever it is violated.